

Augusta Military Academy

Oral History

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I thought at the time that I had gotten away thanks to “my lucky charms”, but now I realize that I missed an incredible opportunity to open my eyes to a better prospective of my future.

I attended Summer School at AMA in 1966 as an entering “Senior” - it was my first year in America after leaving Guatemala City.

In the relaxed Summer program, I made friends with the Infirmary Nurse, an older French lady with a son in college. She offered me a job in the Infirmary as a helper and when the Academic year began, I was given the rank of Staff Sergeant (needed for the assignment).

In that way, I missed drills, marches and parades by bringing food and mail to the ill cadets. I also missed being a “fish” - first year cadet harassment - and I thought it was great! However, I was very isolated as no senior cadet approved of my rank.

I had one great friend, **Gustav Kant**, '69, but really no fish cadets tolerated my rapid advancement over them. I could not and did not pull rank on anyone, but I seldom, and only when I wanted to, did push-ups or ran laps.

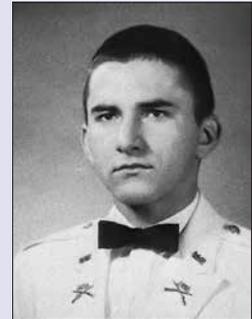
I visited Madison College quite a lot as rank had its privileges there. I couldn't wait to attend a co-ed college and left AMA in 1967, graduating 62nd in a class of 107.

On graduation day, in full dress, one of the Dorm mothers from Madison College explained to **Colonel Livick** that she knew me well after “seeing me at the college regularly”. He actually only laughed at this “last minute” disclosure.

For a time, I was the Varsity Football team manager and enjoyed some great trips with the team. I also took boxing to learn survival skills.

I should really have stayed another year, participated in all that AMA had to offer and enjoy its “splendor”. Nevertheless, I have many wonderful memories of my time there, which I shall never forget.

Thank you, for bringing back these memories and keep up the good work.



You can view the 1967 RECALL online here:
<https://galleries.amaalumni.org/Recalls/Recall1967/>