

Vietnam Security Police Association  
**Freedom Is Not Free**

United States Air Force  
 Military Police  
 Air Police  
 Security Police

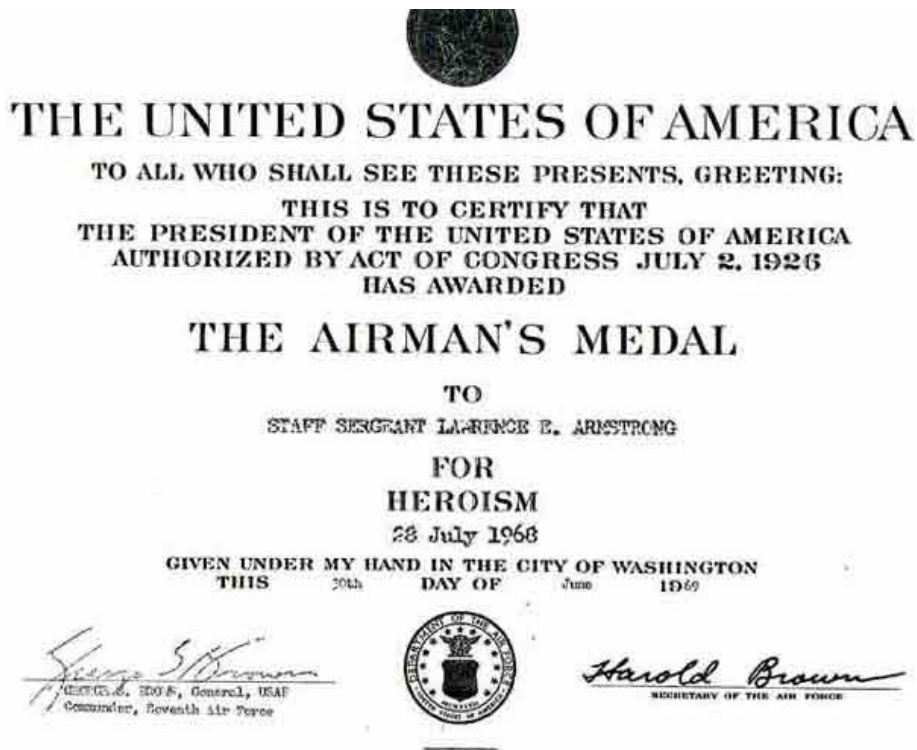
Recipients Awarded the  
 Airman's Medal

"I am forever honored...for I have marched with heroes!" Jackie Kays



Awarded The Airman's Medal

Name	Rank	Base / Date	Awards
Armstrong, Jerry W.	TSgt		



SSgt Đà Nẵng: 28  
 Jul 68

Armstrong, Lawrence

E.			
Athey, Glen B.	Sgt		
Barnes, Horace R.	MSgt		
<a href="#">Bell, Kenneth B.</a>	A2C	Pleiku: 18 July 1967	
Bertini, Lido C.	CMSgt		
Bowman, Joseph P.	Sgt		

Boyer, Kenneth M.

[Brown Sr., Richard E.](#)

Brown, Rodney

[Casey, Stephen L.](#)

Castle, Timothy N.

Clark, John C. Jr.

Cole Sr., Kenneth D.

Comstock, John P.

Crockett, Paul D.

Crowley, Raymond D.

[Danish, Michael C.](#)

Davis, Michael H.

Davis, Nicholas P.

Dawson, Donald F.

Dearing, Auther M.

Delaura, Robert M.

Dennis, Lee H. Jr.

Detrick, Billy R.

Dillon, David

Dixon, Steve R.

Donnelly, Robert M.

Ecklund Jr., Joseph G.

English, George F.

Farringer, Harry C.

[Fastic, William Jr.](#)

Ferguson, Ronnie M.

Fender, Gerald A.

