



**315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association
315th Airlift Wing Excellence over the
Years Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina**

**June 2023
Newsletter 9 & 10**

Brenda E. Oxford

21 September 1953 - 22 May 2020

Brenda had an accidental fall inside our beautiful new home and she did not recover.

Brenda, 66, was assigned to personal records in the CBPO and was later reassigned to the administrative section of the 707AS. Today marks the third anniversary of her passing. We were married 35 years.

Arrangements were made for our family by Parks Funeral Home. Graveside services were held at Carolina Memorial Gardens on Rivers Avenue. A big tropical storm moved with heavy rainfall prior to the funeral services creating a low attendance. Our Jag Officer Andy Savage and Flight Engineer (ART) Lenny LaBranche of the 701AS braved the weather to pay their respects. Everyone's attendance and support were greatly appreciated by our family.

SMSGT (ret) Virginia W. Jamison, Alumni Board Director and prior member of the 315 / 31 AES has suggested we give coverage of equal value and coverage that would be more in line with the other squadrons. Historically the AES has received more coverage than any squadron in the 315th Wing. This was many years before Virginia's tenure.

31-315 AES 41st Year Reunion, most significant event in their history.

Saturday, 22 September 2012

**At Cypress Hall, Wannamaker Park, 8888 University Blvd, North
Charleston, SC 29406**

Reunion Planner/Coordinator, Lt Colonel Eileen Smith, Flight Nurse

Final Fly-By

MSgt (ret) Ron Provaro, US Air Force, recently deceased.

Chief (ret) Bob Strobel, former chief of the CBPO, feels that it is very important that we honor MSgt Provaro, retired Air Force, for his outstanding accomplishments that impacted on the mission. He worked under the direction of his spouse.

Memories

1 - Chief (Walter) Jean Seprish, Jet Engine shop. His daughter in law works at my bank and keeps me updated.

2 - Mister Terry, structural repair, attended every board meeting. A strong supporter and very vocal.

3 - Delma Cole, 300AS Loadmaster, (deceased) attended every Alumni board meeting and never conversed with anyone.

4 - MSgt (deceased) Herb Lovelace, Flight Engineer. Herb always enjoyed going to bed soon as we arrived at our destination.

I will get back to everyone within the next 24 hours with Newsletter #10.

Del Oxford, Communiations

This is a continuation of Newsletter #9.

Final Fly-By

Colonel Chester E. Sansbury, OMS/FMS, passed on 21 April 2023 after a long battle with cancer. Colonel Sansbury will be laid to rest the Ft Jackson National Cemetery with full military honors. His daughter Cynthia S. Thelen said she knew he was proud of our country.

Everyone is gearing up for the Memorial Day weekend. 😎 Many have already reached their destinations where they will celebrate, while others like myself prefer a big back yard party with many friends and family.

Memorial Day was established in 1971 as an official holiday by President Ronald Ragan.

The first resting place for our hero's was established during World War 1 at Flanders Field in Belgium. The fields are covered in poppies. In my hometown of Valdese NC, little girls are always out there on the streets passing out free paper poppies provided by the American Legion.

World War II was started in the Pacific after we were bombed by a surprise attack at Pearl Harbor in November 1941 by a Japanese aircraft carrier force. That led to General Jimmy Doolittle loading 16 Air Force B-25's on the USS Hornet to return fire. They were spotted by a Japanese trawler. All sixteen crews immediately started their engines, bombed their assigned targets, then immediately turned north to China. My #1 very favorite book is about this mission, "I could never be so lucky again." I have read it over at least 30 times over the years and always get a big adrenaline rush!! I met Jimmy by accident when his "raiders" were having a reunion on the USS Yorktown. As I approached Jimmy I told him he looked like Jimmy Doolittle. He said "I am Jimmy Doolittle." That started a great lifelong friendship. Jimmy passed at the age of 96 on 27 Sep 93. He was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery, section 7-A. I paid my respects last year and rendered my final salute.

The time is now 2:00 am on Memorial Day I will continue this newsletter in segments over a period of time. From here on, the newsletters will be frequent and short.

Good night everyone and thank you for your service.

Del Oxford, Communications