Brigadier General (Ret.) Patrick E. Rea

Year of Commission: 1963

BS in Economics



Patrick Rea was deployed to Vietnam as a Platoon Leader in the 4th Transportation Command in June 1965. He served as the Assistant Professor of Military Science at the University of Illinois in 1967 and as the Aide-de-camp to the 86th Army Reserve Command from 1968 until 1970; He commanded the 314th Army Security Command from 1975 until 1979. BG Rea commanded the 308th Civil Affairs Group in 1982. As a Colonel, he served as the assistant division Commander of the 85th Division. He was promoted to Brigadier General in 1991 and retired from USAR in 1997. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, and numerous other service and campaign medals. From 1973 until 1999, Patrick Rea was the vice president and corporate banker for First National Bank of Chicago. In 1999, BG Rea took a position as the Executive Director of the Illinois Development Finance Authority. In 2004, he was presidentially appointed as the Region V Administrator of the United States Small Business Administration.

Year Inducted: 2013