

## **Roll-Out of "From The Shadows...A Tribute to the 1968 West Point Graduates Who Gave Their Lives in Vietnam"**

After several years of thinking about writing a book that memorialized our 20 classmates who gave their lives in the Vietnam War, John Hedley energized a team of classmate contributors to submit ideas for a chapter on each of the 20. It took at least a year to collect the inputs, then the real work began. John found a publisher, structured the written accounts of the 20 classmates in chronological order - by when they were killed, and introduced those accounts with a short history of our Class at the academy, and the war in Vietnam. John was able to complete the writing, editing and publication process just in time for a special production run of the hard-over book with color photos to be shipped to the June 3-5 event hotel.

Recognizing the synergy between John's book and the purpose of the Remembrance Weekend, the Class decided to provide a copy of the special production book as a special gift to each of the 20 Next of Kin family's.

Summary (from <https://fromtheshadowsbook.com> )

From the Shadows...An American tale of Dedication and Courage

When the Class of 1968 entered West Point in 1964, the country of Vietnam was basically an unknown....

During their four years at the academy, some 550,000 young Americans were deployed to that formerly unknown land, while back home the country became embroiled in racial strife and a growing counterculture movement that swept across the continent.

Imbued with the ideals of the academy's motto, "Duty, Honor, Country," and their class motto, "No task too great for '68," the young officers of the Class of '68 went off to lead America's young soldiers in intense, close quarter jungle combat. During these three years, the class lost twenty from their ranks.

This is the story of their all-too-short lives—from growing up in the post-World War II bloom of peace and security to their eventual loss in Vietnam. They graduated from West Point eager to start their lives. Most died heroically while leading from the front or flying into intense ground fire to protect others.

Ordering options: <https://fromtheshadowsbook.com/ordering-options/>