



LTC Walter E. Price

United States Army

LTC Walter E. Price

Decorated Infantry Combat Commander

Oklahoma Native – Oklahoma Military Academy Training

A West Point Legacy - Stillwater Community Service



Senior Parachutist Badge



Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star
Korea and Vietnam



Silver Star Medal



Bronze Star Medal
(1 OLC)



Air Medal
(20 & V)



Meritorious
Service Medal

From World War II to Vietnam

From the Horse Cavalry to the 101st Airborne (Airmobile) Division

LTC Walter E. Price

INDEX OF NOMINATION MATERIALS

- Tab 1 **NOMINATION**
- Tab 2 **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**
- Tab 3 **BIOGRAPHICAL**
 Military Service
 Public Service
 Civic Proclamation, Stillwater (OK) City Council
- Tab 4 **PHOTOGRAPH**
- Tab 5 **MILITARY RECORDS**
 DD-214 (June 1950 – August 1970)
 Army Discharge 1946
 Marine Corps Discharge 1944
- Tab 6 **AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**
 Silver Star; Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC); Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal (20),
 Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Combat Infantryman Badge with Star, U.S. Army
 Ranger Tab and Senior Parachutist Badge.

 Vietnam Infantry Battalion Command
- Tab 7 **OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY**
 Hall of Fame, Oklahoma Military Academy
 Distinguished Alumnus, Oklahoma Military Academy
 OMA Alumni Association and Rogers State University Endorsement
- Tab 8 **A WEST POINT LEGACY**

OKLAHOMA MILITARY HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

OKLAHOMA MILITARY HERITAGE FOUNDATION

P O BOX 30658, EDMOND, OK 73003

Date: **May 8, 2017**

Highest rank: **Lieutenant Colonel** Full name of nominee: **Walter E. Price**

Is nominee still living or deceased? **Deceased**

Date and place of birth: **June 22, 1926, Tulsa, Oklahoma**

Branch of Service: **Infantry, United States Army**

Current Address, if living: **Deceased**

Phone number: **N/A**

E-mail: **N/A**

Connection to Oklahoma: **Born/Lifelong Resident**

If selected, could nominee travel to accept award? **N/A**

Acceptor's relationship or affiliation to nominee: **Wife and Son**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Name of nominator:

Mr. Michael Lapolla

[REDACTED]

Past President, West Point Society of Eastern Oklahoma

LTC Walter E. Price

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It is with pride and pleasure that we submit Walter E. Price in nomination for induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. All who knew him will agree that only three words are necessary to best describe Walter Price. They are **OKLAHOMAN - MILITARY - STILLWATER.**



LTC Price has been honored at the Oklahoma Military Academy as both a Distinguished Alumnus and member of the OMA Hall of Fame. We recommend that he join the select group of OMA cadets and staff in the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. These men include LTG William E Potts, OMA'41; LTC Edwin Price Ramsey, OMA '37; COL Lee Gilstrap (OMA professor) and the Oklahoma Military Academy institution itself.

OKLAHOMA: The life and military career of LTC Price is quintessential Oklahoma. He was born in Tulsa where his father was both Mayor and Chief of Police. The family moved to rural Mayes County where Walter learned horsemanship, and to eventually to attend the Oklahoma Military Academy during early WWII. At OMA Walter was trained in the Horse Cavalry and played on the famous OMA Polo Team. He taught ROTC at Oklahoma State University, and retired in Stillwater to contribute 45 more years of service to Oklahoma.

MILITARY SERVICE: LTC Walter E. Price was one of the few American soldiers to have served on active duty as an enlisted man during WWII, and as an Infantry commander in the Korean War and in Vietnam. LTC Price has served his country with integrity, distinction, and an unparalleled sense of duty over a military career spanning four decades.

In addition to important staff assignments, LTC Price served in Korea, post-war Germany and Vietnam; and he taught at both Oklahoma State University and West Point.

STILLWATER COMMUNITY SERVICE: LTC Price retired in 1970 became a full-time resident of Stillwater He served his state/community for another 45 years. He served as Chairman of the State Board of Public Affairs then turned his efforts to his hometown of Stillwater.

Walter's civic involvement in Stillwater included being a local bank executive, City Commissioner, major supporter of local economic development and the co-founder and lifelong supporter of the Stillwater Humane Society.

