

SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS
Veteran of the Month Prayer Card
December 2023
Debbie Rankin



US AIR FORCE: 1977-1994

Debbie was born in Springfield, MO and when she was in fifth grade her family moved to Baker, LA. After high school, she worked for an insurance company in Baton Rouge, LA. She missed music and decided to audition, and was accepted, into the music program at Louisiana State University. From LSU she was accepted into the US Air Force Band Career Field.

She played the clarinet and also performed on bagpipes as additional duty. As a member of the Band Career Field, she performed at a wide variety of military and civic events, ceremonies, parades, festivals, and public concerts. She was stationed at various Air Force Bases, including: Langley – VA; Clark – Philippines; Robins – GA; Bolling – DC, and Hanscom – MA. She met her husband, Ken, while stationed at Robins AFB in Georgia. Debbie retired early with a rank of E-6 (TSgt).

After the military, Debbie spent time as a stay-at-home mom with their children. When Ken went to Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN, she worked in the Student Affairs office at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. When Ken was called to Peace Lutheran in New Berlin, WI, she got a job with the Department of Veteran Affairs in Milwaukee. She worked for ten years as a Human Resources Specialist, specifically recruiting Physicians and RN's.

Debbie and Ken moved to Palm Coast from Waukesha, WI in 2016. They have been married for 42 years and have four children and six grandchildren. Debbie enjoys working out (CrossFit is her exercise of choice), quilting, and walking their two dogs, Bella and Jaxson, on the beach. She also has been a rotating member of the SOTC Handbell Choir.