

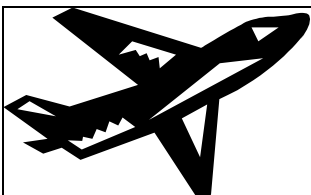
Remain In Touch



***FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE
ASSOCIATION***

NEWSLETTER

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Howdy Y'all,

Summer has definitely arrived in San Antonio...we have broken 100 degrees on a number of occasions and seem to be flirting with it every day. This past week I had the opportunity to escape the heat and visit one of our previous organizations, NASIC, and encountered some great weather. What a mission our fellow Airmen have up at Wright-Patterson AFB. The things we continue to accomplish for our nation are mind boggling.

As we get into the stretch run for our reunion week, 25th Air Force project officers are pushing through any challenges they encounter. I am happy to announce that our guest speaker for the banquet is one of our previous commanders, Lt Gen (ret) Bradley Heithold. (AFISRA February 2009 – July 2011).

After leaving AFISRA, General Heithold was first, the Vice Commander, US Special Operations Command; and then Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command. He retired as the Principal Deputy Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, Office of Secretary of Defense. If you have not heard Gen Heithold speak, you will be in for a treat.

This letter I am also highlighting our newest Chapter up in the Salt Lake City area. Scott Lawson is doing an incredible job up there and has grown the membership up to almost 20 individuals. He continues to challenge the FTVA board on advances for the website and payment methods and we are actively exploring those possibilities. If you are in that region of the country, or just passing through, look Scott Lawson up...he might even share a cold beverage with you.

Finally, I wanted to make a request. One of our biggest administrative costs is the *Remain In Touch* quarterly newsletter. We spend approximately \$3,600 for the printing and mailing of each black and white issue. If you haven't seen our on-line version, I recommend you check it out. The pictures are in color, the text is easier to read, we have many of the past copies and it is definitely less expensive to maintain. All you need to do is let us know you want to cancel your hard-copy and our IT Director (Roy Burnett) will get you a password for the issues we have on file. Simply email Roy using rebyells@gmail.com.

As always, we encourage you to provide us with suggestions and feedback to improve our support for all our members. We are constantly looking for ways to support our Airmen/units, expand our membership and maintain our legacy of support to our great Nation. If you have any ideas, please contact us through our web-site (www.ftva.org).

Until next time, always remember to "Remain in Touch".

Ted Colquhoun

(President Op-Ed - The start time for the golf tournament on 27 Sept was listed differently on a couple of the reunion documents. The start time for the golf tournament is 1000 hours with a check in time of 0900 of 27 Sept 2018.)

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Dennis Buxton	Editor	8847 Breanna Oaks, San Antonio, TX 78254 210-627-7586 Dennis.Buxton@me.com newsletter@ftva.org
Dennis Rasmussen	Senior Editorial Adviser	newsletter@ftva.org
Joe "Pepito" Figueroa	Associate Editor	8843 Veranda Ct. San Antonio, TX 78250 210-267-1846 falleneagles@ftva.org
Ken Maynard	Associate Editor	25 AF News
Evan Smith	Association Editor	Chapter Inputs
Roy Burnett	Circulation Manager	e-Edition

The Reunion is Coming!

The reunion is coming! The reunion is coming! Hope to see everyone there from the 27 – 29 September. But first, for all you duffers and hackers, please note that the FTVA Reunion Golf tournament is at 10 AM on the 27th, not 11 as was mistakenly indicated in other

reunion literature you may have received. Secondly, we all love pictures. You all have cameras on your phones so please be sure to take pictures and



send them to me with everyone in the pictures identified, of course. I will try to use as many as I can in the next issue of RIT.

In other notes from the news desk, we hope you enjoy ALL the items but especially the History and Memories section in which I have selectively scrounged items past and present that may be of interest to you. I do notice that the upcoming reunions section is bare as are the reunion reports. This may be because all are prepping up and saving their ducats and energies for the Annual get together.

As always, this publication is not done without the volunteer time spent by many; especially I appreciate the efforts of “Pepe” Figueroa, Ken Maynard, and of course Rass, whom I can always call on for advice.

Enjoy the read,

Get the e-Edition, it's prettier!



Dennis Buxton, Editor

Golfers! Fore!
FTVA Reunion Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 27th
!!!!!! 10 AM Shotgun Start !!!!!!
(Not 11 AM)



HALL OF HONOR NEWS

The FTVA Hall of Honor (HoH) selection committee takes great pleasure in announcing this year's selections for induction into the FTVA Hall of Honor for 2018. On behalf of the committee, I am pleased to announce the following individuals will be honored at the 28 September 2018 induction ceremony:

Mr. Keith D. Thomas, DISL, USAF (Ret)

Lt Col Douglas K. Kleist, USAF (Ret)

Capt Albert R. Turner Jr., USAF (Ret)

SMSgt Doris E. Keeton, USAF (Ret) (Deceased)

Please join me in congratulating these individuals and their families.

The following FTVA HoH members comprised this year's selection committee: Brig Gen Grover Jackson, USAF Ret; Lt Col Ken Williams, USAF (Ret); CMSgt Bob Crabtree, USAF Ret; CMSgt Ed Jolly, USAF Ret; CMSgt Bob Egger, USAF Ret; CMSgt Marco Aldaz, USAF Ret; CMSgt Edward Barnes, USAF Ret; and SMSgt Lee Anthony, USAF Ret. Many thanks to the committee members for their volunteer time and hard work in determining this year's class of inductees.

Thank you and Remain In Touch,

A.J. Harrison, Hall of Honor Program Chair



25TH AIR FORCE NEWS

**Compiled by Ken Maynard,
Associate Editor**

55TH OPERATIONS GROUP CHANGE OF COMMAND

(Adapted from an article by Kendra Williams, 55th Wing Public Affairs/Published July 19, 2018)



U.S. Air Force Col. Eric Paulson, 55th Operations Group (OG) commander, assumes command of the 55th OG from U.S. Air Force Col. Michael Manion, 55th Wing commander, during a change of command ceremony July 13, 2018, at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. (U.S. Air Force photo by Charles J. Haymond)

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. -- The 55th Operations Group held its change of command ceremony July 13, 2018, at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

Col. Eric Paulson assumed command from outgoing commander Col. Joseph Santucci in a ceremony officiated by Col. Michael Manion, 55th Wing commander.

The 55th OG is the largest operations group in the Air Force with 11 squadrons and two detachments operating seven models of aircraft

consisting of approximately 3,200 personnel.

The group executes global airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and treaty verification missions directed by the President, Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Combatant Commanders, and national intelligence agencies. The 55th OG has been deployed to some degree for nearly 28 consecutive years.

“The Air Force song sings that we live in fame and that is true,” Santucci said. “Each of us must be a living reason that the U.S. people look up to and admire their Air Force just as I have admired you and your

accomplishments for the past two years, and it has been the honor and privilege of my career to serve as your commander, thank you.”

Prior to assuming command, Paulson was the chief of information operations at Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

“I am honored, I am grateful, I am excited, and I am humbled to stand before you as next in a long line of great commanders and leaders,” Paulson said, “I will try to follow those who have selflessly led this group through many unanticipated challenges born from an ever-changing dynamic global environment.”

9TH MXS AGE FLIGHT

VITAL TO RECONNAISSANCE OPERATIONS

(Adapted from an article by Airman 1st Class Tristan D. Viglianco, 9th Reconnaissance Wing Public Affairs/Published July 19, 2018)

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, Calif -- High-altitude reconnaissance from 60,000 feet by the U-2 Dragon Lady and RQ-4 Global Hawk is the focus and mission of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing. As high as they can fly, their mission begins on the ground, and that starts with the 9th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment flight.

“AGE is the master of all trades,” said Master Sgt. Nathaniel Spurlock, 9th MXS AGE flight chief. “We pretty much maintain every piece of equipment that helps launch the aircraft. We work on anything from diesel engines, jet engines, hydraulic systems, electronics, heating, and air conditioning.”

The flight is responsible for inspecting, maintaining, and delivering more than 500 pieces of ground support equipment to requesting units.

“Pretty much anything you see out on the flight line that is not an aircraft belongs to AGE,” said Spurlock. “This includes anything from ground generators for power, ground lighting kits to light up the flight line, air compressors to air up the tires, heaters to heat the personnel, and oxygen tanks to supply oxygen to the pilots.”

