

**MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**



Proudly Honors
**PATRIOT OF THE MONTH
APRIL 2026**

**DENNIS M. MOORE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
CAPTION (O-3)
1977 – 1985 / 1988 – 1996**

Sponsored by:

Troy Chapter, NSDAR



Dennis M. Moore was born on May 16, 1959, in Rolla, Missouri, and grew up in Florissant, Missouri. He is the son of Donald Ray Moore and Patricia Louise Moore. He graduated from Hazelwood Central West High School.

At just 17 years old, Dennis volunteered for military service, requiring his parents' permission to enlist. His mother was emotional about her oldest child leaving home so young, while his father suggested he consider college first and pursue a commission as an officer. Dennis chose to enlist before January 1, 1977, so he could still qualify for the GI Bill. Originally interested in becoming a military police officer in the Army, he instead joined the U.S. Air Force after an Air Force recruiter offered him a position in personnel that would allow him to work regular hours and attend college classes in the evenings.

Dennis left for service from Lambert Airport with his father, marking the beginning of a career that would shape the rest of his life. Basic training was challenging, especially because it was his first time away from home at such a young age. However, he successfully completed training and went on to attend numerous specialized courses throughout his career, including Personnel Specialist training, the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) Academy, counterterrorism courses, undercover operations training, instructor training, defensive tactics, narcotics courses, and interview and interrogation training. Among these experiences, attending the OSI Academy was one of the most meaningful, as it aligned closely with the career path he had hoped to pursue.

During his service, Dennis qualified with several weapons and equipment, including the M-16 rifle, .38 revolver, .45 pistol, 9mm pistol, and the Humvee. His first assignment after training was at Royal Air Force Upper Heyford in the United Kingdom. Over the course of his career, he served at several bases, including Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.; Scott Air Force Base in Illinois; Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada; Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona; Norton Air Force Base in California; Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota; and Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland.

Dennis served in the Air Force from 1977 to 1985 and again from 1988 to 1996. Throughout his career, he steadily advanced through the enlisted ranks, earning promotions from Airman to

Airman First Class, Senior Airman (Below the Zone), Sergeant, and Staff Sergeant. After completing Reserve Officer Training, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and later promoted to First Lieutenant and then Captain, the highest rank he achieved before retiring.

While military life required adjusting to strict discipline and being told what to do, Dennis appreciated the mission-focused nature of service and the trust placed in him to accomplish important tasks. One of the most meaningful aspects of his career was the friendships he built with fellow service members, many of whom remain close friends today. During his time in service, he kept in touch with family through letters and phone calls.

Dennis retired from the Air Force at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, where he was living at the time. Reflecting on his service, he believes the military helped him mature, grow in confidence, and develop a strong sense of responsibility. He credits the experience with shaping his character and teaching him to live by core values every day. Over time, he also became more direct and confident in how he communicates with others.

Today, Dennis remains active in the veteran community as a member of the American Legion Post 094 in Troy, Missouri. He continues to maintain friendships with fellow veterans and values the sense of duty and integrity they share. Looking back on his career, Dennis considers serving his country and caring for others to be the most rewarding parts of his military experience. His message to future generations is simple: everyone has a higher calling and a sense of duty, and a person's word should always be their bond.