

## REIGH NEUKIRCH

Prepared by: Reigh Neukirch in approximately 1977

I was born in 1929 the eleventh child of Fred and Ivy Neukirch, at Lookout, Oklahoma. I attended grade school at Pleasant Valley District #40 at Lookout, Oklahoma for eight years. I attended Freedom High School, Freedom, Oklahoma as a Freshman. We then moved to El Dorado, Kansas where I attended El Dorado High School during my Sophomore and Junior years. Then we moved to Alva, Oklahoma and I attended Freedom High School during my Senior year graduating from Freedom High School in 1947.

Mary Helen Nish daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nish was born in 1929 at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, She attended grade school and high school in Lake Geneva, graduating from high school in 1947.

At the age of 18 in 1947, I left home at Alva, Oklahoma and joined the United States Air Force. After entering the Air Force, I spent 13 weeks of basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. At the completion of basic training, I was assigned to Bergstrom AFB at Austin, Texas as an Airplane and Engine mechanic. I worked on-the-job training in a Troop Carrier Squadron for approximately six months.

I was sent overseas to Guam in the Pacific in 1948. During my 15 months assignment on Guam, I was sent to Japan for Air-Borne Radio Schooling at Keio University, Yokohama, Japan. This school lasted six months.

In late 1949 I was shipped to the United States and was assigned to Kelly AFB at San Antonio, Texas. A new squadron was formed, the 1<sup>st</sup> Radio Maintenance Squadron. The responsibilities of this squadron was to install early warning Radar Sites across the Canadian-United States border. I was assigned to a team of seven Air Force personnel on detached service to Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Our duties included installing Radar Sites in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas and Missouri.

During on of the installations at Williams Bay, Wisconsin, I met my wife Mary. We were married in 1951.

We traveled extensively during the last two years of my second enlistment. During these last two years in the Air Force, six months was spent in Japan. A group of 27 men was sent to Japan to install Radar Sites.

After my discharge in 1953, my wife and I lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for two years. I attend Milwaukee School of Engineering with the help of Mary working and the GI Bill of Rights.

After completion of college, we moved to Akron, Ohio where I was employed with Goodyear Aerospace Co. I worked in Engineering Research and Development in Electronics for two years while Mary worked at a publishing firm. We spent two years in

Akron before moving to Champaign, Illinois where I became employed with Magnavox Co. in 1957.

I spent 14 years with the Magnavox Co. in Government Engineering Research and Development in Electronics.

While employed with the Magnavox Co., my wife worked with a Publishing firm in Champaign until 1964 at which time we adopted our wonderful daughter Nancy Reigh, at the age of one month.

Also during my employment with Magnavox, I was sent on business to Ecuador, South America, Thailand and made many trips inside the United States.

In 1971 we moved to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin where we presently live. We purchase a Coin Op-Laundry and I work for the State Long Distance Telephone Co. at Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

This year is 1977, our daughter is 13 years of age, my wife and I completed 25 years of marriage.