According to Tech Sgt. Arik Milam, 9th MXS AGE craftsman, the AGE flight provides unique equipment and services to Beale’s reconnaissance platforms. For U-2 maintenance and operations, AGE provides pilots and maintainers with a variety of non-powered U-2 specific equipment. Whenever a Global Hawk sortie is flown, the unit powers and air conditions the mission control elements needed to fly.

Milam has been on the U-2 AGE his entire career and has been around the world supporting 9th RW flying asset and he believes the impact his shop has cannot be understated.

“I love the job,” said Milam. “I get a lot of personal fulfillment when I hear the noise of a U-2 flying and I know AGE helped make that happen.”

AF DCGS SAYS GOODBYE TO AN OLD FRIEND

(Adapted from an article by Tech. Sgt. Darnell T. Cannady, 480th ISRW/PA / Published March 23, 2018)



The RQ-1K Predator is displayed at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. The RQ-1 entered the USAF inventory in 1994 and was deployed for the first time over Bosnia in 1995. In 2002, the Predator was armed with AGM-114 Hellfire missiles, re-designated the MQ-1, and given interdiction and armed reconnaissance roles. Goodfellow Air Force Base graduates have exploited thousands of Predator sorties as crew members of the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. John Barton)

JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va -- As technology advances, older technology is replaced or retired to provide the best equipment to the warfighter; such is the case with the MQ-1 Predator. The MQ-1 officially retired from Air Force inventory on March 9, 2018 with the Air Force shifting to solely using the MQ-9 Reaper.

Former Air Force Distributed Common Ground System Airmen who worked with the MQ-1 reflect upon their experiences with the platform and the unique capability it brought to the intelligence mission.

“It’s interesting coming from the aspect of seeing it from the beginning and now talking to Lieutenants, Captains, NCO’s and Airmen that use it day to day,” said Mr. Edward Blitt, a retired AF DCGS Squadron Commander, “It’s night and day between how much we were able to use it then and how it is being used now. In the beginning, still photography was the primary source of intelligence collection but the MQ-1 introduced full motion video capabilities.”

“Early on when we first started it, it was very supplemental because obviously we didn’t know how we were going to employ it into a higher aspect of intelligence and operations,” said Blitt. “In the beginning it was more supplementary and additional collection and then it became more ingrained into the ways that collection managers would divvy out the tasking based on what was needed to be collected in the area.”

“We actually deployed in 1999 and each imagery analyst had two VCRs,” said Blitt. “What they would do is record the video as it came in, so they could exploit it in real-time and they could also rewind the video to exploit it again before they sent the reports out to make sure they captured all the right information.”

An MQ-1 platform and a portion of the MQ-1 aircrew are normally separated, often by thousands of miles, based on a practice called ‘remote split operations’. AF DCGS executes similarly; analysts are stationed at sites around the globe and the ISR data (collected by the MQ-1) is sent to the exploitation nodes via a vast network architecture. Since September 11, 2001 it is estimated over 912K hours of MQ-1 FMV footage has been exploited.

Mr. Ron Zechman worked with the MQ-1 both as an AF DCGS analyst and a platform sensor operator. Zechman, a retired senior NCO and imagery analyst, stated “I started working with the MQ-1 Predator around 2000 during Operation SOUTHERN WATCH as a Mission Supervisor at DGS-1; I also had the opportunity to deploy as a forward screener. In those days there were no remote split operations, so an entire MQ-1 squadron would deploy to fly the missions. My job was to guide the sensors onto the targets. I thought the Predator was a great addition to the ISR arsenal.”

“The quality of the FMV was amazing when compared to all the images we were used to seeing from still imagery platforms.” Zechman added, “The MQ-1 also had the ability to dwell on a target allowing extensive pattern of life analysis. This provided much more intelligence data to the decision makers. Once the AF started arming the Predators we were able to fulfill the entire Find, Fix, Track, Target, Engage, and Assess targeting cycle with a single aircraft.”

“In the 1990’s, our mission was far more strategic. Intelligence was still operating based on the Cold War mentality and everything was strategically planned days (or more) in advance,” said Ms. Linda Nichols, a retired Senior NCO and former AF DCGS Superintendent.

“Intelligence seemed very structured and strategically managed. When we got into the post 9/11 timeframe we found out our world, and how we approached imagery intelligence, was never going to be the same again.”

“9/11 changed the whole dynamic of our weapon system, from a massively strategic picture down to a combat operation. We had to evolve -- what happened in the world dictated it. There was no way to be successful at what we were tasked to do by using our former platforms and methods.”

Nichols added, “The MQ-1 was so much more dynamic – we had to be on our toes at all times because we were now exploiting in near-real-time. You couldn’t just get up and take a break - you had to have your eyes on the target. It was a totally different mission. I remember most of my teams preferred MQ-1 exploitation to the other platforms - the environment was new, exciting, and ever-changing.”

“I knew at some point there was going to be a sunset for the MQ-1 Predator,” Blitt stated. “I think it served its purpose and now we’ve taken that capability and been able to enhance other similar capabilities.”

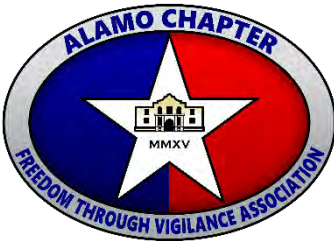
“The Predator has been a game changer on the battlefield for almost 25 years,” said Zechman. “We’ve advanced our RPA technology even further with the MQ-9 Reaper in recent years. Now that there are enough Reapers to keep up with the demand for FMV, retiring the Predator makes sense.”

Nichols added, “The MQ-1 was the right platform at the right time and was exactly what we needed. It’s now been replaced by a bigger, faster, next generation RPA. That said, it has definitely earned retirement.”

***FTVA – 25th AF Annual Reunion
27-29 September 2018, San Antonio, TX
Golf Tourney
Picnic
Remembrance Ceremony
Hall of Honor Dedication
Annual Meeting
Banquet***

FTVA CHAPTER NEWS

Chapter activities are happening, and many chapter members are getting prepped for the Annual Reunion 27-29 September. Hope to see many of you at the annual meeting, picnic, golf tournament, remembrance ceremony, and the banquet. Remember to forward your chapter inputs at any time (monthly, weekly or all at once) to Evan Smith, FTVA Board Vice President and current Chapter Liaison (evan.v.smith@gmail.com).



Alamo Chapter

San Antonio, TX

Barnie Gavin, President

Mike Nielsen, Secretary/Treasurer

On 17 May, the monthly meeting of the FTVA Alamo Chapter was called to order by President Barnie Gavin at 5:45 PM at BJ's Brewhouse at 17503 West I-10W. There were 23 members, spouses and family members present. Items discussed included:

- **Location, location, location.** This was our first meeting at this location so please provide feedback to the board if you would like to continue meeting here. One noted problem with this venue was the (excessive noise) and not being isolated enough for group discussions. Please provide us your feedback as well as any other locations that may be suitable for groups up to 30 people.
- **“They Served in Silence”.** The “They Served in Silence” DVD is still available. You can still pick up a copy at the next meeting.
- **Support for the 543d ISRG.** Ron Haygood is going to contact the commander of the 543rd to discuss how the Alamo Chapter can support that organization. We currently have \$690 in our treasury that needs to be allocated to a cause or possibly returned back to the FTVA. That funding may also be used for other events. If you have an idea on something we could support, please let us know.
- **Retirement.** Mr. Haygood is retiring on Thursday 24 May at 1000 in the BALA, 25 AF bldg. 2007. All are invited to celebrate with Ron and his family as he starts another great adventure and thank him for his

many years of great service to our country and the Intelligence community.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM where we continued to share stories and enjoy each other’s fellowship. The next meeting is scheduled for 21 June. We will post the location when known.

Alamo Chapter - June

June Meeting Notes. The June meeting of Alamo Chapter of the FTVA was again held at the Saltgrass Steakhouse on IH-10. At 5:30 PM on the 21st 14 members and spouses convened and President Bernie Gavin called the meeting to order with a warm welcome.



“Puttin’ on the Ritz.” Mr. and Mrs. Homer Waring at the June Meeting of the Alamo Chapter. Photo by Rass.

The only order of business was discussion of financial support to the 543 ISRG and specifically to the 531st Intelligence Squadron. Jesse Greene tried to contact the unit’s First Sergeant but was unsuccessful.

However, Jesse was contacted by the Assistant First Sergeant

of the 531st Intelligence Squadron, TSgt Peter F. Murray. TSgt Murray told Jesse they would like to use the money donated by the Alamo Chapter for



Breaking Bread. Chapter member Alan Daugherty (right) breaking bread at the June chapter meeting with Mrs. And Mr. Dan Hagy. Photo by Rass.



