

## **DOUGLAS J. LAMUDE**

**COL, AUS (Retired)**

inducted into the SARCA Hall of Fame  
on February 4, 2007

Doug Lamude joined the Army Reserve on 21 June 1961 at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont, as an infantry rifleman with XIII Corps. In October 1963 he was offered and accepted an assignment with the Vermont Army National Guard as a military policeman.

He was commissioned in May 1965 through the ROTC program at the University of Vermont as a Field Artillery officer.

With the level of hostilities increasing in Viet Nam, Doug was called to active duty with the Regular Army and began his active military career at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, as an instructor and later division chief in the Officer Candidate School.

In 1968 he was chosen to serve on the faculty of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, with the Tactics Department, teaching military subjects to the Corps of Cadets.

He left West Point in 1970 and rejoined the Army Reserve with the 11<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group at Miller Army Airfield in New York. He was picked to command the group's Signal Company, which he led for over two years. He also served as the group's liaison officer to the Canadian Airborne Regiment in Alberta, Canada.

Following an assignment with a signal battalion, he was selected to serve as the Recruiting Officer for the 77<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command in New York. In 1976 Doug returned to active duty again as the Recruiting Officer with the 310<sup>th</sup> Theater Army Area Command at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. While with the 310<sup>th</sup>, he also served as the command's liaison to the British Army of the Rhine in Northern Germany. In 1980 he was transferred to Headquarters, First Army, at Fort Meade, Maryland, until selected to serve in the Pentagon on the Department of the Army Staff in 1982 as the Reserve Components Compensation and Entitlements Staff Officer for LTG Maxwell Thurman.

During a review of reserve pay policy in this assignment, he found that Reserve and Guard soldiers were treated differently from Regular Army soldiers when injured, disabled or killed in the line of duty. Several highly visible incidents involving reserve soldiers made headlines in the press bolstering his case for multiple changes in the existing law.

While still a lieutenant colonel, Doug briefed SARCA on this disparity that was adversely affecting reserve soldiers and was fully supported by the SARCA leadership in calling for change. General Helm, as well as Colonels Ebel and Bonner, in particular, were



active in advocating enactment of this important legislation. While serving on active duty, Doug was prohibited by law from lobbying Congress to pass his legislation, but SARCA was not so encumbered. The result became known as the Armed Forces Reserve Health Care Benefits Act, ending second class status for injured and disabled Reservists.

He was selected next to lead the Army's staff on the Sixth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, the first Congressionally mandated review of reserve pay and benefits. After its completion, this study was presented to President Bush and resulted in more recommendations to improve pay and benefits for Reservists and Guardsmen. Doug's final assignments were as Personnel Division Chief, Commander of the Army Reserve Support Center and Executive Officer to the Chief, Army Reserve, MG William Ward.

Following a year of treatment as a patient at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, he was retired for disability in 1994 after more than 34 years in uniform.