LTC Price was honored for his community service this year by the Stillwater City Council. The Council designated April 17, 2017 as Walter Price Day in Stillwater.

SUMMARY

LTC Price lived a long and rich life of service, both military and civilian. He protected Oklahomans from afar and served Oklahomans as a native son. We ask that you agree that LTC Walter Price should be inducted into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.

Biographical – Military Service
MILITARY SERVICE 1944 - 1970

ENLISTED WWII (1944-46): After graduating from the Oklahoma Military Academy in 1944 at age 18, LTC Price enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, then transferred to the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged in 1946 to accept an appointment to West Point.



WEST POINT CADET (1946-50): Walter entered the United States Military Academy in the summer of 1946 and graduated in June 1950.

KOREAN WAR (1952-53): After his West Point graduation in June 1950, he completed the U.S. Army Airborne School and Jumpmaster training at Fort Benning prior to his assignment to the 11th Airborne Division, the 508th Airborne and the Second Division HQ in Korea. He served as a company commander earning the Bronze Star and Combat Infantryman Badge.

WEST POINT FACULTY (1955-58): Upon his return from Korea, Walter attended Columbia University. He received a master's degree in psychology in preparation to teach Military Psychology and Leadership at the West Point. While at Columbia, Walter met his future wife, Jane Ezell, a fellow Oklahoman. After Walter completed Army Ranger training, they were married in April 1955 and he began teaching at West Point.

SIGNIFICANT ASSIGNMENTS (1960-65): After his West Point teaching assignment, Walter completed the Infantry Advanced Course and he and Jane began a three-year assignment in Germany. Returning from Europe, Walter attended the Command General Staff College followed by a Senior Staff position with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY AND STILLWATER (1965-68): LTC Price was then assigned as an active duty ROTC instructor at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

VIETNAM WAR: Walter's next and final career assignment was a combat deployment in Vietnam as an Infantry Battalion Commander with the 101st Airborne. Walter considered this the height of his military career because of the brave soldiers under his command. During his Vietnam command, LTC Price was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star 1st OLC, and twenty Air Medals representing over 500 combat sorties.

STILLWATER: Following a brief final assignment at Ft. Leonard Wood, the Price family settled permanently in Stillwater, and Walter pursued retirement with the same energy and enthusiasm he displayed while on active duty.

Biographical – Community Service
COMMUNITY SERVICE 1971 - 2015

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

LTC Price retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel and entered Oklahoma state government, serving in the Office of the Governor, then as Chairman of the Oklahoma Board of Public Affairs in 1974.

Walter was a member and past chapter and state president of the Military Officers Association of America, and a member of the Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association.

CITY OF STILLWATER

Walter’s civic involvement in Stillwater included being the Executive Vice President of the Stillwater Community Bank (1977-86); as a Stillwater City Commissioner during 1980-83; and the Director of Downtown Stillwater (1990-91).



Walter was the co-founder and lifelong supporter of the Stillwater Humane Society.

The Stillwater City Commission declared April 17, 2017 as Walter Price Recognition Day in Stillwater. See the proclamation on the following page.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

[REDACTED]

Biographical – Community Service
CITY OF STILLWATER PROCLAMATION

City of Stillwater

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Walter Price and his family moved to Stillwater in 1965 upon his assignment as a Professor of Military Science at Oklahoma State University and made Stillwater their permanent home after his final combat assignment in Viet Nam and retirement from the Army in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Walter served the City with distinction as a City Commissioner at which time the Commission addressed critical issues including the construction of the Kaw Water Line and the creation of the Stillwater Utility Authority; and

WHEREAS, Walter was a co-founder of the Stillwater Humane Society and Executive Director of Downtown Unlimited; and

WHEREAS, Walter was the consummate "man of action" always there to assist his community, his church, schools, organizations, and anyone in need; and

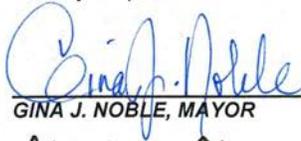
WHEREAS, Walter was recognized community-wide as a patriot and advocate for veterans; and

WHEREAS, words such as "integrity," "loyalty," "dedication," and "compassion" only begin to describe Walter; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and appropriate that Walter Price be honored by the Mayor and City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Gina J. Noble, Mayor of the City of Stillwater and the Stillwater City Council do hereby proclaim April 17, 2017 as "**WALTER PRICE DAY**" in the City of Stillwater, Oklahoma, and hereby recognize and thank Walter Price, a true American hero, for his citizenship and countless contributions to the City of Stillwater.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Stillwater to be affixed this 17th day of April, 2017.