Howdy. Donna and Bob Crabtree smiling (at least Donna is) for the camera at the 21 June Meeting of the Alamo Chapter. Photo by Rass.

quarterly awards to the unit through the unit’s Booster Club. TSgt Murray requested \$200 per quarter for these awards. Several members of the Chapter, including Bernie, had some concern about the commitment of that amount of money on a regular, quarterly basis plus the ability to somehow verify that the money was used for the intended purpose. The consensus is that since we do not have that much money in our treasury. And, at the present time, any fund-raising efforts that a donation for annual awards might be more appropriate. Bernie asked Jesse if he would take this project on, since he had already made contact with the unit, and let them know the Chapter’s concern and offer the annual award suggestion. Jesse will report his findings at the next chapter meeting in July.



Y’all havin’ a good time? Chapter President Barnie Gavin (center) ensuring all is going well with Vince and Elisse Colacicco Photo by Rass.



Good Cheer. John Lopes, Jesse Green and Dan Martin putting the finishing touches on an evening of camaraderie. Photo by Rass.

Alamo Chapter - July Meeting

Continuing the torrid pace of activity this summer, 12 members and spouses attended the 19 July Meeting of the Alamo Chapter at the Saltgrass Steakhouse. Chapter President Bernie Gavin called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM and warmly welcomed everyone. The following discussion items highlighted the July session.

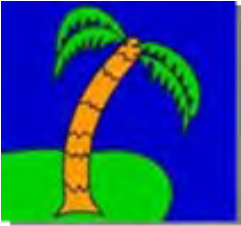
Annual Award Donation. The only order of business was the continuing discussion of financial support to the 543 ISRG and specifically to the 531st Intelligence Squadron. Jesse Greene contacted the Assistant First Sergeant of the 531st Intelligence Squadron, TSgt Peter F. Murray and told him of the concerns the chapter had regarding support to the unit (see June meeting report above). Jesse was unable to make this month's meeting, but I did talk to him about his discussion with TSgt Murray. TSgt Murray agreed with the chapter's recommendation of providing money for an annual award instead of quarterly financial commitments. Jesse will continue to coordinate with the 531st to determine which specific award the chapter's money will be applied to.

C-47 Plaque/Paver Stone. In addition, there was some discussion regarding placing some type of plaque or paver near the C-47 on Security Hill. President Gavin will follow up with that and talk to FTVA President Ted Colquhoun to see if this would be feasible and/or appropriate.

Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate. We welcomed back Leroy Rogers to the Alamo Chapter meetings. It had been a long time since he was able to make the meeting due to being hospitalized and recovering from a very serious bout of dehydration. He encouraged everyone to drink plenty of water, especially during this very hot weather.

Potential Guest Speaker. Leroy Rogers also provided the name of an individual we might want to contact for a guest speaker at some future chapter or FTVA event, possibly the Spring Social. Leroy told us about Jeffrey Addicott, Lt Col (retired), of the Army Staff Judge Advocate. He is currently Director, Center for Terrorism Law at St Mary's University and lectures on the legal aspects of terrorism. President Gavin will follow up and discuss this issue with the FTVA board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM followed by good fellowship and comradery.



Aloha Chapter
Honolulu, HI
John “Tilly” Toillion, President

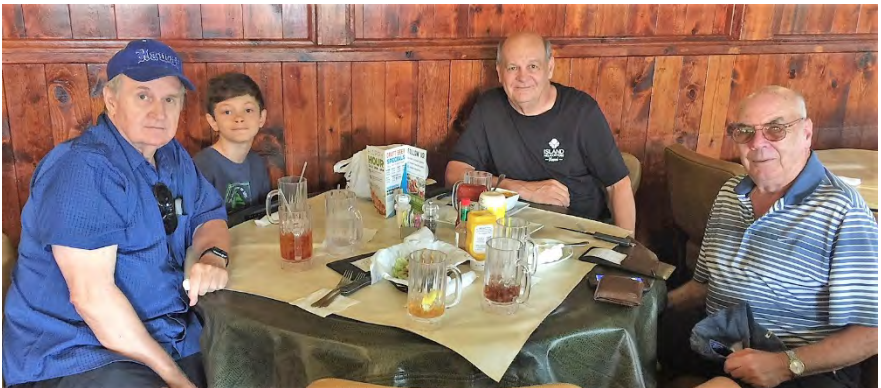
After a lengthy break, the Aloha Chapter regrouped on August 2 at Mililani Ruby Tuesdays, our favorite watering hole, to catch up on our recent happenings.

Unfortunately, only the three amigos (Dickie Hites, Ken Een, and John Toillion) were able to attend the restart. Member Al Teal we're certain was busy with VP Pence's visit. Fred Collins was at an extended doctor's appointment (prayers for Fred) and was unable to attend.

Dickie Hites' grandson Phoenix also attended and was part of our conversation as we talked about summer vacations with grandkids and Dickie's and Phoenix's upcoming trip to Iowa in December. Hopefully the snowman will cooperate and make it a snowy one.

We also discussed possible attendees to this year's Annual FTVA Reunion. John's going to make an effort to get there this year after missing the past two years. We're anxiously awaiting the results of this year's list of Hall of Honor.

That be it from the coconut wireless. A-looooo-ha!!



Core Strength. Aloha Chapter stalwarts (l-r) Dickie Hites, his grandson Phoenix, Chapter President John “Tilly” Toillion, and Ken Een planning their next luau.

Heritage Chapter

San Angelo, TX

Ronald ‘JJ’ Graham, Chapter President
Ed Bendinelli, Chapter Vice President



The Heritage Chapter is 25 years strong! The Chapter was formed on 1 April 1993 and on 5 August, Hank Connors, USAFSS/ESC Association president, installed our first elected officers: **Barnie Gavin, President; Norm Parlow, Vice**

President; and Bruce Foreman, Secretary/Treasurer.



Talk is Chief. Heritage Chapter member Carl Wood and Chapter President JJ Graham (both retired USAF CMSgts) exchange notes during the 7 June 25th Anniversary and chapter meeting.

We are “a small but robust group.” Since formation, the Heritage Chapter has: initiated six building dedications on Goodfellow AFB – Melton Hall, Ryan Hall, Heath Hall, Cressman Dining, Fred Sebers Hall, Brandenburg Hall; contributed to establishing two memorial displays – EC-47 static aircraft display and the

ARDF History Exhibit on Goodfellow AFB; sponsored the “The Wall that Heals” replica of the Vietnam War Memorial; hosted several reunions; as a member in the EC-47 History Site 50th Vietnam War Commemorative Partner Program, participated in numerous commemoration pinning ceremonies; and in general, supported all veterans causes.

On 7 June 2018, at our monthly meeting Ronald “JJ” Graham, Ed Bendinelli and Larry Ross were re-elected as President, Vice President and Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

Afterwards, 30 members and guests celebrated our 25th Anniversary at a good dinner and for desert everyone enjoyed cake prepared specially to honor our 25th Anniversary. The photos below capture the festivities.

Heritage Chapter

San Angelo, Texas

"a small but robust group"

25th Anniversary
1993 - 2018

Anniversary Banner. This banner was proudly displayed to commemorate the occasion.



Fashion Plate. Carl Wood (left) re-gifted Larry Miller a Combat Apple Hawaiian shirt. Larry was its original owner; he donated it for auction at the FOSP reunion where Carl was high bidder. It is now back "home" with Larry.

Coffee's Up! A 25th Anniversary souvenir coffee mug was gifted to each JJ Graham (Kneeling), and (l-r) Ed Bendinelli, Corky Bingham, Larry Ross, Wayne Bascom, and Larry Miller. Tom Nurre (not pictured) received one at a later date.





Hanoi Hilton. Larry Miller, representing the Vietnamese linguists Dogger group, honored Carl Wood (above left) and Larry Ross (above right) each with a “Hanoi Hilton” brick salvaged from the infamous prisoner of war prison.



Group Shot. Participants at the Heritage Chapter’s 25th Anniversary Soiree pause to pose for the camera.



Thank You Ma'am. (left) President JJ Graham presents Suzanne Campbell with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the chapter, President Graham presented Suzanne Campbell with a Certificate of Appreciation for her "contributions in support of the veterans in the Concho Valley." She recently retired as Director of the West Texas Collection at Angelo State. **Below** is Suzanne and Hugh Campbell.



Social Hour. Members and guests (below) of the Heritage Chapter exchanging world and local news prior to chowing down at the chapter's 25th Anniversary celebration.

