



Valley Forge Military Academy & College

A Message From The President

After 43 years of dedicated service, Brigadier General Tomas B. Puyans '48C, a man who has earned our utmost respect and gratitude, will retire. He has spent the majority of his life dedicated to the welfare of countless Valley Forge cadets and their families.

Over his years of service to VFMA&C he served as a Night OIC, Mess Officer, Registrar, Tactical Officer and Admissions Officer. General Puyans also founded and ran the ELI program for 27 years.

General Puyans devoted 20 years of his tenure influencing the fine young men of VFMA&C as the Tactical Officer for H Company where the Middle School cadets were housed. It is during this time when he was respectfully called "Papa" by the many young men who looked up to him.

In addition, General Puyans dedicated 15 years as the Foreign Student Liaison Admissions Officer beginning in 1991. No one else was able to recruit our international Corps of Cadets from the South America, Costa Rica or the Caribbean like General Puyans. He had an overwhelming rapport both with students and parents. His bonds did not stop with the recruiting process. You would often find him each morning having breakfast in the mess hall with "his cadets" to find out how they were doing academically, tactically and socially. Even upon this momentous occasion, his bond with these young men remains strong. Many of the students, who are here now or have been recently, are the sons of students of his from "back in the day." In his thick Cuban accent, he will tell any young man who returns to VFMA&C "I remember you when you were a cadet", and he truly does! Like a good Papa, he is genuinely proud of the accomplishments of these young men.

We are indebted to General Puyans for his decades of service, dedication, loyalty and integrity, and for his tireless work at his Alma Mater. We wish him all the very best; and we hope to see him back on campus often! At General Puyans request, at this time Valley Forge will not be holding any special event marking this occasion.

We will miss you General Puyans, thank you for all the lives you have touched over the years. You are an inspiration to us all.

Charles A. McGeorge

President

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"The Finest Institution of its Kind in the World"