[Francis, James E.](#)

A1C

MSgt Phu Cat: 1969

SSgt

A3C Pleiku: 18  
July 1967

Sgt

MSgt

A1C

SSgt

Sgt

A1C

TSgt Korat: 25 Dec  
73

Sgt

MSgt

MSgt

Capt

A2C

A1C

Capt

**A2C Đà Nẵng: 5-6  
Aug 1967**

TSgt

SSgt

MSgt

CMSgt

SSgt

A3C Pleiku: 18  
July 1967

SSgt

TSgt

Posthumously:  
A1C Korat RTAFB,  
11 Mar 68



SPECIAL ORDER G-143, Hq PACAF, APO San Francisco 96553, 25 Jun 68  
4. By direction of the President, A1C JAMES E FRANCIS, AF17728134, is awarded the Airman's Medal, posthumously, for heroism involving risk of life on 11 March 1968.  
5. By direction of the President, each of the following is awarded the Airman's Medal for heroism involving risk of life on the dates indicated.

SGT WILLIAM M FAIRCLOTH, AP14877871  
12 August 1967  
A1C JAMES E MORDECAI, AF24947001  
2 March 1968

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF



JOHN D. MCKELIN, JR., Colonel, USAF  
Director of Administration

DISTRIBUTION  
B

Fraser, David J.  
French, Richard L.  
Ferguson, Ronnie M.  
Gaspbarro, Emidio  
Gilliam, Carl H.  
Gray, Claude W.  
Green, Donald V.  
Grice, Corey  
Griffin, Gary E.  
Guerrera, Steven A.  
Guerrero, Alfredo R.  
Gutierrez, Enrique  
Hadrick, Darwin R.  
Hansell, John J.  
Harpley, Gary L.  
Harris, Douglas W.  
Hatt, Richard C.  
Heishman, Larry A.  
Hess, Cameron S.  
  
Hilton, Michael L.  
  
Holt, Rollie G.  
James, Randall K.  
Jensen, Andrew P.  
Johnson, Eric R.

Maj  
TSgt  
SSgt  
TSgt Đà Nẵng : 3  
May 1967  
SSgt  
TSgt Phu Cat: 24  
April 1970  
TSgt  
SrA  
SSgt  
SrA  
SSgt  
TSgt  
SMSgt  
MSgt  
SSgt  
TSgt  
SSgt  
MSgt  
SSgt  
  
A1C Tan Son  
Nhut: 26 Feb  
1970  
SSgt Phu Cat: 24  
April 1970  
SSgt  
Sgt  
A1C



**Junier, John P.**

**Kirk, Clay T.**

**LeDuc, Mark D.**

**Leiber, Donald G.**

**Lemke, Michael T.**

**Markivich, Mike**

**Martinez, Edward A.**

**McCrary, Roger D.**

**McIntyre, Jimmy A.**

[Miles, Robert W.](#)

**Minnis, John P.**

**Mira, Anthony M.**

**Mittelman, Leonard**

**Moore Jr., William L.**

**Norvell, Stephen R.**

**Olson, Mark A.**

**Olvera, Jose M.**

**Owen Jr., Robert A.**

**Payne, Matthew G.**

**Pierce, Stephen T.**

**Popp, Michael J.**

**Price, Leo R.**

**Quigely, Benard J.**

**Reavis, James M.**

**Reynolds Jr., Joel E.**

**Roberts, Jimmy E.**

**Robichaud, Terry A.**

[Rodriquez, Fernando J.](#)

**Rodriquez, Jose H.**

**Roundtree, Lawrence T.**

**Rutland, Charles M.**

**Sawyer, James W.**

**Schaffer Jr., Frank G.**

**Schramm III, Frederick W.**

[Scott, John J. Jr.](#)

**Smith, Nelson H.**

**MSgt**

**SSgt**

**Sgt**

**MSgt**

**SrA**

**MSgt**

**TSgt**

**MSgt**

**TSgt**

**A1C** Pleiku: 18  
July 1967

**TSgt**

**SSgt**

**Capt**

**MSgt**

**MSgt**

**A1C**

**MSgt**

**LTC**

**Amn**

**SSgt**

**SSgt**

**Maj**

**TSgt**

**Capt**

**SSgt**

**TSgt**

**SSgt**

**MSgt** Phu Cat: 24  
April 1970

**TSgt**

**TSgt**

**Capt**

**TSgt**

**A1C**






**Amn**

**SSgt** Pleiku: 18  
July 1967

**TSgt**



- Smith, Robert J.
- Sperber, Barry E.
- Stelzriede, Charles L.
- Stendeback, Robert D.

