



I will never leave an Airman behind, I will never falter, and I will not fail



924th



Once an Outlaw, Always an Outlaw



OUTLAW MONTHLY BULLETIN

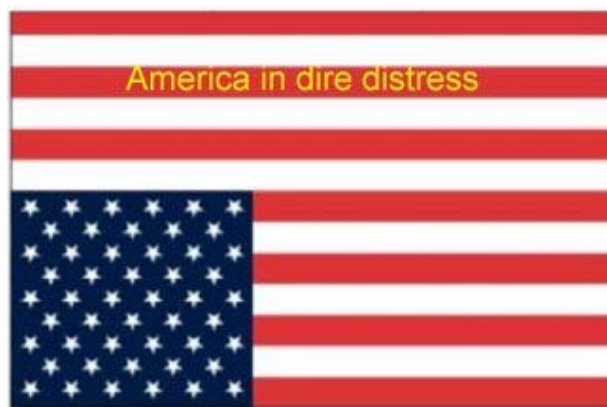
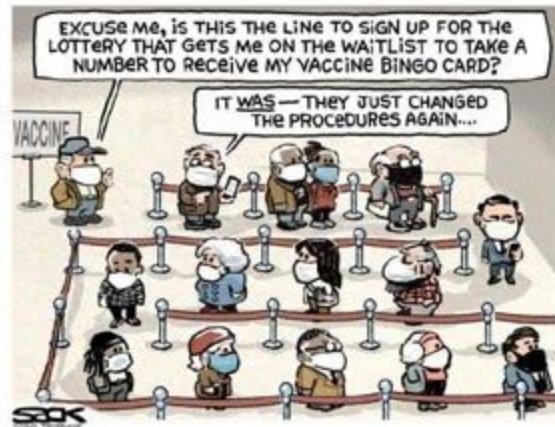


2021

19th Year Edition (Established March 2002)



Stay Safe, Be Strong, Be Healthy, and Be Well



Military Enlistment Oath: I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against **all enemies**, **foreign** and **domestic**; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States.

My Oath of Enlistment has No expiration date!

Ed Copher, Editor, "924 Keeper of the Flame"

“Keeper of the Flame”

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows

Daring us to ‘...catch me...if you can!’...

As time steadily treads its own meandering path,

It’s hard to trace old members of the clan.

Then someone steps up with lantern and blade

Shouting, “Let’s gather them in for us all, good neighbor!

We’ll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and

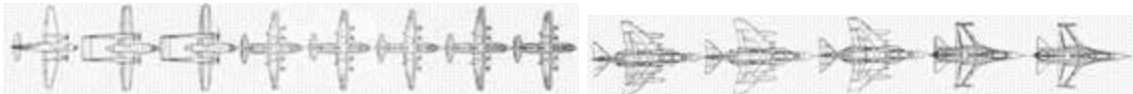
Share them with one and another!

“I’ll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,

That our friends may never be lost in the dark!”

Keeper of the Flame, Song by Miranda Lambert

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=ydE6lzd-VQ>



Please join the 924 Facebook page:

Go to Facebook groups, search for: **924th TFG**

Ed Copher is the page administrator, and will approve your joining

924 Photo Albums

38 Albums....2115 Photos

Click here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/924outlaws/sets/>

Click on each photo to enlarge

Newest Album: **“20 Year Reunion”**

200 Photos

View counts as of 02 February 2021, since July 2007

Total PhotoViews

605,831 views

www.Flickr.com charges \$59.99 per year to keep the **OUTLAW Photo Albums** on their website.

****01 February 2021: PAID \$59.99 annual Flickr photo site fee

OUTLAW WEBSITE:

www.924tfg.com password: *outlaws* all lower case

24,333 Visitors since Jan 09

[History](#), [Latest Info](#), [Photos](#), [In Memoriam](#), [Miscellaneous](#), [Newsletters](#), [Links](#), [Recall Roster](#)

*****Total cost for the 924 Website is \$293.97 per year**

04 March 2020 paid: \$14.45 for “Domain Name Registration” annual one year renewal

4 Sept 2019 paid: GoDaddy website hosting for 2 year renewal: \$286.34

30 Jan 2020 paid: Webmaster Maintenance Fee \$120 p/year

Jim Houston, **Webmaster** for www.924tfg.com, fee for maintaining the 924 website.

