

Hall of Heroes

11 Army ROTC alumni honored for achievement



Six of the 1997 inductees of the UD ROTC Hall of Heroes, with Lt. Col. Paul W. Thorson (left), chairperson of military science and president of the Fightin' Blue Hen Battalion Alumni Association, are (from left) Col. Arthur F. Krause; Brig. Gen. Edwin W. Thompson; Col. William H. Francisco; Col. Paul W. Hamblin; 1st Lt. John R. Fenimore Jr.; and Col. Norman F. Lord (all retired).

Col. Paul W. Hamblin Class of 1943

Hamblin was commissioned a second lieutenant upon completion of the ROTC program in 1943.

He served with the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Europe in World War II and with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, N.C., from 1948 to 1957. He completed 105 parachute jumps during his career.

Hamblin was an infantry company commander in Korea in 1952. During this conflict, he was awarded the Silver Star medal, two Bronze Star medals for valor and the Purple Heart with two clusters for wounds received in combat.

He served as an adviser to the Republic of Vietnam Joint General Staff in Saigon in 1964. For his service, he was the first member of the U.S. Armed Forces awarded the Republic of Vietnam Army Distinguished Service medal, second class.

In 1965, he was adviser to the II Vietnam Army corps. He was wounded during a Viet Cong attack on the military installation at Pleiku in February 1965.

After 28 years of service, he retired in 1971. He is currently a training and safety consultant to automotive and heavy vehicle fleets and is a former member of the board of directors of the Georgia Motor Truck Association and the Georgia Safety Council.