

In July we lost our friend Jonathan Cooper. He had been with us since the eighth grade and would have been a senior this year.

Jonathan was Cherokee and proud of his heritage. On the wall of his room in B Company, he prominently displayed Cherokee art and poetry.

Jonathan was quiet, but once engaged in conversation, he could easily hold his own. He especially liked to talk about his home and his family.

Jonathan was generous. He was quick to lend or give his possessions. Although he enjoyed material things himself, he seemed to derive greater pleasure from sharing them with others.

Jonathan was a strong athlete, lettering in both tennis and football. He started as offensive tackle on two Spartan conference championship teams. He won the Coach's Award for outstanding performance in 1994.

Jonathan was hard working and persistent. He was always the first player to show up for football practice. As a cadet, he held the rank of master sergeant and commanded the Cannon Detail. He was an Eagle Scout and served actively in his church.

Jonathan was a loyal friend and inspired loyalty in others. We miss him, and we will always preserve his place and memory at Camden Military Academy.



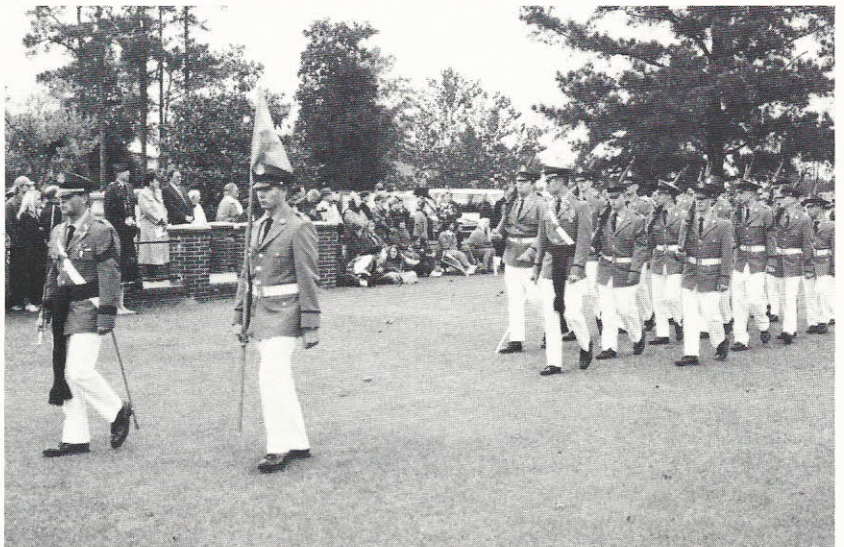
The Cannon Detail: Cadets Cole, Treska, and Jonathan Cooper, Commander.



Jonathan's memorial review was held in November. On the reviewing stand with Colonel William K. Orris, headmaster, Mr. & Mrs. James A. Cooper, Jonathan's parents, receive a sword, Jonathan's football jersey, and a shadow box containing his awards and honors — presented by the Corps of Cadets.

“Our dead never forget this beautiful earth, for it is our mother. We are part of the earth, and it is part of us. The perfumed flowers are our sisters; the deer, the horse, the great eagle, these are our brothers. This shining water that moves in the streams and rivers is not just water, but the blood of our ancestors. The water's murmur is the voice of my father's father. This land is sacred to us.”

from “How Can You Buy or Sell the Sky?”  
—Chief Seattle



Led by CPT Jeff Key, Jonathan's Company B pay respects to their comrade.