

**EXTRACTS
FROM
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY HEROES**

COMPILED BY
C. DOUGLAS STERNER
REVISED AND UPDATED (APRIL 2022)
(MINOR NONSUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT)

See www.herobooks.org or www.amazon.com for C. Douglas Sterner's 6 volume book of all USMA graduates who have been awarded the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, or Silver Star

If you aren't listed herein, it's likely that your USMA Register does not accurately reflect your awards. If so, please update your Register entry and send a copy of your citation to Dale Hansen (dalewhansen@gmail.com) who will update this document.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



BENSON, JOHN OSCAR

John Benson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1968. He retired as a U.S. Army Colonel.

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Oscar Benson, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company A, 5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. First Lieutenant Benson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions on 3 August 1969 while serving as platoon leader during an airmobile reconnaissance operation in the Plain of Reeds. As the members of his element moved through the area, they came under a devastating barrage of hostile rocket-propelled grenade and machine gun fire which wounded two soldiers. Rushing through the strafing fusillade, Lieutenant Benson reached the two casualties, one of whom he carried to a sheltered position to receive medical aid. He then returned for the second injured infantryman. When the wounded had been cared for, Lieutenant Benson organized his platoon for an assault on the hostile fortifications and called in artillery and gunships. Despite the supporting fire, the element remained pinned down by enemy bullets. As he directed another air strike, the rest of his unit was inserted behind the enemy in order to effect a sweeping maneuver. When the additional members of the company also become pinned down, Lieutenant Benson crawled forward to the communist bunkers. Throwing hand grenades with precision, he silenced the machine gun emplacement. First Lieutenant Benson's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty



were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

- Headquarters, U.S. Army, Vietnam, General Orders No. 3595 (September 22, 1969)
Born: Georgia
Home Town: Columbia, South Carolina

Personal Awards: Distinguished Service Cross (Vietnam), 2 Silver Stars (Vietnam), 2 Legions of Merit, 2 Purple Hearts

SILVER STAR



ADAMS, RONALD KEMP

Ronald Adams graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1992 as a U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Second Lieutenant (Infantry) Ronald Kemp Adams, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. Second Lieutenant Adams distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as a platoon leader with the 4th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by Second Lieutenant Adams, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



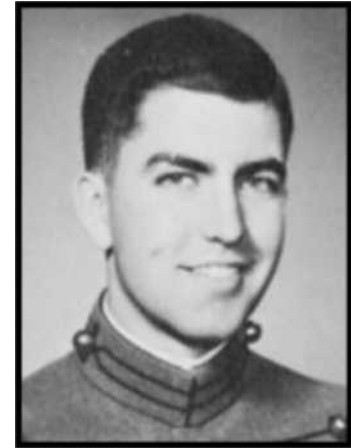
- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: Iowa
Home Town: Greenfield, Tennessee

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)

ANDERSON, JOHN LEWIS

John Anderson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He retired in 1997 as a U.S. Army Reserve Brigadier General.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Infantry) John Lewis Anderson, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Anderson distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Anderson, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: Kentucky
Home Town: Mayfield, Kentucky

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam), 4 Bronze Stars w/V, 3 Air Medals

BACHMAN, WILLIAM ALAN

William Bachman graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Class of 1968. He resigned in 1978 as a U.S. Army Captain, and was subsequently retired in 1991 as an Army National Guard Colonel.

Synopsis: The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918 (amended by an act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to First Lieutenant (Armor) William Alan Bachman, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam. First Lieutenant Bachman distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving with the 1st Battalion, 20th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, in action against the enemy in 1969 and 1970. The gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty demonstrated by First Lieutenant Bachman, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



- United States Military Academy Register of Graduates
Born: California
Home Town: Omaha, Nebraska

Personal Awards: Silver Star (Vietnam)