

The RETIRED GUARDIAN

1st Quarter 2016



Ribbon Cutting at the South Bend Armory, January 22, 2016

Story on page 3

THE RETIRED GUARDIAN



THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
MAJ. GEN. COURTNEY P. CARR

News gathering, layout and
design by Indiana National
Guard Protocol Officer
Christy Ruzga

Tel: 317-247-3300 ext. 79956
email: christy.l.ruzga.nfg@mail.mil

The Indiana National Guard
Public Affairs Office appreciates
any and all feedback. Please
direct comments, suggestions,
critiques via email to:

retiredguardian@gmail.com

Joint Force Headquarters-Indiana
ATTN: Retired Guardian
2002 South Holt Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241-4839

On the Cover: Gov. Mike Pence,
Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, Sen.
Joe Donnelly, Rep. Jackie Walorski,
Brig. Gen. Patrick Hermesmann, and
Mr. James Mueller representing the
mayor of South Bend cutting the ribbon
opening the renovated South Bend
Armory.

Issue Number 78

govDELIVERY

Subscribe to our eNewsletter



Get the latest Indiana National Guard News, Info about Job Postings,
Family Programs, Morale and Welfare via text or email

<http://www.in.ng.mil/AboutUs/ContactUs.aspx>

Also connect to us on our social media sites:



www.in.ng.mil



Indiana Guardsman



@INGuardsman



INnationalguard



indianaguardsman

Renovation of the South Bend Armed Forces Reserve Center



Photo and story by Staff Sgt. Jeramiah Runser

The Indiana National Guard dedicated the expansion to the National Guard Armory at the South Bend Armed Forces Reserve Center, Friday.

The armory is home to several Indiana National Guard units, a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve unit, as well as an Indiana Family Readiness assistance center. The expansion also paves the way for the new STARBASE program to include students in north central Indiana school districts.

“Having a joint facility is important because it supports the chairman of the joint chief’s (Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr.) vision of a total force,” said Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, adjutant general, Indiana National Guard. “Playing a part in increasing the overall readiness of our Nation’s defense.”

Units housed at the center include the Headquarters

The newly renovated South Bend Armory was around \$21 million. The total site size is 24.5 acres and increased the buildings square footage to 106,789. The armory will include the 2-151 Infantry Regiment, 381st Military Police Detachment, Marine Corps Reserve Engineer Service Company, Combat Logistic Battalion 25, Recruiting and Retention Team, Recruit Sustainment Detachment, and our third STARBASE.

and Headquarters Company of the 2nd -151st Infantry and the 381st Military Police Detachment, both of the Indiana Army National Guard. Also a Marine Corps Reserve engineer service company, Combat Logistic Battalion 25 calls the center home.

The Indiana National Guard’s South Bend recruiting and retention team will operate from the facility, as well as a recruit sustainment detachment. The detachment is part of a program of the U.S. Army National Guard, designed to introduce new recruits to the fundamentals of the U.S. Army before they leave for basic combat training and advanced individual training. The program is based on the three traits of combat: mentally

CONT ON PAGE 4

prepared, administratively correct and physically fit.

STARBASE is an educational program sponsored by the Department of Defense. At STARBASE Indiana students participate in challenging hands-on, minds-on activities in science, technology, engineering, and math. Students interact with STEM professionals to explore careers and observe STEM applications in the real world. The program encourages students to set goals and achieve them.

“We’re looking forward to adding to our successes of our Fort Wayne and Indianapolis academies and providing experiential STEM education to the South Bend area,” said Scott Liebhauser, executive director of STARBASE Indiana. “We’re excited about being able to provide instruction to 2,000 South Bend youth annually.”

STARBASE South Bend is scheduled to open in March. More information can be found at starbasein.org.

The Indiana National Guard continues to provide ready and capable soldiers and airmen around the world to protect the interests of the United States

of America while maintaining a strong presence in communities across the state to respond in support of civil authorities.



122ND AIRMAN EARNS PRESTIGIOUS JOHN L. LEVITOW AWARD

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. William Hopper

FORT WAYNE, Ind. - Tech. Sgt. Danielle Gray, a member of the 122nd Intelligence Operations shop recently earned the prestigious John L. Levitow Award upon graduating the Non Commissioned Officer Academy this September. The ceremony was held at the I.G. Brown Training and Education Center, located at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Gray earned the prestigious honor by graduating at the top of her NCO Academy class, placing first among 180 fellow students. In addition to placing first, Gray also earned the distinguished graduate award for being in the top 10 percent of her class.

“They always say that our instructors here are the best of the best, and I would pretty much agree with that,” said Tech Sgt. Danielle Gray, 122nd Intelligence Operations squadron. “The instructors there are very good at their job.”

