

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Proudly Honors



Patriot of the Month

December 2020

William Jacob Horn United States Air Force United States Air National Guard

Sponsored by:
Thomas Kennedy
Chapter



William Jacob Horn, at 17 years old, walked into the Robert A. Young Federal Building in STL and enlisted in the United States Air Force. For Basic Training, William headed to Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX. Following basic training, William was sent to both Sheppard AFB in White Falls, TX and Chanute AFB in Champagne, IL to learn to type code for cryptography. During this time, earned his GED, thus fulfilling his wish to graduate high school in preparation to go to college.

After completing Communications training, William found himself in a four-month global adventure to Taipei via San Francisco, Honolulu, Midway Island, and the Philippines...where he turned all of 18 years old.

It was about 1960 when William finally reached Shu Linkou AFB in Formosa. Airman Horn's mission was to intercept and relay communications from the Chinese Communist government. While serving, William attended college by taking classes in his hours off duty through the University of Maryland.

In late 1962, William returned Stateside to Shilling AFB in Salina, Kansas, a strategic air command base. He worked at the communications center while simultaneously continuing his undergraduate work at Kansas Wesleyan. It was during this time he met the love of his life, Suzanne Crank. They would be married the following summer in 1963, and William made the decision to leave the Air Force upon completion of his six-year enlistment the following year.

William and Suzanne settled in Berkeley, St. Louis. Their home was just blocking away from Lambert Field, and William realized how much he missed being in Service. Thus, he joined the 131st Tactical Fighter Wing and served in the National Guard until 1990, when Senior Master Sergeant Horn retired after 30 years of service to his country.

William is proud to say that he had an active role in the communications that averted disaster during events in our nation's history. And, later in his military career, he also helped protect U.S. Citizens during America's War on Drugs.

Thomas Kennedy Daughters respectfully honor William Jacob Horn as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude and thanks for his dedicated patriotic service to his community and our great nation.