

# Brian G. Shellum

**WEST POINT GRADUATE, HISTORIAN, AUTHOR**

*FSHS CLASS OF 1972*



Encouragement from a Faribault Junior High School English and social studies teacher to pursue his interests in history and writing played a major role in Brian Shellum's 20-year military career, followed by 20 more years as a federal civil employee. Even into retirement, he finds himself immersed in researching and writing military history.

Brian holds the distinction of being the first Faribault alumnus to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point. He earned a graduate degree from Campbell University and attended the University of Bonn, Germany, where he lived, worked, and studied for ten years.

This Bronze Star Medal, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, and the Order of St. George recipient participated in the Gulf War, served as an army attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Bonn, and was a senior Defense Department analyst. After retiring from the army, Brian served 12 years as historian at the Defense Intelligence Agency, followed by eight years as a senior intelligence officer with the Department of Defense.

In both his military and civilian careers, Brian penned a variety of reports and articles, preparing him well for what was to follow. "I have been researching and writing about the life of Charles Young and the Buffalo Soldiers since I first read of their accomplishments in 1996." Charles Young was the third Black graduate of West Point, and the subject of Brian's first of four published books. His fifth will be released in the summer of 2024.

In addition to being an accomplished author, Brian is a much sought-after speaker, panelist, lecturer, and contributor across the U.S.

His nominator and fellow classmate lauded Brian's contributions. "Since retiring from the government, he has continued his public service by researching and writing the untold stories of the Buffalo Soldiers and African Americans in the military."

See [brianshellum.com](http://brianshellum.com) for additional information.