“They enhance the environment of teamwork,” said Gray. “I’ve been in the Air Force for eight years and I have never been part of a team like I was there.”

Gray currently serves full time as chief of the intelligence operations section at the 122nd Fighter Wing, where she is responsible for intelligence training, briefing support and mission debrief.

“I put in a lot of time and effort into this, and it was probably one of the proudest moments of my Air Force career,” said Gray. “It made me feel like what I do actually matters because that award is not based off of grades alone, it’s also based off of your peers voting for you.”

“I would definitely encourage anyone if they have the opportunity to go in-residence, the experience is worth it. Go into it with a positive attitude.”



Tech. Sgt. Danielle Gray, a member of the 122nd Intelligence Operations squadron, 122nd Fighter Wing, Fort Wayne, Ind., holds her John L. Levitow Award while standing in front of an A-10C Warthog aircraft, Nov. 7, 2015, at the Indiana Air National Guard Base, Fort Wayne, Ind. Gray earned the prestigious honor by graduating at the top of her class.

MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND

Beginning on January 2, 2007, the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs began accepting grant applications from the families of deployed or recently deployed Indiana National Guard members and members of the Selected Reserves. Effective July 1, 2014 all military members and veterans that served on, or, after September 11, 2001 may be eligible to receive a one time emergency grant.

The emergency grants may be used by the families for needs such as food, housing, utilities, medical services, transportation and other essential family support expenses which have become difficult to afford. Grants up to \$2,500 may be awarded.

Grants will be considered by the Indiana Veterans Affairs Commission and the applicant will be advised.

Requirements are
The service member must be serving honorably or must have received an honorable discharge.

The qualified individual has served at least 30 continuous days of active duty.

There is a documented need for financial assistance for necessities of daily living that include food,

clothing, housing, utilities, medical service, prescriptions, insurance payments or other needs.

National Guard members must be a member of the Indiana Army or Air National Guard and must be a resident of Indiana. Reservists must be a resident of Indiana. Active duty members must have initially entered the military from Indiana and maintain Indiana as home of record.

The applicant must sign and date the application and provide all required proof and documentation.

The qualified individual or family member can receive up to \$2,500 one time from the Family Relief Fund. The Director of the Indiana Dept. of Veterans Affairs may waive the requirements for emergency cases only upon written request indicating the circumstances justifying such a waiver.

Beginning July 1, 2014 the Military Family Relief Fund:

-Opens eligibility to all honorably discharged veterans who served Post - 9/11/2001

-Will provide grants to veterans and their dependent family members who are experiencing financial hardship

-Funds may be used for

- Food
- Housing
- Utilities
- Transportation
- Medical Expenses

To apply, you must go to the website <http://www.in.gov/dva/2329.htm>

Download the application and vendor information form.

- Download MFRF Application
- Download Direct Deposit Form

If you attach a voided check to section 2 of this form, the address on the check MUST match the address in section 1.

- Download W9 (pdf)

Please ensure all signature areas are signed prior to application submission to be considered.

Please submit completed applications, W9's, and Direct Deposit Forms to Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs
Attn: Military Family Relief Fund.
302 W. Washington St. Room E-120, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Applications and documentation may also be faxed to 317-232-7721

For more information, please contact Arianne Jimenez at 317-232-3910 or email ajimenez@dva.in.gov

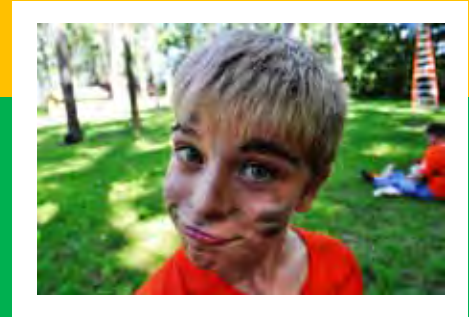
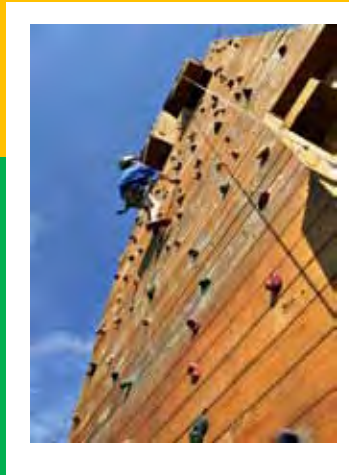
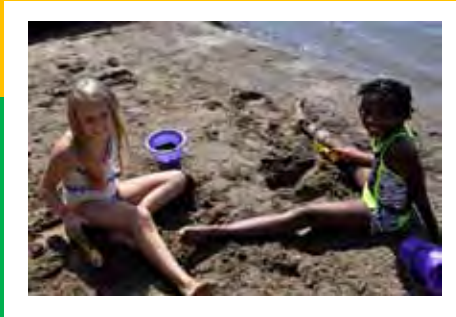




2016



Kids AT Youth Camp



19-25 June 2016

**Hidden Falls Camp
Bedford, IN**



24-30 July 2016

**Camp Potawotami
Wolcottville, IN**

Who: Children of current and former National Guard Service Members ages 9-17

What: Week-long summer camp

When: You choose from two dates!

