

Remain In Touch



FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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**THE PRESIDENT'S
CORNER**
By Evan Smith

Happy Holidays!

Hope you all are well and are enjoying the changing seasons. Here in San Antonio, a cold front is pushing in and there's talk of a snowflake or two. It's big news here, really! The seasons aren't the only things changing around here, and I want to use my first note to you all to address some of the big changes we're seeing and to highlight some things that will never change.

First, since I'm penning this article, it means we've said a fond farewell to our most recent *Past President*, Ted Colquhoun. Ted did an amazing job over the past two years steering the FTVA through some sensitive times and treacherous waters. Certainly his chiefly wisdom, and "get the mission done" approach allowed him to keep the organization upright and headed in the right direction. Thanks Ted, for your hard work and dedication! Rest assured his service to the cause isn't over, as I've already got him conducting liaison work with the new 16th AF Command Chief.

Ted concluded his tenure with an excellent series of anniversary events, capped off by the NAF Commander, Lt Gen Haugh, providing the keynote address at the banquet where he expressed his sincere gratitude to the FTVA. That's right, Lieutenant General. Those of you who were able to make the anniversary events this year will recall that he was a Major General as the Commander of 25th Air Force at the time. Today, Lt Gen Haugh is at the helm of the Air Force's new Information Warfare NAF, 16th Air Force, formed by the merging of the former 24th and 25th Air Forces with the mission of getting after all the things that Information Warfare encompasses, including ISR and cyber missions. Yep, another patch change

(Security Service, ESC, AFIC, AIA, AFISRA, 25 AF, 16 AF...and the beat goes on). You're probably aware that there was a lot of heated debate surrounding what the appropriate designation for the new NAF should be. Well, a decision has been made, and off we go into the wild blue yonder.

I thought it would be appropriate to conclude my first article as the FTVA President with the final paragraph of the letter I recently sent to Lt Gen Haugh to thank him for his participation in, and strong support for, all of this year's anniversary events. It pretty much sums up the FTVA Board's position going forward:

“Re-organization within the Air Force, and particularly within the ISR and Cyber enterprise is nothing new, and the FTVA remains committed to honoring the common thread that binds the present to the past, our great Airmen who will most certainly shape the future.”

Your FTVA board is busily working to make the needed administrative updates to our Constitution, By-Laws, website, and Facebook page to reflect our affiliation with the new NAF. The FTVA is the heritage organization for 16th AF and we are opening the aperture for membership to everyone who falls under the NAF umbrella.

In closing, as I write this article heading into Veteran's Day, I want to thank each of you and your families for your personal service and sacrifices through the years, and wish you all good health, happiness, and a joyous holiday season. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or news to share. Please do *Remain in Touch!*

Evan Smith, Lt Col (R), FTVA President

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Dear Readers,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours!

Thanksgiving is now behind us and yes, we all have much to be thankful for. For myself, I am thankful for the FTVA and the

ability it provides for all of us to Remain In Touch! The 3-5 October Annual Reunion here in San Antonio was, and as always is, a perfect example of this. As a result, we compiled and posted to our website a special treat this year *The Reunion Issue*, accessible the same way you access this now-online-only, *RIT Newsletter*. We hope you enjoy the tons of pictures with folks identified and the various coverage of the events from the Golf Tourney to the Banquet and then adding some of the ‘mini-reunions’ and gatherings that we could find out about and who’s POCs provided inputs. As a result, this is a ‘normal’ quarterly issue and I hope you enjoy the read. ***Yeah, yeah we already know that the FTVA logo the front and back ‘covers’ does not yet reflect our recent change to 16th Air Force. We are working on it.*** Now it’s time to enjoy your holidays. Talk to you next year!

Dennis Buxton, Newsletter Editor
Newsletter@ftva.org, 210-627-7586



FTVA HALL OF HONOR

**A.J. Harrison
Hall of Honor Program Chair**

After a moving and memorable 2019 Induction Ceremony on 4 October, it’s time again to turn our attention to seeking nominees for induction into the FTVA Hall of Honor as our 2020 honorees. We all know those special mentors and co-workers who were a ‘cut above’ and deserve recognition. Please contact A.J. Harrison, the FTVA’s Hall of Honor Program Chair, for details and the mechanics involved in making a submission. It’s important that deadlines are met to be considered. More to come later.

And now, a final nod and congratulations to our 2019 honorees.

Radabaugh, Gregory C., SES, DAF (Ret)

Roman, Gregory A., Col, USAF (Ret)

Rasmussen, Dennis L., CMSgt, USAF (Ret)

Bisset, Horace (Joe) F., MSgt, USAF (Ret)

16TH AIR FORCE NEWS

**Compiled by Ken Maynard
Associate Editor**

**12N12 TO STREAMLINE CYBER WEAPON SYSTEMS
TOOLS**

**Adapted from an article by Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann, 16AF (Air Forces
Cyber) Public Affairs / Published October 25, 2019**



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas
— Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) leaders recently launched an initiative to streamline its cyber weapon systems tools.

U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 33rd Network Warfare Squadron conduct cyber operations at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Aug. 27, 2019. The 33rd NWS utilizes a cyber weapon system that employs more than 40 tools and applications. The “12N12” initiative aims to reduce this number to 12 in 12 months. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann)

“12N12,” which launched July 1, aims to replace, reduce and consolidate the tools, systems and applications operators and analysts employ within the cyberspace security and defense mission area to

approximately 12 by July 1, 2020.

“The goal is to reduce the number of applications in our cyber weapon systems, which in some cases are as many as 70, to about a dozen, and do so in 12 months or less,” said Col. Sean Kern, 26th Cyberspace Operations Group commander.

“But this is absolutely not just a technology initiative,” Kern continued.

“It is about our Airmen and our ability to produce a highly trained and ready cyber force that possesses the appropriate tactics, techniques, procedures and tools, to gain and maintain operational access for core missions, and generate desired effects in and through cyberspace.”

According to Steve Barker, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) director of requirements, “12N12” aligns with strategic initiatives focused on simplifying and improving full-spectrum weapon systems using agile methodologies to best prepare for future peer-adversary threats.

“‘12N12’ will reduce the complexity of our systems, allowing Airmen to gain deeper expertise in the tools they use as well as posture our enterprise for future change,” he said.

The end state calls for replacing aged, single-purpose tools with newer, multi-purpose ones.

One antiquated tool among many is the Security Information and Event Management tool.

“The SIEM scrubs through all the data we receive and presents it to the operator in a way that is easier to view,” said Staff Sgt. Trevor Daher, 33rd Network Warfare Squadron cyber operator. “It only allows us to manage the stream of information, and it was put in place in 1999. Of course it has been updated, but it is still a 20-year-old product.”

Some newer tools both manage information and respond to alerts.

“There is a tool called a SOAR, a Security Orchestration and Automated Response tool,” said Daher. “This tool reviews data and can be programmed to respond or react to individual alerts in different ways. You tell it what to do – it sees an alert and executes a checklist for you.”

The prospect of having to master fewer weapon systems tools is an encouraging future for Daher.

“Replacing our old tools with new ones would be amazing,” he said. “These tools have capabilities we don’t currently have. Many of them can automate a decent portion of what we do, allowing us to spend more time investigating more malicious activities.”

Within the cybersecurity arena, time is one factor that separates winners from losers.

“In 18 minutes, 49 seconds a foreign nation-state actor can gain initial access into a victim’s computer before moving laterally throughout its network,” said Kern. “That is our operational urgency, and if we don’t get cybersecurity and defense right, we will lose.”

“We look at an insane amount of data from across the Air Force to determine if something is malicious or not,” said Daher. “We have seen what cyber attacks can do, and the goal is to stop those types of things from happening. To do that, we have to monitor our entire network. These new tools could change everything. Being able to better see data enables other Air Force missions to do what they need to do without cyber interruption.”

“The status quo will not work,” said Kern. “Air Combat Command’s efforts to implement agile methods will be critical to achieving our desired July 1, 2020 end state. “By next year, you can expect to see an Airman sitting at a single console, conducting cybersecurity and defense, and not having to move from system to system to do their job,” said Kern.

AIR FORCE ANNOUNCES NCO CAREER STATUS PROGRAM FOR AIRMEN WITH 12 YEARS OF SERVICE

By SecAF Public Affairs / Published October 30, 2019



Washington — The Air Force announced Oct. 30 it will implement the new Noncommissioned Officer Career Status Program for active duty Airmen, which will affect reenlistment contracts executed on or after Nov. 18.

The change will eliminate the need for Airmen who have 12 or more years of service to continue to reenlist by aligning their separation dates with their high year of tenure dates.

“Career Airmen are consummate professionals who have demonstrated their commitment to service,” said Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. “They play a crucial role in developing the next generation of Airmen. With this adjustment, we’re providing them the associated flexibility to make individualized career decisions.”

Airmen who reenlist under the NCO Career Status Program will follow processes similar to those of officers and will incur active duty service commitments.

The Selective Retention Bonus program will not be impacted by CSP other than a few administrative processing changes. If eligible for an SRB, Airmen electing to accept the bonus--and the associated ADSC--will apply for the SRB via myPers and complete an application electronically. The Air Force’s Personnel Center will identify and notify those Airmen on career status contracts who are eligible for an SRB on a monthly basis.

Like officers, enlisted Airmen may apply for separation prior to their high year of tenure date with an effective date no later than 180 days from the date of request.

“What we are saying to our Airmen is we hear you,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright. “We recognize your commitment to a profession in the Air Force, and we’re going to manage your service commitment in a way that provides you with reduced paperwork and increased efficiency.”

Airmen with 12 years of service who sign a reenlistment contract on or after Nov. 18 will fall under the CSP and that will be their last contract. CSP Airmen will no longer see a date of separation in their records until they are within 12 months of their high year of tenure date. Upon getting promoted, the date of separation for CSP Airmen will automatically be updated to the high year of tenure date of the new rank.

Current high year of tenure lengths of service by rank are:

- 20 years for E-5
- 22 years for E-6
- 24 years for E-7

- 26 years for E-8
- 30 years for E-9

The reenlistment form has also been changed to increase efficiency and reduce errors between the personnel and financial systems.

For more information, visit the [NCO Career Status Program page](#) of the AFPC public website.

**AIR FORCE TRANSITIONS ALL U.S. MILITARY
TREATMENT FACILITIES TO DHA ADMINISTRATION
AND MANAGEMENT**

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs / Published October 30, 2019



FALLS CHURCH, Va. — This October, U.S.-based Air Force military treatment facilities transferred administration and management to the Defense Health Agency.

Congress directed this transfer in the fiscal year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. Establishing an integrated Military Health System will standardize health care delivery and business operations across all military treatment facilities.

“DHA will have responsibility for the administration and management of military treatment facilities operations related to delivering the health care benefit,” said Lt. Gen. Dorothy Hogg, Air Force Surgeon General. “The Air Force Medical Service retains our readiness mission, ensuring Airmen are fit to carry out their mission, and delivering deployable medical assets to meet combatant commander requirements.”

The Air Force is working closely with DHA to ensure a smooth handoff. The impact to patients and those working at military treatment facilities should be minimal. Patients will continue to receive the same high-quality Trusted Care.

U.S. military treatment facilities operated by the Army and Navy also transferred to DHA.

“The Air Force is fully committed to the vision of an integrated system of military health, and making that process as seamless as possible,” said Hogg.

The Air Force will maintain a direct support relationship with DHA to manage day-to-day operations during the transition. Direct support will continue until DHA meets specific conditions-based criteria showing they can manage military treatment facilities on their own.