Coffee and Cake At Heritage Chapter's 25th Anniversary



Marking the Occasion. A commemorative coffee cup and a tasty cake (quickly devoured) marked the stellar achievement of the FTVA members in San Angelo, TX anniversary celebration.



Heritage Chapter Honors the Vietnam Veterans

At San Angelo Memorial Day Ceremony

To honor the veterans and fallen of Vietnam, The Heritage Chapter came out in force to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial for the annual Memorial Day ceremony. The featured speaker was Col Ricky Mills, 17 Training Wing Commander. The ceremony also marked the laying of a memorial paver dedicated to Don Goff, a USAFSS veteran and a lifetime FTVA member. A paver dedicated to Don's brothers was previously installed. Don's widow Mary and son Steven honored us by attending the ceremony.

Later in the day, Chapter President JJ Graham laid a wreath at the courthouse. At the evening ceremony there appeared to be smaller attendance than usual. Lt Col Kuniyuki, 344 MI Battalion was the speaker.



Color Guard. Opening the ceremonies, the color guard, comprised of active duty members in the Goodfellow area marches in.

Remembering
Our
Vietnam Vets



Honoring SSgt Goff. A paver was laid at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial honoring Don Goff. It was reverently placed next to his brothers'.



Honoring a Father and Husband. Attending the dedication at the San Angelo Vietnam Veterans Memorial are the son and widow of Don Goff, Steven and Mary.



Pre-sent, Arms! Heritage Chapter President JJ Graham salutes after placing a wreath at the foot of the memorial.



Paying Respect. Attending the dedication at the San Angelo Vietnam Veterans Memorial were chapter members (l-r) Rick Premo, Marc Kirner, Larry Miller, Wayne Bascom, Larry Ross, and JJ Graham (not pictured is Ed Bendinelli who also attended).



Paying Respect. Attending the dedication at the San Angelo Vietnam Veterans Memorial were chapter members (l-r) Rick Premo, Marc Kirner, Larry Miller, Wayne Bascom, Larry Ross, and JJ Graham (not picture is Ed Bendinelli who also attended).



Gold Country Chapter
Yuba City, CA
John Aurelius, President

The month of August is the 20th anniversary of the founding of our Gold Country Chapter. It was 20 years ago when our founder and past President Richard Sacchetti started this group and we are celebrating this month. Since we moved all our monthly meetings to the Coyote Pub on base it has helped us gain visibility among the active duty personnel, but this month we are all gathering at Sutter Buttes Brewing to celebrate.



Recruiting continues to be our major focus this year and is ramping up and we are promoting an event at the base theater for late August. I expect to kick off our new quarterly "Heritage Speaker" series with a

The Happening Place. Sutter Buttes Brewing, the future site of the 20th Anniversary celebration and fete of the Gold Country Chapter.

former pilot who has flown both the U2 and SR-71. As a test pilot for

the U2 at Groom Lake, his roommate was Francis Gary Powers. This will be a very interesting presentation and we hope to have over 100 personnel.

Also, I'm happy to report that our chapter founder and past President, Richard Sacchetti, is doing much better and has begun to attend our meetings again. He can't wait to celebrate and be honored at Sutter Buttes Brewing later this month.

Remain In Touch

John Aurelius



REUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newsletter Staff Compilation

Oct 10 – 12, 2019
6918th RSM/Security Squadron
Brady / Hakata, Japan
Location: Jacksonville, FL
(Doubletree Hotel)
Comments on 6918th Website
<http://6918thhakata.com>



REUNION REPORTS

Det 4, 6922d Security Wing Celebrates 15th Annual Reunion

Submitted by

Waldemar P. Scherer, Lt. Col., USAF (Ret)

War stories, good memories, and Thai cuisine abounded from June 7 to 10 in Spotsylvania, VA, as detachment alumni and guests celebrated the 15th annual reunion of Detachment 4, 6922 Security Wing/Pacific Security Region. *(Editor's Note: Det 4 operated from Ramasun Station, Thailand, during the Vietnam War. The station opened in 1966 and closed in 1976 (Source: navycthistory.com).*

The event this year was graciously hosted by Ken and Diane Morrison at their Spotsylvania home and included an enjoyable trolley tour of nearby historic Fredericksburg, VA. Of course, no reunion would be complete without savoring the annual Thai luncheon. As usual, the stories get better with each gathering.

(Front row: l-r) Wally Scherer, Elmike Campbell, John “Ma” Mazullo, Lee “Pete” Peterson, Dave Minnery, and Bill Murray. (Back row, l-r) Ken Morrison, Dave Avans, Pat Shurtz, Marty Mills, Fred Jacobsen, Doug Casey, Denis Thelen, Jim Scoggins, Dusty Mosier, and Bruce Criss.



The ladies, (front row l-r) Mary Mosier, Joretta Criss, (back row, l-r) Beverly Van Horn, Dianne Morrison, Beth Scherer, Barb Peterson, Linda Avans, Rosemary Scoggins, Pauline Casey, Wan Murray, Mary Thelen.



Former Det 4 members and guests are welcome to join us for our 16th reunion next year, so please be sure to contact Dusty Mosier (dustymos@hotmail.com) for details.

FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

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**Thank You
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HISTORY & MEMORIES

Ed. Note: The following poem was originally published on these pages in late 1998 to commemorate the Anniversary of the Air Intelligence Agency (AIA). I came upon it by accident in the paper archives I inherited from my mentor, Rass, and since it's 20 years later, my impression is it is as germane today as it was then. I struggled a bit with the meter, so mentally try to get the right cadence. Y'all know about cadence, right?

“AIR INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (AIA)

*“It’s happy anniversary time for A I A.,
A great organization what more can we say?
The past fifty years have seen some change in its name,
But the pride, honor, and integrity still remain the same.
In the early years, we were tenants on each base,
Housed in the oldest buildings, with very little space.
It did not affect our mission, even one iota,
We got the job done and at times beat our quota.
Most base commanders thought we were a ‘spooky’ bunch,
They even implied that at their parties, we tried to spike their punch.
So they notified the base police to watch our every move,
But we, being resourceful, any misdeed was hard to prove.
Again, we gave the commanders the mystery of their lives.
How such a bunch of characters could marry such charming wives.
When there was a local disaster or charity affair,
Our personnel were always there first, with their fair share.
In the wars of Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm,
Performance of our duty was far above the norm.
Whether in a ground unit, or on an airborne flight,
Accomplishment of mission was always kept in sight.
So ‘Happy Anniversary’ from members present and past.
May our success and prestige last, and last and last.*

//Signed//

*M.F. “Pete” Palmer
15 October 1998”*

Ed. Note: The following poem saluting ground and air reconnaissance troops was seen recently on Facebook on the Skivvy Nine page. It was originally posted by Philip Beekley who gives full credit to the author Wayne Deaton. It was untitled.

*Strange things are done under the moon
And sun
By the folks in Air Force blue
They sit and listen, roll and report
On things our enemies do
Now some sit a rack in a windowless shack
While others don Nomex and fly
For hours on end, again and again
They live to get back in the sky.
They seek no fortune, they seek no
Fame
As they fly out there all alone
With nothing more than their 'craft
And their wits
And their ears to bring them back
Home.
So as you lay down tonite with plans
To sleep tight,
Say a prayer for these silent few,
For somewhere out there, there's a
Crew in the air
And they're all listening for you.*

Ed. Note: The following bit of history is a reprint from the 15 Aug 1987 issue of the RIT and has been redacted to fit these pages.

Compass Calling

SEMBACH AB. Germany - The 66th Electronic Combat Wing here accepted the first two of five EC-130H Compass Call aircraft during a base flight line ceremony recently.

"The arrival of these aircraft rounds out our electronic combat assets in the 65th Air Division and the 66th ECW," said Lt. Gen. Thomas G. McNerney, vice commander. U.S. Air Forces in Europe. "This is a landmark day for NATO and its deterrent forces."

The aircraft will be operated by the 43rd Electronic Combat Squadron, a component of the 66th ECW. Members of the 6919th Electronic Security Squadron, part of the 6910th Electronic Security Wing, Lindsey AS, Germany, will perform duties on the 43rd's aircraft.

Both squadrons were activated in October 1986.

In this unique situation, members of two commands, USAFE and Electronic Security Command, team up to support the mission. The 43rd ECS provides combat ready flight crews to fly the aircraft, while the combat ready mission crews of the 6919th ESS operate the specialized mission equipment.

