

Cadet First Sergeant Morton John Walston receives the Gold Star Award from LTC Kelly R. Schrader, Academic Dean.

This Is Your Hour

This is your hour — creep upon it
Summon your power, leap upon it,
Grasp it, clasp it, hold it tight;
Strike it, spike it, with full might.
If you take too long to ponder,
Opportunity may wander.
Yesterday's a bag of sorrow;
No man ever finds tomorrow.
Hesitation is a mire —
Climb out; climb up, climb on high,
Fumble, stumble, risk a tumble,
Make a start, however humble;
Do your best and do it now;
Pluck and grit will find out how.
Persevere, although you tire —
While a spark is left, there's fire.
Distrust doubt; doubt is a liar.
Even if all mankind jeer you,
You can force the world to cheer.

—Herbert Kaufman

Morton John Walston,

Congratulations, graduate! Through many hardships and trails of trials, you have stumbled, shaken your head, stood again, and stepped forward on your journey. You have proven yourself along the path, winding your way toward maturity with honor. As I have watched you grow, it has always been with warmth and love and belief in all that you are. This year especially you have renewed my pride and deepened my respect for your tenacity and “hang tough” commitment to reach your goal. I challenge you now to keep breaking through the boundaries of your self-imposed limitations, to know your worth, to stretch your capacities . . . until you finally realize the fullness of yourself. Meanwhile, take your sense of true accomplishment and celebrate that “this is your hour.”

Love,
Mom