

Charles Loyd Jackson II Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army 28 March 1958 – 30 June 1985

Charles was born on 29 December 1941 at Fort Benning, Georgia, where his father, a career officer in the Army, was stationed at the time. Charles accompanied his parents to various duty stations and attended Department of Defense schools in Tokyo, Japan and Taiwan. He graduated from Taipei American High School in Taiwan in 1959. Charles enlisted in the US Army Reserve on 28 March 1958, completed basic training at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and then attended the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He received a Presidential appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, entering the Academy in July 1960 from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering and received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1964. After he was commissioned, Charles began a distinguished 20-year career in the Army as an Infantry Officer (with a secondary specialty as a Civil-Military Operations Officer for seven of those years). He underwent Airborne and Ranger training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was named an Honor Graduate of his Ranger class. He subsequently attended schools for training as a Maintenance Officer, Military Assistance Training Advisor, and Advanced Infantry Officer. He also graduated from the Army Command and General Staff College and earned a Master of Arts Degree in International Service from The American University in 1971. Besides schools, Charles' career took him to Camp Hovey, Korea; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Vietnam; Fort Carson, Colorado; Fort Lee, Virginia; and Yongsan, Korea. He was highly decorated for his service. He received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action in Vietnam during the Têt Offensive in February 1968 while serving as the Battalion Advisor to the 7th Vietnamese Airborne Battalion. In addition to numerous other U.S. Army, Vietnamese, and Korean awards, Charles received four other personal decorations including the Legion of Merit, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards). He received the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross from the Republic of Vietnam for his combat service in Vietnam. While he was convalescing from wounds at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii, Charles met Judith Ann Haas (born 23 September 1943), an Army Nurse who was stationed there. They were married at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, on 11 January 1969. After Charles retired on 30 June 1985 at Fort Lee, he and Judith made their permanent residence in Lower Macungie Township. Charles then began a second career in Marketing and Sales for American Telephone & Telegraph Company Microelectronics Division in Allentown, Pennsylvania, which eventually became Lucent Technologies, Inc., and later Agere Systems, Inc. Charles and Judith raised two children, one son and one daughter. His parents were Charles L. Jackson (25 November 1913 - 23 September 2001), who also was a career officer in the Army, and Dorothy A. Butler (29 May 1915 – 5 December 1992).