Where: You choose your location!

Why: Attend a fun summer camp with other military kids!

How: Register beginning **MARCH 2016**

Parent Fee: \$50 per camper *Scholarships Available

Your campers will get the full military experience in a fun camp setting! Campers march, call cadence, and live in platoons, while attending military workshops like Combatives and Land Navigation, AND also participating in high impact camp activities that kids love. Activities vary by site but include: high and low ropes courses, swimming, hiking, climbing walls, archery, marksmanship, and MORE!!

For Information contact Tory Masters at

Tory.a.masters-james-ctr@mail.mil

317-247-3300 x85481

Or watch for updates on Facebook

INNG Youth Program



Airman presented Indiana Distinguished Service Cross for her heroic efforts

Story and photo by Airman 1st Class Lonnie C. Wiram, 181 Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

“I was driving to drill and I hardly ever stop in the morning, but this morning I pulled into a gas station at exit 23 to get a bottle of water,” said Senior Airman Leah M. Puckett, 181st Intelligence Wing, as she reflected on the day of the accident.

There was an Airman at the gas station getting some things, as well. We did not exchange words, just a head nod. She got in her vehicle and headed towards base as I paid for my water, said Puckett.

“I got in my car and headed to drill like a normal drill morning,” said Puckett.

As Puckett drove closer to base, tragedy struck.

“I’m traveling behind a van and all of a sudden I see a white flash through the air and realize it’s headlights through the air,” said Puckett. “I look up in my rear view mirror to make sure no one was behind me so I could stop.”

Senior Airman Puckett did not hesitate. She stopped her vehicle, put it in park, turned her caution lights on, and ran up to the van to check on the driver.

“I got up to the van and there was a military member standing outside his van with blood on his face and he said, ‘I’m okay. I’m okay. I’m okay,’” as Puckett described it.

Puckett stood there for a minute, looking around and then she saw smoke out in a field.

That is when Puckett’s morning changed drastically.

“It’s a car,” Puckett said. “I didn’t see the car at first because the car was black, it is early morning in November, and it was dark.”

“My first assumption was that the car was going to blow so to give that person a chance I need to get to the car now and shut the engine off and get them out,” Puckett expressed. “I took off running towards the car.”

The car was the woman’s from the gas station that morning.

She gets to the vehicle, turns off the engine and starts assessing the damage.

“I tried to get the driver’s side door open but the door was smashed in and glass everywhere,” said Puckett.

“I went over to the passenger side and got that door open.”

Puckett then gets in the vehicle, checks over the woman, and calls 911.

Due to the conditions of the woman Puckett did not move her but administered first aid.

“I made a tourniquet, the best I could, to apply self-aid buddy care, by tightening her cuff on her blouse,”

said Puckett.

While sitting in the vehicle, keeping the driver stable, Puckett hears the woman’s phone ring, and it keeps ringing.

“Her phone had a protective case, but the collision was so hard that the phone case came off the phone and the phone was cracked,” explained Puckett.

Puckett then answers the phone and it is a family member of the woman. She explains to the family member what happened and calms them down. While this is taking place the authorities and fellow guardsmen take care of the driver.

Puckett then learns that the woman’s leg is severely broken, so severe that the blood stopped going to the leg, so the authorities have to airlift her to the hospital.

While the authorities moved the woman to a stretcher, Puckett held the woman’s hand and went to the hospital with her. Puckett did not leave her side.

That day Puckett became an example of the sixteenth line of the Airman’s Creed, “I will never leave an Airman behind.”

She called upon her military training and used that knowledge to possibly save an Airman’s life that day.

“I don’t feel like a hero, I don’t feel like that,” expressed Puckett. “I feel like this is what I was trained to do. It’s what the United States Air Force trained me to do.”

“Being a Racer has given me the opportunity to be more confident, more self-assured, and more knowledgeable in things like self-aid buddy care, leadership, and performing under pressure.”

181st Intelligence Wing Commander Kip Clark presented Puckett with the Indiana Distinguished Service Cross for her heroic efforts.

