

1LT Robert G. Hammer
Class of 1968
Enshrined 2025



Robert Hammer graduated from Xavier in 1968 with a degree in Marketing. As a student, he was very active, being a member of the Chicago Club, Pi Sigma Epsilon, Marketing Club, Dorm Council, SVS, and Student Council. He was commissioned in the Field Artillery in 1968 upon graduation.

Hammer attended the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill. He received Jungle Warfare Training prior to his deployment to Vietnam, when he served with the Military Advisory Command (MAC-V) in 1969. He was an advisor to the 1st Battalion, 47th Regiment, 22nd Infantry Division, Republic of Vietnam. It was at that time that LT Hammer was awarded the Silver Star for his actions from 12 to 19 November. The citation described him as continuing his advisory duties while being under constant contact

from enemy small arms, automatic weapons, and mortar and rocket fire. Two days later, he courageously held his exposed condition in order to locate enemy mortar and rocket positions, although these rounds were impacting less than 20 meters from his position, and he successfully directed artillery fire on these positions, destroying those positions that were located within 30 meters of his position. The following evening, his unit received heavy enemy fire for 6 hours. Lieutenant Hammer again exposed himself to enemy fire to accurately adjust the artillery. Three days later, when pinned down by enemy companies, at great risk, he moved to assist 2 wounded soldiers, applied aid, and carried them from the battlefield.

After his outstanding military service, he was a paper and packaging salesman in the Dayton/Cincinnati area for over 40 years. During that time, he made many special relationships with customers and business associates. His wit and humor contributed to his successful career.

He was a great family man, always enjoying his daughters and their activities. He also enjoyed the many hours that he spent coaching and refereeing soccer.

Bob Hammer's service to his country and community continued throughout his life. He was a Red Cross blood donor for 52 years. He volunteered by tutoring in elementary school, helping young swimmers in swim meets, and coaching and refereeing youth soccer. He volunteered at the St. Vincent Homeless Shelter in the early morning, washing and folding sheets and towels, and he brought candy and snacks to the staff there. Bob remembered Veterans. He served as an Honor Flight Guardian for eight Veterans and started work on a Pickleball Program for Veterans. Bob joked that he "lived to serve." Bob died after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer on June 14, 2022.

