

SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS
Veteran of the Month Prayer Card

August 2023

Richard Oexmann



US ARMY: 1969 - 1971

Richard grew up in New Haven, Indiana and was drafted into the Army in 1969. In April 1970 he was sent to the 7th Squadron of the 17th Air Cavalry in Pleiku, Vietnam, where he flew Bell UH-1 "Huey" helicopters. He successfully completed rescue missions of downed pilots; carrying highly trained and skilled Air Cavalry infantry units into hostile territory; or evacuating downed helicopters from their crash site. He earned a Silver Star from one particularly hazardous mission, and was honorably discharged as a CW-2.

After the Army, Richard resumed flying in a civilian capacity as a flight instructor. At this time, he was also flying as an air taxi/air freight pilot and as a corporate pilot for a large real estate developer which he did for five years. He also flew for Bell South for 21 years and AT&T for two years.

Richard and his wife, Mary, moved to Palm Coast from New Braunfels, TX in 2009 and have been married for 14 years. He is a local realtor, as well as a licensed drone pilot.

He is a member of the Military Officers Association of America and serves as flag bearer in local ceremonies, and is on the Board of Directors. Richard also loves boating, sailing, fishing, and flying drones.