“I am Racer, and any Racer would do the same; it is who we are,” said Puckett.



IU trustee to play larger role in Indiana's health and safety

Story by Cpt. Terry Heifetz
Indiana Guard Reserve Public Affairs.

Philip N. Eskew Jr., an Indiana University trustee and alumnus, will now serve the state of Indiana in a new role, as a brigadier general in the Indiana Guard Reserve, Indiana's state defense force.

Eskew has been a member of the Indiana Guard Reserve since 2001. Eskew was the first physician in the IGR and developed a medical unit capable of assisting the Indiana National Guard and the citizens of Indiana in the event of natural or manmade disaster.

"I hope to have the opportunity to actively implement and evaluate this process and develop it even further," Eskew said. "The bottom line is that I volunteer and give back because I have been given so much. This is one way of doing that."

Eskew has already given a lot to Hoosiers, as a doctor and teacher, Rotary Club organizer and Carmel school board member. He received a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1996 and the St. Vincent Hospital Distinguished Physician Award in 2000

"I enjoy teaching and mentoring others as well as helping others achieve their goals," Eskew said.

IGR Brig. Gen. Hal Grigdesby says Eskew has already contributed so much to the state of Indiana. This new position will only strengthen his legacy.

"From organizing the move of St. Vincent hospital to its current location to mentoring dozens of residents and medical students, Phil has proven he can accomplish

big things," Grigdesby said. "Now, we're sure he'll help the IGR be ready for whatever Hoosiers may face in the future."

The Indiana Guard Reserve is a community-based military organization that supplements the Indiana National Guard within the State of Indiana. For more information about the IGR, visit in.gov/igr.



Col. Phillip Eskew Jr.



The Indiana Guard Reserve conducted annual training in October 2015. This training included search and rescue and physical training. However, a first-time event took center stage. The IGR medical command teamed-up with the Indiana State Department of Health to train on a setting up a portable field hospital.

Indiana Grown Homegrown By Heroes

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

The Adjutant General of Indiana, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr, and the Indiana National Guard's Commander in Chief, Governor Mike Pence, spoke at the Indiana State Department of Agriculture's Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes initiative at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Monday, Feb. 29, 2016. Homegrown by Heroes gives Hoosiers a new, tangible way to support their veterans and locally grown products.

"The partnership between Indiana Grown and Homegrown by Heroes will create many opportunities for our veterans, especially in rural communities. The connection between our citizen-soldiers and farming is enduring. It goes back to our roots as a nation," said Carr. The ideal figure for the minuteman, the citizen-soldier, is a farmer, with one hand on the plow and one holding a musket, said Carr. He also mentioned other National Guard, agricultural connections specifically the Indiana National Guard's myriad agribusiness development teams that deployed to Afghanistan and helped local farmers there.

Pence also spoke at the launch and also mentioned the iconic National Guard statue. "This is an initiative about putting down the musket and taking up the plow. We want to commend each and every one of you for being a part of this. We are very, very proud of agriculture in the Hoosier State," said Pence. One of the five farmers who attended the ceremony, Sara Creech, also spoke.

"Farming, as a career choice, is becoming increasingly popular as a way for our communities and our veterans to lead lives. There is something special about being able to work with the land and the animals that is so healing. Being able to work with your hands and help create something that is beautiful and helps nurture life that is so amazing," said Creech.

"It's a way to say thank you for your service, and we support you as Indiana veterans and farmers," said Creech of the Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes initiative.

To be eligible for the Indiana Grown Homegrown By Heroes logo, the producer must meet all Indiana Grown membership criteria, as well as the following:

- Have veteran, active duty, National Guard or Reserve member of the U.S. armed forces status, without regard to age or era of duty;
- Provide a copy of their Department of Defense Form 214 or equivalent;
- Have characterization of service of honorable or general (under honorable conditions);
- Provide a letter of support from their commanding

officer or designated representative attesting to their service under honorable conditions if they are an active duty member; and

- Maintain 50 percent or greater veteran ownership of their business or operation and 50 percent or greater veteran management control.

ABOUT INDIANA GROWN

Developed and supported by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, the Indiana Grown Initiative educates consumers on the importance of buying Indiana Grown products, helps Indiana farmers and producers sell more products and supports Indiana processors in their effort to process more Indiana Grown products. Indiana Grown members and partners include farmers, producers, processors and artisans, as well as retailers, grocers and restaurants. For more information about this free program, visit www.IndianaGrown.org.

