

Augusta Military Academy

Oral History

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Youngest Student to Ever Attend AMA?

I attended AMA for a couple of years, beginning in 1941. My brother, **Geof Layng**, stayed on and graduated in 1947. When I arrived, I was too young -- eight years old -- to attend classes, so the school dietitian was assigned to me as my tutor and I lived in her house on campus.



Since she knew very little about education, my formal instruction for that year consisted entirely of learning the multiplication tables and memorizing "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere."

Since I was much smaller than any other cadet, I was given the honor of marching in front of the band with a baton leading Sunday parades. The following year I was joined by several other young cadets and a room in the dietitian's house was furnished with bunk beds to accommodate us. We had a gun rack in the middle of the room to hold our wooden rifles.

I never got to live in the main barracks, but I frequently visited rooms of upper-classmen there to receive beatings for rule infractions such as having a button unfastened at formation or forgetting where I left my cap. I was guilty of the latter offense numerous times, so the barracks was very familiar territory.

I assume that I was the youngest student to ever attend AMA. Does anyone know any other cadet that attended who was younger than eight years old?