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Touch

FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



September 2022

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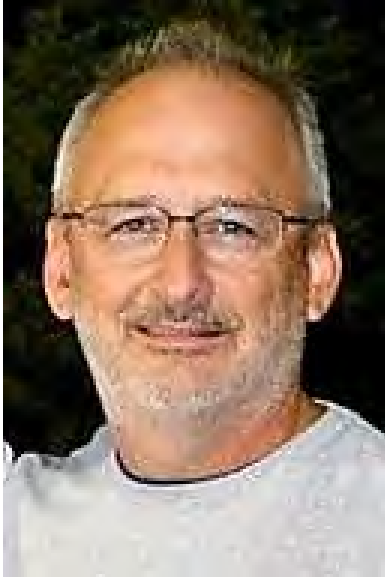


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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Ted Colquhoun
President, FTVA

Howdy y'all,

It's been a while since the last RIT and a lot has happened and you can read about it all and see the photos below. Foremost, after a 3-year hiatus we were able to finally hold the FTVA/16 AF Anniversary events. Those of you that were able to participate, I hope you had a great time. We had a great turnout for the 5K run and golf tournament (slightly smaller turnout) and with Lt Gen Kennedy, 16 AF Commander leading the way at the Hall of Honor and Remembrance Ceremony we recognized 12 new inductees and memorialized 324 Fallen Eagles (you can find the names on the FTVA website).

We finished the week's activities with the Anniversary Banquet on Saturday night, celebrating not only our new inductees, but catching up and telling stories. CMSgt Kenneth Bruce, 16 AF Command Chief, gave a great speech connecting the past with the present and talked about those in the future learning from and standing on the shoulders of those who have come before us. All in all, it was a great week re-uniting the ISR, EW and Cyber mission sets and memories under one organization, 16 AF! And we even picked up a Weather Wing (557th Weather Wing) to boot.

I would like to publicly thank all the FTVA committee leads for their support. The "behind-the-scenes" movements were very tough this year and they all did a bang-up job.

Golf Tournament – CMSgt (ret) Bob Benitez

Hall of Honor – CMSgt (ret) AJ Harrison

Remembrance Ceremony – CMSgt (ret) Joseph "Pepito" Figueroa

Anniversary Banquet – SES (ret) Mr. Ken Williams and his wife Shiela...she did most of the work.

I am also passing on the below scheduling update for next year's activities so you can begin planning now, as we are. We are going to move the events into October 2023 to better align with the anniversary of both USAFSS (activated - 20 Oct 1948) and 16 AF (re-activated - 11 Oct 2019). This will be the 75th anniversary of the command and we want to celebrate together with you in style. If you have any suggestions, please send them to the FTVA Board of Directors.

Planned 2023 FTVA-16 AF Reunion Events

19 Oct 2023

5K and Golf Tournament

20 Oct 2023

Hall of Honor, Remembrance Ceremony and Picnic

21 Oct 2023

General Membership Meeting and Anniversary Banquet

Finally, thanks to you, the members of FTVA. It has been a trying few years and despite all the restrictions and cancellations we have gone through, each of you have been incredible...maintaining contact with each other and ensuring what we do best...Remaining in Touch.

Until next time

Ted

FTVA Value Statement

Many Air Force senior leaders have released statements that should resonate with every member of the Freedom Through Vigilance Association (FTVA). They stated, “It is time for every one of us to strive for understanding and a culture of inclusiveness and belonging across our Air Force,” and “It is our very own General Benjamin O. Davis, Tuskegee Airman, who said, ‘The privileges of being an American belong to those brave enough to fight for them’.” These sentiments were recently echoed by the Space Force Commander, General Jay Raymond, and [Chief Master Sergeant of the Space Force Roger Towberman](#), who said, “We have an opportunity to get this right from the beginning by making diversity and inclusion ‘one of the bedrock strengths’ of the Space Force. And our prior 16th Air Force Commander, Lt General Timothy Haugh and prior Command Chief, Summer Leifer, have both implored NAF members to embrace diversity, challenge our own biases, and treat everyone with dignity and respect.

Since the formation of the USAF Security Service (USAFSS) in October 1948, and in its various iterations since then to the present 16th Air Force, we recognize that the one constant and bedrock strength of our organization is the people. Throughout the years, our leaders have understood that if we take care of the people, the people will take care of the mission. Our people are as diverse as the missions we support. Yet, despite these differences, we train and fight as one. We value and understand the importance of respect and dignity for all, regardless of ethnic background, religion, gender, and/or sexual orientation.

The FTVA reaffirms our commitment to our country and the people we serve. Now is the time for reflection and listening to those that may not have had a voice at the table. Those voices need to be heard and be part of this national debate. We, as an organization, understand the sacrifices that have been made so that all Americans can enjoy the benefits of liberty, freedom, and justice for all. These benefits must encompass all Americans for we are greater in strength unified than in division. The FTVA thanks all who have served and sacrificed through the years and remains committed to the values we hold dear of dignity and respect for all and the Air Force’s Core Values of *Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do*.

**Remain in Touch,
Ted Colquhoun
President, FTVA**

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This issue is special in that it contains not only the standard quarterly inputs but also commemorates in pictures our first reunion in a few years. I hope you enjoy perusing these pages as much as I enjoy glomming them together! The next issue of RIT will be compiled and posted in December 2022, so please be sure to send your inputs to newsletter@ftva.us (or to my attention at 8847

Breanna Oaks, S.A., TX 78254) by December 1, 2022.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Dennis Buxton
Newsletter Editor



FTVA HALL OF HONOR



FTVA Hall of Honor Inductions

A.J. Harrison,
Hall of Honor Program Chair

The Hall of Honor selection committee takes great pleasure in announcing this year's selections for induction into the Hall of Honor. On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to announce the following individuals have been selected for induction into the FTVA Hall of Honor for 2022 and were formally inducted at the reunion events in 2022:

Walters, Neal R., Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

****Mellott, Lester R., Col, USAF (Ret)**

Thompson, Phillip E., Col, USAF (Ret)

****Radziminski, Anthony S., SMSgt, USAF (Ret)**



2022 HoH Inductees (l-r) Lt Col Neal R. Walters, USAF (Ret), Mrs. Michiko Radziminski, Jr. representing the late SMSgt Anthony S. Radziminski, Jr, USAF (Ret), Col (Ret) Kenneth Mellott representing the late Col Lester R. Mellott, Jr., USAF (Ret) Photo courtesy of 16 AF/PA.

***Deceased*



2020 HoH Inductees

2020 HoH Inductees (l-r) Col Larry Benson, USAF and DISL, DoD (Ret), John Michael Kretzer, DISL, DAF (Ret), Mrs. Patricia Robinson representing the late Brig Gen Neal Robinson, USAF (Ret), Lt Col Barnie Gavin, USAF (Ret) and GG-14, DAF (Ret) Photo Courtesy of 16 AF/PA

2021 HoH Inductees



2021 HoH Inductees (l-r) Col John Lewis representing CMSgt Ralph A. Wade, USAF (Ret), Col George "Ike" Eichelberger, USAF (Ret), Mr. Barry A. Steveson, DAF (Ret), CMSgt Kenneth Gendolfe, USAF (Ret) Photo Courtesy of 16 AF/PA

This year marked the first successful attempt in the past 3 years to conduct an induction ceremony, and I believe we provided a memorable occasion to the inductees and their families. We also formally inducted the honorees from 2020 and 2021. The 16 AF Protocol Office did their usual outstanding job in making sure the ceremony was a total professional production, and the PA photography support provided the first-class pictures you will find in this issue and at the 16th AF link provided below. I would be remiss if I did not thank the selection committee for their hard work over the past 3 years to select these outstanding and worthy individuals. There is another group that I wish to thank as well, and that is the Hall of Honor members who escorted the spouses and/or family members to their seats as part of the procession.

We now have an additional 12 members in the Hall of Honor. Unfortunately, Col Thompson was not able to make the ceremony this year, so we will induct him next year when he can join us. This explains why only three members received their plaques in 2022.

Thank you for all your support and I hope that next year many of you will be able to make the anniversary events.

The following Hall of Honor members comprised this year's selection committee: Lt Col Ken Williams, USAF (Ret); Mr. Gregory Radabaugh, DAF (Ret); CMSgt Bob Crabtree, USAF (Ret); CMSgt Ken Maynard, USAF (Ret); and SMSgt Lee Anthony, USAF (Ret).

For more photos of the HoH Induction ceremony, please see [the 16th Air Force Facebook Page](#).

16th AIR FORCE NEWS

Compiled by Ken Maynard
Associate Editor Extraordinaire

FIRST INFORMATION WARFARE NUMBERED AIR FORCE WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER

(Adapted from an article by Rabia Coombs, 16 AF (AF Cyber)/PA)

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX — 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), welcomed U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Kevin Kennedy while bidding farewell to its first commander, Lt. Gen. Timothy Haugh, during a change of command ceremony here July 21.



During his first address as the 16th Air Force commander, Kennedy emphasized the importance of the Numbered Air Force’s role in serving as a link between the Air Force, U.S. Cyber Command, U.S. European Command, U.S. Strategic Command, and U.S. Space Command.

