



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BILL ROEDY NAMED WEST POINT DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE**

The West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) has named Bill Roedy for the 2020 Distinguished Graduate Award. This annual award has been bestowed upon those West Point graduates whose character, distinguished service and stature draw wholesome comparison to the qualities for which West Point strives, in keeping with its motto: "Duty, Honor, Country." The award will be presented in a ceremony at West Point (date to be determined).

Distinguished soldier, global media pioneer, freedom champion and global health leader, Bill Roedy "might be the most interesting man in the world," says Mike Fries, CEO & Vice Chairman of Liberty Global. "He's somebody who commanded nuclear silos in the Cold War, was friends with Mandela, and partied with Bono." Upon graduation, Roedy volunteered for duty in Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He then commanded nuclear missiles as part of NATO and received the Meritorious Service Medal. Graduating from Harvard with an MBA in 1979, Bill joined HBO in the nascent days of cable television. Ten years later, he led a relentless expansion of MTVN Europe with a unique model of respecting and reflecting local audience diversity, including behind the Iron Curtain, bringing a ground-breaking window to the West. Roedy was soon promoted to Chairman & CEO of MTVNI, where he built a global operation (200-plus channels, 200-plus countries, 30-plus languages, for two billion-plus people) and pioneered the concept of global corporate responsibility. Under Roedy's leadership MTVNI became the world leader in fighting HIV/AIDS with its "Staying Alive" campaign, and he chaired the Global Business Coalition addressing the UN General Assembly. His far-reaching global health roles have included the first Ambassador for UNAIDS, Chairman of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) and Vice Chairman for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI), which has saved millions of children's lives. Bill's numerous awards include UN Global Citizen, Emmy Founder Award, Churchill Fellow and induction into the Cable Hall of Fame. Regarding Roedy's work in the global health arena, Jeb Bush, 43rd Governor of Florida, says, "Bill is without a doubt a distinguished citizen of our world." And Dr. David Brown MD, President of the Class of 1970, says of Roedy, "He is an ideal representation of our class and class motto: *Serve with Integrity.*"

#### **About the West Point Association of Graduates**

The West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG) is among America's oldest educational alumni associations. Founded in 1869, the Association was established "to cherish the memories of [its] Alma Mater, and to promote the fraternal fellowship of its graduates," many of whom had recently fought against each other in the Civil War. Today, WPAOG has evolved into a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to furthering the ideals and promoting the welfare of West Point, and to

serving and supporting the more than 53,000 living West Point graduates. Its philanthropic pursuits maintain a Margin of Excellence for cadets attending the United States Military Academy. For more information see [WestPointAOG.org](http://WestPointAOG.org).

### **About West Point**

The United States Military Academy at West Point is a four-year, co-educational, federal, liberal arts college located 50 miles north of New York City. It was founded in 1802 as America's first college of engineering and continues today as the world's premier leader-development institution, consistently ranked among top colleges in the country. Its mission remains constant—to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the U.S. Army. For more information, go to [WestPoint.edu](http://WestPoint.edu).

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