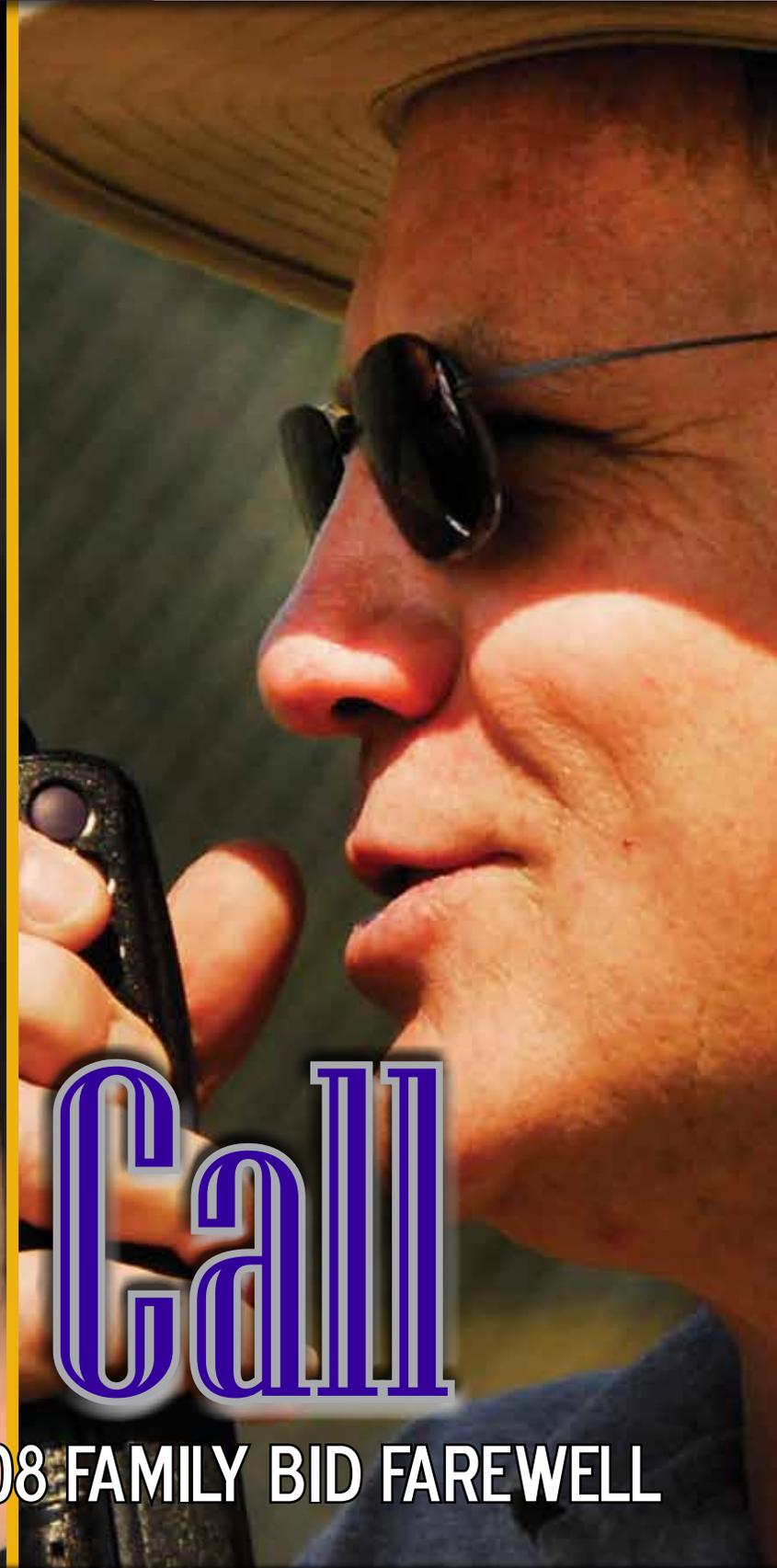


**ENLISTED GROUPS BOND, BREAK BOUNDARIES PG. 9**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



# Last Call

**TWO MEMBERS OF 908 FAMILY BID FAREWELL**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 50 Issue 10  
October 2012

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# Through the grapevine

**D**id you ever play the grapevine game in elementary school? For those of you who didn't here's how the game worked:

The teacher would arrange the students in a straight line and then whisper a statement in the first student's ear and ask that they in turn whisper it to the kid standing next to them until it had made it to the last kid in line.