It is only \$10 a month (**\$120 p/year**).

*****NOTE:** all *donations are appreciated*

Ed Copher

1211 Gruene Vintage

New Braunfels, TX 78130



924 FLOWER FUND



The purpose is to send a nice flower arrangement to all 924th funerals. *Each arrangement cost over \$100.* The ribbon will read; “**924th BAFB**”. A flower arrangement has been sent to the last

61 funerals.

Jim Chapman is the POC for collecting funds and sending the flowers.
jchapman90@austin.rr.com

Send donations to: Make out check to [Jim Chapman](#)

Jim Chapman

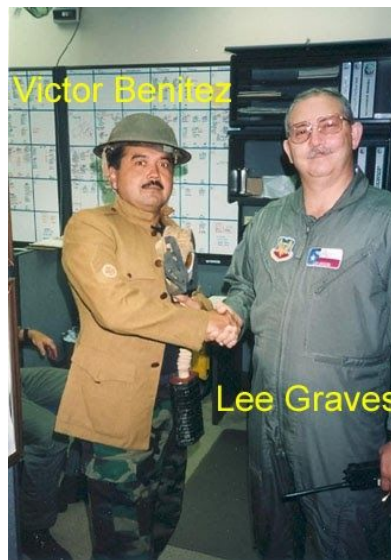
145 Oak Ridge Dr.

Cedar Creek, TX 78612

*****NOTE:** No donations needed at this time for flower fund.



Col Lee Graves: Passed On 05 Jan 2021...The last 924 TFW Commander



**From his wife, Linda Graves, and daughter,
Leah Graves Montgomery-Fontenot, regarding
Col. Graves services: 06 Jan 2021**

We really don't have any info on Daddy's funeral aka Memorial right now. Mom and myself remain on quarantine since Daddy was positive for Covid. So until we get these results at the end of the week, we are just lying low at their house. Daddy is going to be cremated so there will be no burial. We will have a celebration of Daddy's life but we just don't know when yet. Daddy hated funerals as many of you know ... and he never wanted to be "viewed" after he died. So those wishes will be honored of course. But he also knew the celebration of his life was for those of us left behind, and for that, we will celebrate him. Once we know, we will share it here as well with other groups and those that are not on FB to share with others. If you knew my Daddy, you knew what an amazing man he was. He was a faithful servant to our Lord, even in all the dark times in his health when he had every right to feel alone and abandoned Daddy knew God was there with him. He said he didn't understand why he had to go through what he did here on Earth, but he knew that God would tell him in Heaven. He is probably THE most scholarly educated person about religion and spirituality that I have ever know and will ever know. He studied religions and The Bible his entire life. My Daddy literally has 100s of Bibles and reference books he studied in. Being able to witness his faith my

entire life, especially the last couple of years as his health challenges rose, has helped me grow stronger in my faith. And for this, I feel it was an honor to witness and grow from his. Thank you,



Daddy .

My Daddy was a very proud Veteran who served in multiple wars starting with Vietnam, he had the love of his life for 54 years and 53.5 years of that married. He flew fighter jets for his entire career!!! The F-16 was his favorite, but it started with the F-100. He didn't wait for the draft, he joined KNOWING he would be going to Vietnam. He was an amazing big brother to his baby sister and loved her beyond words. He believed in the good of people... he was blunt and sometimes brutally blunt but he always had good intentions (of course, didn't mean you had to agree with his opinion). In our younger years, he was a strict disciplinarian. For that... our younger years I know I made challenging as well as Trey lol. But... he was an amazing Daddy. He was the first man I loved and will always love. I have always been a Daddy's girl. I was a TomBoy growing up so he would do more things with me. I played Baseball because well, my brother played baseball and my Daddy coached him. I tried football, but Daddy and Mom drew the line on that one. So I rode horses. Daddy grew up riding horses and working cattle. He also used to bronc ride for extra money in his teen and college years. And THAT his mother hated 🧑♀️ He taught me how to hunt. He


taught me how to shoot a gun. He taught me the love of working out. But he also gave Trey and me his bad knees lol. So I will be getting bilateral knees replacements this year just like Daddy did



