

Class History

Last Updated Thursday, 10 July 2008

On July 7, 1975, the majority of the class (1406) reported to Michie Stadium at West Point, New York. They were joined by 5 cadets who entered on July 3, 1973; 22 cadets who entered on July 8, 1974; and 1 cadet who entered on July 9, 1975, for a total initial strength of 1434.

One member of the class, CDT Todd W. Brewner, died while on Christmas Leave in 1976. Thirteen other members of the class have died since graduation.

A total of 923 members of the class graduated from the United States Military Academy. The majority graduated on June 6, 1979, at Michie Stadium. The graduation address was given by the Honorable Charles W. Duncan, Jr., the Deputy Secretary of Defense. Other members of the class graduated on June 14 & 19, July 6, August 3 & 22, and December 12 & 22, 1979.

Of the 923 graduates, 910 are still living. In May 2002, 157 members of the class were still serving on Active Duty. BG Leo Brooks was selected as the 68th Commandant of Cadets, beginning his assignment in 2002. Two classmates are Department Heads at USMA - COL Rickie McPeak in the Department of Foreign Languages and COL Steve Ressler in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering. Two members of the class (Charles D. Gemar and Patrick G. Forrester) became astronauts and flew on Space Shuttle missions. We have compiled quite a list of Class Firsts in other areas.