

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

May 2019



Dennis E. Nolte

United States Air Force

**Sponsored by:
St. Louis-Jefferson
Chapter**

Dennis began his military career in the United States Air Force as a commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in 1970. Following Navigator and Electronic Warfar, EW Training at Mather Air Force Base, CA, he was assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base, MA. While stationed at Westover, he was on temporary duty assignment to U-Tapao Air Force Base, Thailand and Anderson Air Force Base, Guam.

Dennis flew 126 B-52 bombing missions in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia from July 1972 until August 1973, of which 6 were over Hanoi during Operation Linebacker II. For his service during this time he received three Distinguished Flying Crosses and eight Air Medals. Other duty assignments included Carswell Air Force Base, TX, and Offutt Air Force Base, NE where he was assigned to Strategic Air Command.

Dennis's happiest service experience was when the second group of American POWs deplaned at Hickam Air Force Base while waiting for their KC-135 to be refueled for the continuation of the flight to Westover. "Operation Linebacker II was pure hell for them, but it led to the end of their fighting in Vietnam," says Dennis. "Seeing our tortured and injured fellow airmen with the biggest smiles ever back on American soil was unforgettable – the ultimate icing on the cake!"

Dennis and his wife, Ellen, have been married 46 years, have one son, one daughter and three grandchildren. Dennis served as a Veterans Service Officer for the State of Missouri for 16 years. He is a life time member of Military Officers of America, a Eucharistic minister, volunteer income tax assistance program volunteer and personal escort (pushing heavy patients in wheelchairs) at St. John's Hospital, Springfield.

St. Louis-Jefferson Daughters are very proud to honor and recognize Dennis Nolte as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and dedication service to our great nation.

