

2021 Outstanding Alumni Nominations

Army War College Foundation

Larry R. Ellis, GEN	Board of 'Point Blank Solutions' rising to serve as its President and Chief Executive Officer.
GEN, Retired	Presidential appointee - Commissioner - American Battle Monuments Commission.
35 years US Army	Commissioner - The National Commission on the Future of the Army.
Vietnam War Veteran	Served on the Congressionally authorized Vietnam War 50 th Commemoration Advisory Committee.
	Serving his third, five-year term as gubernatorial appointee to the Board of Regents for Morgan State University.
	Advisor to the School of Public Health at Indiana University.
	Director, Armed Forces Benefit Association - aids those who served our nation in the armed forces and as civilian first responders.
	Director, Shepherd Center - specializes in medical treatment, research and rehabilitation for people with spinal cord and traumatic brain injuries.
	Chairman of the Board for High Impact Network of Responsible Innovators (HINRI) - focuses on bringing servant leadership , compassion and innovation to solving the world's most difficult health challenges.
	Chairman and now Director on the Board of the America Korea Friendship Society - a community organization that fosters and strengthens the relationship between the peoples of the United States and the Republic of Korea.
	General Ellis' honors include an Honorary Doctor of Laws, Army War College Honorary Master of Strategic Studies, the Indiana University Distinguished Alumni Service Award, the Morgan State University Distinguished Alumni Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the USO Patriot Award, the NAACP National Service Award, the NAACP Frederick Douglass Leadership Medal, the Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award, the Atlanta Rotary International Leadership Award, and the ROCK of the Year Award.

Lawson E. Magruder	Board of Directors for the Army Air Force Exchange Service.
LTG, Retired	A member of the US Army Ranger Hall of Fame, US Army ROTC Hall of Fame, and is a Distinguished Member of the 75 th Ranger Regiment.
32 years US Army	Vice President for National Security Programs for Battelle Memorial Institute. During his tenure with Battelle, he helped form its Office for Homeland Security.
Vietnam Veteran	Executive Director for the University of Texas at San Antonio's Institute for the Protection of American Communities.
	Associate Vice President for Research Alliances . He helped UTSA strengthen its relationships with the military commands in the San Antonio area . His efforts landed a large research grant from the State of Texas Emerging Technology Fund that fueled the emergence of UTSA as a national recognized leader in the cyber security area.
	Served as a Director - Franciscan Foundation.
	Director on the Army Residence Community Foundation Board.
	Currently serves as the Chairman of the Darrell K Royal Texas Memorial Stadium Veterans Committee appointed by the President of the University of Texas at Austin. Its mission is to lead the UT campus community in recognizing the courageous men and women who serve and have served our Nation.
	Executive coach for FMI- a leader in consulting services for the construction industry .
	Senior mentor for several years for Active, National Guard and Army Reserve units preparing for deployment worldwide. He has also assisted units as they prepared for domestic disaster relief and homeland defense operations.
	Lawson is the President and Principal Owner of LWMIII Consulting LLC, a highly respected, leader development company. He and his partner Byrd Baggett have developed True Growth, a world-class leader development model program recognized by the United States Army, FEMA, numerous commercial businesses, and academic institutions.
	With over 37 experienced senior leaders for over nine years helped over 11,000 future Army brigade and battalion commanders and command sergeants major gain better balance in their lives and become more authentic leaders as they deployed worldwide.
	Lawson is also an author. In 2020, he published <i>A Soldier's Journey Living His "Why"</i> . It is a book of stories. Part autobiography, part memoir, the book is intended also, and perhaps most importantly, to be a primer of sorts for those interested in leadership.

2021 Outstanding Alumni Nominations

Army War College Foundation

Ralph Puckett	National programs coordinator of Outward Bound, Inc.
COL, Retired	Discovery, Inc. After several years of successful leadership at Discovery, Inc. in Herndon, Virginia, Puckett moved to Atlanta and began the Discovery Program at The Westminster Schools, which became known nationally in the adventure education community.
22 years US Army	Puckett finally retired to Columbus, Georgia, where he has remained actively involved with serving the Columbus community and mentoring young officers attending the Infantry School and Ranger School at Fort Benning.
Korean War Veteran	Inaugural inductee into the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame in 1992.
	Speaks often at graduations and other functions at Ft. Benning and is an Honorary Instructor at The Infantry School.
	Inducted into the Order of St. Maurice in 1998.
	1998 Ranger of the Year for the Ranger Infantry Companies of the Korean War.
	Inducted into the USAF Gathering of Eagles in 1999.
	Added to the Tifton, Georgia, Wall of Fame in 2004.
	Ambassador of Goodwill by the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation.
	Distinguished Graduate of the United States Military Academy in 2004.
	Infantry's Doughboy Award recipient in 2007.
	Author of Words for Warriors: A Professional Soldier's Notebook.
	For nearly 30 years, Colonel (Retired) Puckett has served as a mentor and inspirational leader to officers attending various schools at Fort Benning. He would meet the Infantry candidates after a 0600 run at the Ranger Memorial and give them a heavy dose of what it means to be an Infantryman and encourage them in their quest for the Ranger tab. He also met regularly with officers in the infantry basic course and candidates attending the Army's Officer Candidate School.
	He and his wife, Jeanie are recipients of the Pastoral Institute's Servant Leadership Award.
	Received the Boy Scout's Distinguished Citizen's Award.
	Received the Columbus Rotary Club's Mary Reed Award for Service above self Award.
William E "Kip" Ward	Member of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition's National Security Advisory Council, and frequently represents the Council at the US Congress.
LTG, Retired	Remains dedicated to the professional development of the Army's officer corps. He currently does this through participation in a robust mentoring network (global) and monthly leader professional development fora.
41 years US Army	Remains dedicated to mentoring cadets in the ROTC program at his Alma Mater. He is fully committed to this ideal and tracks newly commissioned lieutenants through their basic courses and skill schools. Continues to focus on increased participation by minority officers in combat arms.
	Active member and leading voice in promoting the value of development and diplomacy alongside defense in achieving U.S. National Security interests.
	Former ROCK of the Year.
	Member of the External Research and Advisory Panel at Morgan State University.
	Remains an active contributor to programming conducted by the Atlantic Council, regularly attending roundtables and seminars with notable foreign officials.
	Co-chairs two Mentoring committees involved with mentoring sixth to twelfth graders. Through another committee (Fatherhood), he is dedicated to empowering men to be better dads in the tradition of the old Army cliché, "being all they can be."
	Currently chairs the Systems Applications and Technologies Board of Directors.
	Alumnus of the Year - Morgan State University.
	Former Director on the Africare Foundation, a non-governmental organization established in 2019, registered in Uganda with the Ministry of Justice, Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and NGOs Forum to carry out development programs.
	Former Advisor - Redwood Global, Inc., an infrastructure, energy and investment firm.
	Awards include: Essence Magazine's Leadership Award, The Trumpet Award, 100 Black Men of America Lifetime Leadership Award, Presidential Award of Distinction from Morehouse College, Special Congressional Recognition by the U.S. House of Representatives, and he is a 2019 Omega Image Award Honoree.
	Received Honorary Doctorate Degrees - Morgan State and Virginia State Universities.