Daddy was an amazing Grandy. He loved his grandkids honestly more (okay different) than he did us kids. He was so proud of his 3 granddaughters and 1 grandson with all their achievements. Even though he won't be here to see more of their life unfold and accomplishment lists grow, I know that he will be rooting them on from Heaven. Daddy believed in signs from Heaven, so I know that he will be letting each of us know in his own way that he is okay. And I



can't wait for that first sign

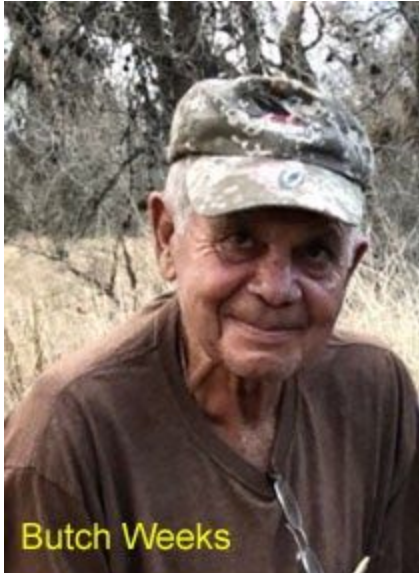
I could go on and on. Like I said, I'm a Daddy's girl. But one thing I want to say about my Daddy is his strength. He never gave in no matter how hard things got. He didn't believe in the word "can't" and he lived that example every day. He was diagnosed with cancer in Dec 1997 and was given 3-5 years AT BEST!!!! Each time he was told he only had a certain amount of time, Daddy would say "Ah, what the hell do they know?! Only God knows!" And how right he was. So those times that things get tough and you think you can't go on ... take some strength from my Daddy. Because I promise you, he will be rooting you on to go forward and not give up. I  If you got to the end of my story ... thank you for reading and

letting me share more about my Daddy. He is greatly missed and no man will ever fill his shoes. But we are so thankful for the friends and family near and far that have shared their love and memories of Daddy with us. Your prayers are felt and we thank you for this.

We love y'all BIG!!!!

The family of Henry Lee "Bear" Graves Jr

SMSgt Butch Weeks passed away:



Norbert R. "Butch" Weeks of Sargent, TX. passed away peacefully on January 19, 2021 at the age of 78. He was born September 1, 1942 to Ralph Norbert and Marion Collins Weeks of Magnolia Springs, Alabama.

Butch was a good man. He sincerely cared for his family, friends, and his extended family of brothers and sisters he served with over the many years in the United States Air Force. He was a "Bull." He could pick up more, move more, and work harder than any three men. He was always there to help no matter what the project and it didn't matter if it was a friend or a stranger. Butch jumped right in there and got the job done.

Butch is preceded in death by his wife and love of his life, Christine Byrd Weeks; his parents; stepdaughter, Elizabeth Hance; brother, Jimmy Weeks; and sister, Ann Weeks;

Survived by brothers Tommy Weeks and Johnny (Susie) Weeks; stepson, Jerry Hance; grandchildren, Rodney (Misty) Mills and Lana Mills Ham and Tim Emery, great grandchildren, Athena, Aeres and Athen Ham and Kaylee Kelly; and many loving nieces, nephews and extended family.

There will be a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. on February 6, 2021 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Foley, AL. Interment will immediately follow at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church cemetery.

Norbert "Butch" Weeks
9/1/1942 1/19/2021

Today a REAL friend to so many passed away.

Those who knew Butch share in the grief I now feel over the loss of my best friend for so many many years. (OVER 50 YEARS OF ONE HELL OF A RIDE!)

Butch was a good man. He sincerely cared for his family, friends, and his extended family of brothers and sisters he served with over the many years in the Air Force.
Butch was a "Bull." The stoutest man I have ever known. He could pick up more, move more, and work harder than any three men. He was always there to help no matter what the project and it didn't matter if it was a friend or a stranger. Butch jumped right in there and got the job done.

He was working hard as usual sitting atop his huge tractor when he had the stroke. There was a nurse who is also a building contractor working with Butch at the time. He immediately recognized Butch was having a stroke and treated him accordingly. He was able to get Star Flight to him in a very short time and he was transported to St. Luke's Hospital (Houston Medical Center) where emergency surgery was performed to relieve the pressure and control the bleeding to his brain. Butch got the best medical treatment one could hope for from beginning to end but the stroke was too massive.