“The talent and expertise present in our NAF is inspiring, and when this manifests in our ability to converge on a challenge and bring to bear the full weight of the Air Force’s ISR (Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance), Cyber, Weather, and EW (Electronic Warfare) enterprises, it is a unique and highly valuable force multiplier for the joint force and unmatched for our Nation,” said Kennedy.

The official party stands at attention during the posting of the colors by the Joint Base San Antonio honor guard during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, July 21, 2022. (l-r) Gen. Mark Kelly, commander of Air Combat Command, Gen Paul Nakasone, commander of US Cyber Command, Lt Gen Timothy Haugh, Lt Gen Kevin Kennedy.

Haugh was responsible for standing up the 16th Air Force, the first Information Warfare Numbered Air Force. As he relinquished command, he thanked the Airmen for their continuous support and commitment to the mission as the organization evolved to meet emerging threats.

“You have a central role in tackling our nation’s toughest and highest priority challenges. Every day you defend our homeland and deter aggression from our competitors. You provide a lethal, resilient, sustainable, survivable, agile and responsive force,” said Haugh.

Stood up to provide mission integration of the IW enterprise in accordance with the 2022 National Defense Strategy, Haugh took command of 16th Air Force in October 2019. Under his command, multi-capable, empowered Airmen spearheaded a broad range of activities from operationalizing weather assessments to supporting U.S. Cyber Command’s defense of the 2020 U.S. presidential elections.

Gen. Mark Kelly, commander of Air Combat Command, officiated the ceremony including the symbolic passing of the guidon from the outgoing to the incoming commander.

U.S. Army Gen. Paul Nakasone, commander of U.S. Cyber Command, Director of the National Security Agency and Chief of the Central Security Service also spoke during the ceremony. He emphasized the vital role the 16th Air Force plays in enabling the Joint Force.

“16th Air Force has produced extraordinary effects for the Joint Force through multiple combatant commands and the Air Force,” said Nakasone. “It’s no exaggeration to say that across the spectrum of conflict in cyberspace and in providing national and military intelligence, 16th Air Force has been decisively engaged against our adversaries every day, all day, in competition, crisis and conflict.”

Both Kelly and Nakasone emphasized the need to build upon the foundation established by Haugh.

Kennedy is responsible for 48,000 Total Force Airmen across the IW enterprise. The 16th Air Force operates globally across 16 total force wings, two centers, 63 groups, 297 squadrons, 128 worldwide operating locations, and 49,000 dedicated professionals providing capabilities to generate insights on our adversaries.

“The adversaries we face are capable and becoming increasingly skilled and lethal,” Kennedy said. “It is clear to me that Information Warfare is ever-present in competition, the dominant activity in crisis and the essential enabler in conflict.”

Kennedy joins the NAF from Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, where he served as the director of operations, U.S. Cyber Command. He is a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate with more than 3,400 flying hours. His staff experience includes service on the U.S. Air Force Headquarters staff, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, United States Cyber Command and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Prior to the change of command ceremony, U.S. Cyber Command hosted Kennedy's appointment ceremony to the rank of Lieutenant General.

Editor's Note: The 16th Air Force supports all of the geographic combatant commands through its Component-Numbered Air Force role and as the Service Cryptologic Component. As the Service component to U.S. Cyber Command, the unit supports U.S. Cyber Command, U.S. European Command, U.S. Space Command, and U.S. Strategic Command.

AIR FORCE SERVICE CRYPTOLOGIC COMPONENT COMMANDER AUTHORITY ENABLES STRATEGIC COMPETITION

(Adapted from an article by Sharon Singleton, 16 AF (AF Cyber))

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX — U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Kevin B. Kennedy, 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) Commander, wears six symbolic hats; these "hats" represent actual authorities under his command and range from operating and defending the U.S. Air Force Internet to presenting personnel to U.S. Cyber Command in support of cyber missions. Of these authorities only one, the Service Cryptologic Component (SCC), makes him the U.S. Air Force lead for cryptologic activities.

As the sole authority appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force for U.S. Air Force cryptologic operations, Kennedy ensures 16th Air Force operations support the National Security Agency/Central Security Service mission of leading the U.S. Government in cryptology, encompassing both signals intelligence (SIGINT) insights and cybersecurity products and services, and enabling computer network operations to gain a decisive advantage over our adversaries.

Kennedy's SCC authorities allow him to posture the 16 Air Force's SIGINT resources to support the warfighter at both the tactical and strategic levels. Utilizing the national-to-tactical integration program, 16th Air Force operators are able to reach back to national centers to help fulfill unique warfighter requirements with tailored products. The 16th Air Force's tactical resources (e.g., RC-135, U-2, Global Hawk) provide the warfighter with up-to-the-minute information, allowing them to better prosecute their targets. This intelligence also provides the warfighter an edge to operate inside the enemies' OODA loop (observe, orient, decide and act).

"With this authority the 16th Air Force commander is able to organize, train and equip Air Force intelligence units and personnel to conduct SIGINT activities." said Maj. Bryant Bair, 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), Chief of Intelligence Law.

As the AFSCC Commander, Kennedy is responsible to the Director of the National Security Agency for cryptologic activities, including missions related to tactical warfighting and national-level operations. 16th Air Force Detachment 1, also known as the Air Force Cryptologic Office,

serves as Kennedy's principle AFSCC staff and, coordinates with NSA on all cryptologic activities.

Bair explains, "The cryptologic authorities used by 16th Air Force are a subset of the intelligence authorities held and used by 16th Air Force, which in turn are a part of the larger set of missions gathered together to create a single Numbered Air Force capable of conducting activities across the whole spectrum of Information Warfare."

This makes 16th Air Force the Air Force lead in providing Information Warfare (IW) capabilities, and the SCC authority helps address the strategic competition goals outlined by the Department of Defense and NSA/CSS.

IW is an integral part of those strategic goals, and 16th Air Force provides the core tenets of Air Force IW (cyberspace operations, electronic warfare, information operations, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance) to meet their objectives.

The SCC authority has not always been with the 16th, however it spans multiple decades. In 1948, the United States Air Force Security Service (USAFSS) emerged as the Air Force's sole organization for cryptologic activities. Originally referred to as a Service Cryptologic Element (SCE), USAFSS joined the Army Security Agency and Naval Security Group to execute National cryptologic missions.

That authority remained as the organization changed names and evolved with technology. Modifications in capabilities, manpower, and resources prompted the NSA director to change SCE to SCC in 2007.

In 2019, after 71 years of holding the cryptologic authority, the Twenty-Fifth Air Force (the last successor of USAFSS) inactivated, transferring the Air Force SCC authority to 16th Air Force.

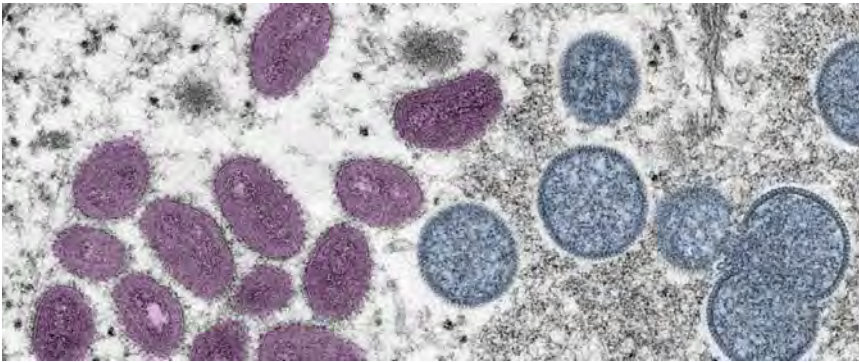
Currently, 16th Air Force cryptologic operations have evolved to use modernized sensors on various platforms and information systems, turning signals into usable intelligence in the competition for Information Warfare dominance.

The 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), headquartered at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, is the first-of-its-kind Numbered Air Force. Also known as the Air Force's Information Warfare Numbered Air Force, that fully integrates multisource intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, cyber warfare, electronic warfare, and information operations capabilities across the conflict continuum to ensure that our Air Force is fast, lethal and fully integrated in both competition and in war.

MONKEYPOX DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY: WHAT AIRMEN AND GUARDIANS NEED TO KNOW

Adapted from an article by Air Force Surgeon General/PA

FALLS CHURCH, VA — The World Health Organization declared monkeypox a public health emergency on July 23. With more than 4,000 cases in the United States, Airmen and Guardians should know the risks and how to stay safe.



Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. Monkeypox virus is part of the same family of viruses as variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. Monkeypox symptoms are similar to smallpox symptoms, but milder, and monkeypox is rarely fatal. Monkeypox is not related to chickenpox.

Monkeypox is primarily spread from person-to-person through prolonged close contact with an infectious rash, scabs or body fluids, as well as through respiratory droplets or oral fluids. Additionally, spread can also occur through the handling of objects such as bedding or clothing belonging to a person with a known infection.

Vaccine and Treatment

The Food and Drug Administration has approved vaccine for monkeypox, however it is in limited supply in the United States. The Department of Defense is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure all service members, stateside and overseas, have vaccine within 24 to 48 hours.

Members who have questions and concerns, or want to know their vaccine eligibility should contact their military treatment facility. Patients who receive care outside of the MTF should contact their local provider.