ABOUT HOMEGROWN BY HEROES

Originated in Kentucky, Homegrown By Heroes is a marketing program that provides a distinctive label that farmer veterans may affix on their agricultural products to be displayed to the consumer at point of sale. The label informs consumers that a veteran who served our country in the military produced the product in the U.S. With the help of Farmer Veteran Coalition, Homegrown By Heroes will positively influence the way consumers think and feel when purchasing agricultural products. For more information, visit www.farmvetco.org/homegrown-by-heroes.



From left: Cadel Thomas Crowl, Elias Donker, Ted McKinney, Jim Brown, Sara Creech, Gov. Mike Pence, Zach Morris, Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr and Jesse Andrews pose for a photo at the Indiana Grown Homegrown by Heroes launch.

TAPS

CW4 (Ret) Robert E. Hyden

Robert E. Hyden, 93, died Thursday, August 6, 2015 at Hosparus Of Louisville Inpatient Unit at Norton Medical Pavilion. He was born in Madison, IN., and was a retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 with the United States Army. He served with the 13th Airborne Division as a Paratrooper during WWII. He was a member of American Legion Post 35 and VFW Post 1832 and a member of First Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Opal Margaret Hyden and a son Bobby Wayne Hyden.

CPT (Ret) Perry Edwin “Ed” Martin

Mr. Perry “Ed” Martin, age 72 of Madison, Indiana went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Saturday, August 8, 2015 at 2:30 a.m. at the King’s Daughters’ Hospital Emergency Room in Madison, Indiana.

Ed was born December 9, 1942 in Vevay, Indiana. His parents were Perry O. Martin and Hattie K. Lockridge Martin Milhako. Ed was a U.S. Army retired Captain with 24 years of service. Ed was proud to be an American. He worked at the Williamson Company for 20 years and was extremely thankful that they put up with him for that long. In August of 1988 he retired from Williamson Company and entered the fall class of the “Christ Hospital School of Nursing.” He became a Registered Nurse and went to work for the King’s Daughters’ Hospital in Madison. Ed’s primary hobby was avoiding hobbies. He did make an attempt to engage in sports such as softball, tennis and golf.

He was an active member of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Hanover, Indiana. His priority in life was to serve his Lord, Christ Jesus to the best of his ability. It is fortunate for Ed that the Lord Jesus saves by grace and not by works, were it not for the grace and mercy of the Lord, Ed would be in hell right now, to God be praise, honor and glory. He was not perfect and never claimed to be; he made his fair share of mistakes and was willing to admit to them. It is a great and wondrous thing to be judged by a heavenly court instead of an earthly court. Note, Ed did want the funeral ceremony on Saturday so that no one

would have an excuse to skip it. But, he found out that the Veterans Cemeteries does not like to bury on the weekend. But not to worry, everyone has an excuse for a three day week-end. Note, this memorial notice submitted and written by Ed himself. It was Ed’s prayer that his family would one day join him in heaven. Even now he is waiting on you. Note: If this memorial notice is full of spelling errors and poor English, blame Ed, he wrote it!

CW3 (Ret) Robert John Faudree II

CW3 Robert John Faudree II, 67, of Indianapolis, passed away August 14, 2015. He was born March 21, 1948 in Indianapolis to Robert and Ginny Faudree.

He served in the United States Navy for 6 years and the Indiana Army National Guard for 32 years. Robert was the Deputy Administrator for the Indianapolis Department of Transportation. He was a life time Eagle Scout and was a Boy Scout mentor and a member of the Beech Grove Masonic Lodge # 694.

Bernard Eugene “Bernie” McGuirk

Bernard Eugene McGuirk, 73, of Greenville, Indiana, passed away on Friday, September 11, 2015. Bernie served in the Indiana National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserves. He had a 43-year career as a transportation and logistics manager. A devout Catholic, he was a past Grand Knight and Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1221 and St. Mary Navilleton Catholic Church in Floyds Knobs, Indiana.

He was born on November 9, 1941 in Greenville to the late Vivian and Norma (Mullins) McGuirk.

Larry W. Hanlin

JBluffton Regional Medical Center in Bluffton, IN. He was born on Friday, March 14, 1941, in Jay County, IN. Larry was a 1959 graduate of Pennville High School. He attended the Sugar Grove Church of the Nazarene in Pennville. He had served in the Indiana Army National Guard for 6 years. He had worked for Fisher Body in Marion, IN. where he was in the Sympathy Club. Larry enjoyed hunting and fishing. He also loved to watch basketball and baseball.

CW5 (Ret) Steve Nelson

Stephen D. “Steve” Nelson, 66, rural Burnettsville, passed away at 8:54 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, 2015, at the St. Vincent Hospital of Indianapolis, surrounded by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

his family.

He was born on Dec. 28, 1948, in Logansport, to the late James and Jean (Wakley) Dea Nelson. In 2004, in Shelbyville, he married Rhonda "Janie" Smith of Logansport.