When the last kid in line had heard it, that student would write it on the blackboard and then the teacher would tell everyone what they had said. Usually there was a significant difference between what was said by the teacher originally and what was finally heard by the students.

This simple game clearly demonstrates the importance of communication and how the original message can be lost or misunderstood as it is retold. Let's consider how this might affect us in our current profession.

An example that comes to mind

for me is how we use and interpret Air Force guidance.

Often I hear others quoting Air Force guidance only to discover

later that either the guidance had changed since they had last read it or that their interpretation of it was different than what was commonly accepted.

The problem here is that the people who hear them quoting the guidance then consider that information to be accurate and then in

turn repeat it to others.

As this message is communicated from person to person, the information is less and less accurate as with the grapevine scenario above. So how do we fix this problem?

The answer is simple.

When you quote Air Force policy, be ready to show the reference. If you can provide not only the Air Force Instruction number but also the paragraph where it can be found, it shows you are getting this guidance straight from the source and learning what we all should have in elementary school.



LT. COL. JOE FRIDAY  
Commander, 908th MXG

## A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) JUAN SCOTT

Do you find yourself being anxious or worried about things? I encounter many people who have difficulty allowing life to just happen.

Confession time. I used to be in this category until I ran across these life changing words, "Be anxious for NOTHING, but in EVERYTHING by prayer let your petitions be known to God."

The modern version of this text, simply stated, means don't worry about anything but pray about everything! These words transformed my thinking and allowed me to loosen the "control reins" I held on to so tightly.

I know I am not the only person who struggled with every detail of my life being planned. Come on, let me see those hands slip up or your heads nod from north to south if these words are resonating with you. Didn't that feel good to confess? Now let's learn a few lessons to improve the quality of our lives.

Lesson One - Replace worry with Prayer. Lesson Two - Trust that God wants the best for your life. Lesson Three - As believers, live knowing whatever comes to you after you have prayed had to clear God's desk before it reached you. With that revelation, view the daily activities of your life through your spiritual lenses and ACT accordingly.

I leave you with the modified words of a popular song, "Don't Worry, Pray and Be Happy!"



# TSP: Giving to yourself



Information provided by  
908th Financial Management

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is a Federal Government-sponsored retirement savings and investment plan. Congress established the TSP in the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986.

The purpose of TSP is to provide retirement income. On Oct. 30, 2000, President Bill Clinton signed the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2001 (Public Law 106-398).

One provision of the law extended participation to members of the Armed Forces in the TSP. Service members were first able to enroll in TSP during a special open season from Oct. 9, 2001 to Jan. 31, 2002.

TSP is a defined contribution plan. The retirement income that military members receive from their TSP account will depend on how much they contributed to the account during their working years, and the earnings on those contributions. TSP

offers the same type of savings and tax benefits that many private corporations offer their employees under the so-called "401K" plans.

### What are the major features of the TSP?

The military member may elect to contribute any percentage (1 to 100) of basic pay; however, the annual dollar total cannot exceed the Internal Revenue Code limit, which was \$15,000 for 2006.

If the member contributes to the TSP from basic pay, one to 100 percent of any incentive pay or special pay (to include bonus pay) received may also be contributed up to the limits established by the Internal Revenue Code.

### What are TSP investment funds?

Once military members are enrolled in TSP, they can elect to divide the TSP contribution among five different investment funds, which we'll discuss next month.



## SOUTHERN FLYER

### COVER PHOTO:

This month's cover is a photo illustration featuring Maj. Hope Norton, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Jesse Scott, both of whom recently departed the 908th Airlift Wing.

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Southern Flyer" are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. Editorial content of the "Southern Flyer" is edited, prepared and provided by the 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies. Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the unit training assembly.