The current guidance on who can get vaccinated prioritizes those who are a known contact identified through public health contact tracing, as well as those who have had sexual contact in the last 14 days with an individual who was infected or had multiple sexual partners in the past 14 days in an area with known monkeypox cases. Additionally, those whose jobs may expose them to monkeypox, such as laboratory workers who handle monkeypox specimens, are advised to receive the vaccine.

“If you believe you fall into one of these categories, then you need to quickly reach out to your provider to get assessed and confirm the need for the vaccine,” said Lt. Col. David Sayers, Chief, Preventive Medicine, Air Force Medical Readiness Agency.

Airmen and Guardians should seek medical care immediately if they believe they have come in close contact with someone with a known infection or have a suspected infection themselves.

“Please do not wait to seek medical attention if you believe you are infected or a close contact,” said Sayers. “While the current outbreak has mostly been seen among men, anyone can be at risk of getting infected. Children, pregnant women and people who are immunocompromised are most at risk of severe complications should they become infected.”

Isolation is recommended for the duration of the illness if an individual is confirmed to have monkeypox. Treatment is primarily supportive care to treat the pain, rash, fever and body aches, especially for young, healthy individuals. Currently, there are no specific medications licensed to treat monkeypox.

Symptoms

The most prominent monkeypox symptom includes a rash that classically starts on the face and distributes to the extremities. In the current outbreak, the rash has been found to be distributed mostly to the genital area in some people. Symptoms also include fever, body aches, swollen lymph nodes and fatigue.

The time from infection to the presentation of symptoms is usually seven to 14 days but may range from five to 21 days total.

“The rash goes through stages where it shows up as a pimple and evolves into a pustule. That pustule then opens up and scabs over before healing,” said Sayers.

More information and resources about monkeypox are located [here](#).

DON'T BE A TARGET: PHISHING AND SMISHING ON THE RISE

Adapted from an article by Sharon Singleton, 16AF (AF Cyber)

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX

— You did it, you almost clicked a text, a link, or responded to an email that looked legitimate and potentially gave away personal information to scammers. You are not alone. The criminal act of phishing and smishing are on the rise and people across the Nation are falling for scams daily. Scammers are out to get your personal information and subsequently,

access to your money, accounts or credit line. Phishing occurs when scammers use mostly email in an attempt to extract personal information. Smishing occurs when scammers send text messages to gain access to personal information or passwords. Regardless of the medium, scammers may pose as a bank, creditor, warranty business or even a former or current military unit looking to connect with military members.

The Office of Special Investigations understands general phishing attempts but is concerned about attempts to specifically target military members.

“Military members are just as vulnerable to falling victim to phishing attacks as the general population. Scammers exploit Airmen’s military affiliation by appearing to represent military agencies like the Defense Finance Accounting Service or appearing as the member’s squadron or wing,” said Jeffrey Sroka, Office of Special Investigations liaison officer, 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber).

Scammers attempt to lure service members into clicking emails or responding to texts.

“These phishing campaigns can be accompanied by identifying information from military units,” said Sroka. “This military connection makes the phishing attempt appear more legitimate.”

Phishing and smishing affect Airmen and their families Air Force wide.

Recently, a Total Force Airman answered a phone call from what he thought was his bank. The callers spoke professionally and seemed to know his banking information, so he felt comfortable in giving them his account information. The scammers were able to access his account and take \$500. The Airman stated the phone call sounded authentic and reasonable.



The breach of account caused the Airman to scramble and cancel all of his credit cards and change all of his account passwords.

Once scammers have account numbers or information from items like credit cards, they continue to commit additional crimes. They may immediately attempt to make purchases, steal your identity or open credit cards in your name.

“It can be very hard to identify the people behind it. They often use burner phones and accounts to hide their true identity, and they’re often located outside the United States,” Sroka said.

As scammers become more advanced in their tactics, discerning legitimate communication from phishing and smishing can be a difficult task.

Sroka provides several tips to prevent Total Force Airmen from becoming victims of phishing, smishing and other cybercrimes:

- Be mindful of the information you are putting on social media; the platforms are public.
- Lockdown your accounts, don’t make them public for everyone to see.
- Use two-factor identification; if your username and password are compromised, you have a second means of securing your data.
- Report account violations as soon as possible, cancel or freeze affected credit cards and change passwords of violated accounts.
- If you are using the same username and password for the account that was compromised anywhere else, you have to assume that all accounts with the same username and passwords could potentially be compromised as well.
- Do not click on information you are not aware of even if it comes from someone you know.
- If information does come from someone you know, contact them first before clicking or taking any action.
- Hit delete; don’t click or respond at all. You can also block numbers placed to your phone.

“The best thing to do is to avoid compromise happening in the first place,” said Sroka. “If it does happen, immediately report that you believe your account or identity has been compromised to the proper authority or financial institution.”

Violations can be reported to the Federal Trade Commission or the Anti-Phishing Working Group. You can report phishing to APWG by sending email to phishing-report@us-cert.gov.

Sroka believes Airmen should be able to focus on the mission and their lives, and not have the stress of canceling credit cards and fixing compromised bank accounts, leading to added stress over finding new ways to pay bills like their rent or mortgage.

FROM WAR ON TERRORISM TO INFORMATION WARFARE

Adapted from an article by 1st Lt Dorothy Sherwood

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX — The war on terrorism expanded to Iraq in 2003, starting Operation Iraqi Freedom that lasted until 2011.

During this time, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Najwan Alobaidi from the recently redesignated 33rd Cyberspace Operations Squadron was a civilian interpreter assisting the U.S. Army in Baghdad, Iraq. “I worked with two units from the Louisiana and Tennessee Army National Guard back in Baghdad,” said Alobaidi. “We were brothers united by facing the same danger. He had to get my back and I had his.”

Alobaidi, a native of Iraq, was embedded with the U.S. Army for four years. He accompanied soldiers on missions trying to find “high value targets” and sometimes working with other military units from Estonia and the United Kingdom.



“We were patrolling on foot passing a husband and wife saying, ‘As-Salaam-Alaikum,’ and the husband said, ‘you hear that guy, he sounded like us,’” said Alobaidi. “You couldn’t tell the difference between us. I wore their battle rattle, I carried an M4 (carbine), wore a helmet and their uniform. I was in a combat zone the whole time.”

One day, his platoon was ambushed and an explosion caused the bulletproof glass in their vehicle to shatter with pieces of the shattered glass injuring his fellow soldiers in the front seat.

“I got emotional, those were my brothers,” he said. “My platoon sergeant said, ‘I’ve never seen an Iraqi cry for an American.’ I have kept in contact with them since then.” With his Army brothers, he

experienced block-by-block combat operations, being shot at every day and surviving the war zone together.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Najwan Alobaidi (right), 33rd Cyberspace Operations Squadron, Client System Supervisor, stands with his U.S. Army unit on the westside of Baghdad, Iraq, April 2008. Before enlisting into the military, Alobaidi, a native of Iraq, was a civilian interpreter embedded with the U.S. Army for four years during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“We had just started a mission on Friday, I remember in the afternoon an IED (improvised explosive device) went off in a vehicle just ten steps away from me,” said Alobaidi. “My Army captain thought I was bleeding from my head and took my helmet off, but it was my ears. Since then, I’ve had tinnitus.”

In 2008, he started working with the U.S. State Department as an Iraqi translator, but after the withdrawal of American troops at the end of 2011 his job changed and so did the atmosphere at his new workplace.



“I was no longer a translator,” he said. “They took my gun away, I was put into supplies and called ‘the American boy.’”

For almost eight years, Alobaidi was an Iraqi translator battling the war on terrorism. In December 2012, he made the decision to move his family from Baghdad, Iraq, to Florida and enlist in the Army National Guard as a light wheeled-vehicle mechanic.

“At the time, the Army National Guard let you join at 34 years old,” said Alobaidi. “My Army brothers supported my decision when I told them and thought it would help me better adapt into the American way of life.”

After a couple of years in the Florida and Texas ANG, he had a new goal of transferring to active duty as an Airman at 40 years old. He passed the U.S. Air Force Tactical Air Control Party initial fitness test and started his Air Force special warfare TACP training in 2014.

“I wasn’t the oldest,” said Alobaidi. “There was another guy, who was 44 years old, and he was beating everyone.”

Due to a reoccurring injury, Alobaidi was retrained into the Client Systems career field and put in charge of computer hardware and software functions. Luckily, he had already been taking college classes towards his Bachelor’s in Computer Science. His familiarization and vigorous study earned him honor graduate at the Client Systems Technician technical training school at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.

“After tech school, my first assignment was the 33rd (at the time, Network Warfare Squadron),” he said.

“My job is supplying the equipment and connectivity for the cyberspace operators and support personnel,” he said. “Without us no one would be able to get on the network.”

Alobaidi is the Client System Supervisor of six Airmen in his shop, who ensure 16th Air Force personnel protect, defend and leverage information advantages in the operational environment enabling the Air Force's ability to generate rapid airpower.

His leadership skills of problem-solving and decisiveness keeps the 16th Air Force mission going, and he was recognized for these skills one day at the Air Force's largest testing center at JBSA-Lackland. Alobaidi was only there to take a test but ended up updating all the computers when he noticed they needed a system update. His quick action kept the testing center operating and earned him the JBSA First Sergeant Diamond Sharp Award.

