



BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD W. AVERITT **US Army, Retired**

NDR Hall of Fame Induction: 26 April 2001

Brigadier General Averitt commissioned in 1969 upon graduation from Northwestern State College and completion of the ROTC program. His military service includes a tour of duty in the Republic of Vietnam in 1970 where he served as Platoon Leader, 152nd Military Police Company, 199th Light Infantry Brigade. He was mobilized with the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) during Operations Desert Storm/Shield and served as the Brigade Executive Officer and then Deputy Brigade Commander. He served as the Commander, 204th Area Support Group, New Orleans, prior to taking command of the 256th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Lafayette, LA. He served as the Deputy STARC Commander and Assistant Adjutant General – Army, Louisiana Army National Guard.

Brigadier General Averitt's military education includes the Military Police Officer Basic Course, Quartermaster Officer Advanced Course, Command and General Staff College, Bradley and Armor Pre-Command Courses, and the US Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one Ten Year Device, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral 1, Vietnam Service Medal with one Service Star, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal with Service Star. His Louisiana state awards include the Legion of Merit with one *Fleur-de-Lis*, Commendation Medal, Retention Ribbon, War Cross, Cold War Victory Ribbon, Emergency Service Ribbon, and the Longevity Ribbon.

Brigadier General Averitt holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a Master of Arts in Student Personnel from Northwestern. Additionally, he has a Master of Education and Education Specialist from McNeese State University. He is employed at Camp Beauregard with the Louisiana Military Department as Director of the Youth Challenge Program and is also the Special Assistant for Education to the Adjutant General.

Brigadier General Averitt and his wife, Diana Ortego Averitt, have three children, Staci Averitt Mayeaux, Stewart, and Shannon. They are the proud grandparents of Taylor and Tanner Mayeaux and Cameron Averitt.