“This is all about the patient,” said Lt. Gen. Ronald J. Place, Director, DHA. “It’s about harvesting decades of best practices from across the Army, Navy and Air Force—along with what we can learn from the civilian community—to build a global standard with one focus: make our system better to improve health outcomes that matter to our patients.”

The transition of military treatment facilities to DHA is one of many significant transformation efforts underway in the Air Force Medical Service and across the Military Health System.

“These transformation activities provide us an opportunity to really shape the future of the Air Force Medical Service,” said Hogg. “Our core mission continues to be paramount – providing exceptional, high-quality Trusted Care and improving the readiness of our Airmen.”

FIGHTIN’ FIFTY-FIFTH EARNS DOOLITTLE AWARD

Adapted from an article by 55th Wing/PA / Published October 17, 2019

Offutt AFB, Neb. — The 55th Wing was recently named the Air Force Historical Foundation’s Doolittle Award recipient for 2019.

The award was established by the AFHF as a way to recognize a unit that has displayed bravery, determination, discipline, esprit de corps and superior management of joint operations while accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions in multiple conflicts.

The honor is named after aviation pioneer Lt. Gen. James H.

Doolittle, who served in the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. Doolittle earned the Medal of Honor for valor and leadership as commander of the famous Doolittle Raiders.



The 55th Wing was recently named the Air Force Historical Foundation's Doolittle Award recipient for 2019. Col. Gavin Marks, 55th Wing commander, Chief Master Sgt. Brian Thomas, 55th Wing command chief, and five other wing members accept the award from Jonna Doolittle, granddaughter of James Doolittle, at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia Oct. 9, 2019. (Courtesy photo)

“I am overwhelmed and overtaken with joy at the caliber of the team I’ve joined just four months ago,” said Col. Gavin Marks, 55th Wing commander, who accepted the award along with Chief Master Sgt. Brian Thomas, 55th Wing command chief, and five other 55th Wing Airmen at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia Oct. 9, 2019.

In attendance at the AFHF awards banquet directly following the award presentation was the current Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, Gen. David Goldfein, two former chiefs of staff, as

well as Jonna Doolittle, granddaughter of James Doolittle.

“Humbled, honored and grateful,” Thomas said. “It’s not very often you find yourself at an event with the Chief of Staff of the Air Force...and his wife. I’m so grateful our Airmen...had one on one time with them.”

The 55th Wing traces its lineage to the 55th Pursuit Group, constituted on Nov. 20, 1940 and activated on Jan. 15, 1941. Today the Fightin’ Fifty-Fifth is the largest wing in Air Combat Command and the second largest in the Air Force with units spread across the world.

The Fightin’ Fifty-Fifth is just the seventh unit to earn the award, which was established by the AFHF in 2011.

AIR FORCE ENDS PROMOTION TESTING FOR E-7 AND ABOVE

Adapted from an article by SecAF/PA, originally published 04 Feb 19

Arlington, VA (AFNS) — The Air Force announced today it is removing the Weighted Airman Promotion System testing requirement for active-duty promotions to the grades of E-7 through E-9, beginning this fall with the 2019 E-9 promotion cycle.

The memo, signed Jan. 31, 2019, removes the phase one requirement for senior noncommissioned officers to test for promotion, allowing promotion boards to identify the best qualified Airmen to promote into the senior noncommissioned officer corps.

Prior to the policy change, promotions were conducted through a two-phase process. Phase one consisted of a Promotion Fitness Exam and Specialty Knowledge Test, while phase two consisted of a central evaluation board.

“We continue to transform talent management across the force,” said Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. “This adjustment focuses on performance being the driving factor we consider when selecting our senior noncommissioned officers. It also continues our work toward increasing transparency and making our processes simple.”

The Air Force will use a promotion board process similar to the board process used by officers.

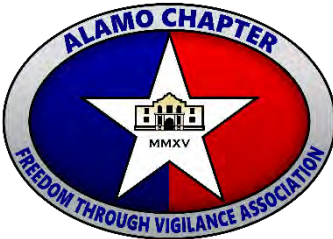
“We trust this board process will continue to give senior leaders and commanders the greatest level of confidence that the right individuals are being selected for promotion to the top enlisted ranks,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright. “We found that removing the testing portion will eliminate any possibility that Airmen without the strongest leadership potential might test into promotion, while also ensuring that our strongest performers continue to earn the promotion they deserve.”

Promotion boards will continue to score records using the current scoring process as well as reviewing the last five years of

evaluations and all awards and decorations. Decoration points will no longer be utilized because the board will be considering all decorations during its review and scoring records accordingly.

FTVA CHAPTER NEWS

Forward your chapter inputs at any time (monthly, weekly or all at once) to William “Bill” Brockmiller, FTVA Board Vice President and current Chapter Liaison WBUSAF@gmail.com.



**Alamo Chapter
San Antonio, TX
Barnie Gavin, President
Ken Maynard Secretary/Treasurer**

The San Antonio (Alamo) Chapter of the FTVA held their monthly meeting at the Saltgrass Restaurant on 19 September 2019. Fellowship and dinner were enjoyed by the 21 members and spouses present. Those attending were:

- Barnie and Judy Gavin
- Doris Bowers
- Vince and Elise Colacicco
- Ken Williams
- Dan Martin
- Dan and Maria Hagy
- Dennis Rassmussen
- Graddie and Theresa Robinson
- Ron and Ardean Weaver

- John Lopes
- Homer and Anne Waring
- Bob and Donna Crabtree
- Darcy Stacey
- Ken Gendolfe

President Bernie Gavin called the meeting to order at 1800 and discussed the upcoming annual anniversary activities set for 3-5 October and some tickets were sold for the banquet. All were reminded that there will not be an October meeting as the annual activities will be in lieu of the need to meet next month. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1830.

November Meeting. After enjoying the festivities during the October FTVA reunion, the Alamo Chapter got back to normal business by meeting on 21 November at the Saltgrass Restaurant. The following folks attended:

- Bernie and Judy Gavin
- Vince and Else Colacicco
- Ken Maynard
- Ken Williams
- Dan Martin
- Dan and Maria Hagy
- Dennis Rassmussen
- Bob and Donna Crabtree
- Alan Daugherty
- Leroy and Hilda Rogers
- Joe Ojeda
- Homer and Anne Waring
- Darby Stacey

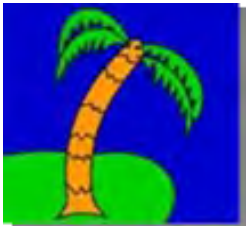
After calling the meeting to order President Gavin led off by thanking Aaron, our waiter, for his hard work. He then introduced

a new member, Joe Ojeda, who Bernie ran into at a local retail store. Joe was wearing a cap with a USAFSS emblem on it. As they talked about "the good old days." they learned that they had been stationed at Brady AS at the same time! Welcome, Joe.

The group decided that there would not be a December meeting.

Dennis Rassmussen told that group that Dave Nabb, a member who had attended past meetings, would not be attending any more meetings as he is now in-home hospice. Dan Hagy mentioned that Sam Watson, a PWGer, is also in-home hospice. We send both Dave and Sam our prayers.

There being no further business, the /meeting was adjourned at 1835.



Aloha Chapter Honolulu, HI

John "Tilly" Toillion, President

The Aloha Chapter held its final 2019 quarterly get together on October 25 at Mililani Ruby Tuesdays, our favorite watering hole.

Attendees were Dickie Hites and grandson Phoenix, Dave Jones, Ken Een, and John Toillion. Unfortunately, Fred Collins couldn't make it as he was in the ICU at Tripler. Thoughts and prayers for Fred.

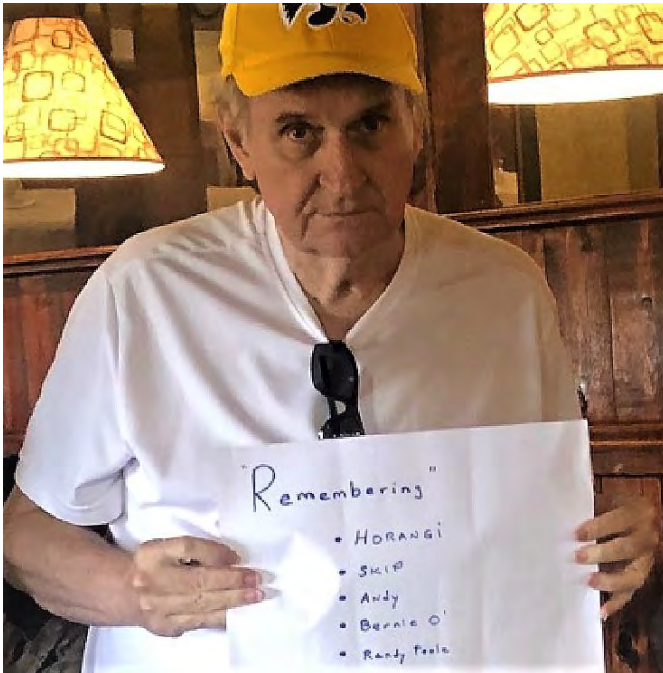
The main topic of discussion was hoping Fred could attend to provide us feedback of his trip to this year's FTVA Reunion. Fred did pass along that the main topics of discussion were the 24/25AF designation (to 16th AF) and concern for declining membership. We also shared war stories and provided individual health updates – we're all glad to have spent this day "above ground vice below."

As always, the palm trees are always swaying and the surf's a pounding for anyone headed this way.

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



Back Row: John Toillion, Dickie Hites and grandson Phoenix; Seated (l-r) Ken Een and Dave Jones



Dickie Hites posting in memory of FTVA and Skivvy Nine legends Terry "Horangi" Tillman, Henry "Skip" Clinton, Robert "Andy" Anderson, Bernard "Bernie" O'Reilly and Randy "Random" Poole. They are missed indeed Dickie, and not forgotten.



Heritage Chapter San Angelo, TX

Ronald 'JJ' Graham, Chapter
President

Submitted by Larry Ross,
Secretary/Treasurer

During the last quarter, the Heritage Chapter usual business meetings were well attended and in addition to the usual items, major upcoming projects include preparing for Veterans Day events, Vietnam Veterans Day pinning ceremonies, and the announcement of an ARDF memorial paver project on Goodfellow.

Social Event. A highlight of the October to December 2019 period was we took time out for some R and R at our quarterly social event on 12 September with 24 members and guests enjoying the evening. Below are some 'happy snaps' of commemorating the occasion.



Master of ceremonies JJ Graham, Heritage Chapter president, guiding the discussion.



Cindy Willey taking notes, we believe.



Pat Miller in deep meditation



Tom Nurre shows the latest introduction video to the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Pinning Ceremony.

At the FTVA Reunion 3-5 October. In San Antonio the Heritage Chapter was well represented at the annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony, the Remembrance Ceremony for fallen comrades, and the picnic by JJ Graham, Ed Bendinelli, Larry Ross, Larry Miller, and Marc Kirner. Since no photographic items were permitted inside headquarters, my camera remained in the car and I neglected to retrieve it. Ergo no photos are available.

Graham, Bendinelli, and Ross attended the annual FTVA meeting, during which JJ gave his annual “state of the chapter” report. He did us proud. I didn’t realize just how active we are in base and community and how much we accomplished. Some notable items the chapter has supported follow:

- **Vietnam War 50th Anniversary committee.** This program continues to honor those who served during the Vietnam War, as well as their family members. We participated in another huge event with the 2nd annual Vietnam Veterans Day pinning ceremony held at Angelo State University. Close to 350 people

attended the ceremony, which seems to be outgrowing the spacious accommodations at ASU.