"You need to improvise at that moment, sometimes there is no time to wait," said Alobaidi. "Imagine you're in the field, you need to implement the solution, or you probably get killed."

Something Alobaidi dealt with firsthand back in Iraq. Now, he uses his past experiences to assist with IW.

"The world is changing since COVID, everything is more virtual; virtual meetings, classrooms and jobs," he said.

Every day 16th Air Force IW forces like Alobaidi are operating and defending the Air Force Information Networks.

"Cyber is the future, and cybersecurity is needed to prevent the bad guys from getting access to our digital world, even medical information," he said.

He is hoping his future continues with cyber, but as a U.S. Army warrant officer Cyber Warfare Technician, the next chapter of his journey. A journey from an Iraqi interpreter, a soldier, to being a part of the IW force – Alobaidi is a multi-capable Airman.

16TH AIR FORCE AIRMEN RISE UP, LIFT UP MENTORING STUDENTS IN UVALDE

Adapted from an article by Rabia Coombs and Raquel McNees, 16AF (AF Cyber)

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, TX — Airmen from across the 16th Air Force enterprise volunteered to mentor more than 40 students during both camps designed to introduce participants to cybersecurity, online safety and proper cyber hygiene to a community that was affected by the tragic school shooting at Robb Elementary School on May 24.



Volunteers from the 16th Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) units, other DoD entities and industry pose following a cybersecurity education camp for elementary students at the El Progreso Memorial Library, Uvalde, Texas, June 23, 2022. Airmen from across the 16th Air Force enterprise volunteered to mentor more than 40 students during both camps designed to introduce participants to cybersecurity, online safety and proper cyber hygiene to a community affected by the tragic school shooting at Robb Elementary School on May 24.

“Like many others, I thought about my own kids when I first heard about the tragedy,” said Staff Sgt. Stephen Oh, cyber warfare operator, 39th Information Operations Squadron Detachment 1 and volunteer for the camps. “I wanted to help, and I wanted the kids to know that we were there for them.”

The two camps called SA Cyber4 Uvalde was a community partnership between CyberTexas Foundation, Air & Space Forces Association, University of Texas at San Antonio, Alamo AFCEA, El Progreso Memorial Library and 16th Air Force.

“Upon discovering that many of the instructors were military and that we all came from different parts of the state, the kids expressed that they felt safer, and they felt supported and cared for,” said Oh.

Known as the Cyber Viking to his students, Fredrick Hall, a network engineer with the 690th Intelligence Support Squadron, was the lead curriculum developer and instructor

for the camps using his experience in cyber to teach the Uvalde students.

“The purpose of both camps was to provide a distraction from the tragic events of May 24 and to begin working with Uvalde CISD (Consolidated Independent School District) to create

cybersecurity and computer science courses in the middle and high schools to serve as pathways for students to pursue careers in the cyber industry,” said Hall.

El Progreso Memorial Library saw the importance in hosting these camps and educating these young students to be vigilant in cybersecurity.

“As a civic and cultural center, the library was delighted to use its facilities to host this unique and wonderful opportunity for our young people to receive training and information on the latest techniques and information on this vital subject,” said Mendell Morgan, director of El Progreso Memorial Library. “Our young people are our future leaders and information technology will continue to be increasingly integral to daily life activities, so online security will become an increasingly important concern.”

“In tough times people need distractions and an uplift,” said Airman First Class D’Andree Martinez, Air Force Information Network Mission Assurance Center network operations coordinator, 690th Cyberspace Operations Group. “Bringing something enjoyable and fun for the children of a heartbroken community can help in mending the wounds of the people.”

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).



Heritage Chapter San Angelo, TX

Ronald 'JJ' Graham, Chapter President

Larry Ross, Secretary/Treasurer

EC-47 History Site

Submitted by Tom Nurre



Leave Your Mark (LYM) Engraving Studio

The new engraving studio is set up as a separate building on the LYM landscape company business lot. Their IS400 rotary engraving machine and computer are arranged to the left in the above panoramic picture. The pictures below are of owner/operator Henry Cislo sitting at the engraving machine; the engraving machine with bronze plates inserted in the engraving saddle; and the spray booth used to apply the black paint for the engraved lettering and the final clear coat finish.



Henry and his dad, Eric Cislo, have been training on the new machine and software. They are now capable of vectorizing the emblems in our online catalog...resulting in better detail and alignment on the bronze plates. Their practice rectangle plate engravings are every bit as

good as the originals with some improvement especially noted in the detail in the aircrew member's wings. We are anxious to see the engravings of more of the catalog emblems used with the round bronze plates.

The San Angelo paver team reviewed all of the backlogged engraved plate orders (205 4x8 & 49 8x8) and forwarded them to Henry last week. They are now in production with expected deliveries beginning later this month. Upon receipt of each new shipment, we will photograph each plate in an outdoor studio and upload the pictures to the vietnam50thcpp.com website. This service is provided by the EC-47 History Site. Here are three pictures of engravings made with the new machine.



With the capabilities of the new machine to engrave detailed aircrew wings in the top two-line space on the rectangle bronze plate, we are now offering this same option for the round bronze plates. This results in one additional line of text in these inscriptions. To the left below is a computer graphic of a recent order with the two-line entry of the wings emblem and five lines of text. The next pictures are of actual ABS plastic Keepsake plates with the aircrew wings and a full-sized emblem. The difference is obvious. **All emblems other than aircrew wings continue to require three lines of text space for the engraving.**



Thank you for your interest, your patience, and your continuing support for this Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza paver program. Through your generosity, we deposited over \$6,000 in the EC-47 Pavers & Pins account following the March 2022 dedication ceremony. Nearly 50 complimentary pavers with inscriptions have since been ordered for veterans that you nominated. Please continue to nominate all veterans of all wars and periods of service for this program...especially Vietnam War veterans...living and deceased. This program provides a cost-free 4x8 paver and inscription, and when applicable, a Vietnam War Commemorative lapel pin and Certificate of Honor to the deceased Vietnam veteran surviving spouse. Please send your named nomination for the Pavers & Pins Program directly to Tom Nurre at partners@vietnam50thcpp.com. Include the individual name and service information...we will work with you on all the other details.

More than half of the plaza pavers have been spoken for with sales of 383 (of 572) 4x8 and 150 (of 410) 8x8 pavers, respectively. There are plenty of pavers available but don't delay. Sales are expected to soar again now that the engraving production has restarted with renewed enthusiasm.

Please click [HERE](#) to purchase a paver.

Please click [HERE](#) to order ABS plastic Keepsake plates.

Planning is afoot for a dedication ceremony of all the new bronze plates to be installed in the Weyandt-Eddy Memorial Plaza scheduled for March 29, 2023. We are thinking about conducting a similar program as this past March. Goodfellow AFB and the Wing leadership are enthusiastic about this great memorial, and we expect their full support. Please send your comments about what you may have really liked about the 2022 dedication ceremonies...especially if you have suggestions about what we should do again...and maybe any parts that should be less emphasized. Your input is important and really appreciated.

Tom info@ec47.com

325 450-4476

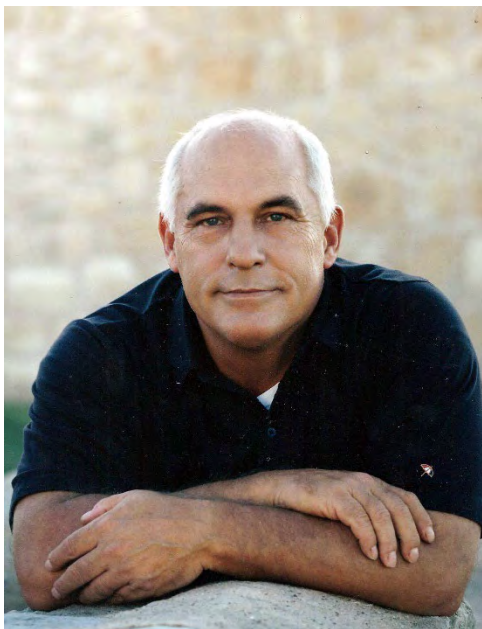
Helps Resurrect 25-year-old Application

Heritage Chapter Honors 17th Training Group Civilian with Dedication

Written by Larry Miller and Submitted by Larry Ross

Photo by J.J. Graham

May 26, 2022, the Heritage Chapter assisted the 17th Training Group at Goodfellow in dedicating the Group conference room to the memory of first Technical Sergeant, then Captain, and finally GS-13 Jules Jaquier. To say the very least, this was a “long time coming” – in fact, 25 years after the first memorialization package was submitted.



Jules Jaquier

In 1956, when he first joined the Air Force, Mr. Jaquier trained as an enlisted airborne Chinese linguist serving at several USAFSS and ESC sites in the Far East. He received his commission as a second lieutenant in 1968 with follow-on duty to the 6990th as a flight commander, and was, by all accounts, the finest of the Officer Airborne Mission Supervisors (OAMS) assigned there during the Vietnam War. Jules retired from active duty as a Captain and was quickly hired as a civilian GS employee at Goodfellow. He was instrumental, and irreplaceable in the consolidation of all Air Force intelligence training to the base, and as well as the flawless move of the DoD fire fighter school from Chanute to Goodfellow. Probably most significant among his achievements was the introduction of the very first computer-aided instruction into the intel schoolhouse - the harbinger of systems used throughout intel training at Goodbuddy to this day. Mr. Jaquier passed away in 1997 while still actively working extremely significant training projects at the 17th Training Group.

