

ALL GAVE SOME; SOME GAVE ALL

This week's veteran is Scott Stauter

Scott Stauter was raised in Assumption and graduated from the public schools in Assumption. His father, Leslie Stauter, was the Funeral Director and proprietor of the Stauter Funeral Home. At the time, the Funeral Home also provided the ambulance service for the area surrounding Assumption. Scott's mother was the former Margaret Scott, who taught Office Practices at the Assumption High School for five years before marrying Leslie. Scott played football in high school and many times assisted his dad, responding to calls for the ambulance. During the last two years of high school, he worked at the Shell Service Station run by "Smiley" Ryan and "Red" DeClerck on U.S. 51. In his senior year of high school Scott met Jessie June Stevens, the daughter of Gene and Melba Stevens, whom he would later marry. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation from high school in 1957. Scott's basic training was done at Lackland Air Force Base at San Antonio, Texas. Then he was shipped to Chanute Air Force Base at Rantoul, Illinois, where he received technical training to instruct in, and maintain flight simulators. In March of 1958, upon completion of nine month's training, Scott was assigned to Elmendorf Air Force Base at Anchorage, Alaska. He took a train to McChord Air Force Base at Tacoma, Washington, from where he was flown to Alaska.

Alaska was a United States Territory when he arrived. It was admitted to the union of the United States as the forty ninth state while he was stationed there. There was a lot of celebration on this occasion, and there was dancing in the streets of Anchorage. Jessie June and Scott were married in 1959, and spent their honeymoon driving from Illinois up the Alaska-Canada "Alcan" Highway to Anchorage in February. This trip was a memorable adventure.

They moved into an apartment in Mountain View, Alaska, a suburb of Anchorage. Scott instructed pilots from the 5040th Operations Squadron and the 31st Fighter Interceptor Squadron in flight simulators. The most memorable event from this period is when he got to fly a T-33 jet with an instructor pilot. They did some acrobatics, and cruised along at low altitude, spotting some bears on the ground.

When his overseas assignment of two years was over in 1960, Scott and June drove back down the "Alcan" Highway. Since Chanute A.F.B. was the closest base to where he enlisted, this is where he was discharged from active duty. After a vacation, the couple put their possessions in their new car and drove to the San Francisco bay area. Scott found employment with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company at its television operating center in San Francisco. They settled in an apartment in Oakland. When an opening for a better position came up at I.B.M., Scott applied and was hired.

In 1964 Scott and June bought a house in San Bruno and had their son Brian. In 1970 a programming job opened up in Palo Alto (in "Silicon Valley"), and the family moved to Mountain View. Scott retired from I.B.M. in 1990 and started giving flight instruction at the Palo Alto Airport. They currently live in Mountain View, and Scott continues giving flight instruction in general aviation aircraft. Their son Brian lives in Livermore, approximately 25 mile northeast of their home.

Thank you, E-4 Scott Stauter, for what you gave for us and sharing your story.