

COLONEL THOMAS K. SEYBOLD, U.S. ARMY

February 10, 1937 --- May 9, 2024



Thomas Koenig Seybold was born February 10, 1937, in Cleveland, Ohio. His parents, Grandville Joseph and Esther Koenig Seybold were schoolteachers. Tom grew up with his sister, Barbara in Dayton, OH, and graduated from Fairview High School in the class of 1955. He was a player in multiple sports in high school, became an Eagle Scout, and enjoyed playing double bass and other musical instruments. He maintained a love for tennis throughout his military career and into retirement.

After meeting at a mutual friend's wedding reception, Tom and Karen (Woodward) Seybold happily enjoyed 64 years of marriage, raising three sons, and delighting in nine grandchildren.

Thomas Seybold entered West Point and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in the Infantry Branch with the Class of 1959 and became an Airborne Ranger. Over an active duty career of 28 years, Colonel Seybold had a number of command and staff assignments: infantry battalion command, senior staff assignments, two tours in Viet Nam, instructor at West Point in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, four years in Germany, project management for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle, and Director of Infantry Combat Developments.

After retirement in 1987, Tom had a second career managing defense programs for AAI (now Textron) and continued thereafter as a private consultant.

Tom was a Life Member of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). In 2012 he assisted in the revitalization of the Baltimore Chapter of MOAA. As Chair of the ROTC

Committee, he led the Star Spangled Banner Chapter in support of major Army ROTC programs at Johns Hopkins, Morgan State, and Loyola Universities along with subsidiary programs at other local colleges. In addition, he increased support for the high school junior ROTC programs for all the services. He personally met with the Professors of Military Science and encouraged chapter members to participate in presenting MOAA Leadership Awards. Tom attended almost every commissioning ceremony at the several colleges, witnessing nearly 400 cadets becoming 2nd lieutenants.

Tom served the Star Spangled Banner Chapter as president for three terms (2015- 2020) and set a high standard for member activities and community involvement. Tom found exciting speakers and quality venues for dinner meetings. Speakers ranged from ambassadors to astronauts with field trips to the USS Constellation, Martin State Airport, and the ship simulator at the Maritime Institute. Tom commissioned a chapter lapel pin and improved the chapter website and newsletter, resulting in the chapter receiving the National MOAA “Level of Excellence Award” and the “Harris Communications Award” for five consecutive years. In service to the veteran’s community, Tom led the chapter in raising more than \$50,000 for Paws 4 Vets, to provide service dogs to veterans.

Based on a nomination by chapter members, as a surprise at a chapter meeting in 2018, Tom was presented the MOAA Leadership Award by the President of the Maryland Council of Chapters. Tom worked hard with the Maryland MOAA Council of Chapters and associates from the Maryland Military Coalition to advocate for exemption of military pensions from state income tax, attending numerous legislative hearings and drafting an informative paper on the value of retaining military retirees in Maryland. After more than 15 years of Military Coalition effort, a significant portion of military retirement pay is now exempt from Maryland income tax.

“Never stop serving” was the motto which Tom attached to the Star Spangled Banner Chapter’s communications. Tom’s personal adherence to his motto of service was obvious and inspirational.

Colonel Thomas K. Seybold, U.S. Army, will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery.