

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

January 2021

Ronald A. Burtle

United States Air Force

Sponsored by:
Saint Charles
Chapter



In September of 1981, Ronald A. Burtle joined the service because he wanted to serve his country and be part of something bigger than himself. He joined the US Air Force, following in his father's footsteps, who had served during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Ron entered Basic Training in February, 1982, followed by the Law Enforcement Specialist course at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Ron was assigned to RAF Bentwaters and RAF Woodbridge, UK, where he served in the 81st Security Police Squadron and performed as a gate guard and patrolman alternating between bases.

Ron was transferred to Whiteman AFB in Missouri where he served as a patrolman, supervisor and law enforcement trainer. Ron was part of a detail for a presidential visit by President Ronald Reagan in 1995. While at Whiteman AFB, Ron designed a flight patch for security police Nighthawk Flight.

Ron was then stationed in his hometown of Quincy, IL, where he served as the youngest recruiter in the Air Force. Ron was active in the community and served as an officer in the Jaycees, and helped to coordinate a USAF Thunderbirds Air Show in 1988. In just four years, Ron transformed a marginal recruiting office into the second most productive office in the squadron and was selected as the top flight and/or squadron recruiter for several months. In 1989, he was recognized as the top squadron recruiter and received Honorary Recruiter recognition twice for assisting Navy recruiters achieve or exceed their goal allocations.

In 1991, Ron was transferred to Yokota AFB in Japan. There, he was a patrolman, supervisor and then a criminal investigator. He served in security roles during the 1992 presidential visit by President George H.W. Bush and when Helen Reddy performed at the base. Ron was impressed by the overall politeness of the Japanese people and he really enjoyed working with the Japanese police, custom agents and people.

Ron was discharged on September 11, 1992. For his service he received: two Air Force Commendation Medals; Air Force Achievement Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; three Air Force Good Conduct Medals; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon; two Air Force Longevity Service Awards; two NCO Professional Military Education Ribbons; two Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbons (Pistol and Rifle); and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

After leaving the Air Force, Ron returned to Belleville, IL where he attended SIUE, while working surveillance at the President Casino on the Admiral. Ron works now as a training and documentation specialist for the Climate Corporation and lives in Saint Peters with his wife and two children. He is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Cottleville. He is an occasional speaker for the Nathan Futrell Society, Children of the American Revolution, where his children are members. Ron is very proud of his military service.

Saint Charles Daughters are proud to honor and recognize Ron Burtle as Patriot of the Month for his patriotism and invaluable service to our great nation.