

Russell J. Maziarka '73

Russ Maziarka came to Sam Houston from the Chicago, IL area in 1969. At Sam Houston he was in the Counter guerrilla Company for 4 years, Fusiliers, Scabbard and Blade, and was on the Corps Staff in '72-'73. He was also very active in organizing, coaching, and participating in ROTC intramural sports teams.

When making branch selections in 1972, Russ put Infantry for his first three choices. In December 1973, Russ was commissioned into the Adjutant General Corps, all the while protesting that he couldn't even spell it.

Russ did not take the traditional career route for AG officers, opting for the road less traveled, or, in his words, the bastard child. In the early 80's he went to the Special Forces Qualification Course and earned his Green Beret, allowing him to do his AG work in Special Forces Groups.

He ended up with a very interesting career with many unusual and interesting assignments. He was a U.S. Military Representative to NATO, Deputy Chairman of NATO Military Committee, was a General's aide, worked in nuclear weapons, was at the Pentagon on 9/11 and had to handle mortuary affairs for those killed in the attack.

After retiring as an O-6, he went right on with his military work as a civilian, working with TRADOC Campaign Plans, future weapons, and other interesting things, and he is still doing it.

Not bad for a guy that couldn't spell AG.

Col (R) Maziarka currently resides in Gurney, IL with his wife, and plans to retire again at the end of March 2019.