- **Dogger Representation.** Larry Miller continues to work with the Doggers in presenting bricks from the Hanoi Hilton to various organizations and dignitaries.
- **ROTC Involvement.** In August. JJ was invited by Angelo State University ROTC commander Lt Col Dan Ressler, a career intel officer, to speak with the cadets. He covered numerous topics but did advise them how to get along with enlisted personnel and the importance of supporting organizations like ours.
- **Ray Leftwich Scholarship Foundation.** We continue to support the Ray Leftwich scholarship foundation, founded by Ray Jr and his wife, Kitty. This fund targets high school JROTC students. This is the 3rd year we've facilitated a donation to the fund from the good people of the 6994th Security Squadron association.



On 10 October Ed Bendinelli, on behalf of the 6994th Security Squadron Association, presented Ray and Kitty Leftwich with \$500 check for the Ray Leftwich high school JROTC scholarship fund.

- **Veterans Council.** We play an active role in the Tom Green County all-veterans council. This has been a good forum to get the word out on the Vietnam War commemoration activities and has allowed us an opportunity to contribute to numerous veterans and community events: Memorial Day ceremony at the county courthouse, Veterans Day parade.

In Memoriam. And sadly, we at the Heritage Chapter list in memory the many good friends we lost in 2019.

Mrs. Janet “Jan” Vogt (wife of “Buck” Vogt) – 10 April

CMSgt (Ret) Carl “Woody” Woods – 12 April

(USAFSS Veteran) Eddie Everidge – 17 April

Maj (Ret) Terrence “Terry” Giroux – 5 June

(USAFSS Veteran) Robert “Bob” Becknell – 9 June

MSgt (Ret) Charles “Bud” Amburn – 14 July

CMSgt (Ret) Norman Payne – 20 August

SMSgt (Ret) John Stapchuck – 26 August

TSgt (Ret) Andrew “Andy” Dove – 30 August

SMSgt (Ret) Richard “Corky” Bingham – 1 October



Wasatch Chapter Salt Lake City, UT Scott Lawson, President

The FTVA Wasatch Chapter met at the Republican Irish Pub in Salt Lake City and the Garage Grill in Draper in September and October, respectively. We're taking a break for the holidays for the rest of the year. Two highlight events this quarter was our support for the Utah Down Syndrome Foundation and the shipping of the last remaining SENIOR SCOUT shelter.

We've adopted the annual Utah Down Syndrome Foundation Metro Buddy Walk and "Team Markus" as one of our Chapter activities to support the local community. Markus is the son of one of our own members, Shawn and Jen Heckman. We had a great showing of Wasatch Chapter and family members helping raise over \$1,000 for Team Markus.



Jen, Shawn, and Markus (on Shawn's shoulders), Nick and Katherine Heckman (holding sign), Dawn Hubert, Nick Batura, Scott, Angela and Audrey Lawson, Eric and Lindsey Rasmussen

In October, 169 IS members bid a final farewell to the last remaining SENIOR SCOUT shelter as it made its way from Roland R. Wright Air National Guard Base, Salt Lake City to the National Cryptologic Museum in Maryland. This is a partial shelter that has been cut in half and stored on the base since the system was decommissioned in 2014. The National Cryptologic Museum will store the shelter in Maryland until their new facility is constructed in the next few years. As part of their new facility, they have plans to build a dedicated display with our shelter to preserve a piece representing this important ISR platform. Special thanks to the FTVA for sponsoring the movement.



Members of the 169 IS take a final look inside the SENIOR SCOUT shelter.



COMFY POSITIONS. Former 169 IS members Jeff Kennicott and Shawn Heckman try out their old seats one last time.



Like a well-travelled world-traveler's luggage, the SENIOR SCOUT is adorned with stickers commemorating the exotic and not so exotic places travelled and missions completed.



Col Troy Drennan, 151 ISRG/CC remarks on the important role SENIOR SCOUT played in the unit's history



Current and former 169 IS members. CMSgt Scott Decker, Maj Jonathan Swinarski, CMSgt (Ret) Jeff Kennicott, Col Troy Drennan, MSgt Greg Allred, MSgt Page McGinnis, CMSgt (Ret) Cody Langille, MSgt Justin Allred, MSgt Jamie Phair, MSgt Travis Williams, TSgt (Ret) Shawn Heckman



Final salute before the shelter begins its last journey

Finally, we continue to invite you to connect with us on Slack (slack.com). We've created a workspace for the FTVA organization at large and have all the chapter presidents and officers added, we're just waiting for you to join us. It's very flexible, easy to use and provides a great way to "Remain in Touch" with FTVA members near and far. The more members we can get on the platform, the more active and productive we can all be in promoting our FTVA. Please follow the link in this newsletter and contact Scott Lawson at lawson.scott1@gmail.com or Roy Burnett at rebyells@gmail.com if you need help.



Rocky Mountain Chapter Colorado Springs, CO

George “Ike” Eichelberger, President

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229888673742365/>

2019 Annual Report

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Freedom Through Vigilance Association continues to focus on our shared community of Air Force intelligence experiences and the bonds of fraternal comradery. As the 2019 year comes to an end, the Chapter continues to hold “monthly” meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at Rhinos Sports Bar in Colorado Springs. In addition to our monthly meetings, the RMC agreed to become a sponsoring entity as part of the National Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Association; and as such, we agree to sponsor at least two events a year in recognition of Vietnam Veterans.

The following is a month-by-month review of our Chapter activities starting with October 2018, following the Annual Reunion in September 2018.

October 10, 2018

The monthly FTVA Rocky Mountain Chapter meeting held today



as scheduled, despite a brief hint of winter showing up earlier in the day. Those attending were Stan Cook, Ike Eichelberger, Chuck Maerten, Ron Polomsky, Greg Roman, and Jeff Waldeck. *Of note,*

we did some back of the napkin math and figured out that we had a combined 84 years of service in USAFSS/ESC/AFIC/AIA/AFISRA/25AF between us.

- Ike filled us in on some of the annual FTVA gathering in San Antonio. First off, a BIG congratulations to this year's four Hall of Honor inductees; well-deserved by all! Secondly, it appeared that our own Chapter received some attention for providing the longest (11 pages!), most detailed FTVA Chapter write-up.
- Having a hardcopy of the FTVA "Remain In Touch" newsletter is becoming cost prohibitive. Would you rather have a color version e-mailed to you or receive the black-and-white hardcopy version? A poll of the attending RMC members indicated they would opt for the e-mailed version. This result will be forwarded to the FTVA staff, and the change wouldn't happen overnight.
- Payment of annual FTVA dues is also an issue. The FTVA board is looking into setting up a PayPal account so that we can send our payment(s) electronically. There are other peculiarities with this issue that will be worked by the FTVA.
- Ike suggested the RMC invest \$40 in FTVA dues for two members of the local 544ISRG. We've tried many times to get the 544th interested in our FTVA RMC mission, with limited success. This is in hopes that they will be able to observe our activities and how we can support the 544th recognition programs.
- Greg mentioned the proposed opening date of the new "Rhino's Ranch" on 29 October. It will have rooms for meetings and private get-togethers. Something to look forward to!
- A suggestion was put forward at last month's meeting about changing the date and/or time for our monthly meeting. A temporary change for our next meeting is as follows:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 6PM, Rhino's.

After almost two hours, the meeting was adjourned, and we all climbed aboard our dog sleds for the long cold trip home!

November 14, 2018

Our monthly FTVA RMC meeting today was attended by Stan Cook, Dennis Daniels, Ike Eichelberger, and Jeff Waldeck.

- With unanimous approval, we elected to change our Facebook banner photo to the first attached picture. We will send it to HQ FTVA for inclusion in our write-ups for the Remain In Touch publication.
- Also with regards to the RIT, we will submit a change for website association from a defunct website to our real Facebook address.
- Vietnam Commemorative Pinning certificates that were not available at the USAFSS Roll Call reunion are still being worked on; they will be in the mail soon.
- Ike says its election time for our RMC Board members. Nominations and donations will be discussed at our December meeting; elections will be in January.
- Another vote was taken tonight, and we didn't need a manual recount of hanging chads. For the rest of the Winter months, our monthly meetings will be on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of the month, still at 6PM at Rhino's.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 12, 6PM, at Rhinos

December 12, 2018

Well today's meeting went as scheduled and relatively uneventful. Those that were able to attend were Stan Cook, Greg Roman, and Jeff Waldeck.

- Our monthly meetings will remain on the Wednesday schedule for the next few months. Please keep that in mind.
- Greg mentioned he has been contacted by Jim Knaus Sr of the USAFSS Roll Call group. Jim has approximately 100 Vietnam veterans to be recognized at an upcoming USAFSS Roll Call event in St Augustine, FL in January 2019. Jim expressed his appreciation of the support received by some members of the FTVA RMC during their July 2018 reunion here in Colorado Springs. Further discussions will be needed for this short-notice event.
- If your FTVA dues are current, your name should appear in the FTVA directory published yearly.

- Because only three RMC members were present today, the nominations for new board members has been delayed until the January 2019 meeting.

Our next RMC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan 9, 2019 at Rhino's at 6PM. Would be nice to see all your smiling faces there all rested and recuperated after the holidays!

January 9, 2019

We held our monthly FTVA RMC meeting today as scheduled. In attendance were Dennis Daniels, Mike Rogers, and Jeff Waldeck. I received late notification that Ike and Greg were stuck in Denver traffic, so we bravely soldiered on. I knew as soon as "Mr. Rogers" walked in all would be fine in the neighborhood. Some Chapter business was actually discussed, so the meeting wasn't a total loss. It wasn't what you would call one of those "Doink Doink" field goals! Of course, we spent some time (like 45 minutes!) reminiscing on old times (hope some ears were burning).

Now that Mike Rogers is retired-retired, he said he has a few former coworkers he will try to recruit to attend an upcoming meeting.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 13 Feb, 6PM, at Rhinos.

February 13, 2019

Today's FTVA RMC meeting was attended by Dennis Daniels, George Ike Eichelberger, Chuck Maerten, and Jeff Waldeck. We were able to catch up on some old business, and lay the foundation for possible new business. Most of the new business will be discussed in future meetings, hopefully with more members present. Unfortunately, a major power outage in the area, did affect traffic lights and even power at Rhinos this evening.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th at 6PM.

March 13, 2019

Unfortunately, Old Man Winter still had some gas in the tank, and an untimely storm caused us to cancel tonight's meeting due to blizzard conditions in the Pike's Peak Region. We'll shoot for April and hope its just showers we have to deal with then!

April 10, 2019

Take that, Momma Nature! You and your projected 4-8 inches of wind-driven snow couldn't keep this group of Cold Warriors from another scheduled FTVA RMC meeting again. Stan Cook, Dennis Daniels, Ike Eichelberger, and Jeff Waldeck took to the empty streets, alone, unarmed, and unafraid to face the ferocious flakes of



fluffiness. Meanwhile, while we observed an occasional flake float past the window, we actually discussed some hot topics of the day, and a few from the past.

Ike pulled up an e-mail concerning future on-line distribution of the Remain In Touch publication. This will be something we can discuss at future meetings when more details become available.

After refilling the fuel tanks, it was time to brave the non-existent blizzard after setting a date for our next meeting.

Guess what? We're moving back to Tuesdays! Our next RMC meeting will at 6PM at Rhino's, but on 7 May; that's a TUESDAY. Make sure to mark your calendar: TUESDAY 7 May!