Steve had lived in the rural Burnettsville area most all of his life.

He was a 1966 graduate of Pioneer High School. Steve was a Retired Chief Warrant Officer for the United States Army. He was a pilot in Vietnam and had served a total of 34 years from 1968 – 2004 when he retired. Steve had flown seven different aircraft throughout the years including the Birdog, Huey, and five other aircraft. The last five years prior to his retirement he was commissioned by the Governor of the State of Indiana as the Grounds Safety Advisor through the Indiana National Guard. Steve also worked for 15 years for the United States Postal Service in Kokomo and the State Hospital in Logansport.

He was an active member of the Burnettsville Baptist Church where he held every church office throughout the years. Steve loved helping with V.B.S. in the summer and pastoring to the kids. He enjoyed camping, boating, and his church family, where he was known as the "Go To Guy". Steve especially loved spending time with his grandchildren.

Steve was a member of the American Legion Post #91 of Monticello.

CW5 (Ret) Chris Bertrand

Christopher Bertrand 61, of Indianapolis, Indiana passed away on Monday, October 12, 2015.

Chris was born in Normal, Illinois on November 4, 1953. His family later moved to Muncie, Indiana where his father Joe Bertrand was a member of the Ball State University Art Department and his mother Ellie taught at Muncie Southside. Chris graduated from Muncie Central High School. He has one brother Byron Bertrand who currently resides in Phoenix, Arizona.

Chris had a full and exciting life including careers in the military and as a firefighter.

He was a member of the Indianapolis Fire Department from 1984 until 2010. His last assignment was as an engineer on Engine 13, C-shift.

His military career began as part of the Special Forces ODA-135 team where he served as the team Medic. Chris then attended the Army Aviation school to become a helicopter pilot with the Army National Guard. He spent 32 years with them and as a Blackhawk pilot was

deployed several times including tours to Iraq in which he was awarded a Bronze Star.

SFC (Ret) Ronald E Graham

Ronald Eugene Graham, 68, of Brazil, passed away on Thursday, September 24, 2015, at Methodist Hospital, surrounded by his family. He was born on November 2, 1946, in Lebanon, IN to Russell E. and Florence Pearl (Lewis) Graham. He married Carol Spencer on August 8, 1980.

Ronnie proudly served in the United States Army and the United States Navy. He served two tours in Vietnam. He retired after 26 years active duty as a Recruiter for the US Army and achieved the rank of E7. Ronnie was a life member of Amvets Post 222, American Legion Post 104, and Brazil VFW Post 1127. He was a past president and member of the Vigo County Conservation Club. Ronnie was an avid outdoorsman and liked to go fishing, hunting, camping, and mushroom hunting. He enjoyed participating in spotshoots. Ronnie liked to play bingo. He also loved playing poker and getting poker lessons from his late mother, Florence.

SFC (Ret) Harry L. Britt Jr.

Harry Lee Britt, Jr., age 74, of Rensselaer passed away on November 30, 2015, at his residence. He was born in Rensselaer, to the late Harry and Bethel Marie (Stowers) Britt on March 8, 1941.

Harry graduated with the Class of 1959 from Rensselaer High School. In 1960 he attended and graduated from Barber School, in Hammond, IN, and worked at Wood's Barber Shop in Rensselaer until 1965. Harry joined the National Guard in 1963 out of Rensselaer 2/293 infantry unit, and retired after 21 years of service, ranked as a First Sergeant. From 1965 to 1968, Harry worked for the State of Indiana to survey land in the building of Interstate 65. He was a former maintenance engineer at the Jasper County Hospital and retired in 2012, and also was also a self-employed farmer since 1976. Harry was a member of the Whirlwind Ministries, in Burrows, IN., along with the Prairie Lodge #125 F & AM; Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (Valley of Indianapolis). He was a past Trustee and lay leader of Brushwood United Methodist Church. He belonged to the American Legion Post #29 of Rensselaer. Harry was also named the 1993 State President of Hospital Engineers, and current

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Board member of Tree Lakes Retirement Community. On September 5, 1964, in Aix, Indiana, Harry married Phyllis Louise Stowers, who survives.

COL (Ret) Richard “Archie” Fields

Col. Richard “Archie” Fields, USA (Ret.), age 76 passed away peacefully on Friday evening, December 11, 2015 at the Indiana University Hospital in Indianapolis. He was a resident of Morgantown.

