



AIRCREW LIFE SUPPORT/ AIRCREW FLIGHT EQUIPMENT VETERANS AND RETIREES NEWSLETTER

News for the men and women who served (civilian, government or industry) in the Personal Equipment (PE), Aircrew Life Support (ALS) or Aircrew Flight Equipment (AFE) professions. The views expressed herein are that of the individual mentioned and do not represent the views of the retired, active duty, ANG, Reserves, or veteran members of the PE, ALS, or AFE career fields.

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Dec 2020 Edition

Looking Forward

By Dave Chitwood, Group Vice President

We hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and pray for a happy New Year! Next year HAS to be better than 2020 right?

Normally, the December Newsletter would be full of exciting recaps and pictures from our September reunion. But not this year. This year, as you all know, we were forced to cancel our reunion due to the global pandemic. However, we remain optimistic that our 2021 reunion will happen in Laughlin Nevada next September.

There is no doubt that the year 2020 has left its mark, and not in a good way. We lost several

perennial favorites and mainstays who gifted us with their awesome presence at so many reunions.

Every year we lose someone we loved and admired. Supervisors, squadron mates, partners in crime - each one closer than the next. As the years go by, our opportunities to reconnect become fewer and farther between. Time is relentless. Please don't let another year go by without making it to one of our reunions. Believe it or not, there are people there who would love to see you.

I think it's fitting that we honor our 2020 fallen right from the start. This year, we lost...

FINAL ROLL CALL

MSgt (Ret) David Buzan

Feb 2020

SMSgt (Ret) Clifford Lassiter	Feb 2020
SMSgt (Ret) Cecil Pixley	Feb 2020
SMSgt (Ret) Riley Crumley	Apr 2020
CMSgt (Ret) Chuck Sandusky	May 2020
MSgt (Ret) Travis J. Braxton	May 2020
MSgt (Ret) Mark Smotherman	Jun 2020
Maj (Ret) Steven Ulosevich	Jun 2020
MSgt (Ret) Robert Reid	Jun 2020
MSgt (Ret) Will Oost	Aug 2020
SMSgt (Ret) David Candland	Sep 2020
TSgt (Ret) Robert Blake	Oct 2020
MSgt (Ret) Tim McQuitty	Nov 2020
MSgt (Ret) Johnathan Johnson	Dec 2020
SMSgt (Ret) Ed Chewning	Dec 2020



We offer our sincere prayers and condolences to the families of our dear departed. Our reunions will never be the same without them.

Coin Update

By Mark Jones

Hello all, I am working on a great looking 25th year Reunion coin that is sure to become highly sought after! I expect that it will be available for initial purchase next summer and of course it will also be available at our 2021 Reunion.

Active Duty Chief Promotions

Congratulations to our AFE CMSgt promotees!

Terrance M. Murphy
 Michael S. Kerin
 James Buckley Jr
 Jeremy E. Walker
 James A. Kent

According our historian (Tommy Tompkins) they are Chiefs number 57 through 61 since the start of AFE, and 245-249 since our first Chief, Merle H. Kelly (1 Jun 1960). The current senior Chief is Chief Leaster Williamson.

Chili Sez!

By Bob McElwain

Well, 2020 has been a bust and 2021 WILL be better, right? I hope so. If it is, we might have our 25th annual reunion which is scheduled for 13 – 16 September 2021. Time will tell as there's hope that the majority of the country can be vaccinated with an effective COVID-19 vaccine by then. Our reunion committee will make a decision on whether to have our reunion in time for our May 2021 newsletter. Until then, stay tuned.

Fill Out Your PE/ALS/AFE Military Assignment History

Once again, I want to remind everybody to provide us with their military assignment history. You can do it on our website or you can just mail it to me. You were supposed to provide it when you registered on our website. If you didn't go back to the site and follow the instructions. Once you're on the site click on your name in the top right corner and click on "Edit My Profile". Scroll down until you see "Assignment History". The information you provide is very important to our history.

In Closing

By Dave Chitwood, Vice President and Newsletter Editor

Please do your best to attend a reunion. Career, or one hitch, active duty, Guard, or Reserve, you are welcome. Don't be afraid you won't know anyone! We are family and you will instantly feel the camaraderie you felt so many years ago. Hope to see you in September!

Be sure to visit our Group website (www.usafals-afe.net), and on social media.