

LTC Edward J. Kauchick was a graduate of the first ROTC class at the University of Southern Mississippi. He graduated on May 31, 1952.

His orders were to the 18th Airborne Corp Artillery, Ft. Bragg, N.C. He then went to Ft. Benning, Georgia to jump school. After returning to Ft. Bragg he was assigned to be the head football coach. After two seasons he applied for flight school and was sent to San Marcos, Texas and to Fort Rucker, Alabama.

LTC Kauchick then returned to Ft. Bragg, N.C. and was aviation officer in the 583rd Field Artillery Battalion. He was sent next with the battalion to Camp Drake, Japan. While there he was a coach for the Tokyo Bulldog's team. The team had an undefeated season and won the Rice Bowl in January, 1957. He was the commanding officer for the aviation section at Camp Drake. The 583rd became the 100th Rocket Battalion and went to Korea. He returned in March, 1958.

LTC Kauchick had assignments at Fort Rucker, Alabama as Contact Flight Instructor and Instrument Flight Instructor. He was sent to Korea and was with the 1st Cav. His last assignment before retirement was at Fort Rucker. He was the Instrument Training Commander. His duties were to train pilots as contact and instrument flight instructors.

LTC Kauchick served as airfield commander for the Aerial Surveillance School at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona prior to duty in Viet Nam. In Viet Nam he served as the Aerial Surveillance Commander for the OV 1 Mohawk for the 1st Cav.

LTC Kauchick served in World War Two in the Navy for 27 months with the Armed Guard on merchant Marine ships.

His decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal for service in the Republic of Viet Nam in 1967. He also received the Meritorious Service Medal in 1969. He is rated as Master Army Aviator.

LTC Kauchick has been involved in volunteer service to the University of Southern Mississippi since his retirement. He has received the Outstanding Service Award, the Continuous Outstanding Service Award. He was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame in 1986 and into the Alumni Hall of Fame in 1991.

LTC Kauchick has devoted time to the troops at Camp Shelby in 2005 and 2006 by having tailgating parties and purchasing tickets for about 250 troops. This was done through the generosity of many donors.