"We've been preparing for this day for a long time and now we've got the hardware to make it all complete," said Col. James L. Brigman, 6910th ESW commander. "We'll work hard and get the job done."

The aircraft, a modified C-130 Hercules, is equipped with an electronic countermeasures system that reduces an adversary's ability to wage warfare by confusing and disrupting an enemy's command and control communications while protecting those of NATO forces.

In addition, Compass Call aircraft have been modified with associated navigation and support systems and an air refueling capability. The computer-aided system receives and processes the signal environment and disrupts selected targets, all under the control of the mission crew. Options designed into the system include an automatic response mode or absolute control over each active response by the mission crew.

The aircraft is modified by the Lockheed Air Service Co., a division of Lockheed Corp., Ontario, CA. It carries a crew of 13. The EC-130H has been in the Air Force's inventory since 1980.

The remaining aircraft are expected by September of this year.



FALLEN EAGLES



Received word of the following losses from caring relatives, friends or obituaries and offer prayers and sympathy to loved ones.

“It is the soldier above all others who prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”

Douglas MacArthur

Compiled by Joe Figueroa, Associate Editor

Benningfield, Edward L., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS **FTVA Member ****

Bentz, Timothy R., MSgt (ret), USAFSS

Cabral, Duarte D., USAFSS

Carey, Robert E., USAFSS

Cassady, Frank, J., USAFSS

Christenot, Gary B., Maj (ret), USAF

Chulick, John, USAFSS

Cohenour, Brian P., USAF

Coleman, Roy C., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS

Cragun, Ben, TSgt (ret), USAFSS **FTVA Lifetime Member ****

Cunningham, James F., USAFSS

Curran, Ronald J., USAFSS

Darcangelo, Daniel L. USAFSS

Dover, Denver A., SSgt (ret), USAFSS

Drake, James, E., MSgt (ret), USAFSS

Dunlap, John S., USAFSS

Dunn, Benjamin “BD”, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS

Durst, Joseph M., USAFSS

Everett, Gerry, MSgt (ret), USAFSS

Ferguson, Wilson, TSgt (ret), USAF

Flynn, James F., USAFSS, **FTVA Member ****

Frasur, Eugene USAFSS, **FTVA Member ****

Gallagher, Robert, USAFSS

Guthrie, Charles W., USAFSS

Henson, Orville L., USAFSS

Heyen, Henry J., SMSgt (ret), ESC

Koetterhagen, Jerome W., USAFSS

- Kozell, Harry L., USAFSS
- Lucas, Charles T., Lt Col (ret), USAFSS
- Miller, Henry, MSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Minichino, John N. Sr., USAF
- Nelson, Janet (spouse of Dale Nelson), **FTVA Lifetime Member ****
- Nelson, Myron C., MSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Nikolauk, John, Col (ret), USAF
- Pattillo, Jimmy R., USAFSS
- Quinn, Robert J., Lt Col, USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member ****
- Robbins, Joel D., MSgt (ret), **FTVA Member ****
- Sherburne, Guy A., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member ****
- Simms, John B., USAFSS
- Smith, Roger D., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Soda, Anthony, USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member ****
- Stewart, Donald, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS **FTVA Member ****
- Stoeffler, Clyde W., USAFSS
- Theriot, Jerry J., USAFSS
- Wade, Leonard J., USAFSS
- Whitfield, Ernest L. MSgt (ret), USAFSS



Benningfield, Edward L., Jr. (Ed), CMSgt (ret), 79, passed away July 12, 2018. He served 26 years in USAFSS and Electronic Security Command (ESC). He was trained in 1957 as a Manual Morse Systems Operator and served 26 years in this career field. He completed overseas tours of duty in Taiwan, Japan, Vietnam, and Germany. He flew combat missions in Vietnam. Following retirement from the Air Force, Ed

worked 13 years for Betac Corporation in San Antonio as Program Manager in support of an Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) contract with the Electronic Security Command. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mavis and sons Edward, Timothy, and Christopher. **//Obit – Castle Ridge Mortuary//**

May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived. **//CMSgt (ret) Edward Jolly//**

My thoughts and prayers are with Mavis and the family. So sorry for your loss. **//Denise Mahoney//**

Ed and I worked at Betac and have remained in touch for years. **//CMSgt (Ret) John Lopes//**



Bentz, Timothy R., MSgt (ret), 66, passed away May 16, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF in 1970 serving as a Korean linguist. In the 1980s and 1990s, he held active duty status in the PA Army National Guard, serving in recruiting and retention before retiring in 2001. He is survived by his wife and children, Adam, Bruce,

Lancaster and Kate. //Obit – Lebanon Daily News//



Cabral, Duarte Dumas, 75, passed away January 16, 2018. He served in the USAF from 1962 to 1969 where he was a Chinese Voice Intercept Operator and Traffic Analyst. He was extremely proud of his years in the USAF and felt the USAF had shaped his character. Those who knew Duarte are familiar with his Air Force stories. He is survived by his wife, Jean and son, Kelsey and daughter, Jephrie. //Obit -

The New Haven Register//



Carey, Robert E., 81, passed away April 29, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF in 1956, graduating valedictorian at Syracuse University as a Russian linguist. He served in Turkey where he made many close friendships and mastered the language. He is survived by his wife Bette and children Mark, Roberta, and Patricia. //Obit - Farmer & Dee

Funeral Home//



Cassady, Frank J., 87, passed away May 4, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF where he worked in communications (interceptions and code-breaking support) while based in Germany. Frank is survived by his spouse of nearly 60 years, Angie and children Marifran, Kathy, Michael, Elizabeth, and Tom. //Obit – Glueckert Funeral Home//



Christenot, Gary B., Maj (ret), 61, passed away May 14, 2018. His USAF career spanned 23 years beginning with an enlistment in 1977 as a linguist and then being commissioned as an officer in 1985 in Signals Intelligence. He retired from the Reserves as a Major. His employment after the military included ARINC and TYBRIN

Corporations and for the last 5 years has been a civilian working as a Software Engineer at Eglin AFB. He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Mary Ann and his 3 sons, Matthew, Jordan, and Phillip. //Obit – **Davis Watkins Funeral Home**//

He was an Arab linguist, then an intel officer at Hurlburt. //Lee Anthony//



Chulick, John, 88, passed away May 24, 2018. Known to many as "Big Jack" A Man and His Music. He was the husband of the late Anna (Russo) Chulick and beloved father of Christine (Chulick) Eng. He is also survived by his longtime companion Arlene. //Obit – **Robert P. Karish Funeral Home**//

He served for four years as a CW intercept operator and was assigned to 2nd RSM 1952-1955. //Leo Franks//



Cohenour, Brian P., 57, passed away June 18, 2018. He served in the USAF for 20 years and was stationed all over the world. He is survived by his wife Patricia and his sons Christopher and Erik. //Obit - **Finley Funeral Home**//

He was assigned to the 6916th in the 1980s and served in DESERT STORM. //Stewart Skeen//



Coleman, Roy C., CMSgt (ret), 88, passed away April 19, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF in 1946 at age 17, serving for 29 years. He spent most of his career stationed overseas including the United Kingdom, Okinawa, and Philippines during and at the end the Vietnam War. He was assigned to the USAF Security Service. He was honored to be a finalist for Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. He is survived by his daughter Vicki and son,

Alan. //Obit – **Porter Loring**//



Cragun, Ben, TSgt (ret), USAFSS, 74, passed away March 28, 2018. Ben served for 20 years and was assigned to Misawa Japan. //Michael Hickman//

//Obit - <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/189181995/ben-cragun#source//>



Cunningham, James F., A2C, 75, passed away January 21, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF where he completed the Radio Intercept Analysis Aide Course at the USAF Security Service School in Texas. He was honorably discharged in 1964 holding the rank of Airman

2nd Class. He is survived by his wife Anna and sons James and Sean. //Obit – Delaney Funeral Home//



Curran, Ronald J., 81, passed away June 20, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF and graduated from the Army Language School in Monterey, CA as a Korean linguist. After an honorable discharge from the service he graduated from the University of NH. He worked for the National Security Agency. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sally and sons, Jeffrey and Lawrence. //Obit – French & Rising Funeral Home//



Darcangelo, Daniel L., 75, passed away March 19, 2018. He enlisted in 1960 and was stationed primarily in Okinawa, Japan as a Morse code intercept operator. He also played softball for the Air Force traveling team. He was honorably discharged in 1967. He is survived by his sons, Wil, Jim and daughter, Julie. He also leaves his very dear friend Patricia Wells and his former wife Linda. //Obit – Smith Mallahy Masciarelli Funeral Home//



