

Thomas A. Haase Class of 1965 Enshrined 2022



Thomas A. Haase graduated from Xavier University in 1965. During his time in school, he was an active member of the Pershing Rifles, commanding the unit his senior year. Under his command, the Pershing Rifles received national recognition as a top Exhibition Squad drill team. He was selected to the Xavier Order of Military Merit (XOMM) his junior year, was deemed a Distinguished Military Student (DMS) his senior year, and designated a Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG) upon commissioning.

He received his commission in Field Artillery and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, where he deployed to the Dominican Republic. He volunteered to serve in Vietnam in 1967 and held positions from forward observer to Battery Commander of 2/32 FA Battalion, an 8" and 175 mm howitzer unit, with 105 mm howitzers and M42 Dusters attached, in general support to the 25th Infantry Division. He received the Army Commendation Medal for successfully employing his 8" howitzer in a direct fire environment against an enemy employing small arms and rockets. Upon his return and completion of the FA Advanced

Course, he stayed at the Field Artillery School as a gunnery instructor. Upon completion of that assignment, he was transferred to Korea where served in a Field Artillery assignment until the Commanding General of 5th US Army selected him as his Aide-de-Camp. After Command and General Staff College, he was sent to learn Greek, upon which he attended the Hellenic (Greek) War College. He was also sent to the University of Cincinnati for a Master of Arts Degree in History.

His career took a turn from Field Artillery to Foreign Area Operations, his secondary specialty. He was assigned as an intelligence analyst in the Defense Intelligence Agency, and subsequently as the Operations Chief for the National Military Intelligence Center. This was followed by a position as the Assistant Army Attaché in the UK. He served on the Army General Staff in the Pentagon upon his return to the States. Tom's subsequent assignments were military attaché positions in Ireland, Nepal, and Cyprus, where he retired.

Tom has been recognized with many awards and decorations, including the Defense Superior Service Medal w/oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star w/oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Medal, Army Meritorious Medal, Army Commendation Medal w/2 Oak leaf clusters, Pathfinder badge, as well as others.

Tom retired in 1993 while still in Cyprus. He had flight training and flew his first solo flight in 1991, at Quantico, and he continued his flight training while serving in Cyprus. After he retired, he acquired his pilot's license status up to airline transport pilot, being type rated in the Boeing 737. He was selected CEO of JENAIR in Cyprus, where he oversaw company operations in Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Iraq, and Greece. He returned to the US and flew with Gulfstream International Airlines. He retired at age 60, whereupon he started a third career writing complex, fast-paced adventure novels and became a best-selling Amazon author.

He is actively involved in a Rotary Club and served as Vice-President. Additionally, he is immersed in his church, Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist, as a member of the Church's Council, lector, Eucharistic minister, and chair of religious education. He is a member of the local 82nd Airborne Association, and has served as its Treasurer since 2015.