

SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS

Veteran of the Month Prayer Card

December 2024

David Smith



US ARMY: 1950 - 1979

David grew up in Brockton, MA. He enlisted in the Army when he was 17 years old. He served in Korea as a Combat Medic and was awarded the Purple Heart. He served in ABN units in the US and Germany during the Cold War.

The last 17 years of his service, he was with the 10th Special Forces Group (ABN). During this time, he was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months as Team Leader. The remainder of his time was spent with Special Forces Group (ABN) in Bad Tölz, Germany, Fort Devens, MA, Fort Bragg, NC, and Berlin, Germany. From these places his team was assigned, and accomplished, many missions around the world. His wife, Joyce, accompanied him on most of his tours; and as an Army Wife, she helped him earn his rank. During his Army career, he attended many schools, including studying three languages: Farsi, Bulgarian, and German.

David retired from the Army as an SGM (E9).

All of his military training earned him many credits towards a college degree. He earned his BS Degree during his first two years of retirement. For 10 years he was a Fourth Grade Teacher at North Middlesex Regional School District, in Townsend, MA.

David and Joyce moved to Florida in 2000 from Massachusetts. In 2022 they moved to Palm Coast from Fort Myers Beach. They have two children, three grandchildren, and one great grandson. They will celebrate their 69th wedding anniversary on December 24, 2024.

His personal interests are many. He enjoys friends and family gatherings, as well as, skiing, fishing, pleasure boating, hunting, reading, traveling, cruising, the theater, and hiking. At this time, his biggest interest is tending his 64 acres, and log cabin, in Newry, ME, which he does when they are not in Florida.