Dover, Denver Arnold, SSgt (ret), 85, passed away on May 3, 2018. He joined the USAF in 1951 as an Intelligence Communications Specialist. He served for the next 20 years during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and retired in 1971 as a Staff Sergeant. He held one of the highest security clearances while working in various assignments throughout the world in places such as Greenland and Guam. He leaves behind his wife of 63 years, Geraldine Mary, and children David, Carol, Debra, and Joan. //Obit – Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home//



Drake, James (Jim) E., Sr., MSgt (ret) 85, passed away April 21, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF in 1953 during the Korean War. His military service took him to England, where he worked as a Radio Operator with an Air Force Security Service team dedicated to analyzing penetration of Soviet air defenses during the Cold War. His other assignments included NORAD, where he was in the control room during the Cuban Missile Crisis and Greenland, where he worked on the Early Warning Radar System on the Arctic Circle. He also was a courier at Yokota AFB. One time he carried moon rocks from the recent Apollo 11 mission, which got their own seat on the airplane. Jim retired from the Air Force in 1975 with the rank of Master Sergeant. He is survived by his wife, Edra and children Jim, Judith, and Marshall. //Obit- Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home//



Dunlap, John S., 75, passed away July 11, 2018. He served in the USAF where he served as a Russian linguist stationed in Pakistan. One of his greatest pleasures was being a member of the Amherst Fire Department for 31 years during which time he served as Captain and later as Fire Inspector for the city of Amherst. Scott is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marsha and sons Thomas and Todd and daughter Tricia. //Obit – Hempel Funeral Home//



Dunn, Benjamin "BD", CMSgt (ret), 65, passed away May 22, 2018. He served 30 years in the USAF and 13 years as a civil servant, cumulating in over 43 years of service. He is survived by his bride, Wilma and children Darryl and Dana. //Obit – Kinston//

I had the honor of serving with him as a First Sergeant at Langley Air Force Base. Chief Dunn was an awesome leader, mentor, Shirt, and a true friend to me personally and to the rest of the First Sergeants Association. //Monique Armant-Little//

We lost a great American this last week. Benjamin "BD" Dunn, purveyor of wisdom, kindness, and *hellagood* BBQ. A retired Chief Master Sergeant who then went on to serve and retire from civil service, "Mr. D," as I knew him, was the proverbial larger-than-life personality. He was such a positive influence on my professional and personal life. //Brian Odette//

I remember him from the HQ AFISRA IG Team. He trained me to augment the team. Extremely well-respected by all. //Joseph "Pepito" Figueroa//



Durst, Joseph (Joe) Michael, 68, passed away March 29, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF and served in Vietnam. Following his honorable discharge, Joe continued his education at the University of Minnesota and Western Technical College. Joe is survived by his daughters Ezri and Greta,

and also, the mother of his children, Ellie Durst. //Obit – Coulee Region Cremation Group//

A tribute video can be seen at:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/5DN43Y62H2YY2599?>

He was assigned to the 6994th //6994th.com//



Everett, Gerry, MSgt (ret), an outstanding 208, unexpectedly passed away on July 5, 2018 in Reno, Nevada. Gerry was a former Chinese and Vietnamese linguist during his 20-plus years in the USAF Security Service and the Electronic Security Command. Among his numerous assignments were several years at the 6990th Security Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa; 6988th Security Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan; the 6903rd Security Squadron, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea; and the 6908th Electronic Security Squadron, Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. Gerry completed his military career after an assignment as a military training advisor at the Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, Monterey, California. Gerry and his wife retired to their permanent home in Prunedale, California and Gerry went on to have a career with, and retired from, the US Postal Service. Among the numerous decorations he was awarded are the Meritorious Service Medal, numerous Air Medals, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Device, and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, the Combat Crew Badge, and Senior Enlisted Aircrew wings. His '90th crewmates fondly remember him as the "go-to" operator on Baker flight during the Vietnam War, all-around great guy, and a fixture at second base playing on the unit's softball team.

//Pat Miller//



Ferguson, Wilson, TSgt (ret), 59, passed away April 17, 2018. //Obit – D.W. Brooks Funeral Home//

He was a 1N4. His assignments included Clark AB, Philippines. In the 1980s, he worked as an aisle analyst and in the Surveillance and Warning Center at the 93d IS; San Antonio TX 1990s

//Thomas Rioux//



Flynn, James F., 79, passed away May 18, 2018. Survivors include wife, Herminia and children Marie Flynn-Showers, Michael Flynn and Joseph Flynn.

//Obit - Robert Massie Funeral Home//

I only knew him at RAF Chicksands. His family resides in San Angelo, TX. Jim was a mentor of mine. He gave me OJT as a 202 (now 1N4) classroom tech instructor at Goodfellow back in 1974. Saw him again in 1998 working at Walmart in San Angelo. A special NCO and an outstanding analyst. RIP //Charles Ballew//



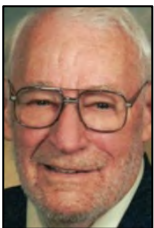
Frasur, Eugene, MSgt (ret), 87, passed away May 28, 2018. He served in the USAF for 20 years and was trained at the U.S. Army Language School at the Presidio of Monterey, CA, as a Russian linguist. He later received his Parachute Wings at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He was recognized for his exemplary service during the Korean and Vietnam Wars with numerous decorations. He retired as a Master Sergeant in

1971. //Obit – Showalter Blackwell Long//



Gallagher, Robert, 79, passed away June 21, 2018. He joined the USAF as a Russian linguist and was assigned to Berlin. He then joined the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer with postings in Yugoslavia, South Korea and West Germany. He then transferred to the Department of Commerce where he was Intelligence Director for five Secretaries. He was awarded NSA's Signals Intelligence

Directorate award for his service. //Obit – Washington Post//



Guthrie, Charles Woodson, 85, passed away April 3, 2018. He attended the University of Colorado for two years before enlisting in the USAF in 1953. He was stationed at Parks AFB, in Oakland, Calif.; Brooks and Kelly AFB's, in San Antonio, Texas; and Suitland Hall and Ft. Meade in Maryland. He served in the Intelligence Division and National Security Agency until his discharge in 1957. He is

survived by his wife of 64 years, Alison and sons Charles, Wayne, and Martin. //Obit - Beckwith Funeral Home//



Henson, Orville L., SSgt, 86, passed April 2, 2018. He served in the USAF for 4 years as a Crypto Analyst, as well as for the Streator National Guard for 8 months prior to joining the Air Force. He is survived by his daughters Vicki, Becky and Susan. //Obit – Davis Callahan Funeral Home//



Heyen, Henry J., SMSgt (ret), passed away July 13, 2018. He joined the USAF Aug 1967 as a cryptanalyst for the Electronic Security Command, serving tours in England and SAC, Nebraska before being selected by the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force as the first NCO to join the prestigious team of the Special Projects Group within the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) in 1978.

Notably, he served with distinction during Vietnam, the Iranian hostage release attempt, the Falklands and DESERT STORM conflicts. His last Air Force assignment was at Menwith Hill Station in North Yorkshire, England, until his retirement in 1988. He is survived by his wife of 30 years Janice and son, Matthew. //Obit – Northwest Florida Daily News//



Koetterhagen, Jerome W., 65, passed away May 17, 2018. He proudly served his country in the USAF from 1971 to 1978. He is survived by his wife, Taili and son Ben. //Obit Mealy Funeral Home//

Assignments - 6931st Iraklion AS Crete, 6987th Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan, 6948th Kelly AFB, TX and 6909 SS, Osan AB, Korea //Lenny Moshier//

Gyrating, Jivetime Jerome per Norris J. Williams at Lin Kou. Jerome was an awesome dude who will be missed by all who had the good fortune to know him. He was my "cheesehead" neighbor and we enjoyed some truly memorable times together. //Lenny Moshier//

Went back to Taipei in 2016 with him and Taili after a 40-year hiatus. We had a BLAST!!! Will miss drinking Taiwan Beer with you buddy. RIP...Lenny //Lenny Moshier//



Kozell, Harry L., 77, passed away May 12, 2018. //Kilgore Green Funeral Home//

He was a 292X1 was stationed in Japan and Darmstadt, Germany in the early 1960's. //USAFSS Roll Call//



Lucas, Charles Töner "Chuck", Lt Col (ret), 76, passed away April 1, 2018. He served in the USAF for over 30 years. From 1961 to 1965, he served as a Radio Intercept Analyst and Photo Interpretation Specialist. In 1974, he joined the WV Air National Guard where he was commissioned as an officer in 1979, obtaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1994. While in the ANG, he served as an Air Intelligence Officer. He was a veteran of the Cold

