



Military Officers Association of America
North Carolina Council of Chapters – JROTC Instructor /NCO of the Year Award
in Honor of LTC Robert J. Jones, USA, (Ret)

Upon enlisting in the U.S. Army in December 1946, he rose rapidly through the enlisted ranks, was recognized as a top performer, and was commissioned as an officer following university graduation. He served in progressively important assignments during his military career, including stateside and overseas responsibilities in Korea, Germany, and two tours in Viet Nam. His major personal military awards include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, 25 Air Medals, and two Army Commendation Medals. Additionally, he had numerous campaign and service awards.

LTC (Ret) Jones retired from the U.S. Army in 1973 and immediately transitioned into various academic and community service leadership roles in North Carolina, which he continued for the next 40 years. His initial focus was in the academic arena. From 1973 to 1997, as a high school teacher, he groomed a generation of future North Carolina leaders. He performed as the Senior Army Instructor (JROTC) at South Brunswick High School in Boiling Springs, NC from 1973 to 1977. Following that assignment, he performed a similar role at Pender High School, Burgaw, NC from 1977 to 1997. In both locations, he served as Chairman of the School Accreditation Committee. His tenure was highly successful and he was consistently recognized as an outstanding educational leader. Additionally, his expertise was utilized as a Facilitator for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools from 1993 to 1997.

Following his entry into civilian life in NC in 1973, he performed many community service leadership roles including serving in officer roles of the Burgaw and Wilmington Rotary Clubs, and then the Board of Trustees of the Cape Fear Museum. Joining TROA in 1977, and then the SENCLAND chapter, he proceeded to dedicate his life to developing and then excelling in leadership roles of the chapter, and NCCOC. His continuing commitment to the JROTC units in the chapter's catchment area was outstanding. While supporting every aspect of chapter management in the following years, his strong commitment to the Scholarship and Leadership Award Programs has enabled them to mature to the fullest. LTC (Ret) Jones is the recipient of the *MOAA Leadership Award* and the Long Leaf Pine Society's prestigious award, conferred by the Governor of North Carolina, the *Long Leaf Pine Award*. In recognition of his sustained superior support of our JROTC Instructors/NCO's and what they provide to the youth of North Carolina, the MOAA NC Council of Chapters, has named its JROTC Instructor/NCO of the Year Overall Program in honor of LTC Robert J. Jones, USA (Ret).