

Photographic Career Path of George L. Gentry

Born 5/31/43 in Milton, Florida

Graduate Milton, High School

Enlisted US Army in 1961 at age 18 for training as construction equipment mechanic. . Served 13 months in Korea as mechanic before attending Motion Picture Photography School at Ft. Monmouth, NJ in 1963. Worked as a photographer at Ft. Huachuca, AZ until 1965 – shooting training films. Volunteered for DASPO, in 1966 and served 6 months as cameraman in Vietnam – shot 35mm motion pictures on Eyemo and was on the DOD Sound Team shooting the Arri 16-BL. Transferred to the newly organized 221st Photo Co. in 1967– acting 1st Sgt -- helped establish the unit in Vietnam and led photo team covering Tet Offensive of 1968. Returned to DASPO in 1968 – led photo team – covered Hurricane Camille and shot Arri16-BL. Honorably discharged in 1969 – rank SSG.

Worked for TV 5, Atlanta, GA for 23 years doing news, investigative reports, PM Magazine, documentaries and entertainment specials – shot film & video, edited and produced program segments. TV 5's Chief Photographer-- shooting and supervising. -- hired several DASPO photographers as they exited the Army. Traveled worldwide making entertainment specials. Volunteer videoeographer & still photographer for National Park Service, US Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service. —shooting wildlife and conservation subjects from 1989 to 1991. Resigned from TV 5 in 1991— took early retirement to work as fulltime wildlife photographer.

Worked for US. Fish and Wildlife Service – shooting video, mo pic and stills, editing, writing and producing conservation and natural history programs. Established television production unit for the National Conservation Training Center—supervised live television broadcast, video production, Avid editing, still photography and audio-visual systems for the campus.

Retired in 2001, after 12 years of service, to follow his wife to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in South Georgia -- she is the Refuge Ranger. In retirement, George, volunteers for Department of Interior – shooting video and stills of Americas wildest places and most interesting critters.

Awards: George, credits the outstanding training and experience offered by the Army and DASPO for opening the door to a rewarding career.

- George Foster Peabody for documentary that helped save a great natural treasure.
- 13 local Emmys in 4 categories: shooting, editing, lighting and producing.
- NY International Film Festival for documentary on homicides in Atlanta.
- AP and UPI (about a dozen) – news, documentaries and investigative reporting.
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- Eudora Welty Americana for documentary on social unrest in Atlanta.
- Georgia Travel Photographer of the Year for producing, shooting and editing several entertainment specials featuring Georgia's best travel destinations.
- Department of Interior, Meritorious Service for establishing and leading the television production facility at the National Conservation Training Center.
- International Wildlife Film Festival for producing, shooting, writing and editing interpretive program on the recovery of the endangered red wolf.