War and Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He served in St. Lawrence Island (Alaska), Germany, Spain, Panama, Belgium, and England. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Mary and two daughters, Cynthia and Jennifer. //Obit - Thomas L. Geisel Funeral Home//



Miller, Henry, MSgt (ret), 80, passed away May 1, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF in 1957 where he spent over 22 years. He worked initially as a Morse Intercept Operator and later as an Electronics Communication and Cryptographic Equipment Systems Technician and later Instructor. He served throughout the US and across Indo-China including Vietnam. He later went to work for the General Service Administration (GSA) where his most

revered accomplishment was his work at Johnson Space Center. Henry's quick thinking while in a stressful environment led to an outside of the box solution where he single-handedly prevented the cancellation of the Classified STS Shuttle Mission 51-C. He is survived by his loving wife, Worn "Noi" and children Michael, Archie, Lisa, and George. //Obit - Castle Ridge Mortuary//



Minichino, John Neil, Sr., 72, passed away June 11, 2018. He took advantage of the GI Bill and earned a degree in Russian from Syracuse University. The USAF assigned John to be a cryptologist intercepting Russian conversations aboard a C-130 during the Cold War. The daring cryptologists who flew dangerous missions on the brink of enemy territory were known as the Prop

Wash Gang and lived by the mantra Freedom Through Vigilance. In 1972, John hired on as a Special Agent with ATF in Philadelphia. With his degree and experience in Russian, John was detailed from ATF over to the Secret Service for several of the US-USSR peace talks. In this capacity, John was honored to meet President Ronald Reagan in 1988 and President George H.W. Bush in 1990. When the peace talks were hosted in Moscow, his family was astonished to receive a call from John while he was inside the Kremlin. John is survived by his wife of 45 years, Suzanne and sons John and Michael and daughter, Tiffany. //Obit - Salt Lake Tribune//

USAFSS voice intercept operator (Russian linguist) with the 6916th SS/Rhein-Main during 1967 - 1969. Assignments included: Basic - 11/65 - 2/66; Skytop - 3/66 - 12/66; Goodfellow - 1/67 - 5/67; ALK and AZK Fairchild - 6/67; Rhein-Main - 8/67 - 8/69 and early out. //Christ Dunton//



Nelson, Janet Mae "Jan", 84, passed away Jul 12, 2018. Jan was a member of St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Eastwood Village Home Owners Association and was a volunteer at Winter Park Elementary School where the children and staff adored her. Jan will always be remembered, loved and respected by all who were fortunate enough to cross paths with her as she was an

extraordinarily kind and gentle soul. Jan is survived by her husband Dale and children Michelle, Michael, and Monique. //Obit - Wilmington Funeral & Cremation//

Janet's spouse, Dale Nelson, was my Manual Morse Controller when I was stationed at the 6987th RGM in Taiwan. Dale had follow-up assignments at San Vito and in South America. //Gary Knighton//



Nelson, Myron C., MSgt (ret), 74, passed away April 28, 2018. He was a 24-year veteran of the USAF retiring as a Master Sergeant in 1987. He then worked 20 years in public service for Homeland Security. While in the USAF, he ran various sports programs for the base dependent youth centers. He coached baseball, soccer and football. While stationed at RAF Chicksands, he was also head coach for the men’s base football team, which took him to the various bases in England as well as a trip to Germany. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Pauline, and sons, Scott, Troy, and Jason. **//Obit - Pensacola Memorial Gardens Funeral Home//**

He enlisted in 1963 as a 292X2. His assignments included Crete 64-65, Chicksands (twice), San Vito, Misawa, and Correy Station. He coached the Chicksands football team from 1983 to 1984. **//Richard Haycock//**



Nikolauk, John, Col (ret), 87, passed away July 25, 2018. As a member of the USAF from 1951–1982, John served over 30 years in a wide-range of positions from enlisted mechanic to that of base commander. While serving at Rhein-Main AFB, Germany, he transported and arranged protocol requirements for the President and Chancellor of West Germany. John was also assigned as pilot/attaché to the U.S. Secretary of Defense. On one of their diplomatic missions he and the Secretary flew through the Khyber Pass in Afghanistan where Afghani fighter jets scrambled to intercept him.

As Chief Pilot, Andrews AFB, Washington DC, he planned and arranged transportation and protocol requirements for numerous VIPs from the Pentagon, Congress, and the White House, as well as many foreign dignitaries. While at Andrews he was asked if he wanted to fly Air Force One, and of course he jumped at the chance. On another flight, Ted Kennedy was his passenger when they received the news of JFK’s assassination.

As Chief Pilot, MacDill AFB, Florida, a joint U.S. Command (STRIKE), he had the privilege to pilot for General Benjamin O. Davis of Tuskegee Airmen fame. As Chief, T-39 Flight Operations, Saigon, Vietnam, he commanded a unit composed of 11 T-39s and 25 pilots. He flew combat support missions throughout Southwest Asia and transported courier cargo consisting of vital intelligence data and many high-ranking dignitaries to include the ambassador/vice-presidential level. Nikolauk was chosen by

General Leroy Manor and Col “Bull” Simmons to pilot for Operation Ivory Coast-Son Tay Raid, a task force to liberate POWs. As Chief of Operations, HQ USAF Security Service, Kelly AFB, Texas, he planned, managed, and flew aircraft missions throughout the United States and overseas managing a 50-man flying organization. Goodfellow AFB was truly John’s military home. During his career he served as Deputy Commander and Commander, USAF Technical Training School, Goodfellow AFB, Texas. He directed and managed the USAF Technical Training School. As Commander, Goodfellow AFB, then Lieutenant Colonel Nikolauk and then Congressman Tom Loeffler were instrumental in keeping Goodfellow AFB off the base closure list. Colonel Nick was also the last person to land and take off in an airplane from Goodfellow AFB at deactivation. During his years on Goodfellow AFB he also served as a member of the Board of Directors for Goodfellow Community Federal Credit Union which is now 1st Community Federal Credit Union. He was elected Mayor of the City of Eldorado, proudly serving over three decades and was still serving at his death. He is survived by his wife Juanita Ebbagene (Rusty) Nikolauk of 63 years and his sons Mike, Bill, and Brett. **//Obit – Love Funeral Home//**

Col Nick was special. He was truly an "enlisted man's officer." He took a personal interest in people and became a personal friend of mine. At Goodfellow, Nick wasn't asked to, but voluntarily lent his endorsement to my transfer in status as an instructor from the ATC Technical Training Group to the USAFSS Command NCO Academy. After I retired from the AF, he also helped ensure the success of my transition into the civilian life as a DOD contractor. Thanks to Nick, our friendship endured for over 40 years. RIP amigo. **//Dennis Rasmussen//**

I attended his funeral in Eldorado earlier today. Saw some old friends there...Harlan Bruha, Charlie Powell, Bill Brown. Anyone who was stationed here in the '70s, at one time or another ran into Col Nick. He was a great ambassador and a mentor to many in USAFSS. I feel very fortunate to have worked for him for several years. **//Robert Keating//**



Pattillo, Jimmy R., 76, passed away January 18, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF for 4 years and after going to language school at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana was stationed in Hof-am-Saale, Germany as a Voice Intercept Processing Specialist. **//Obit - Tributes.com//**



Quinn, Robert Joseph, Sr., Lt Col (ret), 77, passed away March 3, 2018. He joined the USAF and served for 30 years. When Bob retired from the USAF as a decorated Lieutenant Colonel he began a second career in health care management with the Visiting Nurse Association of Florida. His family includes Bob's wife of over 50 years, Ann; daughter, Kelly and son, Robert. //Obit - All County

Funeral Home & Crematory//

Listed on the 6994th site, "Our Losses" //6994th.com//



Robbins, Joel D., MSgt (ret), 79, passed away May 14, 2018. He joined the Navy Reserves and then joined the USAF in August 1963. Joel proudly served his country for over 26 years, four years in the Navy Reserves and 22 years in the USAF, to include USAFSS. He spent over seven years serving in foreign countries to include tours in Vietnam, and duty assignments in Germany and Korea.

