

WYOMING OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOCIATION

2015 HUNTER of the YEAR

Stanley S. McGowen Sponsored by **SCI**
FIRST FOR HUNTERS

BIG GAME HUNTING

Born in Baird, Texas, Stanley S. McGowen began hunting small game at age five, and took his first whitetail buck at twelve.

After graduating from Tarleton State College, McGowen served over twenty-one years in the U.S. Army, including postings in the United States, Vietnam, Germany, and Alaska. In his travels he participated in hunting and fishing activities whenever possible, but military duties curtailed the time spent pursuing these pastimes.

After losing his eyesight in an airplane crash in 1990, McGowen returned to collegiate life where he earned a MA and PhD in American history from Texas Christian University. During his ten-year term as a professor McGowen published three books, including the award-winning, *Horse Sweat and Powder Smoke: The First Texas Cavalry in the Civil War*, *The Helicopter: Essential to Modern Warfare*; and *You Ain't Gonna Believe This But . . . : A Different Side of Vietnam*. He also published over thirty articles in the historical genre before shifting his focus to other endeavors.

Returning to the out-of-doors, Dr. McGowen now concentrates on hunting and shooting sports

for disabled sportsmen and women, including ten years as a volunteer for "Helluba Hunt" in Douglas. Recently he was instrumental in the Texas State Rifle Association (TSRA) initiating legislation which permits legally blind hunters to utilize laser sights to hunt game animals in Texas.

Several prestigious magazines have published Dr. McGowen's articles, including *Petersen's Hunting Magazine*, *Sports Afield*, *African Hunting Gazette*, *The Journal of the Texas Trophy Hunters*, and *Quality Whitetails*.

McGowen hunts with standard rifles, each mounting either a long eye-relief pistol scope or red dot sight. He requires a sighted assistant to peer over his shoulder, through the sight, and direct him on target with whispered commands.

Dr. McGowen took his Wyoming elk hunting with Todd Stevie's Wolf Lake Outfitters in the Bridger National Wilderness. Despite recalcitrant bulls, blown stalks, cold rain, and a twisted knee, McGowen and his guide managed to bag the bull shown in the accompanying photographs. 🦌



"All that's necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." Benjamin Franklin

"When even one American – who has done nothing wrong – is forced by fear to shut his mind and close his mouth, then all Americans are in peril." Harry S. Truman