May 8, 2019

Yes, we did have an RMC meeting Tuesday at Rhino's. Stan Cook, Greg Roman, and Jeff Waldeck were there to talk about a few topics.

- 24AF/25AF merger. Greg provided much in-depth information with this topic, and how it might affect our USAFSS/ESC/AFIC/AIA/AFISRA/25AF history, and specifically the FTVA. This appears to be an issue wide open to interpretation, but it's nice to actually hear it from varying levels as to the perceived actual status. As this report goes out, the last line says: #MTF.
- Was also hoping to hear from Dennis Daniels on the latest update on contacting local veteran's homes that might be interested in hosting a Vietnam Veterans Commemorative pinning event. Again, this will wait until next meeting.
- Between the 2.5 of us today (I wasn't completely there), we talked about having another summer outing like we did last year (last year was Top Golf in Centennial). Just think about ideas for this year at our next meeting.

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, 11 June, 6PM at Rhino's.

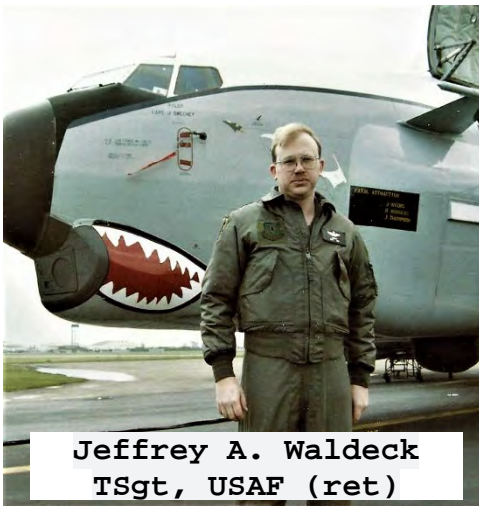
June 11, 2019

We had our monthly RMC meeting tonight at Rhino's. Stan Cook, Greg Roman, Rick Osmun, Mike Click and yours truly, Ike Eichelberger, were on hand catch up on all the FTVA news that's fit to print. Noticeably absent this evening was one of our stalwart regulars, Jeff Waldeck. (more on that later.)

- First order of business was the finance report from Greg Roman. After showing off his new Rolex, he assured us that we still had money in our account and could still plan on a burger burn later this Summer. Actually, I think he said we could afford to do smores.
- Following Greg's report, we discussed our next involvement with the Vietnam Veterans Commemoration in conjunction with USAFSS Roll Call. It looks like 24 Aug in Wash D.C. If everything goes well, we may have another 10-15 Vets to recognize for their service during the Vietnam era.
- The merger between 24th and 25th Air Forces looks to be on track for later this Summer. Although the official announcement

is expected following Corona (the 4-star kind, not the beach refreshment) there are indications that the lineage and heritage from previous ISR and Cyber commands will be preserved. There are a lot of folks who have worked behind the scenes on this issue and we say thank you!

- With Summer travel plans now in full-swing, we decided to skip July and hold our next Rocky Mountain Chapter event in August. Details are still being worked, but we discussed a social get together, possibly on a weekend. Stay tuned for more details.
- Finally, I mentioned that Jeff Waldeck, who always does such a great job recording the RMC comings and goings; couldn't be with us this evening. Jeff is currently undergoing a little R&R in one of our finest local health care establishments. I visited him after the meeting and although he was slurring his words a little (and he wasn't even at Rhinos!!) he did look pretty good and we hope that Jeff is back on his feet soon and back with us for the August shindig.
- NOTAM from RMC Chapter President: On the evening of 11 Jun, as I mentioned in the above meeting minutes, I stopped by one of our local hospitals to visit with Jeff Waldeck. Little did we know at that time, that in just 13 days, Jeff would quietly slip the



surly bonds of Earth for the last time. On the evening of 24 Jun, I passed along the following: To those who have been following the pretty fast-moving demise of our brother Jeff Waldeck, it is with sadness that I inform you that Jeff passed away this afternoon with close family by his bedside. Unbeknownst to even those of us who saw him on a monthly basis at our FTVA

meetings, Jeff had been fighting both liver and lung cancer. Plans are still being made by his family, but I believe there will be a small



FTVA Brothers (l-r) Mick Click, Yiming tung, John Hill, Dennis Daniels, Stand Cook, Ike Eichelberger, Joe Breedlove and Greg Roman. All came to pay our respects to Jeff Waldeck.

service in Colorado Springs followed by internment in a family plot in Traverse City, MI. Jeffrey A. Waldeck, TSgt, USAF (ret) proudly served as an Airborne Cryptologic Linguist for the better part of his 20-year Air Force career. Please continue to remember his family in your prayers.

A Celebration of Life Service for Jeff Waldeck was held at the USAFA Prep School Chapel on 28 Jun 2019. The

Hospice Chaplin officiated and Ike Eichelberger provided the eulogy.

July 9, 2019

Sorry for the late notice. Obviously, we feel the loss of Jeff in more ways than one. There is no scheduled meeting in July for FTVA due to vacation holidays.

August 13, 2019

While the RMC did meet this evening, we did not conduct any business; instead, we spent the evening toasting the memory of our fallen comrade Jeff Waldeck. For the past 5 years, Jeff also served as the recording secretary of the FTVA Rocky Mountain Chapter, he will be sorely missed.

September 2019

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to cancel the September RMC meeting. Commitments had Roman and Eichelberger unavailable and other than a report on the Roll Call recognition ceremony, we did not have any new business. We'll look forward to the October meeting when we receive a report from the Annual FTVA reunion in SATX along with the Hall of Honor recognition ceremony.

October 16, 2019

Tonight, Greg Roman gave us a report from the Annual FTVA reunion. We were especially interested in hearing about the Hall of Honor induction ceremony and our own Greg Roman's inclusion in this year's honorees. Congratulations Greg, we are proud of your service and proud to have served with you!

Just a reminder that our monthly meetings are changing once again...this time to the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm.

November 20, 2019

We held our monthly RMC Chapter meeting with five of our regulars in attendance: Mike Click, Stan Cook, Dennis Daniels, Greg Roman and Ike Eichelberger

- Given the festive mood everyone was in, we agreed that our December meeting would also serve as our Holiday party. The date is set for Dec 18, 2019 at our regular 6pm start and spouses are invited to attend as well.
- We discussed hold chapter elections during the next meeting, but will probably wait until the January meeting.
- Greg discussed supporting the Roll Call Vietnam ceremonial pinning ceremony at the FTVA San Antonio annual reunion in September. We tentatively agreed to support this event and Greg will work more closely with the Roll Call team.
- Talked about the Hall of Honor and remembrance ceremonies and what impact will happen with 16th AF standup. At this point, we believe that the ISR heraldry will remain in some fashion but details are not known at this time.

As 2019 comes to a close, we are mindful of our shared heritage and the importance of the people we have served with, in defense of our great Nation. To all of our Bothers and Sisters who have served in Silence, we salute you.

REUNION REPORTS

Larry Tart's PMFR Prop Wash Gang

Here's my promised Post Mission Flight Report, which will be brief inasmuch as I am under the gun to "get it together" so Diane and I can be on the road — bound for Destin, Florida — on Thursday, 17 October.

The extended weekend in San Antonio (2-7 October) turned out to be one of my busiest (and most enjoyable) reunions. After a breather on Thursday (3 Oct), I completed my primary mission on Thursday (4 Oct) (escorted Zaida Bissett) during the induction of her husband (and my long-time friend) Retired MSgt Joe Bissett into the FTVA Hall of Honor — this was an honor for Joe that was long overdue. Congratulations again, Joe. Congratulations also to the three other HOH inductees (Retired Lt Col. and SES Greg Radabaugh, Retired Col. Greg Roman, and Retired CMSgt Dennis Rasmussen).

Following the HOH Induction Ceremony, we rushed outside and gathered in front of the EC-47 Memorial in the Building 2000 parking lot for the annual Remembrance Ceremony, where we paid our respect to AF ISR members who had passed away since last year's FTVA Remembrance Ceremony. Then it was on to Stapleton Park on Security Hill for a couple of hours of camaraderie with old-time friends, many of whom I had not seen in decades. I had the honor of riding to Security Hill with Jerry and Terry Ellis, and we arrived back at our PWG reunion HQ (Holiday Inn Express on E. Commerce in downtown) in time to refresh and make our way to the Casa Rio Restaurant on San Antonio's Riverwalk for our PWG reunion banquet. Our guest speaker, Retired AF CMSgt Mike Meermans, spoke on an interesting topic — the "sausage-making process" that takes place within the US House of Representatives

and the Senate annually to create and produce the fiscal year's military ISR budget. Mike was a key member on the House Select Committee that dealt with ISR budgeting for a couple of decades and his imprint exists on many related bills that our US presidents signed into law. After a busy, busy Friday, most PWGers retired early (we seniors simply are not able to keep the pace that we endured a couple of decades ago! 😊)

I did not attend the FTVA Board of Directors annual meeting on Saturday morning (6 Oct), but Saturday night brought more of the hustle and bustle, with the FTVA banquet at the Gateway Club on Lackland AFB, where the four HOH Inductees, accompanied by family and friends, were honored again. The banquet ended with 25th AF commander Maj Gen. Timothy Haugh providing an interesting presentation on the evolution of the United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS) to ESC, AFIC, AIA, AFISRA, 25th AF, and soon to be the newly created 16th Air Force — The 16th AF will combine the AF ISR mission of 25th AF and the Cyber mission of 24th AF. Being promoted to Lieutenant General, Haugh will become the first 16th AF commander.

At the conclusion of his presentation at the banquet, I surprised General Haugh on behalf of the Prop Wash Gang with the presentation to 25th Air Force of a shadowbox containing a fragment of C-130 60528, which Soviet MiG pilots had shot down 61 years ago (2 Sept 1958), after 528's crew inadvertently flew into denied airspace over Armenia. Seventeen of our AF brothers perished when their plane crashed in the edge of the village of Sashasnen, some 55 KM northwest of Yerevan. Of related interest, Armenian-American priest, Fr. Vazken Movsesian, dedicated the Sashasnen Youth Center in Talin, Armenia, (10 KM from Sashasnen village) at a Memorial Service on 29 September 2019. Keeping the memory of our 17 lost 60528 front and center, the Prop Wash Gang provided Fr. Vazken a special shadowbox with a piece of 528 debris that a team of USAFSS veterans headed by former ESC commander Maj Gen. Paul Martin recovered from the crash site in July 1997. The team of retired AF vets included Mike Patterson, Horace "Red" Haire and Larry Tart, plus Armenia Martin Kakosian — Kakosian, who later became a noted Armenian Sculptor, had witnessed the shoot-down in 1958. He served as our translator and tour guide

during the trek to the crash site in '97. In the [PMFR that Fr. Vazken filed with the Western Diocese, Armenian Church of North America](#) (and shared with me), he addressed the dedication of the Sasnashen Youth Center. Now, back to the conclusion of my PMFR on PWG and FTVA reunion activities in SAT, 3-6 October 2019.

The Prop Wash Gang concluded its 2019 reunion with a picnic in Brackenridge Park in downtown San Antonio. A BBQ buffet catered by Smoke Shack provided outstanding food, and our guest speaker, Air Force CMSgt Rob Harrison, gave a first hand, spellbinding accounting of the [heroics of AF MSgt John A. Chapman in March 2002 during the Battle of Takur Ghar in Afghanistan](#). Chapman was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on 22 Aug 2018, the first airman to receive the MOH since the Vietnam War. RIP MSgt John A. Chapman!!!