There will be a memorial service / funeral at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church in Foley, Alabama, with Father Nicholas conducting the service. Butch will be laid to rest next to the love of his life, Christine, who passed August 20, 2020.

I will announce the date and time when I have that information.

Sam Bass

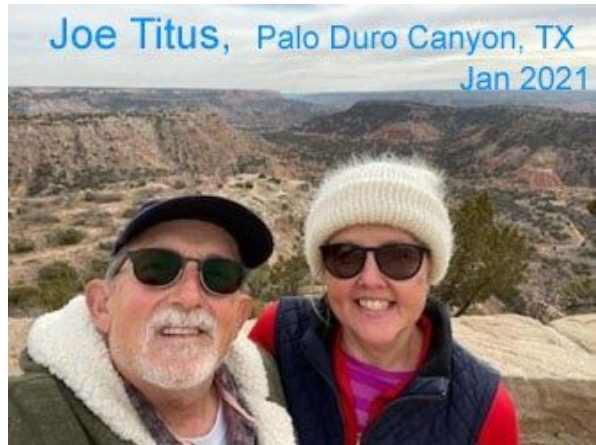
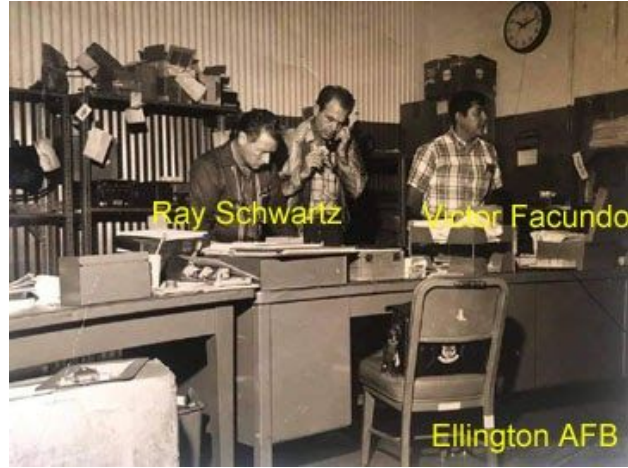
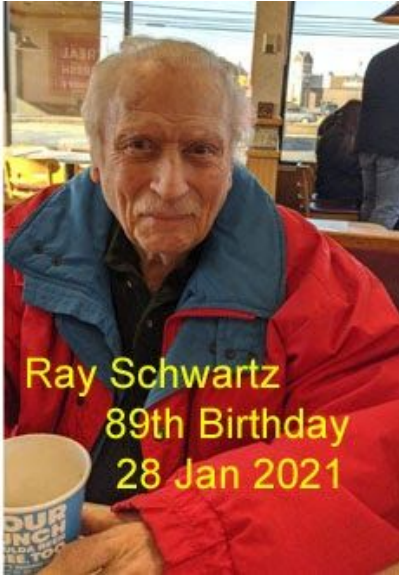
Joe Ventura passed away: 22 Dec 2020 in Round Rock, C-130 Navigator

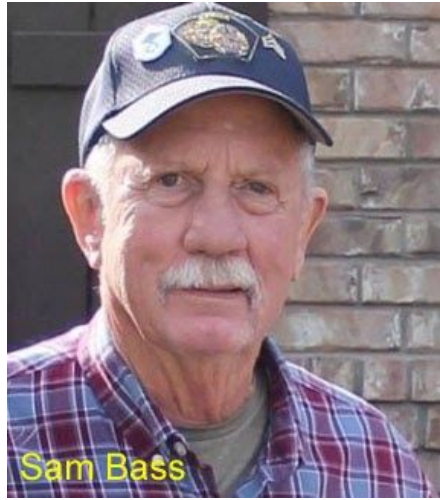
Submitted by Colin "Sarge" Johnston: Joe Ventura who was a C-130 navigator in the 924th passed away around Christmas. I don't know any particulars. He was the legal representative for my HOA. The family hasn't released any other information..