A memorialization package was first submitted very soon after Jules passing in 1997 but was seemingly lost at Headquarters AETC never to be seen again. The Heritage Chapter became aware of this serious mistake in 2020, but action correcting this was slowed due to the COVID pandemic. In 2022, with the help of those who submitted the first memorialization package, specifically retired MSgt Charlie Barnes, the Heritage Chapter was able to reconstruct the initial recommendation and draw the 17th Training Group’s attention towards honoring Mr. Jaquier’s memory and achievements. In March 2022, Colonel Angelina Maguinness, 17th Training Group Commander, and the 17th Training Wing approved the memorialization of the 17th’s conference room in Mr. Jules Jaquier’s honor.

The dedication ceremony at 2:00 PM on May 26th was attended by Mr. Charles “Chuck” Jaquier, Jaq’s son; Colonel Maguinness and her staff; many of Mr. Jaquier’s former co-workers back in the

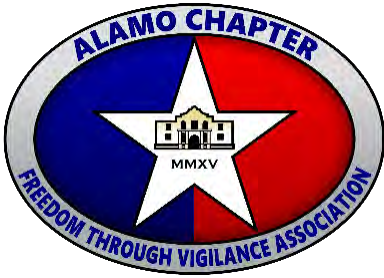
day; and members of the Heritage Chapter. “J.J.” Graham, Heritage Chapter president, made opening remarks and introduced Col Maguinness who then spoke encapsulating Mr. Jaquier’s remarkable career which spanned 45 years of service to his country. Retired SMSgt Jim Hartle and Larry Miller followed her remarks with their own war stories about serving with Mr. Jaquier at the 6990th and at Goodfellow.

As you can imagine, the Heritage Chapter feels especially honored to have played a significant part in this accomplishment. We believe it is also important to note that, as far as we can determine, this honor in memory of Mr. Jaquier and his achievements is the only such memorial honoring a DoD civilian in the 17th Training Group. So, in some small way, it not only honors him but also the contributions of the hundreds of civil servants – past and present – who proudly served their nation at Goodfellow.



(Above) Colonel Angelina Maguinness, 17th Training Group Commander and, Mr. Charles “Chuck” Jaquier, Jaq’s son; (Left) Larry Miller addressing the assemblage (Next page)) Jules Jaquier and the dedication plaque.





Alamo Chapter San Antonio, TX



Ken Williams, President
Dennis “Rass” Rasmussen, Vice President
Ken Maynard, Secretary/Treasurer

July Chapter Meeting

The San Antonio Chapter of the FTVA held their July meeting on the 21st at the Saltgrass Restaurant. There was no meeting held in June, as many members were on vacation. The members and spouses enjoyed fellowship and dinner. Attendees present:

Ken and Shiela Williams
Bob and Donna Crabtree
Dennis Rasmussen
Ken and Judy Maynard
Jim McLendon
Dan Martin
Charles and Earla Bishop
Doug and Anne Williams
Ron and Kay Weaver

President Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 1800 and the assemblage covered the following:

- Tickets for the 10 September FTVA annual banquet were offered for sale and three tickets were sold.
- The 16 AF Change of Command, which occurred this morning, was briefed and it was mentioned that the outgoing commander, Lt Gen Tim Haugh, was moving to Ft. Meade and his replacement is Lt Gen Kevin Kennedy.
 - The treasurer reported a balance of \$1,030.00

August Chapter Meeting

The San Antonio Chapter of the FTVA held their monthly meeting at the Saltgrass Restaurant on 18 August 2022. The members and spouses enjoyed fellowship and dinner. Attendees present:

Ken Williams
Bob and Donna Crabtree
Ken Maynard
Jim and Karen McLendon
Dan Martin
Vince and Elise Colacicco
Doug and Anne Williams
Ron and Kay Weaver
Joseph "Pepito" and Rosario Figueroa
Mrs. Doyle (Lois) Larson and Nancy Larson
Bob and Donna Crabtree
Jesse Green
John Lopez
Bill Sheck



Alamo Chapter Stalwarts (l-r) Bill Sheck, John Lopez, and Jesse Green (photo by Ken Maynard).

President Ken Williams called the meeting to order at 1800 and the assemblage discussed the following items:

Tickets for the 10 September FTVA annual banquet were offered for sale and 10 tickets were sold.

There will be no meeting held in September since many members will be attending the annual anniversary events 8-10 September.

The next meeting will be held at the Alamo Café on 10060 IH 10W as members want to try a different venue for our monthly meetings.

There being no further business, the official meeting adjourned at 1830 followed by good camaraderie and current and past events.

Alamo Chapter Meetings Mug Shots



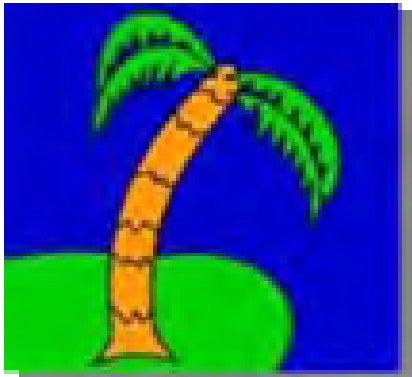
(L-R) Ken Williams, Elise Colacicco, Dan Martin, Vince Colacicco, Rosario & Pepito Figueroa (photo by Ken Maynard).



(L-R) Doug & Anne Williams, Ron & Kay Weaver, Donna Crabtree (photo by Ken Maynard)



(L-R) Karen McLendon, Lois Larson, Nancy Larson, Jim McLendon (photo by Ken Maynard)



Aloha Chapter Honolulu, HI

John “Tilly” Toillion, President

Aloha All -

Our most recent get together was August 11 before I attended the Reunion events in September (see below). Naturally we were at our favorite “watering hole” Ruby Tuesdays in Mililani.



At the meeting we paid tribute to former Chapter member Steve Crain who just a year ago passed away all too young. We will always leave an empty chair in Steve’s honor.

Also, we had a special guest who I (Tilly) have lived next to since 1988 but never knew he was retired AF nor that he knew both Dickie and Ken from days in Thailand. Small world for sure.

Topics for today included the usual health updates announcing that we’re all falling apart - well except for Fred’s grandson Brandon.

Back Row (L-R) John “Tilly” Toillion, Dickie Hites, Brendan Collin, Fred Collin; Front Row (L-R) Ned Nedorolik & Ken Een

Lots of new war stories by Ned, Dickie and Ken while Fred, Brendan and I shared a

number of laughs. We also took a hack at the VA system and how confusing it can be at times; however, per Ken it seems to be improving.

Tilly plans to attend this year’s FTVA Reunion from Sep 8 – 10 and will report back to Aloha Chapter at our next get together in December.

As always, the welcome mat is always opened to any of you are traveling this direction.

Until next time – “Alooooooooooooo HA!!! - John “Tilly” Toillion, chapter president

2022 FTVA – ALOHA CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT

Aloha Everyone...

It is hard to believe that FTVA - Aloha Chapter was formed back on January 20, 1983, under the leadership of Michael B. Feldblum.

Over the past 39 years Aloha Chapter has experienced many changes – from a much larger and more active group to a much smaller “hui” (Hawaiian for small group/association).

Nevertheless, we continue to meet quarterly for lunch at our usual watering hole “Ruby Tuesdays – Mililani” with our main focus of “Remaining in Touch.”

Our current group consists of Dickie Hites, Ken Een, Fred Collins, Leroy “Oly” Harrison, John Harman, Dave Jones, Larry Nishihara, Tom (Ned) Nedorolik and John Toillion.

On a sad note, this past year we said a heavenly farewell to long time member Steve Crain who passed away after relocating to Florida.

Last but not least, the Aloha Chapter wishes to say, “Mahalo Nui Loa” (Hawaiian for “thank you very much” to Tom Nurre, JJ Graham and especially to Pete Siegle who nominated Ken “Hopi” Hopkins for a *Weyandt-Eddy Memorial* recognition for serving on numerous EC-47 flights over Viet Nam. I will have the honor to present this special recognition to Hopi’s wife, Miyoko, and family upon my return to Hawaii.

As always, if you’re travels bring you to the islands, we’d love to connect with you.

John “Tilly” Toillion
President, FTVA – Aloha Chapter



Wasatch Chapter Salt Lake City, UT

Jacob Scheid, President

Shawn Heckman, Vice President

Scott Lawson, Treasurer

With lots of folks traveling over the summer, the FTVA Wasatch Chapter didn't host any official meetings, but we did support the 151 ISRG (169 IS) with a BBQ for their July drill weekend on July 17th. Mike Batura, Nick Batura, Phil Butler, and Shawn Heckman were on hand to spread the good word about the FTVA and hopefully enticed a few to join the FTVA in the near future.

