



Stephen S. Schmidt



DODDS 1997 Presidential
Teacher of Year

I was born in Hollywood, California and was raised as an Air force brat at my father's assignments in Taiwan, California , Washington state, British Columbia and Oregon. After high school, I attended a private prep school in Bandon, Oregon before being appointed to the Academy in 1963. After my doolie year I was turned back to the class of '68. Three days after graduation I married my U. of Colorado bride who is still beside me to this day. We had four children two of whom were born in Germany.

I initially attended pilot training at Laughlin AFB but was not flying inclined so I returned to Denver to attend Intelligence School at Lowry AFB. The next June I served at Ubon AFB in Thailand during the SEA war, briefing and debriefing aircrews. My next tour was four years as the wing Operational Intelligence Officer at an Air Recce and fighter wing in Zweibrucken, Germany. I resigned in June of 1974 and returned to Oregon.

After obtaining a Masters of Education from the University of Oregon in 1977 I began a career in public education in Oregon and then back in Germany where I taught both elementary and high school mathematics classes in the DoD overseas school system for 29 years until my retirement in 2007. Thus thirty-three years of my life were spent in Europe.

In my retirement I chose to return to Oregon where my wife of fifty years and I enjoy the sunshine and golf of central Oregon.

Despite my early departure from the USAF I consider my academy years to be some of the most valuable of my life. I hope that you will be as blessed in your life.