



**Class Narrative Class 25-67 D-2  
24 March 1967 – 31 August 1967  
U.S. Army Armor School OCS**



August 31 marks the graduation anniversary date of Class 25-67, Company D2. The class was the 41st OCS class at Fort Knox during the Vietnam War Era. The class started their quest to “that little gold bar” on Friday 24 March 1967 and a full twenty-three weeks later on Thursday 31 August 1967, 81 graduates raised their right hand and swore “to defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies both foreign and domestic . . . “. The class started with 103 Officer Candidates adding thirteen recycled from other classes for a total of 116 members. Thirty-four individuals were relieved or quit the challenging program and one individual was recycled to Class 28-67, F1 and graduated with that class. The 81 graduates achieved a class average of 84.30 percent. Francis L. Richardson was the winner of Military Stakes however the number of points he earned has been redacted from the class roster. Thirteen of the graduating class went to Officers Rotary Wing Aviators Course.

Two class members were killed in Vietnam and thirteen others have joined them at Fiddler’s Green since their military service. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of class member John Moore 40 of the surviving 66 members have been located at the time of this narrative. John has created an impressive class website at <http://www.ocsatfortknox.com/Class%2025-67/index.html>.

The Distinguished Honor Graduate was Paul M. Schneider. The Honor Graduate was Larry M. Castle, and the Distinguished Military Graduates were Henry J. Zola, Robert P. Genenz, Michael J. Chinn, Richard L. Lile, Thomas J. Lantz and Michael B. Prior. There was no news article about the graduation ceremony in Inside the Turret.

The two KIA’s were Thomas A. Ceres and Richard G. Cleveland. As a First Lieutenant Thomas was a pilot in the Air Cav Troop of the 11th ACR. He died in a non-hostile AH-1G night landing in low visibility. He had been in-country just 25 days at the time of the crash. Richard was also a First Lieutenant and was assigned to D Company, 1st Battalion, 27 Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. His tour in Vietnam started on 1 Aug 68 and he was killed by small arms fire on 17 November 1968 three days after his 24th birthday. Both Thomas and Richard’s home state was Florida.