

Stuart and JoAnn Burke – October 2017



Stuart graduated from college in Miami, Ohio, in 1965 and joined the Air Force at the age of 24. Stuart went to high school in Shaker Heights, a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, where he met and eventually married his high school sweetheart, JoAnn in 1964. JoAnn was a year behind Stuart. While he was going to college in Miami, Ohio, JoAnn was going to school in Toledo, Ohio. Their son was born in 1965.

Stuart's first assignment was at Mather AFB, in Sacramento, California, for Navigator Training and then navigator bombardier (NBT) training. Then he went to Castle for B-52 training, Kincheloe AFB in the upper peninsula of Michigan, McDill AFB, Florida, for back seat of F-4's October 1971 through September 1972, then on to Udorn, Thailand, Spangdahlem AFB, Germany, and Malstrom AFB, Montana. He had one tour as part of ArcLight in B-52's in Southeast Asia from January through July 1969.

According to Stuart, he was "rankless" when he retired in 1985, but confirmed that he was a Major at the time! They live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Their first GNR was in 1998, and they were parked with the MILWITS. Although asked to join when the MILWITS were formed, he didn't join the MILWITS until the following year, 1999. Stuart served as the club President from 2008 through 2009.