

COL (Retired) ROBERT C. WHALEY
Class of 1983
Enshrined 2023



Robert C. Whaley graduated from Xavier University in 1983. He began his military career in 1973 when he enlisted Army. He entered Xavier in 1979, as an Army Green-to-Gold Scholar. At Xavier, he was a member of the Pershing Rifles and was in the first Pledge Class of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at Xavier. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate and received a Regular Army commission in the Adjutant General Branch in 1983.

Upon completion of the AG Officer Basic Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Bob was assigned to the 574th Personnel Service Company, in Hanau, Germany. He returned to the US to attend the AG Advanced Course in 1987, attended the Combined Arms Services and Staff School (CAS3), and finally assumed command of the 43rd AG Company at Fort Leonard Wood. During this time, he received his master's degree in Management from Webster University. In 1989, he attended Airborne School and was assigned to Panama, with the 193rd Support Battalion as the Battalion Adjutant (S-1), during Operation Just Cause. Prior to combat operations, he assisted the unit with organizing the first Noncombat Evacuation Operations (NEO) plan since Vietnam.

After his tour in Panama, he served on the staff of the Military Personnel Division, conducting Strategic Operations at the Human Resource Center until 1995. After Command and General Staff School, he was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), initially in the Strength Management Division, then as the Executive Officer of the Personnel Service Battalion. During that time, he was promoted to Major.

In 1999, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and served as the Aide to the Army G-1 for a year. He was then assigned for two years as the Personnel Readiness Officer for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was assigned to Fort Knox in 2001 as the Installation G-1, of the Army Combat Readiness Center, and the Battalion Commander, 46th AG Battalion. He returned to the 101st Airborne Division as the G-1 during the first year of its combat operations in Iraq.

After the National War College, Bob was promoted to Colonel and assigned to 8th Army, in Korea, as the G-1. Following this Korean tour, he was the Chief, Concepts and Developments, in the Adjutant General Directorate. From 2009 to 2011, he served III Corps G-1, and subsequently as US Forces J-1 supporting the forces drawdown in Iraq. In 2012, he was assigned as Chief, Enlisted Policy and Personnel Readiness for the Army G-1 until he retired in 2013.

Bob is highly decorated. Among his many awards, he received the 3 Legions of Merit, 2 Bronze Stars, Defense Meritorious Medal, 5 Army Meritorious Medals, and 4 Army Commendation Medals.

Colonel Whaley has spent his military retirement helping veterans as co-founder of Heroes to Education which assists veterans and spouses to work in America's public schools. His involvement in community activities includes scouting, CYO, CCD, and coaching soccer, football, and baseball. As a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus, he's actively involved in parish activities. He is a Board member and Financial Secretary of Cincinnati's Joseph House for homeless veterans, and he maintains Life Memberships in AUSA, DAV, VFW, American Legion, and AG Corps Regimental Assn. He has also returned to Xavier as guest speaker at Commissioning ceremony.