

# SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS

## Veteran of the Month Prayer Card

October 2023

### Ray Hightower



#### US AIR FORCE: 1976 – 1980

Ray grew up in Chamblee, GA. He obtained his AA degree at DeKalb Community College in Clarkston, GA. In 1976 he joined the Air Force and completed basic training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX. He was then sent to Technical School at Keesler AFB, in Biloxi, MS, where he completed six weeks of electronics technician training. From there, Ray was stationed at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Richmond, KY, as an Auto Track Radar Repairman and Operator with the Det 8, 1st Combat Evaluation Group, Strategic Air Command. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant E-4.

After the military, Ray worked for over 34 years in various retail management positions in the Greenville, SC, and Atlanta areas, including Big Lots, Color Tile, Home Depot, Lowes, and Dollar General. In Georgia he was a Cub/Boy Scout leader for over 21 years. He served as a District Commissioner for two years in Florida. He was also a Youth Court Mentor in Conyers, GA, for two years, representing youth as they go through challenging life transitions or dealing with stressful changes at home.

Ray and his wife, Maureen, of 14 years, moved to Palm Coast from Covington, GA, in 2013. They are happy to be near Maureen's daughter. Ray has a son and three beautiful granddaughters who live in Georgia. Ray is a local realtor, and an SOTC Elder. He is "Chef Ray" at home where his passion is planning and preparing epicurean delights for Maureen and guests. They enjoy traveling whenever their busy schedules allow.