The submission deadline for articles or information is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA. Send inquiries and submissions to 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112 or e-mail them to 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil. Our phone number is (334) 953-6804 or DSN 493-6804; our fax number is (334) 953-2202 or DSN 493-2202. For information about this schedule, call this office at (334) 953-7874.

# Without Hope

By TSgt. Jay Ponder  
908th AW Public Affairs

Photos by Gene Hughes, TSgt. Jay Ponder and TSgt. James Harrell

## Pope possibility entices 908th AW's 'Miss MSG' to maintenance management



Maj. Hope Norton, executive officer of the 908th MSG, recently departed the wing for an Art position at Pope Army Air Field.

As service members grow within their military careers, opportunities open up, careers change and like any family, sometimes departures are necessary. The 908th Airlift Wing will be saying goodbye to a good friend and officer with the departure of Maj. Hope Norton, mission support group exec.

Norton, who has been with the wing for six years, is heading back to her home in North Carolina to serve as the executive officer for the 448th Maintenance Group at Pope Army Air Field.

"It will be a good opportunity and experience for me," said Norton, "and you know when God opens the door for you; you've got to walk through it."

Norton explained how it was an ART position that popped up, which also benefited her family.

Col. Pete Peterson, commander of the 908th MSG, said Norton has been doing a great job working for the MSG and the entire wing. "She's been involved in everything from UCIs to ORIs; she's been involved in everything. She has a lot of professional knowledge and that's what I'm going to miss. She's 'Miss MSG'."

Norton, who was prior enlisted for 10 years has been in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve for over 20 years. She explained after 14 years in the active duty Air Force, she was ready to leave but had made some friends here in the 908th who said, 'that's a lot of time you have invested, don't walk away from that, come into the reserves and finish up your time.'

And as the MSG knows, it was beneficial for ev-



Above: Then-Capt. Norton, left, working in LDRS, was a major force in getting the personnel and equipment of the 908th out the door during the 2010 AEF deployment. Right: Asking as much of herself as those around her, she made her personal physical fitness a top priority.

everyone. Norton's performance was noted as the officer overseeing the Reserve Deployment Readiness Cell, a position that coordinates deployments. 908th Col. Brett Clark, 908th Airlift Wing Commander, described Norton as dedicated and professional and with her leaving, it would open an incredible void. "It doesn't matter what she's doing," said Clark, "she gives a 100 percent effort. I can't tell you how much it concerns me to see a great officer like this move on to another assignment. I wish her all the luck, because she is a first-class airman who has unlimited potential."

"As the deployment readiness officer, you're a jack of all trades, it's a tough job," said Norton. She explained how she tracked deployments in the system ensuring the logistics were complete to get people from point A to B. Sometimes, she explained, it was the minor details like making sure folks had completed their training. Other details were



ensuring members deploying had everything they needed, were aware of what they needed to do, had all the equipment they would need and getting them on the aircraft and to their deployment location on time.

"It's a 24/7, no-kidding involvement in this process," said Norton, "and if we don't ensure the people have what they need, whether it's clothing items, their weapons or some special

piece of equipment they're supposed to take with them, it will have an impact on the mission in-theatre."

In regard to her management style, she referred to a favorite quote, "What you do in this life, it vibrates throughout eternity, what we do and how we treat people."

"You know," she said, "I think I made an impact on people in a positive way and that makes me feel good because they'll turn around and pay it forward by doing the same thing."

As she is leaving, Norton wants 908th Airmen to know the varied jobs they do, matter and what they do is just as important to the 908th mission as any other job within the wing. Norton was adamant saying, "Whether it's the airman sitting at a computer who is cutting orders, a chief on the flight line, or an officer directing operations, they're just as important as anyone else and don't let anyone ever tell them or make them feel otherwise."

Col. Peterson closed by referring to her new assignment.

"We know she's going to do well." And in regard to the 908th MSG, he said, "there's still hope for us when Hope is gone."



Col. Pete Peterson, commander of the 908th MSG, along with group executive officer then-Capt. Norton watch Security Force training.