Col James Gartrell Passed away on 21 Jan 2021:

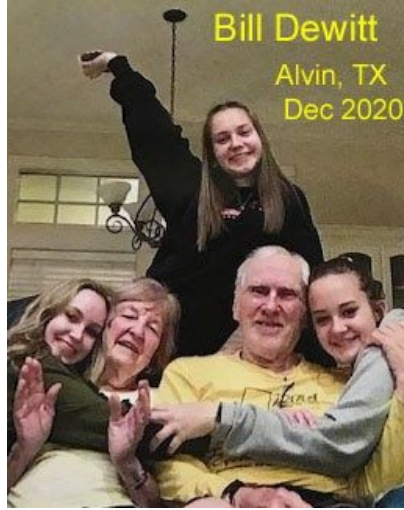
Submitted by Mark McClelland: Just saw where Col James W Gartrell passed away on Jan 21. An Aggie engineer, he was in the 924 CES at Ellington, moved to Bergstrom with us in '76, became Group Deputy Commander for Resources before going to the IMA world. Solid guy, Aggie through and through, proud to have worked for him. Private services.

Chief Willie is still in the Hospital in Austin: Since 16 Dec, in rehab due to stroke





Sam Bass



Bill Dewitt
Alvin, TX
Dec 2020



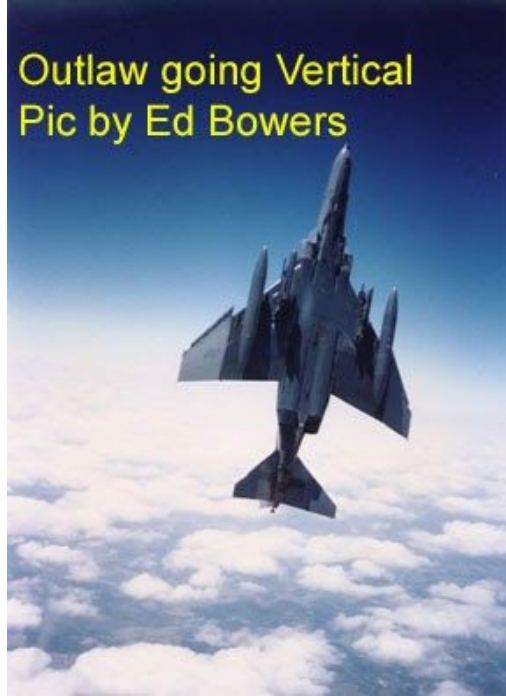
Frank Adame



Nurse Judy Smith



Outlaw going Vertical
Pic by Ed Bowers



Jet fighter pilot on vacation



*****Websites of Interest*****

BOMBS AWAY!

Bergstrom History video:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ks87G3hrocM&fbclid=IwAR3Dg0pglrMkeRGV0TDI-bV_Tot9IMrMmvlTcsQ52-L2o6t2vJtMFmjAqlc

Is your rifle clean:

https://m.youtube.com/results?search_query=is+your+rifle+clean+

Air Force Singing Sergeants, Lee Greenwood:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gs0fxy8rHo8>

Austin 1965-1995:

[DO YOU REMEMBER AUSTIN \(BACK IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS\).avi](#)

Video of Austin in 1970's & 80's

<https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/texas/austin/1960s-video-austin/?fbclid=IwAR1-MxMwnMe70bKzcKqZ6exdTHdn9UHNLDhR-IIHMNR93YNZ-FxghaOnIFl>

High Flight by John Denver:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1xNGgWNRUf8#>

Video of Austin, done by Jimmy Fallon: Around Austin & UT

Turn up the sound...great

<https://www.facebook.com/31732483895/posts/10157936267183896?vh=e&d=n&sfns=mo>

Videos and Photos from 20 Year Reunion: 23-24 Sept 2016

1. Friday Night Video of event that was held at Camp Mabry: **4:40 min video**

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/175270462542104?view=permalink&id=1054743661261442>

2. Saturday Video at the Reunion: **18:27 min Video**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/175270462542104/>

3. Photos: **200 pictures**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/924outlaws/sets/>



924 RECALL ROSTER

Known Whereabouts: (647 Names)

Revised 02 February 2021

New & Changed Addresses:

See website roster

Complete Roster can be found on the 924th website

www.924tfg.com

Password: **Outlaws...** "all lower case"

Will email the Roster upon request



Dat...Dat...Dhat's all folks