Archie was born in Bedford on April 18, 1939, to his parents, the late Leonard M. and Esther M. (Bivens) Fields. He graduated from Shawswick High School in Bedford and went on to attend Butler University in Indianapolis. Archie began his lengthy and accomplished military career with the United States Army in May of 1957. He received a Master’s Degree from the United States Army Command and General College in Leavenworth, KS. Archie retired with the rank of Colonel after 34 years of service.

He also worked as a Production Supervisor for Arvin Industries in Franklin for 7 years and for AT&T as a Technician for 15 years. Archie was the owner and operator of Fields Custom Cutting Lumber Business. He was a 45 year member of the First Christian Church of Morgantown where he was very active as an Elder, Trustee, Sunday School Teacher and building maintenance.

He was a former member of the Nineveh Masonic Lodge #317 and the Murat Temple and Scottish Rite, both of Indianapolis. Archie was known for his giving heart and his love for his family.

1SG (Ret) Richard “Dick” Roy Sluder

Richard Roy Sluder, 75, died Thursday, January 14, 2016 at Floyd Memorial Hospital in New Albany. He was born September 1, 1940 in Clay Co., Indiana to the late Roy and Hala B. (Neal) Sluder. He is also preceded in death by his brothers, Forest and Neal Sluder. He was in the US Army National Guard full time and retired after many years of service and a 50 year member of Masonic Lodge 335 in New Albany. He also volunteered with AARP to help those in need with their taxes, was active in Parents without Partners, and was an exceptional high school basketball and baseball athlete. He enjoyed bowling, even beating pros at a charity event, and was a lifelong fan of IU or anyone playing Kentucky.

Mark A. Geary

U.S. Veteran Mark A. Geary, age 51, of Portage passed away Saturday January 16, 2016 in Chesterton unexpectedly. Mark was born October 28, 1964 in Hammond, Indiana to Morris D. and Mary (Sandoval) Geary. Mark was employed by Accucast Products LLC in Chesterton. He is a US Army Veteran with over 19 years of service with deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan. Mark was an active member of American Legion post #260 in Portage.

CSM (Ret) Jackie Shiflet

Jackie “Jack” E. Shiflet of Bloomington passed away on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at IU Health-Bloomington Hospice House at the age of 85.

Jack was born in Bloomington on July 30, 1930 to Harold Edwin and Dorothy Mae (Greene) Shiflet. He was married to Barbara Helen “Foxy” (Wright) Shiflet for 65 years.

He served in the Army National Guard retiring with the rank Command Sergeant Major after serving for 38 years. Jack worked at RCA as a dispatcher and thoroughly enjoyed working with the truck drivers. He enjoyed collecting and watching sports and was a Hoosier fan all the way. Jack and his brothers refereed High School Football games throughout Southern Indiana for over 36 years and he worked the sideline chains for many IU Football games. Jack’s family cared for him through his illness allowing him to stay at home. “To the world you are one person, but to us, you are the world”.

LTC (Ret) Edward Bandy

Edward Bandy, 72, passed away Jan. 14, 2016, in Pensacola, FL, after a lengthy illness. He is survived by wife Suzanne. He was born February 5, 1943, in Lafayette, IN, to the late Eulon M. and Lula M. Bandy. Ed graduated from East Tipton H. S., attended Vincennes University, Purdue University and received a B.S. in Liberal Studies from the University of New York.

Ed’s passions were flying, travel and the military. He always dreamed of flying and in 1968 he purchased a 1947 Cessna before he could even fly. He was taught to fly by Mr. Sutton who had been a member of the Flying Tigers in WWII. Ed was very proud of that. You had to drop down over a barn to land on his grass landing strip at his farm. After getting his fixed wing pilot’s license he received his commercial license, instrument rating and multi-engine licenses at Purdue. He went to flight

school at Ft. Rucker for rotary wing pilot's license and instrument rating. He was trained to fly several different classes of helicopters.

SGM (Ret) William Murrey

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of SGM (Ret) William J. Murrey. He leaves behind his wonderful wife of almost 25 years. He was born in Coolville Ohio on May 25th, 1936 to Wren (Garton) Murrey and Harry Lester Murrey.

He was a military veteran serving in the US Army as a tank driver in Germany from 1958 to 1960. He later joined the Indiana National Guard, and was the recipient of the Hammer of Thor Award from the 38th Supply and Transport Battalion in 1988. He retired at the rank of Sergeant Major in 1996 after over 25 years of military service. He will be laid to rest with full military honors at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Terre Haute.

Col. (Ret) David H. Stohler

Col. David H. Stohler Ret., 81, died Weds. Feb 10, 2016 at Lutheran Hospital, Ft Wayne.

David was born on the Stohler farm in Anderson, Indiana on June 2, 1934. He graduated from Markleville High School in 1952 . He married his wife Judith (Smith) on October 13, 1961.

