

Major General James R. Sholar, US Army, (Ret)
July 2016

Major General Ron Sholar, US Army (Ret) was commissioned in 1971 as a Field Artillery officer through Army ROTC at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He served continuously for 39 years as a commissioned officer in the United States Army and Army Reserve and retired in May 2010.

He commanded at every level including twice as a Major General. His final assignment was Deputy Commanding General of the US Army Reserve Command, Ft McPherson, GA where he had day to day operational responsibility for the 200,000 Soldiers comprising the Army Reserve.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College and his awards include the Army Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit (3rd Award). He previously served as the Army Reserve Ambassador for the state of Oklahoma. He has been inducted into the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC Hall of Fame. In 2009, he received the Oklahoma Department of the Reserve Officers Association *Minute Man of the Year Award* for his contributions to national defense.

He received a BS in Agricultural Science from the University of Tennessee at Martin and an MS in agronomy and a PhD in crop science from OSU. As a civilian, he spent 3 decades as a Professor of Agronomy and Extension Agronomist at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK. Currently, he serves as Executive Director of the Great Plains Canola Association and Executive Director of the Oklahoma Oilseed Commission.

During his career with OSU, he provided statewide and regional leadership to Extension and applied research programs for oilseed crops with the objectives of improving productivity and profitability. He provided leadership to state commodity groups and other agricultural agencies concerned with oilseed crops and served as the university coordinator for interdisciplinary programs on oilseed crops. He worked extensively with USDA and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture in discovering improved crop production methods and assisting producers in adopting those practices.

In 2012, Sholar received the OSU Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources *Distinguished Alumnus Award*. He has also been named a Master Professional Agronomist for his contributions to plant and soil science programs and Oklahoma agriculture. He has received numerous additional awards from state, regional, and national agricultural organizations.

Linda, his wife of more than 40 years, is a retired Stillwater Public School system teacher.

He continues to have a keen interest in national security issues and speaks frequently on the subject.

The Sholars reside in Stillwater, OK.