Col Troy Drennan, 151 ISRG/CC and FTVA lifetime member, expressed his appreciation for us sponsoring the event. We hope to build on this and make it an annual occurrence going forward to bring together retirees with currently serving members, similar to reunion events held by other chapters.

See our [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) for more information and announcements on our meetings normally held on fourth Fridays at 6:00pm (locations vary). If you're ever in town visiting, we'd love to see you join us.

Scott Lawson
FTVA Wasatch Treasurer

Mid-Atlantic Region Chapter

Bob Bastian, Acting President, Treasurer

Submitted by Bob Bastian

The below was released by the National Cryptologic Foundation President, Laura Nelson, late last month. After several years of trying to resolve a financial impasse with NSA, Congress, and DoD, that was holding up construction of the Cyber Center for Innovation and Excellence (which would have included a new building for the Cryptologic Museum and grounds for the memorial aircraft), it looks like the towel has been thrown in. It now appears we are years away (possibly 2028 or 2029) for any hope of restoring a memorial to the crew of Aircraft #60528 that was shot down over Soviet Armenia in 1958 by relying on NSA and the Foundation. We do still have the potential for a much smaller memorial, as the Tail Assembly is (or was as of earlier this year) still sitting on NSA grounds next to the Navy's A6 and Army's RC-8 (?). The rest of the memorial aircraft was too damaged to be restored, so it was to be sunk in a quarry in Baltimore to serve as a training site for rescue divers.

Mike Meermans (President, Big Safari Group) is working with other Big Safari reps to see if the tail assembly can be moved to Greenville, TX, restored, and then stored until such time as a suitable memorial can be arranged here at Fort Meade.

Thanks, Bob



★ NATIONAL ★
CRYPTOLOGIC
FOUNDATION

CCEI Update from the NCF President & CEO

Dear Robert (Bob) -

Over the years, members and donors like you have supported our efforts to build a facility for the Cyber Center for Education & Innovation (CCEI). I regret to inform you that on June 3rd, the Board of Directors of the National Cryptologic Foundation (NCF) voted to terminate our efforts to fund and construct the CCEI facility.

This decision did not come easily as we have been invested for many years in seeing the project through to completion. Decisions made by the Department of Defense (DoD) made the NCF's pursuit of construction of the building nearly impossible. However, we are pleased to report that

the NCF's Education Program associated with the CCEI concept is well underway and is operating without walls.

We have been assured by the National Security Agency (NSA) that the construction of the CCEI facility (and new home of the National Cryptologic Museum) remains a priority for the Agency. The NSA will request MILCON funding for the project and is working with the DoD Comptroller to re-assign the CCEI designs (building and museum exhibits) and acquired materials (steel and pre-cast concrete) from the NCF to NSA.

Most importantly, our work to develop the education initiatives associated with the CCEI concept will continue to grow and accelerate as we shift focus away from construction of a facility. In fact, the Education Program of the NCF-CCEI has grown considerably over the past few years. On November 2, 2021, we signed a Memorandum of Agreement with NSA outlining how we will work together to achieve the original goals of the CCEI. Our efforts in the realm of cyber education are helping to build the next generation of cryptologists and cyber professionals.

We are also in the initial stages of developing the “Innovation” piece of the CCEI concept. We will be working with NSA to build a series of “convening” forums to bring together experts from government, private industry, and academia to promote public understanding of key issues and gather together those who can solve problems facing our nation.

We are grateful for your support of this project for over 10+ years. Your support has made a difference, and your donations were not made in vain. While this may not be the path originally envisioned, we remain confident the CCEI building will be constructed. In the meantime, all of us at the NCF continue to foster the plans and programs that are the lifeblood of the CCEI concept. We hope you will continue to support this vital piece of our mission.

To see more details regarding the reasons for the above decision and to become more familiar with our Education Program's accomplishments and future plans, I invite you to [view my full letter on the NCF website](#).

Respectfully,

Laura C. Nelson

President & Chief Executive Officer

National Cryptologic Foundation



Gold Country Chapter Yuba City, CA



John Aurelius, President
jaurelius@mikodi.com

Our Heritage Series continues our monthly meetings. We are working to meet our educational objectives by showing videos of USAFSS history and the more current history of events at Beale Air Force Base. At our last meeting, we presented Gary Sinise in “High Flight” which documents his visit to Beale, his flight in the U2 and all that he experienced to prepare for it. This is available on YouTube as https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6c3Y_AtXco or by searching for “Gary Sinise High Flight”

Sadly, since my last report, two of our members have become Fallen Eagles. We have lost both Richard Sacchetti and Tom Roach.

Richard Sacchetti was the founder of our Gold Country FTVA Chapter and served as it’s President for many years. Dick was born on May 27th 1943 and passed away in Seguin Texas on June 16th 2022. I was present at his graveside service in Sutter California where he was honored by the Beale Air Force Base Honor Guard and a three rifle salute from American Legion Post 705. I was told by a close friend of his that he was buried wearing his Silent Warrior T-Shirt along with his Silent Warrior ring. This is a ring that he had designed himself. Dick had it produced and is now worn by many of our members. Dick was a great leader and patriot and will be missed.



Tom Roach was born in NYC in the fall of 1938. He grew up in the suburbs of NYC, living in Bedford Hills, NY and Westport, CN. Tom developed an early interest in nature and joined the Audubon Society at the age of 8 so he would be able to go on field trips to see the local birds, mammals and insects. Tom graduated from high school in 1957 and attended the University of North Carolina for before leaving to join the United States Air Force in 1958.

In October 1959, Tom was assigned to Misawa Air Base, Japan where he immediately bought a Nikon F at the Base Exchange. He had been photographing as a hobby since then. He retired from the USAF in 1978 and immediately moved to California. He was always interested in nature



photography and took "eco-safaris" to Costa Rica. Tom was a chapter member for many years before I joined. We enjoyed many hours with Tom sharing his Air Force experiences of over 20 years. Tom passed away at the age of 83, on May 2, 2022 in Lincoln, California.

Remain In Touch
John Aurelius
President/GCC



Rocky Mountain Chapter Colorado Springs, CO

Greg Roman and Stan Cook Co-Presidents

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

Submitted by George "Ike" Eichelberger

Dennis,

My apologies, but I am afraid the RMC has NSTR for Sep. We are meeting later this week and will hopefully have a note or two from then.

Cheers,

Ike

Check back in the next issue of Remain in Touch for news and activities from The Rocky Mountain Chapter.



REUNIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The FTVA 2022 Reunion!

The long-delayed FTVA Reunion, in which hands old and new get together, finally came into fruition after fits and starts the last few years because of you-know-what; stupid COVID. But it went off this September 8-10 through the herculean efforts of you, the volunteers and your BoD. The following photo montage depicts selected scenes in which the alumni, family, and friends came together once again. Perhaps you will recognize those you know and wish you had been there.

Playtime! The Golfers



(Photo Courtesy of ProShots Photography)



Winners! The winning team (l-r) Joe Hurst, Jim McLendon, Jesse Coultrap and John Kotch. Photo Courtesy of ProShots Photography.



Lining Up to Check In. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams



Thank You Volunteers. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams



Team of Stalwarts. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams



Jesse Coultrap. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams



Ziggy & BFF's. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams



This game is easy. Photo Courtesy of ProShots Photography.



What form! What grace! “Wait! Did anybody see where the ball went? Photo Courtesy of ProShots Photography.

RememberingHonoring....



The Remembrance Ceremony at the static display in front of building 2000. Photo Courtesy of Pepito Figueroa

Placing the wreath at the 2022 FTVA Reunion Remembrance Ceremony, right, and the solemn, haunting notes of the bagpiper, below. Photos Courtesy of Pepito Figueroa



Distinguished Guests. Brig Gen Neal Robinson's family members. Photo Courtesy of Ken Williams

The Picnic in the Parks

(Photos by Ken Williams)



Chief AJ and Friends

Jimmy Mac refusing to share his BBQ at the picnic.



Happy Campers



A New Generation of Picknickers



**Everybody on this page
is having a great time.**





Parting Shots



Selected Scenes of a Banquet

(Unless otherwise indicated, all photos courtesy of 16 AF/PA)



Giving Thanks for Many Things



The Meet and Greet: Rass and Barney Center Stage



The Distinguished Assembly



Mr. Speaker: CMSgt Kenneth Bruce, 16 AF Command Chief



**The Entertainment: The Spectrum
Strings of the Band of the West**

(Photo courtesy of Ken Williams)



The Music Made for a Perfect Evening...Such Talent

Right, John "Tilly" Toillion, FTVA Aloha FTVA Chapter President with guest Norma Matowitz, widow of CMSgt (ret) Keith Matowitz, USAFSS veteran. Photo submitted by Aloha Tilly.



Tsk, Tsk. Let me straighten that tie for you, sir



Relatives of HoH honoree SMSgt Anthony Radziminiski

For more banquet photos click [HERE](#).

And

[HERE](#) for more Reunion photos from 16th AF/PA.

Peshawar Air Station Alumni Association 2022 Reunion

The PASAA 2022 Reunion will take place around the middle of October. The location will be in the Patrick Space Force Base/Space Coast area of Florida, but the timing will be dependent upon hotel availability and other factors. This is just a ‘heads-up.’ We are requesting volunteer(s) who live in the area to step up and help with checking out hotels, meeting venues, etc. in the Space Coast area. Please contact us at badaber@att.net and/or calling Tom Davis at (937) 470-3395. We hope to have complete details in the next Newsletter.