GINA J. NOBLE, MAYOR

ATTEST:



ELIZABETH CHRZ, CITY CLERK



STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA

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Military Records
DD FORM 214 – AUGUST 1970

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD
 SAFEGUARD IT.

| PERSONAL DATA | 1. LAST NAME-FIRST NAME-MIDDLE NAME PRICE WALTER EDWIN | | 2. SERVICE NUMBER NA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|-------|--------|------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|----|---|----|-------------------|---|---|----|------------------------------------|----|---|----|-------------------------|----|---|----|-------------------------------|---|----|---|
| | 4. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS ARMY RA INF | | 5a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK LTC | 6. DATE OF RANK 0-5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7. U. S. CITIZEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO | 8. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Country) TULSA, OK | | 9. DATE OF BIRTH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA | 10a. SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER UNKNOWN | | b. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER, CITY, COUNTY, STATE AND ZIP CODE LB#4, TULSA, OK | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11a. TYPE OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE RETIRED | | b. STATION OR INSTALLATION AT WHICH EFFECTED FT LEONARD WOOD MO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE DATA | c. REASON AND AUTHORITY RETIRED TITLE 10 US CODE SEC 3911 & 3963 AFTER MORE THAN 22 YRS ACTIVE FEDERAL SERVICE-SPN 77S | | d. EFFECTIVE DATE | DAY MONTH YEAR 31 AUG 70 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND 3D BCT BDE USATC ENGR FIFTH USARMY | | 13a. CHARACTER OF SERVICE HONORABLE | b. TYPE OF CERTIFICATE ISSUED DD FORM 363A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 14. DISTRICT, AREA COMMAND OR CORPS TO WHICH RESERVIST TRANSFERRED NA | | 15. REENLISTMENT CODE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 16. TERMINAL DATE OF RESERVE/UMT&S OBLIGATION DAY MONTH YEAR NA | | 17. CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION a. SOURCE OF ENTRY: <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (First Enlistment) <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (Prior Service) <input type="checkbox"/> REENLISTED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER COMMISSIONED RA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18. PRIOR REGULAR ENLISTMENTS NA | | 19. GRADE, RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SVC 2LT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Street, RFD, City, County, State and ZIP Code) TULSA, OKLAHOMA | | 20. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE (City and State) WEST POINT, NY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SERVICE DATA | 23a. SPECIALTY NUMBER & TITLE 71542 PARACHUTIST | | b. RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D.O.T. NUMBER NA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 24. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED PRCHT BADGE - SR PRCHT BADGE - UNSM - KSM - CIB/2D AWARD - BSM W/1 OLC - NDSM W/1 OLC - ROKPUC - JCS IDENT BADGE - VSM - VCM W/60 DEVICE - SILVER STAR - VN GALLANTRY CROSS W/ BS - AIR MEDAL W/20 OLC&V DEVICE - AR COMM W/1 OLC | | 22. STATEMENT OF SERVICE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 25. EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMPLETED CODE OF CONDUCT MARTIAL LAW CRS B NONJUD PUN GENEVA CONV CBR TNG TIS - 3 WKS-50 - BASIC ABN USA INF SCH - 38 WKS-59 - ADV #1 TIS - 1 WKS-51 - JUMPMASER USACGSC - 38 WKS-63 - C&GS(CINSGCY) TIS - 15WKS-52 - AICOC COLUMBIA U, NY - 16 MOS -55 - PSYCOLOGY TIS - 7 WKS-55 - RANGER #8 OKLAHOMA STATE U OF O - 10 SH-68 - GRAD PSYCH TAS - 1 WKS-56 - SWOGM ORIEN | | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>YEARS</th> <th>MONTHS</th> <th>DAYS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(1) NET SERVICE THIS PERIOD</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(2) OTHER SERVICE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(3) TOTAL (Line (1) plus Line (2))</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | YEARS | MONTHS | DAYS | a. CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES | | | | (1) NET SERVICE THIS PERIOD | 20 | 2 | 29 | (2) OTHER SERVICE | 1 | 9 | 19 | (3) TOTAL (Line (1) plus Line (2)) | 22 | 0 | 18 | b. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE | 22 | 0 | 18 | c. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE | 4 | 10 | 8 |
| | | YEARS | MONTHS | DAYS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | a. CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (1) NET SERVICE THIS PERIOD | 20 | 2 | 29 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (2) OTHER SERVICE | 1 | 9 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (3) TOTAL (Line (1) plus Line (2)) | 22 | 0 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| b. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE | 22 | 0 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| c. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE | 4 | 10 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26a. NON-PAY PERIODS TIME LOST (Preceding Two Years) NONE | | b. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID 31 DAYS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27a. INSURANCE IN FORCE (NSLI or USGLI) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO | | b. AMOUNT OF ALLOTMENT NA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28. VA CLAIM NUMBER C- NA | | 29. SERVICEMEN'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| VA AND EMP. SERVICE DATA | 30. REMARKS RETIRED IN THE GRADE OF LTC EDUCATION: 18½ YRS-GENERAL BLOOD GROUP: A+ ITEM 6: PERM MAJ RA APTD 2 JUN 64 TEMP LTC AUS APTD 24 DEC 64 SVC IN VEITNAM DURING CURRENT TOUR: 13 APR 68 THRU 27 MAR 69 | | c. DATE OF ENTRY DAY MONTH YEAR 2 JUN 50 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 31. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE [REDACTED] | | 32. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED <i>Walter E. Price</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AUTHENTICATION | 33. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZING OFFICER P. M. DONAT, 2LT, AGC, ASST AG | | 34. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN <i>P M Donat</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Military Records
ARMY DISCHARGE 1946

