



General (Ret.) Ronald H. Griffith, Board of Regents Member

General Ronald H. Griffith retired from the United States Army in November 1997 after having served for nearly 37 years of active duty service. He was the Vice Chief of Staff, the second highest uniformed position in the Army, at the culmination of his distinguished military career. He was the Army's Inspector General for four years prior to becoming the Vice Chief of Staff.

A native of Georgia, General Griffith was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1960 after graduating from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Science degree. He later earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Shippensburg State University in Pennsylvania.

General Griffith's military education included the Armor Officers Advanced Course, the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. He also studied French and German at the Defense Language Institute.

His military experience includes a wide range of command and staff assignments across the globe. Some of his most significant assignments include command of: the 1st Battalion, 32d Armor in Germany, the 1st Brigade, 2d Infantry Division in Korea and the 1st Armored Division in Germany. General Griffith also held several key Department of the Army staff positions over the course of his career. He served as Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, Chief of the War Plans Division, and Deputy Director of Operations.

General Griffith served two combat tours in Vietnam, one as an infantry advisor with the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, and later as Executive Officer of the 2d Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. In 1990 while commanding the 1st Armored Division he deployed the Division to the Persian Gulf where, as part of VII Corps, he led the Division in combat operations that destroyed major elements of five Iraqi Divisions.

Throughout his long career, General Griffith earned many awards and decorations including: the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; the Army Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; the Legion of Merit with 2 oak leaf clusters, the Bronze Star with "V" device and 5 oak leaf clusters; the Air Medal; the Purple Heart; the Combat Infantry Badge; the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge; the Army Staff Identification Badge; and several foreign awards.

After military retirement, General Griffith became Executive Vice President of MPRI, an L-3 Communications Company, and subsequently he served as Executive Vice President of the L-3 Communications Government Services Group. For eight years he was a member of the Board Visitors of the Virginia Military Academy and he presently serves on the Board of the Aurora Foundation.