

LTC (retired) Donald C. Snedeker
Class of 1969
Enshrined 2021



Donald C Snedeker was born in Brooklyn, NY and his father, LTC George Snedeker, served in both WWII and the Korean War. Don graduated from Xavier University (Political Science) in February 1969 and was commissioned as an Armor Officer. He completed Armor Officer Basic Course and Airborne School and was assigned to Ft. Lewis, WA, as Tank Platoon Leader and Tank Company Executive Officer in 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Upon completion of Jungle School (Panama) he deployed to Vietnam with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (Blackhorse) serving as an Armored Cavalry Platoon Leader, Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Platoon Leader, Troop Executive Officer.

He returned stateside and had assignments at Ft. Hood, TX., Fulda, Germany, Office of Deputy Chief of Staff, Combat Developments, US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC); Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Office of J-5 (Strategic Plans and Policy); Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as speechwriter to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (Admiral William Crowe and General Colin Powell); Exchange Instructor and Liaison Officer from

US Command and General Staff College (Ft. Leavenworth) to German Tactics Center and Army Officers Academy, Hanover, Germany; part of four-officer team visiting all former East German Army military facilities in preparation for integration into the *Bundeswehr*; On-Site Inspection Agency-Europe, and finally service as Chief of Inspectors and Escorts for conventional and nuclear arms control treaty inspections in Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact.

Don retired from active duty in 1992.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star "V" for valor, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, US Army Armor Association's Order of Saint George in Silver and the Federal Republic of Germany Bundesverdienstkreuz (Federal Service Cross) in Silver.

Don is a graduate of the Foreign Area Officer (FAO) qualification course and French language training, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, CA, Command and General Staff College, German Armed Forces Staff College, Hamburg, Germany, and the US Army War College.

In civilian life, Don was employed by Science Applications International Corporation as Senior Defense Policy Analyst and as a government civilian in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness serving as Director for Strategic Planning.

Don is a member of The Blackhorse Association (BHA) and 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia (11th ACVVC) serving as the historian and assisting Vietnam-era Troopers by providing historical verification for Department of Veterans Affairs claims and Department of Defense Correction of Military Records.

Don is writer and author of *The Blackhorse in Vietnam; The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam and Cambodia, 1966-1972* (2020) and the follow-up, book *Blackhorse Tales; Stories of 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Troopers and Their Families at War* (2021) as well as has credits in numerous works and periodicals including *Brassey's Encyclopedia of Military History and Biography*, (1994), *Armor*, *Infantry*, and *Military Review*, "Blackhorse Hoofbeats" in the 11th Armored Cavalry Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia quarterly newsletter, *Thunder Run*, and author of "Riding with the Blackhorse" historical vignettes in the Blackhorse Association semi-annual newsletter, *The Blackhorse*.