

Stan Vikla

USAF 1951-1955

A native Minnesotan living in a Czech neighborhood in New Prague, Stan graduated from high school in 1951, at the peak of the Korean War. He and a buddy decided to join the USAF in November 1951.

His first assignment was ground radio operator training at Keesler AFB, MS for 12 months. Stan was then orient bound with a stint at Nagoya AB, Japan assigned to the 1st Communications Squadron early 1953. This was a support unit for the 5th Air Force stationed in Seoul, Korea. Daily duties included radio checks with Air Bases in the theater.

When the Korean War truce was signed in 1953 Stan rotated back to the states with an assignment to Lowry AFB in Denver, CO. He was a HF/DF operator for the purpose of tracking military weather balloons that supported flight operations. Stan was granted an honorable discharge in November 1955 and become a veteran citizen.

After leaving the military, Stan attended the Brown Institute in Minneapolis with concentrated studies in industrial electronics. With his diploma in hand, he stretched out a career with Univac, Honeywell and Control Data over the years.

Stan married his wife Gert in May 1965 and will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. They currently reside in Minnetonka and are avid gardeners. Gert specializes in the various hosta species. Their yard is abound in blooms most of the growing season.

Stan is a former Post Adjutant. He has also graciously volunteered to oversee our can cage/trailer operation. The Post had 5 can cages that were located in the Excelsior/Minnetonka area to collect aluminum cans that were recycled to generate income for the Post. We thank Stan for fulfilling this duty and parking the trailer on his property, which is a handy location. He is a proud volunteer of the Post Color Guard brigade that is led by Sgt Howard Johnson. We earnestly thank Stan and Gert for their continued support of all veteran activities. Play a polka and grab a mug of beer to salute Stanley "Stan the Man" Vikla.