In concluding this PMFR, I refer you to our Prop Wash Gang webmaster [Jon Gwinn's photo album covering our 2019 reunion activities](#). Jon's 2019 reunion photo album is a work in progress, so you might want to visit the album again later when he has had time to tweak it. As for myself, tomorrow it is back to the salt mines as I complete packing and loading the ole Odyssey for our trip south on Thursday.

In Brotherhood,

Larry Tart

EC47 News

Submitted by Tom Nurre & Joe Martin

Website Managers

Newsletter December 2019

**[http://www.ec47.com/storage/UserFileFolder/December 2019
Final.pdf](http://www.ec47.com/storage/UserFileFolder/December_2019_Final.pdf)**

Hello everyone. Merry Christmas and best wishes for a great new year 2020.

Lots going on...but will try to catch you up on the news...and get future Newsletters back on a more frequent schedule.

The big news is that the EC-47 Memorial Plaza paver project is now open for your orders. This program is a little different in that the pavers are permanently installed in the ground in a design developed by the Goodfellow AFB Civil Engineering architect. The pavers are 4x8 and 8x8 inches, each having an indent molded into the substrate for bronze plates. The plates are engraved with your inscription and then mounted in the pavers with industrial adhesive during an annual dedication ceremony. That first ceremony is being organized for Vietnam War Veterans Day, Sunday, March 29, 2020.

There are a total of about 1,000 pavers evenly divided between the two sizes. There is a paver article in the Newsletter...and full details on the ec47.com Commemoration website: www.vietnam50thcpp.com

Thanks for staying in touch.

**REUNION
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Please submit your reunion
announcements and post-reunion
write ups for publication here in
your *Remain In Touch* Newsletter
Include plenty of photos. (with the
names of those depicted).**

**If in doubt on what and how to
submit, please contact Dennis
Buxton, Newsletter Editor, at
newsletter@ftva.org
or call 210-627-7586.**

**FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION
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December 2019**



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(IMO Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)
Prop Wash Gang
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**Thank You,
Vigilant Partners,
For Your Caring Support!**

<h1>CHATTER ROLL</h1>

The following is a selected list of folks taking that extra step to *Remain In Touch* by signing in to the FTVA Website (www.ftva.org) in the past few months.

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: besker@mac.com
 First Name: William
 Last Name: Esker
 Unit: HQ ESC
 Comment: Hello to old friends at HQ ESC, 6913th, 6911th, & 6948th -BILLE

-----Tear Line-----

Mail address: eemath1@verizon.net
 First Name: Ed
 Last Name: Mathias
 Unit: USAFSS

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Fisher
 First Name - Gary
 Email - gkfisher@charter.net
 Comments - I'm trying to determine the succession of USAFSS. I was assigned to the 6933rd SW in the 1960's. I see through its lineage that it is now the 33rd NWS and is part of the 16AF. Looking at the commands in the 16AF, it looks like most of the assets from USAFSS and successor commands have transferred to the 16AF, but the two reunions I went to were hosted by the 25th AF and the FTVA newsletter lists the 25th as a successor command. What is the lineage of USAF in relation to the 25th AF and 16th AF.
 Gary Fisher

Response: Hello. It goes USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA, AFISRA, 25 AF, now 16 AF. 16 AF was formed from a merger of 24 AF and 25 AF. Hope this helps.

I believe the NWS was under one of the Network Warfare Wings under 24 AF prior to 16 AF standing up recently.

Hope this helps, Evan (FTVA president).

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: mikehv2002@yahoo.com

First Name: Mike

Last Name: Volk

Unit: 6987th Security Grp and 69202

Comment: 20250-----Turkey and Taiwan

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Mrak

First Name - Steve

Email - mrakgolf@aol.com

Comments - We are trying to form a small group of senior officers in the San Antonio area, and I have been tasked with finding local area members. Please send me a current listing. I would normally wait for the regular mailing, but as we age waiting seems to be bothering my associates. 16th AF seems a long way from the days of ditty bops.

Steve

Date - 31-Oct-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: mchartrand@outlook.com

First Name: Micheal

Last Name: Chartrand

Unit: 6903d ESG

Comment: Skivvy Nine Charlie Flight, Flight Commander, 1984-1985

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Dowdey

First Name - John

Email - jddowdey1@gmail.com

Comments - moved some time back but did not update my info. I am a life member and updated info as follows: (Editor: Col Dowdey's physical address and phone number have been deleted for

privacy purposes). Pls put me on update lists (hard copy and email).
Tks.

Date - 25-Oct-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: jy1355@aol.com

First Name: John

Last Name: Yeager

Unit: 6987th Scty Gp

Comment: Also served at TUSLOG Det 94 (Charlie Flight) and had a TDY at 6921st Scty Gp. Graduated from Goodfellow in 1969.

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: popper_@yahoo.com

First Name: Peter

Last Name: Opper

Unit: 6924 Security Squadron

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Pleak

First Name - Bob

Email - n7ood247@gmail.com

Comments - Please send updated email/membership list.

Date - 12-Oct-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: ronsbartlett@gmail.com

First Name: Ronald

Last Name: Bartlett

Unit: AFIC Liaison to HQ SAC

Comment: 2025x as A1C in 1969-70 in Spec Comm Center 6922ESS Ops and Commander 1984-87 FT Meade 1992-1995

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: barryivey4@yahoo.com

First Name: ray

Last Name: ivey

Unit: 6921 SW, 6994th SS

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: ltesch29@new.rr.com

First Name: Lee

Last Name: Tesch

Unit: 6981st RGM

Comment: I am very proud of my time spent in USAFSS. I am looking to see if any of my trick mates are here.

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Jackson
First Name - Grover
Email - grover.jackson1940@gmail.com
Comments - 16th AF Activation date?
Date - 06-Oct-19

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Hagy
First Name - Dan
Email - corridorghost@gvtc.com
Comments - While reviewing info on an old friend on the Fallen Eagles list - Carl Schunk - I discovered that his history is incomplete. While he was a Yugo linguist at Brindisi, and perhaps Goodfellow, he was primarily a German linguist at Rhein Main, Hof, Offutt, and Berlin-Teufelsberg. Thanks, Dan Hagy, SMSgt, USAF Retired

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Guthrie
First Name - Robert
Email - ragu_guthrie@yahoo.com
Date - 06-Oct-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: lljwake@yahoo.com
First Name: Lloyd
Last Name: Wakeland
Unit: 6940TTWg
Comment: Went on recruiting at Chicago IL in 1966 and spent last year of service at Det 1, 5th AF, Osan AB, Korea in AFSSO Office.

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: embirtciljr@sbcglobal.net
First Name: Edd
Last Name: Birtcil Jr
Unit: 6917 and 6960
Comment: R29252 Baker Flt 1964-66 @ the 6917th RGM. Honorable Discharge 6-1967 I live in Chico where I was born and raised. 530-228-6067. Retired from teaching and racing but active on Facebook. I enjoy cars and local history.

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: flogger38@comcast.net

First Name: Phil

Last Name: Thompson

Unit: Commander, 6931 Electronic Security Sqdn.

Comment: I often think of my time in Pakistan (64-5), Danang (66-7), Frankfurt (70-2) and Crete (76-8) and how fortunate I was to be surrounded by such talented NCOs and airmen. I have never met better people.

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: lkbaileylkbailey@aol.com

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Bailey

Unit: AIA

Country: United States

Comment: 6964th, 6900th and 690th from 1991 to 1997 (B2000). 1997-2011 (B2007 across the courtyard) in Joint world (JEW/C/JC2WC/JIOC etc.)

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: logcabin407andgvtc.com

First Name: louis

Last Name: palmeri

Unit: ESC

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Gilmore

First Name - Timothy

Email - tmgilmore1950@hotmail.com

Date - 16-Sep-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: dtramontana@satx.rr.com

First Name: David

Last Name: Tramontana

Unit: HQ AIA/LG

Comment: The former MSgt T

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: telferlee@yahoo.com

First Name: LEE

Last Name: TELFER

Unit: HQ ESC INSBC -1991

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: jbaskin@hotmail.com
First Name: Joseph
Last Name: Baskin
Unit: 6903 ESG 1983

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: sucikr@yahoo.com
First Name: Richard
Last Name: Sucik
Unit: AFIC NCOA, Goodfellow AFB, TX

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: michaelcurtin@aol.com
First Name: Michael
Last Name: Curtin
Unit: 6944th Offutt AFB 81-84
Comment: USAFSS/ESC 1963-1984 6985th Eielson 65-67 Det
1,6985th RAF Upper Heyford 67-69 6988th Yokota AB 70-71
6990th Kadena AB 71-74 6949th Offutt AFB 74-78 6954th/6988th
RAF Mildenhall 78-81 6949th/6944th Offutt AFB 81-84

-----Tear Line-----

Last Name - Borden
First Name - Kenneth
Email - kba125@gmail.com
Comments - I have a new e-mail address. Please the (update) the
latest e-mail list.
Unit: USAFSS 6901st SCG
Date - 10-Sep-19

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: donsmith38@charter.net
First Name: DONALD
Last Name: SMITH
Unit: 6960th
Comment: USAFSS 1957-61 6960th Sep 57 - Aug 58 6937th Comm
Flt (Project Sandbag) Sep 58 - Aug 59 6960th Sep 59 - Jan 61

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: adforbe@bellsouth.net
First Name: Alan
Last Name: Forbes
Unit: usafss/esc
Comment: USAFSS/ESC 1959 -1979

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: rfc2k@sbcglobal.net
 First Name: Bob
 Last Name: Cotti
 Unit: 6944th Security Wing

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: XDVET@SUDDENLINK.NET
 First Name: DAVID
 Last Name: BUSH
 Unit: Phu Cat
 Comment: St. Lawrence, Berlin, Trabzon, Crete, Peshawar, San Vito, Goodfellow, Nha Trang, Phu Cat

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: davmcsr@gmail.com
 First Name: David
 Last Name: McSpadden
 Unit: 6948th, Medina AFB, TX

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: Darrellwagner1@gmail.com
 First Name: Darrell
 Last Name: Wagner
 Unit: AIA
 Comment: I served in AIA as the Comptroller and Financial Manager of AIA from 2000 to 2003.

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: SKYKING93@VERIZON.NET
 First Name: PAUL
 Last Name: CHRISTIAN
 Unit: 6927th RSM OKINAWA

-----Tear Line-----
 E-Mail address: casautex@swbell.net
 First Name: Charles
 Last Name: Simpson

-----Tear Line-----
 Last Name - Stross
 First Name - Frank
 Email - fcsjr21@gmail.com
 Date - 10-Sep-19

-----Tear Line-----
 49

E-Mail address: jc57bc47@aol.com
First Name: Bruce
Last Name: Calkins
Unit: ESC

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: stanjbass@msn.com
First Name: Stan
Last Name: Bass
Unit: AFSCC Kelly AFB

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: tomcrowley21@gmail.com
First Name: Tom
Last Name: Crowley
Unit: 6940th TTWg Goodfellow AFB

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: amanaker@earthlink.net
First Name: Philip A.
Last Name: Manaker
Unit: Manaker

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: Uunknown90@yahoo.com
First Name: Ralph
Last Name: Ortiz
Unit: USAFSS, ESC, AFIC, AIA
Comment: 292X2, 207X2, 20799, 1N200 2 tours Turkey, 2 tours Crete, 2 tours NSA, 2 tours Medina annex, 2 tours Security Hill, one tour Bolling AFB, one tour MacDill AFB. CMSgt/Retired

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: besker@mac.com
First Name: William
Last Name: Esker
Unit: Hq ESC
Country: USA
Comment: Hello to old friends at HQ ESC, 6913th, 6911th, & 6948th -Bill

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: grandturk1880@gmail.com
First Name: Rob
Last Name: Buchanan

Unit: 6987th Security Group

-----Tear Line-----

From: Carl Leonard Nevin <carllenevin2@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Remain In Touch Reunion Newsletter

To: <membersupport@ftva.us>

Thank you very much for your newsletter. I did get to see a photo of a past roommate. I had thought that he had passed on. I'll send him an email right away. Best wishes for you and your efforts.

