

Nick ASTON

Class of 1963

During his years at Broken Arrow High School, Great Graduate Nick Aston earned a reputation for being quite an artist. It was well-earned recognition.

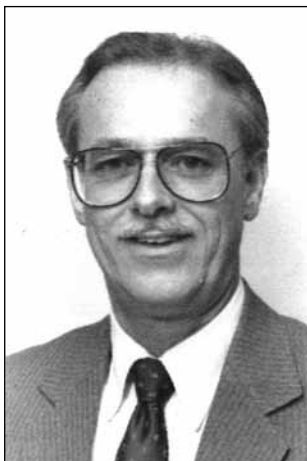
Before graduating in 1963 with a 3.19 grade point average, he served as art editor of "Tiger Tales" and is credited with designing most of the programs and posters used for school events during the three years he was a BAHS student. In recognition of his talent, he carried home the school's coveted Class Night Art Award in 1963.

At the University of Arkansas where he earned BS, BSE and Med degrees, this Great Graduate used his talent to instruct and inspire students eager to learn how to draw and design. A share of his fame came from being the first student at that institution to have one of his pieces purchased for the permanent exhibit at the Arkansas Arts Center.

Aston launched his professional graphics career at the Broken Arrow Ledger where he applied his artistic talents in the newspaper's advertising department. From there, his career path led to 20 years of service with the U.S. Air Force before retiring as a master sergeant with 17 ribbons and nine medals. His "second career" included positions in graphic design at the National Center for Toxicological Research in Arkansas and with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia.

This Great Graduate's resume of community service involves a large number of activities in a variety of states. For example:

- From 1986-1989, he served as managing editor and a member of the board of directors of the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media.



- In 1987, he served as a volunteer in the emergency room of the Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock.
- From 1990-95 he was managing editor and a member of the board of directors of the Georgia Association of Instructional Media.
- From 1998-2002, he was a member of the Georgia Military Historical Society's board of directors.
- In 1996 he was security officer at the International Horse Park for equestrian events and Army liaison during the Olympic Games.
- From 2003-05, he was a Community Development Council volunteer in Mexico Beach, Florida.
- Those same years, he volunteered for the Humane Society of Port St. Joe, Florida.

Throughout those years, classmate and friend Larry Pennington notes Aston stayed in contact with his high school pals, and played important roles in class reunions and other functions.

Now retired, he has returned to Broken Arrow and is a frequent attendee at assorted alumni events in addition to volunteering as an entertainer at six area senior centers. His top priority now is to do everything he can to make Broken Arrow's new Military Museum a rousing success.

Aston's spare time is occupied by writing, photography and, as one might expect, artwork that includes painting, drawing, sculpting and graphic design. Travel, both nationally and internationally, is also high on his to-do list with Singapore, Okinawa, England, Germany, France, Italy, Israel, Denmark, Switzerland, Canada, Mexico and most of the continental United States among his ports of call.