- CMSgt 
- A3C 
- TSgt 
- A2C Pleiku: 18 
- July 1967 

3	8	17
Vietnam airman receives medal	Volunteers touch lives	April springs for the military child

Maxwell-Gunter  
**Dispatch**

April 10, 1986  
Montgomery, Alabama  
Volume 31, Number 14

April 10, 1986 Dispatch 3


**Around AU**

*Tale of heroism comes to light after 15 years*

by TSgt. Robby Douglas,  
Standard Information Systems Center  
SSgt. David P. Stewart, 36th Security Police Squadron, Da Nang AB, Vietnam, was on patrol on a hot July night in 1971 when he heard the sound of exploding mortar rounds.  
Viet Cong rockets had hit several barracks, scoring a direct hit on one and setting two others on fire. Sergeant Stewart radioed for help for medical, firefighting and explosive ordnance personnel, then proceeded to the impact area. With complete disregard for his own safety, he entered a burning barracks to rescue the victims, in spite of the added danger of exploding ammunition and flares.  
Since he got there before help could arrive, Sergeant Stewart began removing casualties from the inferno by carrying them on his back and, where necessary, administering first aid. When help did arrive, he refused all medical help until all possible victims were removed.  
"When I arrived at the scene," recalls Sergeant Stewart, now a master sergeant at the Standard Information Systems Center's Data Systems Design Office at Gunter, "I did what conditioning and training dictated. It was automatic. When you see a guy lying on the floor in a burning building, you try to get him out."  
According to one account, Sergeant Stewart continued his search and rescue efforts for four hours. The account adds, "Even though six airmen were mortally wounded at the outset, many of the 37 other seriously wounded would certainly have perished were it not for Sergeant Stewart's uncommon valor."  
A newspaper account by the Pacific Stars and Stripes' Vietnam Bureau gave the final tally of five killed and 37




wounded in its July 6, 1971 edition.  
Sergeant Stewart recalls there would have been more casualties were it not for the fact that less people were in the barracks, because the attack occurred during a shift change.  
Exhausted after his ordeal, Sergeant Stewart returned to his barracks, indelibly marked from the long night before. "I guess what had happened hadn't really hit me until I got off work. My whole uniform was covered with smudge, blood and skin. I threw it in the trash, never wanting to wear it again. After that, I spent quite a few sleepless nights," he said.  
This was not the only time he exhibited bravery during his Vietnam tour, however. On 16 separate occasions, he exposed himself to enemy rocket attacks while plotting enemy ordnance impact sites. He collected data from the craters created by the explosions and forwarded the information to fire control centers to allow accurate return fire on Viet Cong positions.  
During one attack, his actions saved several parked C-130 transport planes. On another occasion, he spearheaded a rescue operation at a village adjacent to the air base, as well as initiated a defensive perimeter security force. He also risked the perils of exploding fuel tanks in another attack in order to plot craters for return fire.  
Sergeant Stewart left Vietnam and put the memories behind him. That is, until recently, when he ran into CMSgt. Gary A. Jones, Chief Enlisted Actions Branch, Air Force Office of Security Police, Kirtland AFB, N.M.  
What some might call a chance meeting of the two happened at nearby Maxwell AFB, where Sergeant Stewart works part-time as the NCO Club's night manager, Chief