Carl L. Nevin

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: mrkellis@att.net

First Name: Mark

Last Name: Ellis

Unit: Ellis

Comment: 6960th SPS. 81-83

-----Tear Line-----

E-Mail address: abagwell@sbcglobal.net

First Name: Alvis

Last Name: Bagwell

Unit: 6994th 67 6948th USNS Vandenberg

Comment: Served at TSN from 1967 to 1970 in the OPS Comm.

Returned to the 6948th and served aboard USNS Vandenberg TDY



FALLEN EAGLES
 Compiled by Joe Figueroa,
 Associate Editor



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

-----Tear Line-----

- Abernathy, James, A1C, USAFSS
- Bingham, Richard “Corky”, SMgt (ret), USAFSS **FTVA Member****
- Bormann, Danny J., Sgt, USAFSS
- Boutin, Donald R., Lt Col (ret), USAFSS
- Casciano, John P., Maj Gen (ret), **Former AIA Commander, FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Cassidy, Michael S., Col (ret), USAFSS **FTVA Member****
- Chamness, Charles G., A1C, USAFSS
- Davis, John R., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Dove, Andrew, TSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Member****
- Gale, Eric K., SMSgt (ret), USAF
- Giroux, Terrence E., Maj (ret), USAFSS
- Hawley, Daniel R., TSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Hedges, Gordon, H., MSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Kosinski, Wallace, J., A1C, USAFSS
- Kuckelman, Karl F., SMSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Legenza, Rudolph J., Sgt, USAFSS

- Lombardi, Donato A., Lt Col (ret), USAFSS
- McGuirt, James W., USAFSS
- Ostrander, Gerald A. Jr, USAFSS
- Pechacek, Harvey B., USAFSS
- Rainey, Peter H., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS
- Riggan, Warren Wayne, USAFSS
- Roberts, Lowell W., SSgt, USAFSS
- Rogers, Montie P., CMSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Ross, Johnny, USAFSS
- Rubel, George W., MSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Schick, Floris Leldon "Sonny", MSgt (Ret), USAFSS
- Shoffner, Felix Coleman "F. C." Jr., MSgt (ret), USAFSS, **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Sites, Kermit W., SSgt, USAFSS
- Sjolander, Ardell "Red", CMSgt (Ret), **FTVA Member**
- Stapchuck, John F., SMSgt (ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Swilor, James, Ethan, SMSgt, 16th Air Force
- Taus, Robert, L., Col (ret), **FTVA Lifetime Member****
- Wolf, David B., MSgt (ret), USAFSS



Abernathy, James, A1C, 84, passed away Oct 11, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1954 and was assigned to the USAF Security Service as a Radio Traffic Analyst. He served in the NSA at Clark AFB in the Philippines and at Ft George G. Meade in MD. After discharge, he worked for the Defense Mapping Agency in St. Louis where aeronautical charts were compiled and produced for the USAF from 1964 until his retirement in 1993. He

leaves behind his wife Joyce; daughter, Cindy and son, Brett. //Obit – Porter Loring//



Bingham, Richard “Corky”, SMgt (ret), 76, passed away on Oct 1, 2019. In Mar 1964, he joined the USAF and in July 1964 he married his wife of 55 years, Karen Marie Goeres. That was a good year — he made two of the best decisions of his life. Corky went on to have a long and storied career, first in the USAF and later as a DoD civilian at Goodfellow AFB. Corky began his career as a Morse code operator

stationed in Misawa, Japan. Next, he trained to be a Russian linguist at Syracuse University which resulted in his assignment to a remote post in Shemya, Alaska for a year. He was then stationed at Chicksands England. After a short time at Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo, Texas, Corky found himself stationed for two years in Heraklion, Greece before returning to Goodfellow AFB for good. After retiring, Corky embarked on his second career as a civilian employee. He spent another 21 years working for DoD at Goodfellow AFB. Following his retirement, Corky remained active in the military community with the Freedom Through Vigilance Association.

Corky is survived by his loving wife, Karen Marie Bingham (nee Goeres); son Scott and daughter Stacey. //Obit – Harper Funeral Home//

As the wing commander, I often leaned on Corky’s in-depth knowledge. He was a true professional dedicated to producing intel professionals for the AF and the nation. //KC McClain//

I am very saddened to hear of Corky's passing. I was fortunate enough to have served with him at Iraklion AS, Crete, Greece. He was the consummate professional at his Air Force career and in his personal life. My wife Valerie and I bowled with him and Karen in a mixed doubles league and we enjoyed our time together. My

sincerest condolences to Karen, Scott, and Stacey. He will be greatly missed by all of us that knew and loved him. RIP Corky. // **Jim Houle**//



Bormann, Danny J., Sgt, 72, passed away Aug 15, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1965 where he served as an intelligence analyst within the US Air Force Security Service stationed in Okinawa, Japan reviewing and interpreting North Vietnamese military communications. The USAFSS was a secretive and tight-knit branch composed of airmen selected from the top ½ of 1 percent of the Air Force’s enlisted recruits. In 1969, following his military service, he worked as an intelligence analyst with the National Security Agency in Washington D.C. These jobs, which required top secret security clearance, were considered essential to the US Cold War efforts. Dan is survived by his Children: Kimberly, Tyler, and Danille. // **Hemer Funeral Services**//

Danny was a 202 while stationed at Hakata during his 1966-1968 assignment. // **Carol Farr**//



Boutin, Donald R., Lt Col (ret), 81, passed away Jun 1, 2019. Lt. Col. Donald R. Boutin, USAF (Ret.) passed away on June 1, 2019. Upon graduating H.S. in 1955, he enlisted in the USAF for the next 36 years, Col. Boutin served his country proudly, both as an NCO and Officer. Of particular note, assignments at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in the AFROTC Detachment. Later, he served as First Sergeant of the prestigious 1002

inspector General Group. Upon acceptance into the Bootstrap Commissioning Program, he finished college and completed Officer Training School. As graduating Cadet Commander Col. Boutin went

on to serve tours of duty in the Pacific, European and Mediterranean theaters as well as in San Antonio at the Air Force Personnel Center, electronic Security Command. Col. Boutin retired as Director, Air Force Personnel, National Security Agency, Ft. Meade, MD. Col. Boutin was predeceased by his eldest son Jeffrey in 2001. He is survived by his beloved wife Jacqueline; son Peter; daughters Lisa and Kim. //Mission Park Funeral Home//

Don was my Air Force Sponsor when I got to Randolph AFB from Berlin in 1979. We remained good friends for 40 years! He was a Great Man! //Dan Murphy//



Casciano, John, P., Maj Gen (ret), 76, passed away Aug 15, 2019. Upon graduating from Georgetown University, he went on to have a 33-year distinguished USAF career. After serving in Thailand during the Vietnam War, John married his sweetheart, Patricia, during a blizzard in Syracuse, NY. While rising through the ranks as a career Air Force Intelligence officer, John, along with Pat and their son John, was stationed in such exotic (and not so exotic) places as Omaha, NE,

Montgomery, AL, Rome, Italy, Stuttgart, Germany, and the Pentagon. He also spent 4 years teaching future leaders of the Air Force at the Academy in Colorado Springs and served as Commander of the Air Intelligence Agency in San Antonio. He retired as a Major General following his last assignment as the Air Staff Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Reconnaissance and Surveillance at the Pentagon. John is survived by the love of his life and wife of 48 years, Patricia, his son John (Tracey), his grandsons, Bennett, Charlie, Will and Jack, his sister Donna (Scott), his sister-in-law Regina (Joseph) and his loyal poodles, Lily and Riley. //Obit – Fairfax Memorial Home//

Major General Casciano can be described in so many ways: Patriotic Citizen; Dedicated and Highly Successful Military Officer; Husband; Dad; Mentor; Friend. I had the honor of observing Major

General Casciano as he waded through incredibly difficult and complex issues and an unceasing workload. He never lost his sharp wit, keen sense of humor and human kindness. Despite his small stature, he is and will continue to be a giant in Air Force Intelligence. Rest peacefully sir. God Bless the Casciano Family. //Colonel **Mark Swentkofske**//

I recall a TDY to England during which the boss asked to visit Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee, Jr's gravesite. Magee authored "High Flight." The poem begins: "Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth" As we stood reading the poem inscribed on Magee's headstone, I saw a tear in the boss's eye. He was as fine a man as I have ever met, and I am so grateful I had the opportunity to serve with him as his Senior Enlisted Advisor. //Chief Master Sergeant (ret) **Ken Maynard**//

I first met John my freshman year at Georgetown in late 1962, when I was a brand-new Air Force ROTC cadet and he was an experienced sophomore Cadet Sergeant. The first thing I heard from him was, "Pay attention, do as you are told, and you'll be fine"...then I heard an audible sigh from him as he walked away. After his graduation in 1965, I would periodically hear about him, but we never ran into each other again, until he became Commander, Air Intelligence Agency and I had been recently assigned, as a Reserve Colonel, to the Mobilization Augmentee to the Commander position. Typical of John, we immediately bonded, shared some laughs and some tears, and he taught me an amazing amount of what it takes to be both a commander and, more importantly, a leader. A couple of years later, just after my promotion to Brigadier General, I received a call from him saying, "OK, you've had enough fun down there, come up to the Pentagon", where I became Mobilization Assistant to the DCS/ISR. That was not only a huge learning experience for me, guided by John, but he also gave me full rein - and support - to, as he said, "make sure the Reserves are fully integrated into the intelligence Total Force". John was a leader, a mentor, a commander...but, most of all, he was a friend who understood the value of friendships and who always looked for, and found, the best in everyone he led, commanded and worked with. I will miss him a lot. //John **Wilkinson, Brigadier General, USAF (ret.)**//



Cassidy, Michael S., Col (ret), 75, passed away October 12, 2019. Preceding him, his parents John Andrew Cassidy and Margarite Maher Cassidy; his sister Patricia Cassidy. He is the beloved husband of Samantha Cassidy//**Obit – Jefferson Funeral Chapel//**

Mike was my ops officer at Skivvy Nine from When I got there in June 1981 to when he left that summer. He was replaced by Chancel French. Mike took care of his people and spent a lot of odd duty time with us. A great and quiet leader. During his farewell the Lts got him and Frenchy these awful Hawaiian shirts with the 6903 shield in the back and the words for Mike “I was the Ops officer and now I’m not”. This was because his favorite expression when dealing with a problem was to say “I am the Ops Officer and you’re not” which he mostly said tongue in cheek. He was a good man and will be missed. //**Col (ret) Greg Roman//**

My sincere condolences. Colonel Cassidy was a class act and a great guy to work for. //**Danny L. Prichard, CMSgt (Retired), USAF//**

I was stationed with and worked work him at RAF Chicksands. He was a great person to work for. //**Barbara Hacker//**

I served with Col. Michael S Cassidy on several occasions during my USAF career. We became friends, and I stayed in touch with him after we retired. Have many fond memories of our active duty times, as well as stories we would tell each other after we retired. So sad to hear of his passing. He was a great friend, and a patriot. He will be missed. God Bless his family, especially Samantha. //**Bob Frazier, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)//**

