



MAJOR RICHARD G. HOOTER US Army, Retired

NDR Hall of Fame Induction: 23 April 2022

Major Hooter, holding numbers three in the nation and one in the state of Louisiana, was drafted into the Army as a Private First Class in 1970. He served in Vietnam with C Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 198th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal). He was assigned to the 25th Rangers, Fort Carson, CO, and served with HHC (Operations), 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry (Mechanized), prior to his honorable discharge in Dec 1971.

In 1972, he enrolled at Northwestern for the 2-year ROTC program and graduated in May 1974 with a Bachelor of Arts in Military Science and Education Administration. He was designated a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army Infantry.

His assignments at Fort Carson, CO, include Rifle Platoon Leader, B Company, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized); Scout Platoon Leader, Combat Support Company; Aero Rifle Platoon Leader, Troop D, 10th US Armored Cavalry; Company Commander, Combat Support Company; and Special Assistant to Forward Operations Commander, 1st Brigade, 24th Infantry Division.

Major Hooter served as Post Commander, Fort DeRussy, HI. He was an Instructor for Common Task Division and then Chief, Command Staff Division, Redstone Arsenal, AL. He was the Recruiting Battalion Executive Officer, Little Rock, AR, and again for the 2nd Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, Fort Leonard Wood, MO. His final assignment was Chief, Maneuver Branch, US Army Engineer School, Fort Leonard Wood, MO, until his retirement in July 1992.

MAJ Hooter's military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; Airborne, Pathfinder, and Ranger Schools; Personnel Management, Recruiting, and Defense Strategy Courses; and the US Army Command and General Staff College.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters (OLC), Army Commendation Medal with Valor device, Army Commendation Medal w/2 OLC, Army Achievement Medal w/1 OLC, Army Good Conduct Medal w/1 OLC, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/Bronze Service Star, Army Service Ribbon w/1 OLC, and the Overseas Service Ribbon. He has been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Parachutist Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, and the Ranger Tab. He wears the Army Superior Unit Award and has been decorated with the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star.

Since 1996, MAJ Hooter has engaged as a professional bass angler and fished four BFL All-American Tournaments. He has been a valuable member of the NDR Executive Council since 2010 as the Operations and Marketing Officer. He and his wife, JoAnn, have two sons and three grandchildren.