

# Augusta Military Academy

## Oral History

Luke Snyder, '60  
July 31, 2020

I want to tell you a story about my senior write up. The mention of turning the bowl lights on individually was that it was my first time as OD and Asst. Commandant **Capt. Sam Wales** told me to turn on the bowl lights. The normal way was to throw the switch at the power panel in the Guard House. I did, but nothing happened. I inquired to him and he said go turn them on manually. So, I took a chair out to the first lamp post at the steps of the Bowl and someone on the Bayonet/Yearbook staff saw that and thought that was funny and decided to put it in the yearbook. In the end was a fuse had blown.

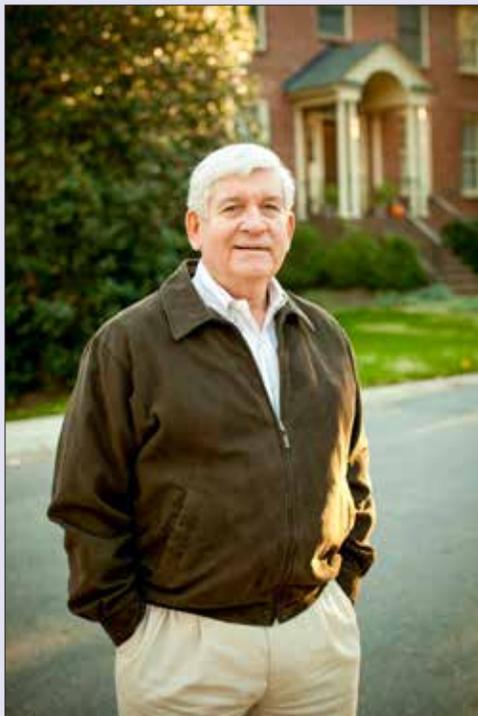
The other comment about being at **Mrs. Toppings** while on guard was that the Thanksgiving Dance happened to be on the night that I, again was assigned to guard duty as OD. I had a date and convinced the OC to let me off for the dance. The OC was faculty member **Captain Manuel Kreisler**, (aka Squicky). Anyway, after the dance, I walked my date to Mrs. Toppings as that where she was staying for the weekend. All was well until **General Roller** came to the barrack, as he did



JAMES LUTHER SNYDER, II  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Pvt., 1; Sgt., 2,3,4; Sgt. Maj., 5; 1st Lt., 6; Capt., 7; Cotillion Club, 1-7, officer, 7; Decorating Committee, 1-7, chairman, 6; Swimming, 5; Student Body Officer, 7; Honor Committee, 7; Honorary, Roller Rifles, 7.

An institution passes on, indeed, when Luke graduates. No OD ever (except Luke) has tried to light the bowl lights by going to each one! No OD ever (except Luke) visited Mrs. topping's during his tour! Kind, and good, but hardly generous, Luke doesn't have a mean bone in that body! As good-natured as Luke is, he'll never have a rough time in life.



sometimes in those days, late night at about 11:30pm. Well, he wanted to see the OD and I guess my watch had stopped and I didn't realize Roller had come. I headed back to the barracks but was too late. I had to do a lot of explaining how I was just doing my gentlemanly escort duty.

However, I was put on Report as AWOL by Squicky and had to go before Honor Committee and Student Body, of which I was a member of both. So, the result was that I was busted until Christmas vacation, about a month.

Whoever the Recall editor was, just had to put that in my senior write up didn't he? I suspect he didn't like me.

Thanks,  
Luke