



United States Military Academy Preparatory School

USMAPS

Dear Class of '67,

Thank you for the mentorship and outreach to the USMA Class of '17. I felt inspired and motivated to continue with upholding the standards; living a moral-ethical life, and helping my battle buddies. At the end of the letter, you placed the quote, *“Follow your passions, love your families, take care of the troops, serve the greater good, and hold true to Duty, Honor, Country; you will thereby live productive and accomplished lives.”* Those words stuck out to me, and I felt as if that quote summed everything up that I am striving for and wish to accomplish. Thank you for the mentorship, kindness, and thoughtfulness to stay in touch with my class. We will all benefit from the past experiences that many of the Class of '67 have experienced through keeping in touch and listening to the guidance that many of you have given the USMA Class of '17.

Very Respectfully,

Charles Howard Chandler III



Desire, Faith, Effort



United States Military Academy Preparatory School

USMADS

Mr. Dials,

On behalf of the USMPAS Class of 2013, Thank You! Because of your constant support and dedication to our class, the current cadet candidates have a deeper appreciation for the many challenges that lie ahead. We take pride in being considered the Vanguard Class of USMA 2017, but, most importantly, we take pride in being affiliated with such distinguished, patriotic, and dedicated soldiers. You conveyed vital messages in your letter that encompasses the core belief of our nation, the Army, USMA and, USMADS; however, the two main points that stuck out the most, in my opinion, were: Do something you love and look out for the troops. As our leadership have expressed to us, vision and purpose are key ingredients for success. If a person finds something that he or she truly enjoys, then the tasks that come with that undertaking will never be work, just a hobby. "By perseverance, hard work, and eternal desire, any man can become great"- Gen George Patton. To the second aspect, we, as future Army leader, will be tasked with an extraordinary mission- to lead America's sons and daughters who have the courage to put on their nations uniform. This is not a task my classmates and I shrink from, but one we welcome. As you expressed, it is vital that we understand mission first, but people always. Always look out for your soldiers because they, in turn, will do the same. Leaders have to express and demonstrate their deep concern for their subordinate due to the fact this occupation is a people's business.

Because of you, your fellow classmates, and our USMADS leadership, we have learned how to provide a worthy example for those we will, unquestionably, lead. We will always uphold and maintain the high "Esprit de Corps" of the prep school and USMA; constantly remained of the "three hollowed words that reverently dictate what we ought to be, what we can be, what we will be- DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY!" My classmates and I look forward to working with you and the Class of 67 in the near future. May GOD continue to bless you and, as always, GO ARMY!!!!BEAT NAVY!!!

Very Respectfully,

Terrence J. Thomas



Desire, Faith, Effort



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Dear Mr. Dials,

My name is Alastair J. Patton, and I am a Cadet Candidate for the Class of 2013 at the United States Military Academy. I am from San Marcos, Texas and currently in USMAPS's Charlie Company—the best company. Thus far, I am thoroughly enjoying my experience at USMAPS, and I am looking forward to “R” day this summer. I have had the pleasure of reading your letter to us; I wanted to thank you for your service, and the guidance you and your fellow classmates of 67' are giving us.

I found the transition from your military to personal career to be particularly interesting. Going to MIT and receiving both an MS degree in Nuclear Engineering and Political Science, I find myself wondering what drew you to pursue a degree in political science even though you had a future in energy. It always amazes me how successful many West Point graduates become after their career in the military; I assume this is most likely due to the values and leadership lessons that you all have received at West Point and the U.S. Army. I am looking forward to these lessons; as well as, the growing relationship and guidance from you and your class.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alastair Patton", written in a cursive style.

