

# VETERAN OF THE MONTH

## Larry M. Dill

**Lawrence "Larry" M. Dill** was born October 1946 in Trenton, NJ and moved around all over the world since his father was in the military and was assigned to multiple duty stations. His father served in World War II and the Korean War as an Infantry Officer for the Army, and one of his most notable campaigns he supported was the D-Day invasion. Eventually his father left the service and the Family settled in Miami, FL. Larry attended Christopher Columbus High School and graduated in 1964.

It wasn't until September 1965 that Larry decided to enlist in the Air Force, coincidentally, it was also the same day he received his draft notice. He enlisted and left for Basic Training (BCT) in San Antonio, TX. After BCT, he went to Wichita Falls, TX for his advanced training to become a Jet Fighter Aircraft Maintenance Technician. His training focused on one and two engine fighter planes. In late 1966, upon completion of his schooling, he was then assigned to Amarillo, TX to the 3324th Instructor Squadron. He was assigned to B-shift and was an instructor for the Aircraft Maintenance school. The base would continue with its closure and in April 1967,

Larry was assigned to McConnell Air Force Base (AFB) in Wichita, KS, working with the F-105 Thunder Chief familiarization training. On Memorial Day in 1967, he packed up and shipped off to Thailand. While there, he was assigned as a crew chief for the F-105 planes in Takhli Royal Thai AFB. His mission was to perform maintenance on the F-105 planes as they flew combat missions to provide air support for the ground troops in Vietnam. On Memorial Day in 1968, Larry was then reassigned to MacDill AFB Tampa, FL as a crew chief for the T-33 trainer. He was then eventually discharged from the service in January 1969 due to a reduction in force directed by the President and he moved back home to Miami, FL. With a little over three years of service, his awards and commendations include the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam

Campaign Medal, and Air Force Commendation Medal.

Larry immediately applied and was hired by the United States Postal Service (USPS) and worked there until 1977. During his time with the USPS, he attended night school and attained his Associates in Arts with a major in Accounting and went on to attain his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a major in Accounting. In July of 1977, he was recruited by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and served as a Field Auditor conducting audits on large businesses and individuals. During his time at the IRS, he continued his night schooling and attained his Master's Degree in Science Management with a specialty in Taxation. In October 1981, Larry acquired his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification and left the IRS to work for William A. Webb and Associates as a CPA and Tax Partner for the next 32 years.

Larry and his wife, Linda, were married in 2005. Between the both of them they have four daughters, one son, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. In June of 2010, Larry entered semi-retirement when their home in Tellico Village (TV) was completed and they moved in. In September of 2011, Larry began volunteering with The Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village. Eventually in April 2013, Larry fully retired and continued his volunteer service with The Kiwanis Club as its treasurer. Their message is "Making a difference in the lives of children. One child and one community at a time." A few initiatives that Larry supports with The Kiwanis Club are: Amtryke (providing specially designed therapeutic tricycles for special needs children), annual Back-2-School gift card program which distributes 50 gift cards at the value of \$100 each to local children, and Robotics / STEM program for the schools. Larry is also a charter member of the Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #12135 of Tellico Village. He continues to be an active member of the Post by supporting many initiatives and projects such as the relief committee (serving veterans in their time of need), Buddy Poppy Campaign, Memorial Day Flag planting and a trustee.

The Tellico Village VFW Post #12135 General meeting is held at 7:00 p.m. in the Tellico Village Yacht Club every third Wednesday of the month. Further information can be found on the Post website at <https://www.tellicovillagevfwpost.org/>. You can also learn more about The Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village at <https://k15626.site.kiwanis.org/>.

