

Pushing limits : from West Point to Berkeley and beyond (/review/10.5860/CHOICE.204922)

Hill, Theodore Preston. (</search?exactauthor=Hill, Theodore Preston>)

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This memoir gives readers an intriguing look into how Hill (emer., Georgia Tech) became a renowned mathematician. The author's goal is to dispel the notion that mathematicians are stodgy and lead boring, reclusive lives—he succeeds admirably! The story details Hill's academic career but also discusses his many adventures. The text begins by documenting his military career at West Point and takes the reader through the 1970s and 1980s when Hill served in the Vietnam War and eventually became a PhD candidate at Berkeley. He discusses struggles with writing his dissertation, his love of teaching, and his joy when his thesis was accepted. Having spent her entire academic career teaching mathematics, this reviewer especially enjoyed the chapter where Hill discusses his teaching methods and research—even more so because Hill's research was in probability theory, which was always this reviewer's favorite course to teach. This book will be of significance to students, educators, and mathematicians, as well as any individual with an interest in mathematics.

Summing Up: Recommended. All readers.

Reviewer: [J. A. Bakal \(/search?reviewer=J. A. Bakal\)](/search?reviewer=J. A. Bakal), Felician University

Recommendation: Recommended

Readership Level: All Readership Levels

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Science & Technology - Mathematics \(/search?q=&sbj\[\]=mth\)](/search?q=&sbj[]=mth)

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