Jones was there to attend a preliminary social event prior to the graduation banquet for a graduating class of the Air Force Senior NCO Academy at Gunter.  
They immediately recognized each other, and revived old memories, when both lived in the same hooch (a small four-man barracks) at Da Nang and both were staff sergeants. Then Chief Jones asked if Sergeant Stewart's Bronze Star decoration was ever approved. "Well," said Sergeant Stewart, "being nominated for the Bronze Star was news to me."  
Back at security police headquarters, Chief Jones began to dig for records of Sergeant Stewart's nomination. Finding none, he resubmitted the paperwork, spending endless hours in research and talking to eyewitnesses.  
Now, 15 years later, Sergeant Stewart has been recognized for his actions during his Vietnam tour.  
On April 9, Col. Allen D. Lang, SISC Commander, pinned the Airman's Medal and Bronze Star onto Sergeant Stewart's chest in front of a packed crowd.  
"These awards have bolstered my faith in the system," said Sergeant Stewart, who is now the Contracting Executive NCO for Contracting Systems in the DSDO. "Everyone was supportive and it made me feel it was all worthwhile," he added.  
After reflecting on the events that occurred during his tour and the years that have passed since, Sergeant Stewart offered his perspective. "The war in Vietnam was not a popular one. Many of us felt unappreciated when we returned. The recent emphasis placed on giving recognition to returning Vietnam veterans is appreciated," he concluded.

- SSgt Đà Nẵng : 
- July 1971

Stewart

- Jr., David P.
- Stewart Jr., Lewis J.
- Struznik Jr., Edwin V.
- Synder, James A.
- Talbert, Johnny D.
- Thompson, Paul J.
- Thurston, Ernest E.

- SSgt 
- SMSgt Two Airman's 
- Medals 
- MSgt 
- Sgt 
- SSgt 
- Amn 





Toole, Danlel J.  
Tucker, John E.  
Turriglio, Francis J.  
Vanpay, David A.  
Webb, David L.  
West, Gordon M.

SSgt  
Maj  
SSgt  
SSgt  
TSgt  
Capt



## Airman Cited For Heroism

DA NANG, Vietnam (7thAF)—Air Force A2C David G. Wilson, of Oil City, Pa., has been awarded the Airman's Medal for heroism at Da Nang AB in Vietnam.

Wilson, assigned to the 366th Air Police Sq., was standing near the flightline when he and three other air policemen saw an aircraft crash into a Vietnamese village.

Arriving at the crash site, they found the pilot dazed, but unhurt. They successfully led him away from the crash and returned to the area to assist in evacuating the villagers.

Noticing a mother with three children near the fire and wreckage, Wilson rushed over, picked up two of the children and headed for safety. Having only run about 75 yards, a 1,000-pound bomb aboard the downed aircraft exploded. The airman jumped into a ditch and covered the children with his body to protect them from flying debris.

Pacific Stars & Stripes 7  
Saturday, Jan. 21, 1967

Wilson, David G.

Witcher, Jerry L.  
Wood, James R. Jr.

A2C Đà Nẵng :  
Jan 1967



CMSgt  
Sgt



### Airman's Medal

**Airman's Medal** was established by Congress on 6 JUL 60, for Heroism by those serving with the United States Air Force in any capacity that Involves the Voluntary Risk of Life under conditions Other Than Those of Conflict with an Opposing Armed Force. **Award:** This decoration, one of several Air Force awards established by Congress, and takes the place of the Soldier's Medal for Air Force personnel. It is awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States or of a friendly nation who, while serving in any capacity with the United States Air Force after the date of the award's authorization, shall have distinguished himself or herself by a heroic act, usually at the

voluntary risk of his or her life but not involving actual combat. **The same degree of Heroism is required as for the Distinguished Flying Cross.****Design:** Designed by and sculpted by Thomas Hudson Jones of the Institute of Heraldry. On the obverse of the circular medal is the figure of the Greek god Hermes, son of Zeus, resting on one knee. He has just released from his open hands a falcon, shown rising into flight. Within the raised rim of the medal, is the inscription "Airman's Medal" in raised letters. The reverse of the medal, has a raised outer edge and bears the inscription, "For Valor" above a space for the recipient's name which is within a stylized laurel wreath open at the top and tied at the bottom.

The Airman's Medal is unique in that its shape does not follow the octagonal shape of its counterparts, the Soldier's Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Medal and the Coast Guard Medal. It had been established practice heretofore to design military decorations with a distinctive shape, so that they would not be confused at a distance with service or campaign medals, which are always circular in shape. The reason for this is because the design was originally approved for use as The Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.



**Ribbon:** The Ribbon is based on that of the Soldier's Medal but using different colors. In the center are alternating thin stripes of gold and dark blue (seven gold and six dark blue), bordered at the edges with wide stripes of pale (sky) blue.

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