

**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Proudly Honors**



Patriot of the Month

May 2018



Joseph L. Banks, Jr.

United States Air Force

Sponsored by:
Prairie
Chapter



Joseph entered the United States Air Force in January, 1961, and went to basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Upon completion of basic training, he was assigned to the Personnel Specialist Technical School at Greenville Air Force Base, Mississippi. After he completed this training, he was assigned to Fort George E. Meade, Maryland, as a Personnel Specialist in the 6970 Support Group, United States Air Force Security Services in support of the National Security Agency.

Joseph was then assigned to the 6929 Security Squadron, Osan Air Base in South Korea as a personnel specialist and then was transferred to the 6922 Security Wing, Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan. He then received a consecutive overseas tour to the 6913 Security Squadron, Bremerhaven, Germany. After one year in Bremerhaven, he was assigned to the 6900 Security Squadron, Frankfurt, Germany.

After his overseas tour duty with the Security Service, Joseph was assigned to the 328th Combat Support Group, Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in Missouri. Approximately a year later, Joseph was selected to be a Personnel Specialist Instructor at the personnel school at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi. After four years of teaching, he received a base of preference assignment to Headquarters Air Force Communications Service at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in Missouri, working in major command assignments for four years. Due to the closing of Richards-Gebaur, he worked with Headquarters Air Force assignments and was transferred to the United States Military

Training Mission Dhahran, Saudi Arabia for one year with a follow-on assignment to 351st Combat Support Group, Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. After five years at Whiteman, he was selected for an assignment to the 305th Combat Support Group, Grissom Air Force Base, Indiana.

Joseph's entire military career was in the personnel career field and he retired as a Personnel Superintendent. He worked in every branch in what was then the Consolidated Base Personnel Office or in Command Assignments. His most memorable assignment was to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It was a training mission where American pilots were training the Saudi Arabian pilots. His job was in support of the United States Military Training Mission.

Joseph was recognized multiple times for his service. He received the Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Good Conduct Medal. He retired from the Air Force in February, 1982, with 21 years of service.

During his service in the military, Joseph pursued his education and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Accounting from Avila College in 1980. After retiring from the Air Force, he began working for the General Services Administration, where he later retired as a Supervisory Accountant.

Joseph and his wife have been married 48 years. They have one daughter. Currently, he enjoys volunteering one day a week at his church's food pantry and spending time with family and friends golfing and bowling.

Prairie Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Joseph L. Banks, Jr. as Patriot of the Month for his dedicated patriotism and service to our great nation.