Working for and with Col Cassidy at Skivvy Nine was one of the highlights of my career. He certainly was a character and his unique sense of humor, genial nature and mission focus was so much appreciated. One of the few individuals of higher rank who could

easily mix and mingle (especially in the Lounge) with the troops. God Speed, Colonel. //Dennis Buxton//



Chamness, Charles G., A1C, 85, passed away May 4, 2019. Charles married Marcia Ahrens on October 26, 1957 in Montezuma, Iowa. She preceded him in death on April 27, 2013. He served from 1953 to 1955 in the USAF during the Korean Conflict, stationed in Bremerhaven, West Germany. Charles is survived by his two daughters, Kevan and Terri; and son, Mark. //Obit Dahl Funeral Home//

He was also station with the 6913RSM at Bremerhaven, Germany. //6913th.org//



Davis, John R. Jr., CMSgt (ret), 72, passed away Oct 8, 2019. John enlisted in the USAF in 1965 and retired in 1987. John graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science degree. He met Phylis in Washington, DC while attending foreign language school. They were inseparable and married in 1972. Phylis was his love and his priority. Their fierce love for one another was evident and admired by all. He proudly served his country at numerous overseas and

stateside assignments which included two tours in Japan, as well as Turkey, Washington DC, Offutt AFB in Nebraska, San Antonio, TX, and Germany. John ended his military career in Albuquerque, NM where he also began a second career with the Department of Defense. He retired from civil service in 2008 as Chief of Staff. John will be remembered as an honorable man that could be counted on. He was a wonderful husband, a loving son, brother and uncle. John was generous, genuine and kind. John is survived by his wife of 47 years, Phylis Ann Irene Davis as well as a brother, Carl (Jene) Davis from Hartwell, GA, and a sister, Nancy Davis Morris (Mike) from

Greenwood, SC. //Obit – Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home//

His assignments included the following: May-Aug 65: 3703 BMTS Basic Training Lackland AFB Texas; Aug 65-May 66: Det 3 3345 Tech Sch Indiana University Bloomington, In; Oct 66 – Jan 1968: 6939 Security Squadron Trabzon AB Turkey, Voice Intcp Proc Spec; Feb 68 – Apr 71: 6921 Security Wing Misawa AB, Japan; May 71 – Apr 72 Det 4 3345 Tech Sq Andrews AFB Maryland Basic Korean; Apr 72: Graduate of Korean Language Training; Oct 72-Apr 77: 6990 Security Squadron Kadena AB Okinawa Japan, Airborne specialist; May 77 – Feb 80: 6948 Security Wing Offutt AFB NE; Mar 80 – Feb 82: 6949 ESC Kelly AFB, TX; Mar 82 –87: AF Test Eval Cr Cm, Kirtland AFB NM; Jun3 1985 Selected for Chief Master Sergeant; 31 July 87 Retired from Active Duty. Jun 1, 2008 John retired from his second career with the DOD National Security Group, Kirkland AFB NM. John and Phylis moved to Florida in 2011. **//Phylis Davis//**



Dove, Andrew, TSgt (ret), 88, passed away Aug 30, 2019. Andrew is survived by his wife, Esther Anna LaBomme; sons, Andrew and Joseph; and daughter, Amanda. **//Obit – Johnson’s Funeral Home//**

Andrew served in the Air Force during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. He is interned at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. **//Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration//**



Gale, Eric K., SMSgt (ret), 49, passed away Nov 1, 2019. He fought a good battle but lost to the war of cancer. Eric was born and raised shadow of Hill Air Force Base, Utah. He developed a fascination with aircraft and joined the USAF just days after turning 17 years old. He served in the AF airborne reconnaissance community for 22 years and garnered leadership experience on several intelligence, surveillance, and ISR weapons systems. While gaining combat experience, he served in dozens of

countries throughout his career culminating with an assignment to the National Guard Bureau of the Pentagon as an assistant to the Functional Area Manager for Intelligence where he fluently read and spoke Russian. He was the youngest airborne supervisor, receiving recognition from Congressman Jim Hansen.

Eric loved science fiction and wrote the book, "IO Rising" which was published in 2011. Eric is survived by his parents, Susan and Jim Coleman, Kent and Barbara Gale; brothers, Conway (Cristy), Steven (Melanie) Coleman, and James Gale. **//Obit – Lindquist Mortuaries//**

This hits hard. Eric is a SENIOR SCOUT icon! Spent lots of time together. One of the best things about the military is the ability to pick up where we left off like it was yesterday no matter how long it has been. One of the things that sucks is when we don't get to. RIP Eric! Miss you my friend. **//CMSgt (ret) Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//**



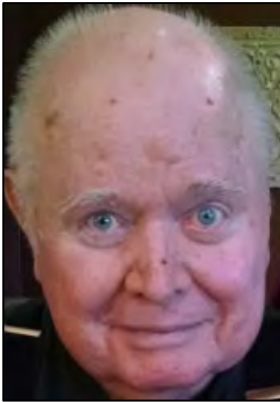
Giroux, Terrence E., Maj (ret), 70, passed away Jun 5, 2019. He enlisted in both the U.S Navy and USAF, serving as an intelligence officer and retired in 1996. He continued to work as a civilian at Goodfellow AFB as head of the International Military Student Office until 2011. He is survived by his son, Chris and daughter. //Obit – Johnson’s Funeral Home//



Hawley, Daniel R., TSgt (ret), 83, passed away Sep 7, 2019. Daniel served in the USAF as a Meteorologist and Vietnam Veteran. He married the love of his life, Nelde Helge Peschau April 18, 1959 in Bremerhaven, Germany. They celebrated 60 years together. He is survived by his

wife, Nelde; son, Robert; daughters, Caroline and Rosemarie. //Connally Compton Funeral//

Dan joined the USAF in 1954 and retired as a TSgt in 1977. His USAFSS tours of duty included stops in Darmstadt, Germany; The Philippines, and the 6913th RSM in Bremerhaven (he worked as a WX Crypto-Analyst for MSgt Wuthrich from mid-1958 to 30 Aug 59). His first tour of duty after leaving USAFSS was at Det 2 of 7th Weather Sqdn in Hanau Army Installation from Sep 1959 to Apr 1962. The remainder of his career included a tour in Vietnam. After Dan left the USAF, he worked 20 years for the local VA hospital. //Arlen Trapp//



Hedges, Gordon H. Jr, MSgt (ret), 72, passed away Oct 16, 2019. He retired from the USAF as MSgt after 20 years of service. He served as a 203/cryptologic language analyst. He continued to work at NSA and retired after another 20 years. He was a very kind and loving husband to his wife of 48 yrs, Erlinda. During his time in the USAF, he was stationed at various overseas locations and retired in Aurora, CO. Gordon Hedges Jr is survived by his wife, Erlinda; son, Gordo; daughter, Maria.

//Donaldson Funeral Home//



Kosinski, Wallace J., A1C, 89, passed away Sep 13, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1952. Wallace was fluent in the Polish language and spent the bulk of his military years in Germany serving in an intelligence unit as a Polish language specialist in the USAF Security Service. Survivors are his daughter, Erica and son, John. **//Obit – Spear Mulqueeny Funeral Home//**



Kuckelman, Karl F., SMSgt (ret), 94, passed away Nov 11, 2019. Karl enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1943 and was stationed in England during World War II. He served in the 92nd Bomb Group as a right waist gunner in the B-17G Flying Fortress. On July 4,

1946, Karl married Mary Jean Turner. He served for 27 years, retiring in 1971. During that time they moved 27 times, including assignments in Japan and Germany. He traveled to many additional

countries while on temporary duty with the USAF. Many of his active duty years were spent in Security Service. Karl was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years Mary Jean (Turner) Kuckelman, one daughter, Lynn. He is survived by six children: Karl, Cynthia, Stephen, Kristin, Mark and Janet. //Obit – **Sunset Memorial Park and Funeral Home//**



Legenza, Rudolph J., Sgt, 72, passed away Dec 27, 2018. He served in the USAF as a Sergeant during the Vietnam War. Rudy was appointed to the Central Falls Police Department in September 1969 and retired as a Commander. He had 30 years of police service. He is survived by his mother; sister Kathleen; two brothers Michael and William.

Rudy was a Sergeant while stationed at Hakata during his 1966-1968 assignment. //Carol Farr//



Lombardi, Donato "Don" A., Lt Col (ret), 80, passed away Sep 27, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1961 and served until 1982, including an assignment to Darmstadt. Don was a life member of the Air Force Association and continued to serve his country in other capacities. Don

is survived by 3 sisters Dolores, Elizabeth, and Lorraine. //DeGraff Lakehurst Funeral Home//

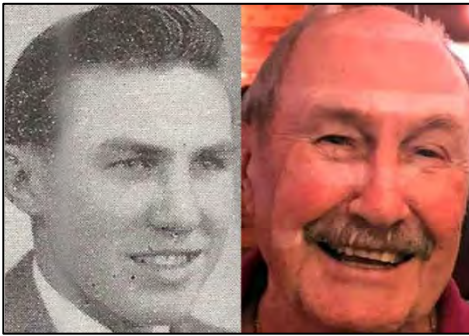


McGuirt, James William III, 75, passed away Jun 16, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF and was assigned to the Air Force Security Service serving in Misawa, Japan and Peshawar, Pakistan on the U-2 project. It was in Pakistan that he met his wife of 53 years. He will be deeply cherished and missed by his wife, Patti; son, Jimmy; daughters, Kelly and Michelle. //Obit – Tampa Bay Times//



Ostrander, Gerald A. Jr, 84, passed away June 13, 2019. He joined the USAF in 1953 and was trained in the Russian Language, working as a radio operator in Germany and translating Russian radio messages. When transferred to Edinburgh, Scotland he met his late wife Merle and they were married in 1956. He is survived by his wife, Lenora, two children; Debi and Gary, and stepdaughter, Michelle. //Obit – Arthur-Day Funeral Home//

After completion of a Russian language course about the middle of 1954, he left for overseas duty at the 41st RSM in Bremerhaven, Germany [the unit was redesignated 6913th RSM in May 1955]. In Feb 1956, USAFSS reassigned him to Kirknewton, Scotland. On his first night there, he met his late wife, Merle. On 26 Apr 1957, he and Merle left Kirknewton and flew from Edinburg to McGuire AFB in Trenton, NJ, where Jerry was separated from the service. //Arlen Trapp//



Pechacek, Harvey B., 89, passed away Aug 22, 2019. He leaves his daughter, Debra and his two sons, Mike and Timothy. He joined the USAF and met his wife, Lydia Hanson in Maine. His assignments included the 6911th at Darmstadt. He retired from

the Air Force after 27 years in 1977. **//Dignity Memorial//**



Rainey, Peter H., CMSgt (ret), 80, passed away 28 Oct 2019. Perry served in the USAF for 26 years in the electronics field. After retirement, he served for 20 more years in civil service at the Electronics Security Command. He lost Judy in

2008 and remarried Mary Helen Regrets. He is survived by his son Ronald; stepdaughter & son Connie & Terry Thill. **//Mission Park Funeral Home//**

I'm very sad to hear about Perry's passing. He and I worked together in the USAF in both a military and civilian capacity. I have many fond memories from my association with Perry. He was one of the nicest people I've ever known and always a pleasure to be around. My condolences to the family. Rest in peace Chief. **//Greg Mahoney//**