Alastair Patton



Desire, Faith, Effort



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Mr. Dials,

I want to thank you, Sir, for your words of inspiration, and it is amazing to hear about all of the achievements you have made in your life thus far. I think it is important that we as Cadet Candidates get this chance to connect and share this bond with you and the Class of '67 because it will help us grow and become better Cadets at West Point. The opportunities you were able to experience, and take advantage of show as an example to us what lies ahead after West Point. For me, this letter serves as a model, so that I can be reminded of how fortunate I am and to try and top your successful career. Again on behalf of the Cadet Candidates, I would like to thank you again for your time and your inspirational words. I look forward to hearing more about the Class of '67 and God Bless.

Go Army Beat Navy!

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackson Tamasitis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jackson Tamasitis



Desire, Faith, Effort



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Mr. Dials,

I cannot appreciate enough the letter and kind words you have sent my classmates and I at USMAPS. Upon reading your letter, I have gained a better understanding of the future ahead and the possibilities that we all as a team can achieve. My time here at USMAPS has been the opportunity of a lifetime; yet, it is only a taste of what lies ahead. The next four years will be rigorous and challenging, but worth it. The challenging parts will help develop myself and fellow students into leaders of character. As leaders of character, we will transition from students into officers. As officers, we will have further opportunities. The opportunities to lead soldiers, carry out missions, protect this great nation, and train others to be leaders of character. Though our time in the army may come to an end, we will be able to transfer our leadership skills and educational opportunities into the civilian world. In the civilian workplace, we will be able to further enhance the American economy through methods of business, finance, education, engineering, politics, and more. The population of the United States relies on its West Point graduates as it has since the early 1800's, for critical the development of our nation to present day, where grads often become high ranking officers or presidents and CEO of major corporations. West Point is the chance to not only better your own life, but an opportunity to better the lives of the entire nation. Thank you for your exemplary words of encouragement and hope. The beginning of our West Point career is gaining on us swiftly. In a matter of five months we will be joining the Long Grey Line. I look forward to keeping in touch and personally thank you for your letter and words of encouragement. Thank you for your time and thoughts.

Very Respectfully,

Thomas J. Matty



Desire, Faith, Effort



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Dear Mr. Dials,

My name is Daniel Sweet and I am currently a Cadet Candidate at the United States Military Academy Preparatory School. Recently, each Cadet Candidate received an email containing a letter from you addressing all of the USMAPS CCs. I wanted to say thank you for taking time to write such an inspirational letter to all of us. At some point every CC experiences a time of negativity and questioning about why he or she choose this route instead of enlisting, doing ROTC, or just attending a regular college. Personally your letter helped me rethink and refocus on the big goal, graduating from West Point. Like you were, I am excited to take part in the adventure that lies in front of me. From this adventure I hope that I can gain the confidence, self-assurance, leadership principles, and ethical standards you mentioned in your letter to allow me to be the best officer I can be. I believe that with effort and time I too will be successful; however, until that day I will look up to you as a leader and a role model. I am glad that you will be guiding us through our next four years at West Point as one of our class of 67' mentors.

Very Respectfully,

Daniel Sweet



Desire, Faith, Effort



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Dear Mr. George E. Dials,

I would like to express how your letter to our class has influenced my life now and how it will in the near future. You have inspired me to want to follow in your footsteps of being a great public servant to American citizens. You have served both as a Ranger and Infantry officer with great distinction by leading men in battle throughout the Vietnam War. This tells me that you are a great leader and someone whom I look to as a mentor. I also wanted to note that you have made the great transition of changing from a military life to a civilian life by becoming President of big corporations and still giving back to the community. Everything that you have accomplished in your life has all come from the heart and that is what I would like to be in the future, someone that serves others from the heart.

I would like to thank you for the quote that you end our class letter off with that states five essential qualities that you need in life “follow your passions, love your families, take care of your troops, serve the greater good, and hold true to Duty,” with these qualities they will help to mold me and our class into the future leaders of the U.S. Army. Again, thank you for your letter of encouragement that you have bestowed upon us, and I wish you the best of luck in your new challenges that you will began to encounter in the future.

Sincerely Yours,

Mark J. McGinnis Jr.



Desire, Faith, Effort