

# Certificate of Selection

This is to certify that

## MSG Robert F. Allen

has been selected to the Hall of Honor



Army Master Sergeant (Retired) Robert F. Allen was born on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1922. He served in the United States Army for over twenty years, including service in World War II and in Korea. As a young soldier, he was a member of a squad that was sent into Normandy on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1944 as part of a reconnaissance team. He was one of the two men from that squad who came back – with a bullet wound in his knee. In addition to his wartime service, he also served in the Philippines, Panama, Alaska, Germany and Japan as well as in the Continental United States. During his time with the Army he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with V Device for Valor, the Army Commendation Medal, the Purple Heart on two occasions, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbon with 3 Arrowheads and 5 Stars, and many service medals including the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

Upon his retirement from active duty with the Army in 1961, Master Sergeant Allen joined the staff at Columbia Military Academy as an ROTC instructor and also served as the military property custodian. He served on the staff at CMA from 1961 to 1975 and was a mentor, confidant and friend to an untold number of CMA cadets as they passed through the Academy and, more specifically, his armory. His office had an open door and he was always ready with a dirty joke or good story but he was always available as someone the cadets could talk to and who would listen. Many homesick cadets spent time visiting with him in the Armory. Master Sergeant Allen always made time to listen, provide good advice, and show compassion. The entire CMA faculty provided the instruction and discipline for the Corps of Cadets; Master Sergeant Allen also provided the quiet encouragement so many needed.

While he had no surviving children of his own, Master Sergeant Allen had hundreds of “sons” and a couple dozen “daughters” that he served well during his time at CMA. By his dedication to the ideals of Duty, Honor, and Country, MSG Robert F. Allen distinguished himself in a manner worthy of induction into the Columbia Military Academy Alumni Association Hall of Honor.

Done this Second Day of August  
Year Two Thousand and Fourteen

  
Chairman, Hall of Honor Committee

  
President, CMA Alumni Association