I have known Perry since 1965 when he returned to the USAF. We met at McCoy AFB where he worked for me. We reconnected in 1981 on Security Hill and worked together for 7 years. Perry graciously agreed to be a pallbearer at my daughter's funeral in 1982. I liked and admired Perry. He was a man of integrity and honor. It is with deepest regrets that I note his death. To his family

I send my deepest condolences on the passing of a good and kindly man. //John Lopes, CMSgt, USAF (Ret.)//



Riggan, Warren Wayne, 81, passed away Sep 9, 2019. He served in the USAF and graduated from Syracuse University where he learned Russian. He is survived by his wife Jannette and two sons, Phillip and James. //Obit - Roselawn Chapel Funeral

Home//

He was assigned to Bremerhaven, Germany with the 6913th RSM on Able Flight from 1960 to 1963. //6913th.org//



Roberts, Lowell W., SSgt, 88, passed away Nov 12, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1952 where he worked as a Russian language specialist in the U.S. Air Force Security Service and deployed to Korea during the last few months of the war, where he intercepted Russian Radio Transmissions. He served four years in the Air Force and attained the rank of staff sergeant.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Virginia "Ginny". He is survived by his four children, Beth, Will, Chris, and Debra. //Obit – Welch Funeral Home//



Rogers, Montie P., CMSgt (ret), 87, passed away Oct 8, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1950, where he completed basic training and additional courses to become skilled in radio operations and communications, accounting, budgeting, management and COMSEC analysis. During his 29 years in the military, he served numerous tours of duty overseas, including Germany, Guam, Tripoli, Turkey, Korea and a tour with NATO in Oslo, Norway. After retirement, worked

for the National Security Agency. From there, his career took him to the Defense Mapping Agency (as a GM-15) which is now known as the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. Paul was predeceased by his first wife Edith. Survivors include his wife, Gloria; daughter, Katrina; son, Montie; his bonus family, Elizabeth; Susan; Thomas; Mary; James; and Michael. **//Obit - Criswell Funeral Home//**

AFSC - Communications Security/ Crypto. Assignments - not sure but some are 56-67 Turkey, 61-64 Oslo, Norway, Tripoli early 50s, San Antonio a lot off and on. **//Montie Rogers//**



Ross, Johnny, 87, passed away Sep 11, 2019.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Madeleine Yvonne. He leaves 3 children, Jackie, Jeanette, and Johnny. Johnny had many friends that spanned a lifetime of military service, while serving in the United States Marines and United States Air Force. He graduated high school and joined the U.S. Marines and is a Korean War veteran. He then enlisted in the

USAF, serving for almost 30 years and retiring in 1976. While serving in the USAF overseas, Johnny became involved with a European based baseball league where he served as team

manager/coach and played pitcher for the Darmstadt Comets.
//Harper Funeral Home//



Rubel, George W., MSgt (ret), age 90, passed away Nov 7, 2019. A veteran of the Korean War, he joined the Army Air Corps in 1946 and served 21 years in the USAF. Among other achievements and awards, George received the Air Medal which is awarded for "Heroic" or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. George flew on B29's and on C130 surveillance aircraft, and he is featured in the book, "The Price of Vigilance (Attacks on American Surveillance Flights)" by Larry Tart and Robert Keefe, which chronicles the history of overflight reconnaissance.

He is survived by his children Tony, Curtis, Michael, Clyde, and Danny. **//Obit – Florida Memorial Funeral Home//**

George was one of USAFSS first six airborne intercept operators. In 1951, USAF HQ tasked Air Force Security Service to develop an airborne COMINT reconnaissance capability. The airborne platform's mission was to be the collection of Soviet air force Morse air-to-ground & ground-to-air comms — an airborne Russian voice intercept operator requirement became apparent during early field testing. George Rubel and Felix Shoffner Jr. were the last two survivors of the USAFSS COMINT crew involved in the development of the prototype. **//Larry Tart//**



Schick, Floris Leldon “Sonny”, MSgt (Ret), 84, passed away Aug 23, 2019. He enlisted in the USAF in 1954, retiring in 1974. Sonny married the late Margaret Martha Dietzel in 1959. He is survived by their two sons Steven and Scott. Sonny is survived by his wife Judith whom he married in 1986. He is survived by one stepson, James and Kim, Nikki, and Samantha. //Obit – Fairfield Recorder//

He was stationed at Bremerhaven, Germany with the 6913thRSM on Charlie Flight from 1954 to 1957. //6913th.org//



Shoffner, Felix Coleman "F. C." Jr., MSgt (ret), 87, passed away Sep 25, 2018. He obtained his pilot license at the age of 15 and served in the Civil Air Patrol. Felix joined the Army Air Corp at age 17. He went to radio

operator school where he became proficient in Morse code. Graduating at the top his class, he was sent to Russian linguist school to learn Russian Code. He was to become the first to ever intercept Russian Code while flying B29 combat missions over North Korea. He received the Combat Air Medal of Honor for these missions. In 1966, he was part of the Broken Arrow Mission to recover nuclear weapons that were lost over Palomares Spain after a bomber collided with a refueling tanker over Spain. He retired after 20 years of service to his country. After a few years of farming he returned to a pilot career, flying for State Representative Don Dills and Forcum Lannom. He quit flying at the age of seventy after being a pilot for fifty-five years. His missions over Korea were declassified in the 1990's and was interviewed and included in the book called "The Price of Vigilance."

He is survived by his daughter, Nancy Pope; sons, John and David. He was preceded in death by his wife of sixty-four years, Nannie Mae Jones Shoffner. //Obit - **Johnson-Williams Funeral Home**//

Felix was one of USAFSS first six airborne intercept operators. In 1951, USAF HQ tasked Air Force Security Service to develop an airborne COMINT reconnaissance capability. The airborne platform's mission was to be the collection of Soviet air force Morse air-to-ground & ground-to-air comms — an airborne Russian voice intercept operator requirement became apparent during early field testing. George Rubel and Felix Shoffner Jr. were the last two survivors of the USAFSS COMINT crew involved in the development of the prototype. //Larry Tart//



Sites, Kermit W., SSgt, 84, passed away Oct 2, 2019. He served four years in the USAF. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Shirley (Thompson) Sites; sons, William, Michael, and Blake. //Obit – **Scarpelli Funeral Home**//

He served on ‘C’ Flight at Bremerhaven, Germany with the 6913th RSM from 1954 to 1957. //6913th.org//



Sjolander, Ardell “Red”, CMSgt (ret), 85, passed away on Wednesday, November 27, 2019 in San Antonio, Texas. Red was born March 14, 1934 to Dorothy and Carl Rubin Sjolander in Grantsburg, Wisconsin. Red served 27 years in the Air Force and had assignments in Okinawa, England, Germany, Vietnam

and Texas. He retired from the Air Force in 1979 and made San Antonio his home.

Red was preceded in death by Mary Grace Sjolander, his parents, and brother Roger. He is survived by his sister Cheri Peterson; his children: Weaver Sjolander, Michael Sjolander, Ronald Sjolander, Laura Hernandez; grandchildren: Nicole Sjolander, Stephanie Hernandez, Gina Hernandez, Paul Hernandez and great grandchildren: Shelby, Jerry, Olivia, Lilah, Anna, Wyatt Grace, and Cesar. Services are at 11:15 AM on 19 December 2019 at Fort Sam Houston.



Stapchuck, John F., SMSgt (ret), 82, passed away Aug 26, 2019. John married Agnes (Nancy) Milne Wilkie of Edinburgh, Scotland. Nancy and John have resided in San Angelo, Texas since 1996.

Survivors include his son, David and daughter, Jackie. John retired from the Air Force as a SMSgt and his awards included The Distinguished Flying Cross. **//Obit - Shaffer Funeral Home//**

I served with him in Darmstadt in late 60s. He flew with the 6994th in Vietnam, earning a DFC for his efforts. Rarely saw John but, until very recently, received a dozen or so e-mails from him every day. I think he just passed along everything he received. RIP John. Will miss the E-mails. **//Ed Bendinelli//**



Swilor James Ethan, SMSgt, 40, died Oct 17, 2019. Ethan served over 15 years. Ethan started his career as an RC-135 Cryptologic Operator at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. In 2010, he was selectively assigned to a Data Masked Unit, serving as a Direct Support Operator. He amassed over 2,700 flight hours. Most recently he served as Operations Superintendent at the 361st ISRG. He has participated in multiple operations and deployments,

including Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, FREEDOM'S SENTINEL and ODYSSEY RESOLVE. His actions earned him several medals including the Meritorious Service Medal and Air Medal with seven devices. In addition to his primary language of Pashto he also spoke Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian. Ethan is survived by his wife, Janice, and three children, Kendall, Bryan, and Nathan. He also leaves behind his sister, Jessica, his brother, Keith and his parents, Jim and Marcia Swilor. //Obit – **Larkin Mortuary**//

Ethan was one of the greatest human beings I ever had the pleasure to know and definitely to serve alongside. He lit up any room he was in and the spirits of those around him. He was devoted to his family and to the mission, and somehow, he seemed to find the balance. I appreciated his caring and commitment. I fondly remember when he and the kids came by to help us on a house project. Later, I thought of no one better to pass down the little Yamaha dirt bike. //CMSgt **Rob Harrison**//

AFSC - 1A871M, Superintendent, SOCOM J24 Acqs & Rqmts; Assignments - May 2004 - Apr 2006 (BMTS, DLI, Survival School) May 2006 - May 2007 338 CTS, Offutt AFB May 2007 - Jun 2010 97 IS, Offutt AFB Jul 2010 - Dec 2014, Data Masked Dec 2014 - Feb 2019, 361 ISR Group, Hurlburt Field, FL Mar 2019 - Oct 2019, SOCOM J24, Macdill AFB, FL. //CMSgt **Thomas Barefoot**//



Taus, Robert, L., Col (ret), 79, passed away Aug 4, 2018. After graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1960, he was commissioned in the USAF and moved to San Antonio, Texas, where he met his wife, Lana. His 30-year Air Force career would take him to five of the seven continents and included extended travel to Japan, Korea, Texas, Panama and Washington, D.C. In 1978 Col Taus became the Base Commander at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas, before his final posting at Kelly AFB in San Antonio, Texas. He and Lana traveled

to Europe and Africa, as well as the sole remaining continent they hadn't been to –Antarctica (making that all seven). Told he was too old to make the trek, Bob started training and at the age of 71, climbed 19,341' to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro. When members of that team approached Bob several years later about a trip to Mt. Everest Base Camp, Bob pulled out his climbing boots and reached base camp with them at the age of 74. In addition to his wife, Lana, he is survived by his daughter, Jill. Col Taus was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on October 3, 2019. //Chris Hackett//

A dedicated senior officer worthy of our admiration, Col Taus was definitely a leader, friend and promoter for our enlisted intel people. Among other accomplishments, he initiated a senior NCO enlisted executive officer program in 1981 during his time as Goodfellow AFB Commander. Yes, he is being missed. //CMSgt (ret) Dennis Rassmussen//



Wolf, David B., MSgt (ret), 79, passed away Oct 19, 2019. David joined the USAF in Jan 1957 and retired Mar 1991. He is survived by his wife Jackie Sue Wolf, his children Hon. Treasurer Dianna Minette Spieker and Army Major Dewayne Edgar Wolf (Chaplain). //Shaffer Funeral Home//

Dave was in USAFSS his whole career as a 292X1 and served in several locations. I first met him in Misawa in 1960 where we became lifetime friends. He retired in March 1991 in San Angelo, Texas. //Joe Wesner//

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