Later as part of an Air Force Inspector General's Team he toured the world inspecting units to ensure compliance. He retired from active duty in 1983. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 year, Sharon and son, Robert and daughter, Tina. //Obit - Grimes Funeral Chapel//



Sherburne, Guy A., SMSgt (ret), 66, passed away May 30, 2018. Known to friends as the "Sheriff," he joined the USAF October 27, 1972 and served as a Security Forces member for 26 years. He retired as a SMSgt October 31, 1998. His assignments included McChord AFB, WA; Hickam AFB, HI; Misawa AB, Japan; Osan AB, Republic of Korea; and finally, Security Hill, San Antonio, TX. Guy

will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 42 years and four children. //Obit - Express-News//

I had met Guy through the years in the Air Force and started working with him with Troy Systems, later PEC Solutions, then Evolvent and ManTech. He will be sorely missed. My deepest condolences. //Alan Daugherty//

We were together on the AIA IG team 96-98. Will greatly miss my good friend, golfing buddy and co-worker. //Dennis Buxton//

Last assignments were Skivvy Nine as the top cop 94-95. Then support side superintendent on AIA IG team, 1996-98. //Dennis Rassmussen//



Simms, John Barber, 89, passed away January 1, 2018. He was a USAF veteran of the Korean War. //Obit - Hale Polin Robinson Funeral Home//

John was an A/IC when he was separated from the Air Force in 1956. He joined the Air Force in the middle of 1952, completed the Radio Intercept Course at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, and headed for Bremerhaven, Germany. At the 41st RSM, he served on Dog Trick from April 1953 until April 1956. His DOS probably was in April/May 1956. //Arlen Trapp//



Smith, Roger David, SMSgt (ret), 91, passed away May 19, 2018. He joined the Army during World War II and was assigned to the Army Security Agency; he eventually transferred to the USAF in 1949, where he served with Air Force Security Service and Air Force Intelligence. Military assignments included New York, Germany, Texas, Hawaii, and Virginia. He traveled extensively to numerous

countries in the Far East, Europe, and Africa. He retired from the USAF in 1967 as a SMSgt and became a civilian Security Specialist with Air Force Intelligence Service. He retired from Civil Service in 1984 with over 39 years of combined service and was presented with the prestigious "Meritorious Civilian Service to the Department of the Air Force" award. He is survived by his son Glenn and daughter Cathy. //Obit - Mountcastle Turch Funeral Home//



Soda, Anthony "Tony", 81, passed away May 12, 2018. He served in the USAF from October 24, 1956 to October 31, 1976, working in Military Intelligence. He served 12 years overseas and eight years in the USA. Tony was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 366 of Princeton, lifetime member of the National Association for Uniformed Services, lifetime member of 40 & 8, lifetime member of the

Freedom Through Vigilance Association (USAF Security Service), and he was a retired Enlisted Association Chapter 66 member. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Shirley and children Annette, Wayne, and Anthony. //Obit - Wachholz and Son Funeral Home//



Stewart, Donald “Sam”, CMSgt (ret), 83, passed away May 13, 2018. He enlisted in the USAF and devoted 26 years of his life to service of his country. He retired as a CMSgt in 1981. After retirement he lived a simple life spending time at the lake fishing or with family. He will be remembered as Uncle Sam to his family. //Obit – **Mission Park Funeral Home**//

Robin Merryman notified me CMSgt (Ret) Donald Stewart had passed away and there is a viewing this Friday. //Mike Nielsen//



Stoeffler, Clyde W., 72, passed away March 6, 2018. He joined the USAF and worked as a cryptology/signal intelligence officer and was honorably discharged. //Obit - **Carson McLane Funeral Home**//



Theriot, Jerry J., 85, passed away March 27, 2018. He was a Radio Intercept Operator and obtained the rank of SSGT while in the USAF. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary Lou and children Dena, Trina, Troy, Neal, Sherri, and Marisa. //Obit – **Hargrave Funeral Home**//



Wade, Leonard J., 74, passed away May 31, 2018. He was a veteran who served in Turkey and Okinawa with the USAF Security Service as a Morse Intercept Operator. Leonard was a retired Federal worker, who worked for the National Security Agency in Maryland for 37 years. He is survived by two sons James and Paul. //Obit – **Robert Evans Funeral Home**//



Whitfield, Ernest L., MSgt (ret), 76, passed away Mar 8, 2018. He served 22 years in the USAF and 21 years with the United States Post Office. He is survived by his wife Jeanette and daughters Delores, Michelle, Donna, and Yolanda. //Obit – Dignity Memorial//

Ernest L Whitfield died 8 March 2018. Woody was a 702 during his tour at Brady 1969-1972. //Carol Farr//

I met Ernie, Jeannette and the kids in 1969 at the Hakata Admin Annex Siatozaki, Japan. Ernie and I were assigned to the 6818th Security Squadron, USAFSS. I was a young airman living in the dorm. However, I spent a hold lot of time over at Ernie’s. Ernie became my mentor, my friend and my Best Man at Chikako’s and my wedding. We love you, but the good Lord loves you best. //Ivory White//

C-130 60528 Memorial Ceremony

With the 60th Anniversary of the shoot-down of C-130 60528 over Armenia approaching — the shoot-down occurred on 2 Sept 1958 — the Armenian American community asked me to address the incident to apprise today’s Armenian Americans of this Cold War tragedy. On 9 August 2018, the editor of “The Armenian Mirror-Spectator,” a biweekly news magazine in English, published an article which provides an overview of the incident and the dedication of the C-130 60528 Memorial at NSA, Fort Meade, MD, on 2 September 1997. The article can be found at the following link:

[\(https://mirrorspectator.com/2018/08/09/60th-anniversary-of-shoot-down-of-usaf-aircraft-over-armenia/\)](https://mirrorspectator.com/2018/08/09/60th-anniversary-of-shoot-down-of-usaf-aircraft-over-armenia/)

The Prop Wash Gang will conduct a special 60th Anniversary Memorial Service at its reunion banquet in Bellevue, Nebraska, on Sunday, 2 September 2018.

For more information, please contact Mr. Larry Tart, larrytart80@icloud.com.

Membership Application

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.
HOME PHONE	E-Mail Address (optional)	
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

Inclusive Years of Service: _____ / _____ to _____ / _____ (MM/yyyy) (MM/yyyy)	(Make your check or money order to the: FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION Mail to: P.O. Box 891818, San Antonio, TX 78288-1818.
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Yearly Memberships are \$20.00 Please check one: <input type="checkbox"/> NEW REGULAR MEMBER <input type="checkbox"/> NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER (**see below for description) <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE MEMBERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE
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Age Range for Life Membership Rates	
<input type="checkbox"/> 76 and over	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> 71-75	\$95
<input type="checkbox"/> 66-70	\$115
<input type="checkbox"/> 61-65	\$160
<input type="checkbox"/> 56-60	\$170
<input type="checkbox"/> 51-55	\$185
<input type="checkbox"/> 46-50	\$200
<input type="checkbox"/> 41-45	\$220
<input type="checkbox"/> 36-40	\$235
<input type="checkbox"/> 31-35	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> 30 and under	\$265

Optional information we publish in yearly directory:
Rank/Grade: _____
Retired? Y / N
HAM Call Sign _____
CELL Phone: _____

Last Organization (USAFSS/ ESC / AFIC / AIA / AF ISR Agency)

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The authority to request this information is contained in Public Law 88-38 and Executive Order 12958. The principle purpose of the information is to establish a mailing list for membership rosters containing the name, address and telephone number of all members of the association periodically. Furnishing the information is voluntary; failure to provide the requested information will result in your not being listed. Your signature below* indicates that you have read and understand the above.

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Regular Membership: Former military and civilian personnel of USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, and past or present military and civilian personnel of the AF ISR Agency.

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- (1) Surviving spouse of deceased individual who would qualify as a regular member.
- (2) Vigilant Partner organizations that actively support AF ISR Agency recognition programs.
- (3) DOD personnel (as individually approved by the Board of Directors) who, because of their close association to USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, or AF ISR Agency, perpetuate the objectives of the Association.
- (4) Air Force personnel, assigned to intelligence organizations which are not assigned or attached to the Air Force ISR Agency, who support and perpetuate the objectives of the Association. The Board of Directors may designate persons eligible for membership in this category as individuals, by Air Force specialty, or may designate organizations whose members are eligible as a group.

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THE FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

THE FTVA IS A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT CORPORATION ESTABLISHED IN 1981. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE SUPPORT AND PERPETUATION OF SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND HUMANITARIAN SERVICES FOR THE USAF AND 25TH AIR FORCE.

ALL FORMER AND CURRENT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN MEMBERS OF 25TH AF AND ITS PREDECESSOR COMMANDS OR AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP. SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DECEASED PERSONNEL ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBER STATUS.

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