FTVA VIGILANT PARTNERS

P.O. BOX 691616

San Antonio, TX 78269

FREEDOM THROUGH VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 691616



PLATINUM PARTNERS

Prop Wash Gang

Mrs. Doyle E. Larson

(IMO Maj Gen Doyle E. Larson)



GOLD PARTNERS

Security Services Federal Credit Union

Engrave-Tech & Graphics

Anonymous

(IMO MSgt Robert "Bob" Fenstermacher)

Regis F.A. Urschler

(IMO Maj Gen Doyle Larson and

Tom Tennant)



SILVER PARTNERS

Anthony F. Jensen

Grover Jackson

William F. Sheck

Bob & Debbie Cope

“Picnic Partners”

Donald Bundy

Greg Radabaugh





BRONZE PARTNERS

Mark and Amy Hess

Ronald Hentz

(IHO Col Bob Cope)

Jack V. Brewer

E.W. Forbess



PATRON PARTNERS

CMSgt Roger Towberman

James Mayer

Charles Bishop

Edward Sellmeyer



Thank You VPs! Your continued support is vital in helping us continue the FTVA mission



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

Baye, Michael J., USAFSS

Beyers, Kenneth R., USAFSS

Burk, Stanley A., MSgt (ret), USAF

Chicorelli Danny M., SMSgt (ret), USAF

Crooks, Robert C., MSgt (ret), USAF

Finch, Robert V. *****FTVA Lifetime Member**

Gentry, James W., A1C, USAFSS

Godfrey, John F., TSgt (ret), USAFSS

Hundley, Charles E., MSgt (ret)

Mays, Jerry, A1C, USAFSS

Montague, George B., TSgt (ret) *****FTVA Lifetime Member**

Ogaard, Peter R., MSgt (ret), *****FTVA Lifetime Member**

Parker, William W., USAFSS

Sandoval, Raul, CMSgt (ret), USAFSS *****FTVA Lifetime Member and Hall of Honor (1999)**

Rupert, Robert R., MSgt (ret), USAFSS

Slep, John "Jack" J., USAFSS

Woolbert, James A., MSgt (ret)



Baye, Michael, J. 75, passed away Jul 14, 2021. He enlisted in the USAF in 1964 and served as a Signals Intercept Analyst. He was stationed in Texas for a year and Germany for three years. Mike took great pride in his four-year service to his country, but the thing he held dearest was the lifelong friendships he developed with his USAF buddies. He cherished his USAF Reunions. Mike is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Andrew and Emma; daughter and son-in-law, Kathleen and Aaron Hank; son and daughter-in-law, William and Cheri; his son David and his fiancée Dacia Immel; the mother of his four children, Mary Phillips.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Karen on May 16, 2020. //Obit – Proko Wall Funeral Home//



Beyers, Kenneth R., 78, passed away Sep 3, 2021. He served his country honorably in the USAF. Kenneth is survived by his wife of 6 years Judith Beyers, his 8 children Kenny Beyers and wife Karen; Kathleen McGinnis and husband Mitchell; Michael Beyers and wife Kimberly; Meredith Beyers; Gregory Beyers and wife Peggy; Douglas Beyers and wife Heather; Valerie Kirk and husband Shaun; and Andrew Beyers. //Obit – Kearney Funeral Home//

Kenneth Beyers was assigned to 6910th Charlie flight from 1963 to 1967 //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//



Burk, Stanley A., MSgt (ret), 64, passed away Aug 6, 2022. Stan was a MSgt for the USAF stationed in South Korea and Japan and served in Desert Storm. He served in military intelligence and flew AWACS for the Air Force primarily as a Korean Linguist. Stan is survived by his wife, Amy; sons, Clay Burk, Arnold Carreon, Ariel Carreon; daughter, and Betty Jo Fitzsimmons. //Obit – Crawford Bowers Funeral Home//

Stan and I first met in March 1976 on casual status just after basic training at Lackland. Turns out we were both heading to DLI for Korean linguist training. We were together at DLI, then Goodfellow, for training. Then we headed together to Osan AB and Skivvy 9. From the outset Stan was a superior linguist with a gift. After his tour in Korea our paths diverged. I always will remember what a great guy he was, good friend and outstanding golfer. Rest In Peace, my fellow MIMI; sure did enjoy our early journey together. “Pistol” //Dennis Buxton//



Chicorelli, Danny M., SMSgt (ret), 78, passed away Dec 31, 2021. Dan joined the United States Air Force in 1963 and served active duty for almost 30 years; assigned overseas in Germany, Thailand, Japan and England for nearly 25 years of his service. Dan was married for 49 years to Stephanie Chicorelli, who he met on a blind date. Dan is survived by his wife, Stephanie; his son Michael Chicorelli and his wife, Jessica; daughter Anne Marie Chicorelli and her husband, Charlie Boulware; and daughter Mary Chicorelli and her husband, Andrew Ellender.

//Obit - Hardesty Funeral Home//



Crooks, Robert, C., MSgt (ret), 60, passed away Jan 6, 2022. He enlisted in the USAF in 1982. He was stationed in Misawa, Japan for 2 years. He was also stationed at Advanced Tech School at Naval Air Corry Station, Pensacola Florida and Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was tech support for the Stealth Fighter. In 1990 he was tech support for F117 Signals Intelligence Analyst during Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia. His last base he worked at was back at Naval Air Corry Station working as an instructor in Defense and Security. At the

end of 2003 he retired from the Air Force but continued to work in the same area but as a Program Analyst at DON Civil Service. He is survived by his mother Marilyn (Engel) Crooks. **//Obit – Lakeshore Mortuary//**



Finch, Robert V., 90, passed away Aug 1, 2022. Bob enlisted in the United States Air Force and spent nine years in various assignments in Washington State, California, and Texas in Security and Law Enforcement as an Air Policeman. In 1959 he completed a course in Basic Russian at the Air Force Institute of Technology unit at Syracuse University. From 1961 – 1970 he completed tours in Trabzon, Turkey, Darmstadt, Germany, and Texas. In 1970 he completed a course in Vietnamese at Ft. Bliss, TX. with further assignment

in Okinawa. From 1971-73, he flew 80+ missions in SEA combat zone and was awarded the Air Force three Oak Leaf Clusters. His unit was awarded three outstanding Unit Citations (AFOUC) and the Travis Trophy award. He retired from the Air Force in January 1974 after 23 years, 6 months, and 5 days of service. He joined the American Express Military Banking as a Branch Manager at Kadena AFB. From 1978 to 1997 he had multiple posts in Japan, Greece, Germany, and Indiana, retiring as an Asst. Vice President. Bob was a beloved member of the Okinawa Kai of Washington DC for many years. He served as an officer, supported the Education Fund Committee for 20 years, and helped to promote a better understanding of Okinawa culture in the communities. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Masuko and daughter Julie. **//Obit – MyObits//** Bob was in a Vietnamese class of 10 in El Paso in 1970.m **//Larry Ross FTVA Heritage Chapter Secretary//**



Gentry, James W., A1C, 82, passed away Dec 21, 2021. Jim joined the United States Air Force where he served from 1959 to 1967. While stationed in Scotland, Jim met and married his wife Cathy. Jim is survived by his only daughter, Sharla Deanda; his greatest supporter his ex-wife, Cathy. //Obit – **Bevis Funeral Home**//

Condolences to Jim's Family and friends. I am sorry for your loss. I served in the USAFSS with Jim at 6952nd Kirknewton Scotland in the early 1960s. I remember his Basketball activities during those years. Thoughts and prayers. Rest In Peace,

Jim //John Nida//



Godfrey, John F., TSgt (ret), 86, passed away Jul 5, 2022. He served for 20 years as a TSgt in the USAF specializing in Radio Traffic Analysis. Mr. Godfrey is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joyce Godfrey of Ashland; two daughters: Jenobie Jones (Winfred) and Missy Pace (Tim); two sons: John Godfrey II (Sherri) and John Moffett. //Obit - **Benfield Funeral Home**//

Hundley, Charles E., MSgt (ret), 88, passed away Jul 24, 2022. Buzz joined the USAF at the age of 17 and served 20 distinguished years with the Security Services. Buzz is survived by his loving children Caron Hundley Gibson and Michael John Hundley along with their respective spouses, Michael Gibson and Kimberly Denman Hundley. //Obit – **Beck Chapels**//

Buzz Hundley was assigned to Charley trick in the 2nd RSM in Darmstadt from 1952 to 1955 and as X2 NCO on Trick 4 in Misawa in 1958. //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//



Mays, Jerry M., A1C, 79, passed away July 2022. Upon publication, an obituary will be posted in subsequent newsletter. Below is information from social media and his DD214. //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//

We lost one of the good ones this weekend. Jerry Mays and I met in Germany in 1983. I was a Lt on my fourth assignment and Jerry was the NSA rep to USAFE. We had some great times traveling, skiing, and hitting the local gasthauses. For my bachelor party he substituted water for vodka shots for everyone but me. I paid dearly for that! He retired in Arizona with his wife Judy. She unfortunately passed away a couple years ago from COVID. “Uncle” Jerry battled cancer for a number of years and never complained. He was a lifelong friend. I will miss him and his generous spirit. // Posted on Aug 3, 2022 by Colonel (ret) Greg Roman//

Jerry was a one-of-a kind gentleman!! He took me under his wing and tried to “learn me ,” on the Air Force ways! I’ll never forget the drinking and great times at Ramstein AFB! RIP friend!! // **Posted Aug 3, 2022 by Leslie Armistead Roman//**

A1C Jerry Mays served from Feb 1962 to Feb 1966. His AFSC was R20250 Radio Intercept Analyst Specialist. He was assigned to the 6947ESS, USAFSS, in Key West Florida ////**Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//**



Montague, George B., TSgt (ret), 89, passed away Jun 14, 2022. He enlisted in the USAF in 1949. He then spent the next 22 years in service to his country until retiring as Technical Sergeant in June of 1971. George was a proud member of the 6994th Security Squadron. This squadron is the most highly decorated squadron in the history of the current 16th Air Force – responsible for information warfare – and all its predecessor organizations. As a part of this squadron, George executed multiple tours of duty during the Vietnam War. For his outstanding service, Technical Sergeant Montague received several decorations and honors including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Upon retirement from the Air Force, George moved to Sydney, Australia and became a successful personal computer retailer.



