



COLONEL RONALD D. THOMAS

US Army, Retired

NDR Hall of Fame Induction: 2 March 1996

Colonel Thomas was born in Franklinton, LA, and graduated from Northwestern State University in 1972. He was commissioned an Infantry officer through NSU's ROTC Program and holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University.

His assignments include Platoon Leader, A Company, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS; Aide de Camp, Assistant Division Commander for Support, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea; Commander, B Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry; Operations and Executive Officer, D Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO; Operations and Executive Officer and Commander, C Company, 3rd Aviation Battalion (Combat), 3rd Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany; Aviation Staff Officer, DAMO-TR, DADCSOPS, Washington, DC; and Aviation Staff Officer, Airlift and Rescue Division, Director, Operations and Plans, HQUSAF, Washington, DC.

Colonel Thomas served as the Army Aide to the President of the United States, Washington, DC, prior to Commanding the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation (Combat), 3rd Infantry Division, Giebelstadt, Germany. Additionally, he served as the TRADOC Aviation Officer and Director of the Individual Training Directorate, DCST, HQ TRADOC, Fort Monroe, VA. In 1993, he was appointed Chief of Staff of the National Training Center. He also served as Deputy Commander.

Colonel Thomas' awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Outstanding Unit Award, Army Senior Aviator Badge, Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

His military education includes the Infantry Officer's Basic and Advanced Courses, Army Airborne School, Ranger School, Army Aviation School, Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College.

Colonel Thomas is married to the former Kristie Roach of Natchitoches, LA. They have two daughters, Alicia and Meaghan.