

Royce Halcomb information gathered August 17, 2023

Royce Halcomb enlisted in the US Army Reserves for 24 years, and spent one year on Active Service during Desert Storm. He enlisted because his brother in law was a Lieutenant – and also because he had just met Kitty, his future wife, and just started college. Halcomb wanted to enlist where he could be close to home, so chose the Reserves. He served from 1971 to 1995, discharging as a Sgt. E-5.

Halcomb did basic training in Fort Dix, NJ and also had Advanced Infantry Training. Other trainings included Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course (BNCOC) in 1983; Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) defense and Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Course in 1985. Halcomb has special trainings regarding Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 71H10 in 1972; a Primary Leadership Course in 1978; Battalion Training Management System (BTMS) Trainers Workshop in 1980; and a class with the Fifth US Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Fort Chaffee in 1990. He was assigned to the 801st Replacement Detachment, out of Antlers.

Service included Fort Knox, Kentucky, during Desert Storm; Fort Benjamin, Harrison, Indiana; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Hood, Texas; Camp Roberts, California. His job was Personnel Specialist. When new soldiers came in they had a ten-day training cycle, then were sent where needed. Halcomb was also a Platoon Sgt. in the 1st Platoon.

Halcomb received a National Defense Service Medal (one Bronze Star) and a Bronze Marksmanship Medal in Germany in August 1987, where he and his team competed against German soldiers using their rifles on their field. The American team took the gold, silver and bronze medals. He has an Expert Badge for Rifle M-16; Machine Gun Marksman Badge for M-60; and Expert Badge for Grenade. Halcomb received the Army Achievement Medal in 1991 at Fort Knox; and the Army Achievement Medal in 1993 at Fort Sill. He also has a certificate of appreciation for his participation in Operation Desert Shield/Storm in 1991; and letters of commendation from the 122nd ARCOM. .

He said military service experience made him more organized and disciplined – even in his civilian career of installing flooring.

Halcomb's parents were Geneva and Roy Halcomb (a WWII veteran). He is a grandson of WWI Choctaw Code Talker Benjamin Hampton.

Halcomb was chosen as District 8 Choctaw Veteran of the Month in 2023.

He was raised in Boswell, graduating High School there in 1971. He and his wife have three children and five grandchildren.