Maj. Travis L. Shults, commander of the 908th Maintenance Squadron, presents the official certificate of retirement to Chief Master Sgt. Jesse Scott during the ceremony bringing his 31 years of military service to a close. Below, Scott performs with Chief Master Sgt. Leon Alexander during the karaoke portion of the 2012 908th Airlift Wing Family Day.

# Great Scott!

## Chief Master Sgt. Jess Scott retires after 31 years

By Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder  
908th AW Public Affairs

The 908th Maintenance Group recently lost one of its most steadfast personalities to retirement. The military has always been known for personnel transitions, but this is just not another one.

Yes, Chief Master Sgt. Jesse Scott recently retired from the Air Force Reserve and the 908th Airlift Wing after 31 years of service.

“There are two types of people who have an impact upon your career as a maintenance officer,” said Lt. Col. Joe Friday, 908th Maintenance Group Commander. “One of those will be your commander, and the other will be your chiefs. They are the ones who develop you as an officer and as a leader.”

Scott described some of his leadership style explaining how he worked on teaching airmen to work



together. “I took a group of supervisors and mentored them by teaching them not to fight one another but to work with one another. I demon-

strated to them principles of integrity and fairness.”

Scott illustrated the principles of being a good supervisor to his pupils telling them one of the most important things as supervisors, they would be responsible for would be the caliber of the people they (the supervisors) hired. “I tried to influence my supervisors by modeling the behavior I wanted to see in them.”

He felt his greatest impact was teaching his supervisors to not base their decisions on anger or favoritism. “Never hire your friends,” said Scott, “but always hire the best person for the job. I tried to influence the flight chiefs in that way.”

Maj. Travis L. Shults, 908th Maintenance Squadron Commander had praise for the chief as well describing Scott as an honorable professional who exemplified integrity. “Chief Scott possesses high standards and not only exemplifies excellence but demands excellence of others,” Shults said, “As the Senior ART in our Squadron, he took great pride and labored tirelessly to ensure that even the small things were done right.”

Even though this was Chief Scott’s special moment with his retirement, he still shared it with the wing because a special part of the retirement ceremony for Scott and his family was the surprise presentation by Lt. Col. Friday of World War II military decorations to Scott’s father, Jesse M. Scott, who also attended the event.

The elder Scott received five medals along with the Combat Action Ribbon for his participation during Okinawa as a Navy hospital corpsman. He also served in Northern China as a military policeman supporting the demobilization of the



‘The 908th is losing its calmest, most trusting, calculating senior enlisted leader. Chief Scott created a sense of balance within the MXG leadership core.’

-- Chief Master Sgt. Leon Alexander, AMXS

Japanese Army.

“This has really embodied the professionalism of how people here work together and how they care for one another,” the Mobile, Ala. native said.

According to Shults, it has never been about Scott, but the unit and members of the unit.

“Not a week went by that I didn’t hear from the Chief on issues that concerned our airmen,” he said. “Whether it be an EPR that needed final review, a decoration, or promotion opportunity for one of our people, he was always pushing for the highest quality



and best for our members.”

The retiring chief is no slacker when it comes to taking care of himself, either.

“He is retiring with a current excellent physical fitness assessment score of 97!” said Shults.

Asked about his experiences with the 908th, Scott fondly recalled his favorites.

“There have been so many good ones... probably the trips to Puerto Rico,” he said. “We were doing the mission but having a lot of fun, too.”

Even though he’s retired from the service, it won’t be retired from his life. Scott will continue to work on the civilian side of the fence with the Air Force Reserve at Robins AFB as the Command A-10 and B-52 Weapons System Manager.

“I will take the lessons he has given me and use those throughout the rest of my career, I think we should all emulate Chief Scott.”

With that, the Chief wanted to wind up his final chapter with the 908th up by saying, “I hope I left the 908th a little bit better than the way I found it.”