12693

OK 42 PAGE 233



Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

WALTER E PRICE 18 196 119 PRIVATE

UNASSIGNED

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given at

SEPARATION CENTER
FORT SAM HOUSTON TEXAS

Date (EXPLANATORY)
COUNTY OF TULSA

JUNE 1946

I, Andy Stokes County Clerk, do and for the County and State above named, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a like instrument now on file in my office.

Dated this 26 day of June 1946

ANDY STOKES, County Clerk

L. E. Alexander

L. L. Stewart
L. L. STEWART
MAJOR AGD

Military Records
MARINE CORPS DISCHARGE 1944

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS



FIDELI CERTA MERCES

To all whom it may concern:

Know ye, That _____ WALTER EDWIN PRICE _____

a _____ Private _____ of the U. S. Marine Corps _____, who was
enlisted at _____ DHHS, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on the _____ 25th _____ day of
_____ August _____, 1944, to serve for _____ Until discharged _____ is hereby
(Insert four years, or duration of national emergency)

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

"By special order of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, for his own
convenience to enlist in the U. S. Army for preparatory training
for appointment to the United States Military Academy."

Said _____ WALTER EDWIN PRICE _____ was born
_____ 22 June _____, 1926, at _____ Tulsa, Oklahoma _____; when
enlisted was _____ 66 _____ inches high, with _____ Blue _____ eyes,
_____ medium brown _____ hair, _____ Ruddy _____ complexion;
citizenship _____ U. S. _____

Delivered at _____ 8th Troop Bn, 1TA, Camp Lejeune, N.C. this _____ 23rd _____ day
of _____ December _____, 1944.

Character: _____ Excellent _____

_____, U. S. M. C., Commanding Marines.

Awards and Decorations
SIGNIFICANT AWARDS AND DECORATIONS
 LTC Walter E. Price

| NUMBER | AWARDS | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| One |  | The Silver Star Medal is the third highest military decoration for valor that can be awarded to any person serving in any capacity with the United States Armed Forces. The medal is awarded for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States. |
| Two |  | The Bronze Star Medal is awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone. When awarded for acts of heroism, the medal is awarded with the "V" device. The medal is the fifth-highest combat decoration and the tenth highest U.S. military award in order of precedence. |
| One |  | The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States subsequent to 1/16/69. |
| Twenty (plus "V") |  | The Air Medal was created in 1942 and is awarded for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. Each medal represents 25 aerial sorties in a combat zone. Awards may be made to recognize single acts of merit or heroism or for meritorious service. |
| Two |  | The Army Commendation Medal is a mid-level United States military decoration that is presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service. |
| Two |  | The Vietnam Gallantry Cross (w/bronze star) is awarded to military personnel in the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces and Allied units in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy. |
|  | The Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who personally fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an infantry, ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941. On 8 February 1952, the Army approved the addition of stars to the CIB indicating the soldier's having fought in more than one war. | |
|  | The U.S. Army Ranger tab is a service school military decoration of the United States Army signifying completion of the 61-day-long Ranger School course in small-unit infantry combat tactics in woodland, mountain, and swamp operations. | |
|  | The U.S. Army Senior Parachutist Badge is awarded to graduates from an approved Jumpmaster Course and who completed at least 30 specialized jumps and have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organizations authorized parachutists for a total of at least 24 months. | |



