

**SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS
Veteran of the Month Prayer Card**

March 2023

Edwin O. Heitschmidt



US ARMY: 1968 - 1971

“Big” Ed grew up in Brighton, CO. In 1968 he enlisted in the US Army, for Infantry-Airborne. After basic training at Ft. Bliss, TX, he went to Camp Crockett at Ft. Gordon, GA for unique infantry training. About halfway through, the Cadre of that Company recommended that he and some others volunteer for the Green Berets. He took a battery of tests - written, physical, and mental. He passed them. After completing Infantry Training, Ed was given orders to Jump School (Airborne Training) at Ft. Benning, GA. He was then assigned to Special Forces/Green Berets Training at Smoke Bomb Hill, Ft. Bragg, NC for about 16 months.

Ed was a member of a 12 Man A-Team assigned to Ft. Gulick in the Panama Canal Zone with the 8th Special Forces. Its area of operations was South and Central America and wherever needed in the US and overseas.

By the time his tour ended, “Big” Ed had achieved the Rank of Specialist 5.

After the military, Ed worked as a Federal Law Enforcement Agent for the US Treasury Department in Washington DC, Arizona, Florida, and numerous countries overseas.

Ed moved to Florida in 2001 from Houston, TX. He is enjoying retirement and taking care of the property he lives on, NW of Bunnell. It is in the country with a lot of trees and tropical vegetation, and gardening.