# 'Where there's a will ...'

... there's a way to take care of your loved ones if needed

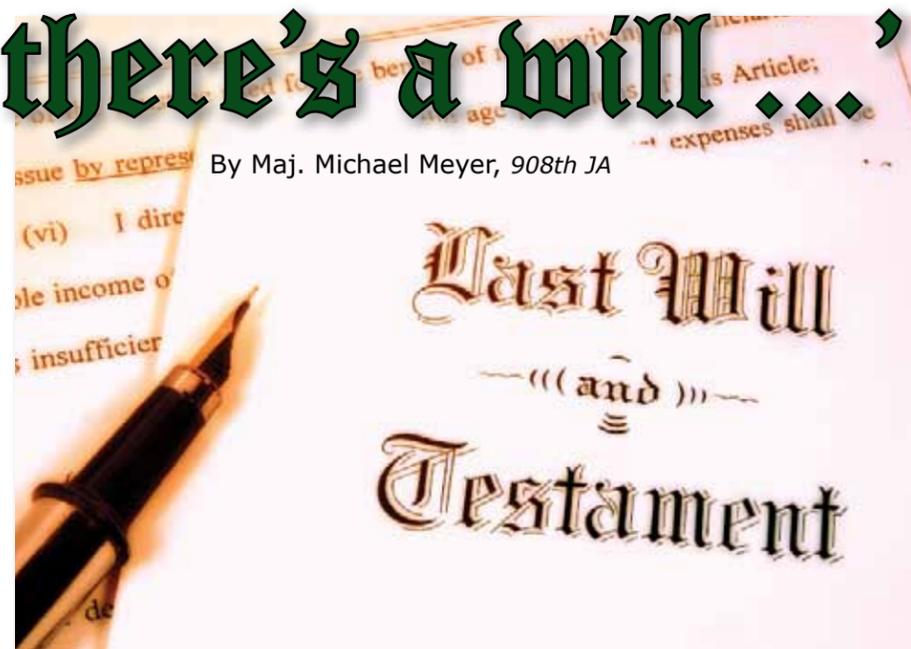
Many of us often don't address or think about the need for a will and related legal matters until a deployment or family emergency occurs. By that point, we are in a crunch between predeployment training, civilian employment and tending to family-personal issues.

A good preventative legal measure we can easily address before these issues present themselves is thinking about a will, Power of Attorney, and SGLI or other life insurance.

A will is a legal document -- executed by the reserve member (testator), drafted by legal counsel, and signed by and in the presence of two witnesses -- that conveys your tangible and intangible property and assets (estate) to named primary and contingent beneficiaries upon your death.

This property usually includes the testator's real property (i.e. residence and/or other land) and personal property, usually as in vehicles, furniture, various collections (coins, weapons), and other personal items and possessions. A testator can specifically name "specific bequests," meaning specific personal property will pass to a named beneficiary.

A common scenario for estate distribution occurs when the testator executes a will naming the spouse as primary beneficiary and minor children as contingent beneficiaries. The testator's named personal representative receives the executed will, keeps it in a secure location and manages



By Maj. Michael Meyer, 908th JA

and oversees the probate process to make sure the intent and asset distribution is fulfilled.

A personal representative or executor and named beneficiary can be the same person.

Another common inquiry from servicemembers is whether to execute a will, and when should a new will be drafted. Several factors should be considered regarding will execution as well as "updating" a will. In this context, remember that an "update" usually means drafting and executing a completely new will and destroying (i.e. shredding) the existing one. Don't make copies of a current will because the likelihood of a contest in civil court significantly increases if the original will/copies are produced and the testator has a subsequent executed will. A contest is particularly likely if either distributions amongst beneficiaries vary between the two wills, or if the named beneficiaries are different.

As a general rule, any individual of majority age and sound mind can execute their will. Typically, as one becomes more established the need to execute a will naturally increases.

Moreover, if a servicemember encounters a "life-changing event," the need to execute a new will should be considered.

Life-changing events include:

1. birth or adoption of a child,
2. divorce or legal separation, and
3. remarriage and expanded families, including step-children.

Keep in mind there is no general expiration date for a will. A validly executed will remains effective. The main considerations are whether the distribution of assets and property accurately reflect one's intent and the occurrence of any life-changing event subsequent to the will's execution.