David retired as the Vice Wing Commander of the 122nd TFW, Ft Wayne, in 1989 after 34 years of service. During his time in service he logged over 3,600 hours of flight time in fighter jets and was deployed to Europe for the Berlin Crisis, he served 2 tours from a NATO base in Tripoli and worked with a pilot exchange program with Turkey and the West German Air Force.

David passed on his military legacy to his son Col Michael Stohler, his daughter Michele Mechling, grandson Shane Quillen, granddaughter Ashley Canfield, grandson Kaleb Mechling and nephew Robert Gustin.

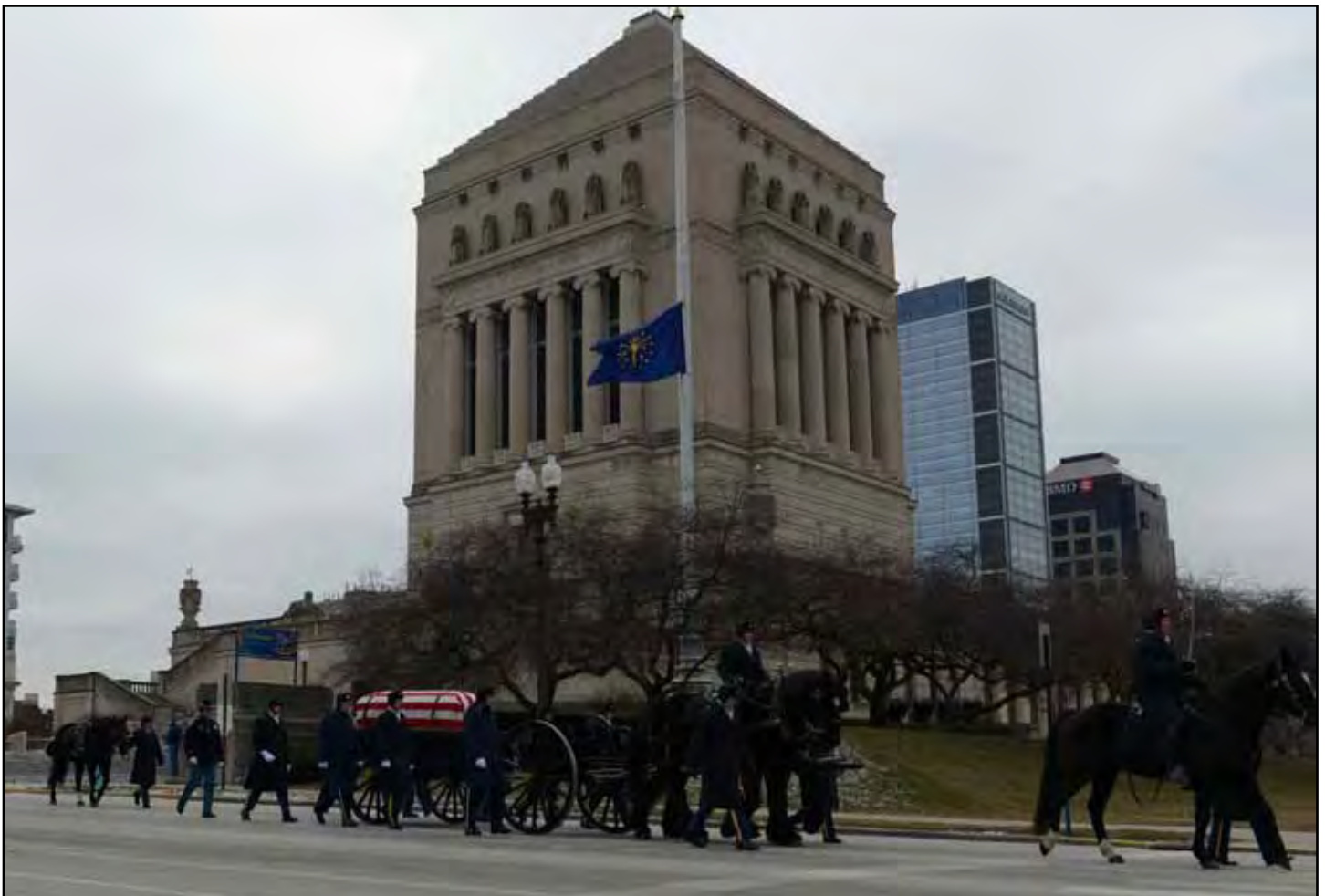


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Lowry

Joint Force Headquarters - Indiana
ATTN: Public Affairs/Retired Guardian
2002 South Holt Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241-4839

THE RETIRED GUARDIAN

1ST QUARTER 2016

