



LTC (R) Henry Benning Pease, Jr.

LTC (R) Pease was born 6 March 1934 IN Columbus, Georgia. He received his education in the Muscogee County School System, graduating from Columbus High School in 1952. He attended junior college at Georgia Military College, and from there he attended North Georgia College, Dahlonega, Georgia, where he received his bachelor's degree in business administration. Upon graduating from North Georgia in December 1957, he received a commission as a second lieutenant in the field artillery, United States Army. Lieutenant Colonel Pease is a graduate of the Field Artillery Basic and Advanced Officers' courses, the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Officer Material Readiness Course, Eight-inch Projectile Assembly School, and the Nuclear Weapons Refresher Course. He is also a graduate of the U. S. Air Force Air Ground Operations School. Among his decorations and awards are the Army Parachutist Badge, the Pathfinder badge, the Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters (3 awards), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, and numerous campaign ribbons and unit citations. During his many years of service, LTC Pease was one of two officers charged with material evaluation of new equipment designed for use in the 11th Air Assault Division (Test), which involved the development and evaluation of the deployment of artillery by helicopter to provide fast moving artillery support for airmobile infantry units. In March of 1965, the 11th Air Assault Division (Test) was redesignated the 1st Air Cavalry Division and deployed in August to An Khe, South Vietnam where one of its battalions would become famous for its close combat in the Ia Drang Valley in November 1965. Hank married Lynn Bilbro on 27 December 1957 and they reported to Fort Sill, Oklahoma in March 1958. He retired from the Army in October 1975 and fully retired in 1994. He and his wife have two children and four grandchildren. They currently live in Lakeland, Florida where he enjoys being with his grandchildren, playing golf, and working in his yard and with his orchids.