The 908th JAG Office utilizes the DL Wills Program which specifically addresses and incorporates the probate statutes for all U.S. states and territories. A will questionnaire and ticket number is available to complete at:

<https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>

Any additional questions or comments can also be discussed at the 908th JAG Office. Future articles will address general/special POA's and related estate issues such as SGLI and distribution of other assets.

# Busting boundaries, making history

908th, 94th bond together to make a difference

By Senior Airman Shaniqua Rogers  
908th Airmen Committed to Excellence

The junior enlisted councils of the 908th and 94th Airlift Wings recently combined forces to participate in "A Hero's Welcome" on Sept. 15 at Ida Bell Young Park in Montgomery, Ala.

The event was coordinated as a military appreciation picnic for all retirees, veterans, current military members and their families in the area.

"The event was extremely successful," said Tech. Sgt. Keith Daniels of the 908th's 25th Aerial Port Squadron, who coordinated the event. "The two junior enlisted groups came together, combined efforts and contributed to the ultimate success of the event."

Both junior enlisted councils are fairly new. The 908th's Airman Committed to Excellence was founded in March and the 94th's First Four was founded in May.

Despite their age, both organizations have made significant impacts upon their respective wings and communities by participating in various outreach and volunteer endeavors. They have coordinated camp counselors and volunteers for the Sunshine Camp for Boys, a one-week camp for the inner city boys of Montgomery and volunteers for the Children's Center of Montgomery, a non-profit organization providing services and education to disabled children of Montgomery.

They have also taken part in such diverse events as the Family Day Pie in the Face Fundraiser; feedings for area homeless, spent countless hours aiding handicapped veterans at regional sporting events and provided needed manpower at base-wide fundraising endeavors.



From bottom row left to right: Airman First Class Shehroze Choudry, 908th Command Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke, Senior Airman Christina Dryden, AES. Next row: Airman Latricia Parks, FSS; Senior Airman Shaniqua Rogers (FSS), Senior Airman Michael Roman, A1C Faren Douglas (SFS) Top Row: Senior Airman Michael Burns and Senior Airman Robert Booker, CES.

"We've all put in a lot of time in, on-duty as well as off-duty," said Senior Airman Elizabeth Van Patten, vice president of Dobbins' First Four. "It's nice to know there are other Airmen, at other wings, striving for excellence right alongside us. The combined effort of these two junior enlisted groups speaks volumes to all the Air Force core values and ultimately shows pure 'wingmanship' at its best."

## Have a heart! Join the 2012 CFC Campaign!



The 2012 CFC is now in full swing!  
Make your donations online at:

[www.heartofalabamacfc.org](http://www.heartofalabamacfc.org)

Members of the 908th, contact your group Key Worker for more information.

### 908AW KEY WORKERS

OG: Maj. Mike Hilyard, Tech. Sgt. Nakeya Livingston.  
MSG: Capt. Mike McDonald.  
ASTS: Master Sgt. Orenthia Herren.  
MXG: Senior Master Sgt. Tim Rollins, Tech. Sgt. Richard Day, Staff Sgt. Robbie Kinman.

## New to the 908th

Capt. Stephannie M. Hahn, OSS  
 Master Sgt. Marilyn M. King, AW  
 Master Sgt. Jeffery N. Speigner, CES  
 Tech. Sgt. John T. Marshall, AMXS  
 Staff Sgt. David F. Holland, 25 APS  
 Staff Sgt. Lisa M. Lancaster, SFS  
 Staff Sgt. Amber N. McAdoo, MXG  
 Staff Sgt. William D. Stewart, 25 APS  
 Senior Airman Ryan J. Esposito, MXG  
 Senior Airman John C. Stallworth, 25 APS  
 Senior Airman Adam C. Wood, AMXS  
 Senior Airman Brittany L. Youkers, FSS  
 Airman 1st Class Jessica A. Brooks, MXS  
 Airman 1st Class Coreen N. Harvery, FSS  
 Airman 1st Class Serrena A. Herrera, SFS