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF CONGRESS JULY 9, 1918
HAS AWARDED

THE SILVER STAR

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER PRICE, [REDACTED], INFANTRY

FOR
GALLANTRY IN ACTION

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ON 17 JULY 1968

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS DAY OF 19

Melvin Ziegler
MELVIN ZIEGLER
Major General, USA
Commanding
101st Airborne Division



Stanley R. Rearr
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, 24 AUGUST 1962
HAS AWARDED

THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

(FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER E. PRICE, [REDACTED]

FOR
MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT
IN GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST HOSTILE FORCES

IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM FROM DECEMBER 1968 TO MARCH 1969

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS 23d DAY OF MARCH 1969

Creighton W. Abrams
CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS
General, United States Army
Commanding



Stanley R. Rearr
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, MAY 11, 1942
HAS AWARDED

THE AIR MEDAL
(FIRST THROUGH NINETEENTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER E. PRICE, 062 670, INFANTRY

FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT
WHILE PARTICIPATING IN AERIAL FLIGHT
IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM DURING THE PERIOD 27 JUNE 1968 TO 13 DECEMBER 1968
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS ELEVENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY 1969

Melvin Zais
MELVIN ZAIS
Major General, USA
Commanding
101st Airborne Division



Stanley R. Rear
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, 16 JANUARY 1969
HAS AWARDED

THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER E. PRICE, [REDACTED] INFANTRY

FOR
MERITORIOUS SERVICE
WITH 3d BASIC COMBAT TRAINING BRIGADE, FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI
FROM 19 MAY 1969 TO 31 AUGUST 1970
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
THIS 31ST DAY OF AUGUST 1970

V. P. Mock
V. P. MOCK
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding, Fifth U. S. Army



Stanley R. Rear
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

Awards and Decorations

VIETNAM BATTALION COMMAND



3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment
Currahees



101st Airborne Division
Screaming Eagles

Walter Price Assumes Command

On 18 June 1968, the new Battalion Commander, LTC Price assumed command of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry and the Battalion began movement toward Bao Loc to reinforce a company of the 173rd Airborne Brigade which had made heavy contact. The move quickly demonstrated the flexibility required of an airborne trooper, as LTC Price assumed command in the morning and moved the Battalion to Bao Loc in the afternoon. The move to Bao Loc marked another first for the 506th. It was at this time that Task Force Cleland, later redesignated Task Force South, was formed. Task Force South was the first fully combined command in Vietnam. Composed of the 3d Bn (Abn) 506th Inf, the 3d Bn (Abn) 503d Infantry from the 173d Airborne Brigade, the 44th ARVN Regiment and the 2d Ranger Group, all operations were prepared and conducted under the joint supervision of both American and Vietnamese Commanders.

LRRP Training School Established

The Battalion established a LRRP training school under the supervision of the Reconnaissance Platoon. Initially begin as a one-time affair, the first three-week class was composed entirely of junior ARVN officers who in turn could return to their parent units and train selected personnel. The school has since become permanently established, administering extensive training in long-range reconnaissance patrolling techniques to selected members of the 44th VN Regiment



Silver Star

Silver Star at Phan Viet

Awarded to LTC Walter Price, 17 July 1968, for gallantry in action as Commander of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry while aiding the 44th ARVN Regiment at Phan Thiet, Binh Tuan Province, Republic of Vietnam



Gallantry Cross

Phan Thiet

At 1000 hours, 17 July, the 2d 3n, 4th A 2VN Regiment came into heavy contact with a well-entrenched Viet Cong 3attalion eight kilometers northeast of Phan Thiet, vicinity AN 934180. Immediately, all four rifle companies of the Battalion were diverted and combat assaulted into the open rice paddies of the contact area.

