

Bio for Don Forshee

I was born in 1929 in Peru, Indiana, (a Hoosier), enjoyed going to school and learning. Left home at 16, finished High School and immediately joined the US Army. Had so much trouble getting accepted because of my eyes that I decided if I ever got in I would stay forever, and looking back I almost did. I ended up spending 47 years either in the Army or working on Military Projects. I was on the end of the Korean War and went to Japan as part of the Occupying Forces in the fifties. Spent five years on my first overseas assignment and came back to the States at the convenience of the Govt since at that time we were only authorized to stay out of the country for five years. So, on my 30 day leave I reacquainted myself with Dorothy my wife of 50 some years. We were married in 1952, were blessed with three healthy beautiful children, Cheryl Diane, Sheila Kay, and Donn Eric. We spent the next 25 years in the Army as a family traveling to many states and overseas assignments. Our kids were Army brats and as far as I know enjoyed every minute of it.

I received my education from life's experiences, although I did receive an Associates Degree in Business through the Army Education System. I went up through the enlisted ranks to Master Sergeant, and then applied for the Warrant Officer Program. After 30 years in the Army and attaining the rank of Chief Warrant Officer-4, two trips to Korea and two to Viet-nam we decided to try something different. One week after retirement I was recruited by Raytheon, a Missile Company, to go to Kuwait for a five year turn-key program training Kuwaiti Air Force Officers to run a Hawk Missile Depot. After five years, back to the Raytheon Headquarters and then to Egypt for a one year assignment which turned into twelve years. There we trained Egyptian Army Officers to run a Hawk/Patriot Missile Depot. Needless to say we have friends all over the world and of every Nationality now, plus a whole new world of Church friends from many places and yes, we are enjoying retirement from the Military life, although life has certainly not slowed down at all.

We joined the Church in the early sixties, went to the Temple, and I was fortunate enough to belong to the church during part of my Army life. I had the privilege of being the first Branch President of the Kuwait Branch, and President Tanner set me apart and gave me special advice. President Hinckley set me apart as a High Priest shortly after we joined the church, when we were on our second assignment to Alaska. All three of our children were married in the Temple and all of our grandchildren were born under the covenant. We now have 12 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. After retirement from Raytheon in 1994 we built a house in St George and in April 1994 we settled down, nevermore to move again.

When we retired in St George we found several of our friends from Egypt had also retired here, the Beckstrands, Monsons, Chews, Hansons, and several others have vacation homes here. Our life has been full and here in St George we have found peace and happiness. Joining the SONS was probably one of the smartest things we have ever done. We completely enjoy the dinners, the TREKS and the association we have with one another, and we look forward to many years of the same.

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