

ALL GAVE SOME; SOME GAVE ALL

This week's veteran is Bill Dailey.

Bill enlisted in the United States Air Force on October 14, 1955. In October of 1955, approximately 14 of Assumption's young men left for the Armed Services. Bill remarked that Harold "Fatso" Mink said that he would have to close the Pool Hall if any more left.

Bill was sent to Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas for four weeks of basic training and then to MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa Bay, FL. At MacGill, he was trained in Ground Training for Warfare Preparation. Bill's commanding officer at MacDill was Paul W. Tibbets. Tibbets commanded the B-29, the Enola Gay, that dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. His next assignment was Hunter Air Force Base, Savannah, GA, where he was assigned to the Stat/Services Division. In June of 1957, Bill received his orders to report to Greenham Common Air Force Base, Newbury, England, where he worked preparing, printing, and assembling war plans for B-47 aircraft missions in the European area. To do this type of work, Bill needed a Top Secret clearance which he received in July of 1958. After being in England for four years, Bill was transferred to the Strategic Air Force Command Headquarters, Omaha, NE, where he worked in the Research/Development Division for guided missiles for two years. At this time, after eight years of service, Bill decided to leave the Air Force.

After leaving the Air Force, Bill and a friend ran a Standard Oil Service Station in Omaha that they had purchased while in the service. In May of 1965, he decided to return to Assumption and went to work for Firestone in Decatur, IL, where he remained for 30 years.

While in England, he met and married Iris Hope. They were married for 42 years and had four children. Bill and Iris owned and operated the Red Door Tavern and Restaurant in Assumption for many years. Bill spends his summers in Assumption and winters in Winter Haven, FL.

Thank you, A1C William Dailey, for what you gave for us.