Moving from four different LZ's, the companies sought to encircle the enemy and link up with the ARVN forces. There were many acts of individual gallantry and valor, as the battle raged into the night, gunships, artillery, air strikes and Spooky ships saturated the area with withering fire.

August 1968 had seen three major contacts with the enemy and frequent small encounters throughout the month. Enemy contact dropped significantly in September with the enemy evading friendly units in an effort to regroup and refurnish throughout the month.

Operation Phuong Hoang

The 1st of October marked the beginning of Operation Phuong Hoang, a combined operation with District Headquarters' forces, elements of the National Police Field Force (NPF) and the 44th ARVN Regiment (minus). The Task Force's mission during the operation was to provide cordon forces for a week Lang search operation conducted by Binh Thuan Sector in the Ham Thuan and Thein Giao Districts.

Operation Le Hong Phong

Operation Le Hong Phung commenced on 11 October 1968 and concluded on 24 October 1968. The operation was a combined effort with elements of the 44th ARVN Regiment and the 4-8th Armored Cav Troop with the Provisional Platoon, 1-69th Armor, and Task Force 3-506. During the period 11 November to 17 November 1968, Task Force 3-506 and the 4th Battalion, 44th ARVN Regiment again conducted combined reconnaissance in force operations, this time in the southwest portion of Le Hong Phong Forest.

Double Eagle Operations

Operation Double Eagles 1 was the beginning of five combined Double Eagles operations which involved Task Force 3-506 in combined operations with each of the four battalions of the 44th ARVN Regiment from 23 November 1968 to 31 January 1969, when Operation Double Eagles V was terminated. It was at this time that the Currahees of the 3-506th welcomed their third Battalion Commander in LTC Manuel A. Alves who assumed command from LTC Price.

Alumni Association Honors

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY

LTC Walter E. Price, Oklahoma Military Academy Class of 1944



The Oklahoma Military Academy, once known as the “West Point of the Southwest,” operated “on the Hill” (in Claremore) from 1919 to 1971. The spirit of its glorious history remains alive today. Walter Price was a cadet at OMA from 1942-44, In 1942, OMA adopted a 12-month calendar, the better to turn out young officers for service in World War II. West Point graduate John C. Hamilton and his successor, former Fort Sill Army commander Kenneth S. Perkins, served as OMA presidents during the war years. In 1947, after the war ended, tanks replaced horses on the Hill, as the ROTC cavalry unit became an armored cavalry unit, a major milestone in the academy’s history.

LTC Walter E. Price

MEMBER, OMA HALL OF FAME 2016

Walter Price was inducted into the Oklahoma Military Academy Hall of Fame in June 2016. The Hall of Fame was established in 1984 as a way to honor and pay tribute to those individuals who have attained high achievements in professional endeavors or notable personal accomplishments at the local, state or national level.

Hall of Fame recipients must have demonstrated an exceptional academic and activity record on College Hill. Participation in the Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association or the activities of Rogers State University are also considered in awarding Hall of Fame designation to former cadets. Members of the Oklahoma Military Academy Hall of Fame exemplify the highest standards of the Academy and its motto: **Courage, Loyalty and Honor.**

LTC Walter E. Price

DISTINGUISHED OMA ALUMNUS 2007

Walter Price was named an OMA Distinguished Alumnus in June 2007. First presented in 1983, the Oklahoma Military Academy Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes those alumni who have distinguished themselves in their professional or military careers and in service to their community by participation in the OMA Alumni Association or in the activities of Rogers State University.

Alumni Association Endorsement
OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY
LTC Walter E. Price Oklahoma Military Academy Class of 1944



April 4, 2017

Review Committee
Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame

To: The Members of the Review Committee

On behalf of the Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association and Rogers State University, we are pleased and honored to enthusiastically nominate and strongly recommend Lt. Col. Walter E. Price, posthumously, for the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.

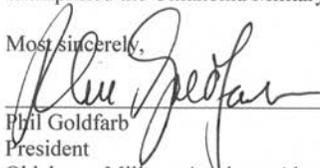
From his roots with two Oklahoma pioneer families to his education at Oklahoma Military Academy and then West Point and after a career with the U.S. Army having participated in three wars to a business career which included exceptional community service in Stillwater, Oklahoma, Walter Price has proven himself to be a well-qualified candidate for this honor. He was the son of Prier Lee Price, Jr. who was the first elected police and fire commissioner in Tulsa and later Tulsa's mayor from 1946-1948.