He is survived by three nephews, Curtis W. Montague of Lowell, MA, Eric W. Montague of Amesbury, MA, and Marc E. Montague of Raynham, MA, one niece, Susan E. Montague Comas of York, ME, his sister-in-law, Esther M. Montague of York, ME, four grandnieces, Leah B. Comas, Faith N. Comas, Chloe A. Montague, and Shea A. Montague. He was predeceased by three brothers, Frederick Montague, Raymond Montague, and Francis Montague, as well as his niece, Judith A. Montague. //Peabody Funeral Home//

George Montague was a “Class Act,” whom few PWGers had the honor of getting to know well — he was indeed a USAFSS pioneer, having served as a Morse intercept operator in the 10th RSM @ RAF Chicksands, England (1951-53), and the 37th RSM, RAF Kirknewton, Scotland (1953-56). During a break in service (1956-58), he and another New England USAFSS veteran, Robert “Frenchy” Demers , who had served with George in Scotland, palled around together in the Boston area. In 1958, both re-enlisted for USAFSS assignments.

Commencing in 1966, George served four back-to-back 12-month tours (1966-1970), flying ARDF EC-47 missions with the 6924th RSM/Da Nang and the 6994th SS/Tan Son Nhut, Vietnam. At the end of each tour, George spent a 30-day leave in Sydney, Australia. In turn, he moved permanently to Sydney in 1971 after retiring from the Air Force. After some 4 decades

“down under,” George sold his computer sales franchise & his home in Sydney, and relocated to New Hampshire, near one of his brothers.

George joined the Prop Wash Gang while still living in Australia, and we remained in touch on the PWG forum. In 2011, he and I rendezvoused in Syracuse, NY, and drove George’s new Honda to Neenah, Wisconsin, for our annual PWG reunion. Three years later (2014), we drove George’s latest car — a new Lincoln — to our PWG reunion in Omaha, Nebraska. We had lots of time to chat during those trips and became close friends. RIP, Brother!!! //Larry Tart//

George’s AFSC was R29271 Morse Intercept Supervisor. //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//



Ogaard, Peter R., MSgt (ret), 85, passed away Aug 13, 2022. Pete served 20 years in the United States Air Force mostly in airborne intelligence fields flying over 300 combat support missions during the Vietnam War aboard RC130 and RC135 Comfy Echo, Commando Lance and Combat Apple. He did so mostly as the Airborne Mission Supervisor earning the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters and retired as a Master Sergeant in 1975.

He was a Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars the Air Force Security Service Freedom Through Vigilance Association, and the Prop Wash Gang / <https://sw.propwashgang.org/>. Preceded in death by wife of 33 years Akemi (who passed away in 1998). //Obit – Bellevue Memorial Funeral Home//

Had the great honor of flying with Pete out of Kadena and Offutt. He was one of the kindest and most humble, and very witty, men I’ve known. Prayers for family and friends. Rest in Peace, Pete. //Bob Cotti//



Parker, William Walter “Spanky”, 77, passed away March 7, 2022. His son, Jason Mark Parker (wife Diana) and Keith David Parker (wife Shannon); grandchildren, Erika, Addison and Averie Parker and his siblings, Cathy Mroszczyk (husband Frank), Omie Rooney (husband Ed) and Jim Parker survive him.

In addition to his parents, his wife Rose Parker preceded him in death. //Obit - Jenkins Funeral Home//

William “Spanky” Parker was assigned to the 6924th ESS. //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//



Sandoval, Raul A., CMSgt (ret), 91, passed away Jul 10, 2022. Raul is predeceased by his siblings and wife of nearly 65 years. He is survived by his three daughters. In 1947, at age 16, he dropped out of high school to join the military to see the world. Raul spent most of the next 28 years in USAF Air Intelligence, serving in the Korean Conflict, Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam War, and the Cold War, flying seventy-two combat missions. He counts six Air Medals among his many decorations. During his military career, Raul completed

his high school requirements and went on to pursue higher learning, earning credits in foreign language studies at the University of Maryland and Syracuse University, New York. His language studies included Russian, Japanese, and Vietnamese. His native language was Spanish, learning English as he assimilated into his community and attended public school. Spanish enabled him to quickly “pick up” other Romance languages: French, Italian and Portuguese as he traveled these countries. He was also a member of Toastmasters International, through which he honed his public speaking and leadership skills, facilitating his successful military career. When the USAF promoted him to Chief Master Sergeant (CMSGT), the top Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) rank, he was one of the youngest to achieve that rank. In 1999, many years after Raul retired, at their annual anniversary event, the Air Intelligence Agency’s Freedom through Vigilance Association (FTVA) formally recognized the contributions he made to his profession by placing him in the Hall of Honor. At the Honor ceremony, they cited Raul as “...a pioneer and superstar in our business, Sandy brought us through many trying times as a Morse operator, printer specialist, and multi-linguist.... a chief’s Chief.” Rockwell International, aerospace contractor, recruited Raul out of the USAF, from which he retired in 1975. His initial assignment with Rockwell was as a civilian instructor and mentor, flying intelligence missions with the Iranian Air Force in its war against Iraq. Prior to when the Shah of Iran was deposed,

Raul met Helen, the love of his life, in 1956, while studying Russian at Syracuse University. Raul took his bride around the world, to Japan and Okinawa in the Far East, to Iran in the Middle East, Europe, and the east, west, north, and south coasts of North America. Their two younger daughters were born in Japan, Tonia in the north at Misawa and Star in the south at Tachikawa. Each assignment provided opportunities to travel the region, and they did travel! //Obit – Weaver Mortuary and Crematory//



Rupert, Robert R., MSgt (ret), 67, passed away Jun 2, 2022. He is survived by his mother, Dorothy (Carl) Rupert; his wife of 44 years, Sue (Traunero); three sons, Christopher (Vanessa); Aaron (Jamie) and Nick; He enlisted in the USAF in 1972. Bob was stationed in Crete where he served as a morse code systems operator. While in Crete, Bob met Sue who served as a USAF Russian Linguist and they were married in 1978 in Tiffin, OH. Bob and Sue were then stationed in Austin, TX, Japan, Great Falls, MT, England, Bozeman at the ROTC unit at Montana State University, and his last assignment at McGuire AFB, NJ where he retired in 1995. //Obit – Dahl Funeral//



Slep, John "Jack" J., 91, passed away Jul 16, 2022. He served in the Korean and Cold War, 1950-1956, in the USAF Security Service/Air Intelligence as a Russian-speaking interrogator, interpreter, translator, and radio intercept operator, having spent a year at the Army Language School, Monterey, CA (Presently the Defense Language Institute) and Russian Institute, Columbia University, NYC, NY, as one of ten selected for a special course. He served at the Armed Forces Security Agency (Presently the National Security Agency), Arlington Hall, VA; St. Lawrence Island, Bering Sea, Alaska, 36 miles from Siberia, Russia; Tripoli, Libya, and Germany. After retiring, he worked for McGraw-Hill Book Co. under contract with the USAF Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, as chief translator in the Golden Eagle Project. Simultaneously, he was an evening Russian language instructor teaching basic Russian to Strategic Air Command (SAC) pilots and crews, as well as a part-time freelance and translator at night for various American agencies publishing Russian scientific and technical journals. Survivors include: his wife, Karen Slep; daughter and son-in-law, Laura Jane and Jim Gassler; son and daughter-in-law, Kurt; son, Scot and daughter-in-law, Lucy; son, Shawn; son, Derek; step-son and daughter-in-law, Chad and Missy West; step-daughter and son-in-law, Heather and Josh Howard. //Obit - Bernhardt Funeral Home//



Woolbert, James A., MSgt (ret), 86, passed away May 19, 2022. //Obit – Wylie – Baxley Funeral Home//
Assignments included Misawa from 1965 to 1967, Ramasan, San Angelo. and San Antonio. //Joseph “Pepito” Figueroa//

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