Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Brig. Gen. Leo Brooks, Jr.

Brooks, Leo A., Jr., 1957-

Alternative Names: Brig. Gen. Leo Brooks, Jr.;

Life Dates: August 15, 1957-

Place of Birth: Anchorage, Alaska, USA

Residence: Naples, Florida

Occupations: Brigadier General

Biographical Note

U.S. Army Brigadier General (Ret.) Leo A. Brooks, Jr. was born on August 15, 1957 in Anchorage, Alaska. Brooks was born into a military family. His father, Leo A. Brooks, Sr., was a Brigadier General in the U.S. Army; his mother, Naomi, was a schoolteacher. Brooks' younger brother, Vincent K. Brooks, serves as a Four Star General in the U.S. Army; his sister, Marquita, a lawyer. After graduating from the all-male Jesuit High School in Sacramento, California in 1975, Brooks enrolled in the United States Military Academy at West Point and received his B.S. degree in engineering in 1979.

In 1980, Brooks began his military career as a rifle and anti-tank platoon leader with the 101st Airborne Division, and then served as aide-de-camp to the Assistant Division Commander for Operations. From 1986 to 1988, Brooks was assigned to the 1st Battalion's 75th Infantry Ranger Regiment with duty as a logistics officer and then as commander of A Company. He graduated with his M.A. degree in public administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1990. He was then deployed to the Republic of Korea where he served as part of the Joint Staff of the Combined Forces Command as a ground operations officer. In 1992, Brooks completed the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

Brooks then reported to Fort Bragg, North Carolina in 1993 for duty with the 82nd Airborne Division where he was assigned as an executive officer in the 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment. He then became deputy operations officer the Division. After serving as aide-de-camp to the Chief of Staff of the United States Army, General Gordon R. Sullivan, Brooks was named commander of the 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, and Chief of Operations for the XVIII Airborne Corps. He completed the U.S. Army War College in 1999 and then was deployed to Europe as Deputy Commanding General of the 1st Armored Division, U.S. Army Europe and

Seventh Army in Germany. In 2002, Brooks was appointed Commandant of Cadets at the United States Military Academy and then served as a senior fellow in the Maxwell School of Government at Syracuse University. Brooks then served as Vice Director of Army Staff until retiring in 2006. He went on to become vice president of the National Security & Space Group for the Boeing Company in Washington, D.C.

Brooks served on the board of trustees of Norwich University; the board of directors of the District of Columbia College Access Program; and, the advisory board of directors of the Association of the United States Army. His military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Medal and Bronze Star, the War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Korea Defense Service Medal.

U.S. Army Brigadier General (Ret.) Leo A. Brooks, Jr. was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on July 23, 2013.

Related Entries

Syracuse University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

> **Senior Fellow**

U.S. Army War College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

> **M.A. degree**

University of Oklahoma [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

> **M.A. degree**

United States Military Academy [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

> **B.S. degree**

Boeing Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198810 to 198912]

> **Commissioned Officer**

United States Army [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1995 to ?]

> **Vice Director of the Army Staff**

United States Military Academy [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1997 to ?]

> **Commandant of Cadets**

1st Armored Division, United States Army Europe [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1992 to ?]

> **Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver)**

82nd Airborne Division, United States Army [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from ? to ?]

Commander, 1st Brigade, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment

XVIII Airborne Corps [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1937 to ?]

Chief, Current Operations