Walter attended Oklahoma Military Academy from 1942-1944 during the heart of WWII. At Oklahoma Military Academy, he was an honor student, training officer and member of the Polo Team where he developed his skill that was used later when "breaking" Hannibal at West Point. Upon turning 18, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and upon discharge was accepted to West Point where he proved himself to be a cadet of the highest caliber.

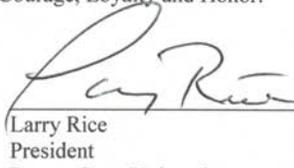
Walter Price was involved with the Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association as well as OMA's successor institution, Rogers State University for over 30 years working tirelessly for our organizations. In fact, he was one of the first donors to the RSU-GOLD (Guard Officer Leadership Development) Scholarship Program establishing the Oklahoma National Guard Officer Cadets back on our campus. He was recognized as an OMA Distinguished Alumni in 2007 and was inducted into our OMA Hall of Fame, posthumously, in 2016. His peers at Oklahoma Military Academy included Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame Members Lt. Gen. William E Potts and Lt. Col. Edwin Ramsey and he was taught by yet another Military Hall of Fame member, Col. Lee H. Gilstrap!

We could not think of another native Oklahoman son who has combined a military career with community service and dedicated his life to defend our country and helping others. Walter Price exemplified the Oklahoma Military Academy credo of: Courage, Loyalty and Honor.

Most sincerely,


Phil Goldfarb
President

Oklahoma Military Academy Alumni Association


Larry Rice
President

Rogers State University

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

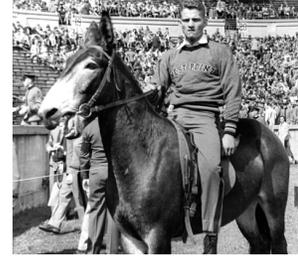
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Cadet Walter Price

A WEST POINT LEGACY

WEST POINT

In 1948, Cadet Walter Price was assigned to train and ride Hannibal, West Point's newest mule mascot. The West Point Mule has been an iconic mascot since 1899. And Hannibal (1948-64) is recognized as the most celebrated of all the West Point mules.



Walter was a colorful horseman who perfected his riding skills in rural Oklahoma and at Oklahoma Military Academy as a cavalry ROTC student and polo team player. He was selected as one of three Army Mule Riders, a distinguished and respected honor within the Corps of Cadets. A second rider was Ralph Jennings, also an OMA graduate. Hannibal since served from 1948-1964 as West Point's most lasting, legendary and iconic mascot.

Walter introduced Hannibal to the Corps of Cadets in September 1949. And he introduced Hannibal to 100,000 spectators and the entire at the 1949 Army–Navy game attended by President Harry Truman.

HANNIBAL MONUMENT

Hannibal has been immortalized at West Point by a larger than life bronze of the mule and his rider. The immortalized rider is Walter Price, Class of 1950. The monument was created by Company M-2, Class of 1954 and presented as their 50th Reunion class gift. It sits across from the West Point Visitor Center in Highland Falls, NY.

OKLAHOMA MILITARY ACADEMY HONORS

The creator of the Hannibal Monument is LTC (Ret) Willis Tomsen of Tulsa. LTC Tomsen created 35 bronze maquettes of the Hannibal Monument with rider. Thirty-two were sold to raise funds for the monument.

- One has been gifted to the Oklahoma State History Museum in Oklahoma City, noting that the creator, sculptor and first rider of Hannibal are all Oklahomans.
- Another was gifted to West Point to honor the Outstanding Mule Rider in each class.
- **The 35th, and last maquette, was donated in 2016 to the Oklahoma Military Academy Hall of Fame in honor of Walter Price. The donation was part of the induction of LTC Price into the OMA Hall of Fame. It will be permanently displayed, with text and photographs, on the campus in Claremore. LTC Tomsen said "This replica of West Point's Hannibal monument is presented to the OMA Alumni Association in honor of the service, gallantry, citizenship and loyalty of Walter Price."**

Cadet Walter Price
A WEST POINT LEGACY



Bronze Maquette of Hannibal & Rider

Located at OMA Hall of Fame in honor of Water Price
Also located at West Point and the Oklahoma History Museum



West Point Cadet Walter Price

On Hannibal at Michie Stadium (West Point) in 1949.