Airman 1st Class Brandon W. Knight, AMXS  
 Airman 1st Class Briana R. Nelson, ASTS  
 Airman 1st Class Brittany K. Shepherd, ASTS  
 Airman 1st Class Kenneth L. Taylor, OG  
 Airman 1st Class Andrew Turner, ASTS  
 Airman Rakiyah D. Dunlap, LRS  
 Basic Airman Kendria Alexander, LRS  
 Basic Airman Douglas A. Bowers, CES  
 Basic Airman Jerrell C. Craig, SFS  
 Basic Airman Kalia K. Fernandez, SFS  
 Basic Airman Ashley M. Harris, MXS  
 Basic Airman Joshulyne D. Hartfield, CES  
 Basic Airman Jamie J. Hicks, SFS  
 Basic Airman James M. Starns, 25 APS  
 Basic Airman Joshua K. Williams, 25 APS

## Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Stanley M. Jesionowski, OSS  
 Lt. Col. Laurie J. Parker, AES  
 Chief Master Sgt. Adriel D. Carr, 25 APS  
 Senior Master Sgt. Mark V. Williams, MXS  
 Master Sgt. Roger L. Butler, OSS  
 Master Sgt. Lee E. Cobb, CES  
 Master Sgt. Pamela A. Rhodes, MSG  
 Master Sgt. Darrell J. Stephens, MXS

Master Sgt. Samuel M. Ferrell, FSS  
 Master Sgt. Michael Guerin, FSS  
 Master Sgt. Rose L. Hall, OG  
 Master Sgt. Peggy S. Thomas, CES  
 Tech. Sgt. Lynette A. Clayton, ASTS  
 Tech. Sgt. Alfred Deramus, Jr., CES  
 Tech. Sgt. Christy Houston, OSS  
 Tech. Sgt. Tdera Jarman, LRS

### BRIEFS

#### Join the ACE Team!

Airman Committed to Excellence is currently signed up for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and the countdown is on! Would you like to make a donation or join our team? Perhaps you would like to sponsor an Airman?

The new fundraising goal is \$500 and ACE is currently at 71 percent towards reaching that goal,

but is still looking for four more people join the team and participate in the race.

There is a \$30 registration fee for anyone interested in joining the team, which helps to cover the cost of operations. You must register to receive a T-Shirt.

For more information, contact Senior Airman Shaniqua Rogers at (334) 953-5029.

## Gaining Altitude

### Senior Master Sergeant

Scott A. Johnson

### Master Sergeant

David H. Collins

### Technical Sergeant

Thomes E. Shockley

Sylvia T. Bibb

Glenties C. Jacobs

### Staff Sergeant

Melissa M. Hamilton

### Senior Airman

Christopher J. Myska

Kelsi R. Summers

Gary Tanks

Robert I. Booker Jr.

Lee B. Broaden

Nikia K. Freeman

Lisa M. Cowart

Craig A. Schoenewaldt

### Airman First Class

Alexis K. Seymore

Lashanta M. Buchanon

Teresa L. Conner

Christian N. Granger

Ariel B. King

Chantel L. Lucas

Kandace A. Moore

Kayanna L. Rich

Stewart C. Thomason

Joy M. Bates

Marquis M. Jackson

Corbin D. Tunstall

Kevin A. Rodriguez

Joshua S. Cryar

David L. McElrath Jr.

Travolta Bynam

Karine N. Dickens

Tyler R. Cancel

Luke A. Green

### Airman

Alana P. McClain

Douglas A. Bowers

Isshecar L. Windham

Edrick Davis Jr.

Darien L. Johnson

Shannon N. Jones

Jylian McCoy

Latricia P. Parks

Jasmine Z. Thomas



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TO THE FAMILY OF:

The 908th Airlift Wing recently bid farewell to two valued members of the wing family. We wish a happy future to Master Sgts. Mike Guerin of Comm Flight and James McCaughtry of the SFS, who made us laugh and turned tough times into good times. You will be missed.

Congratulations!

LOOK FOR US ONLINE!

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