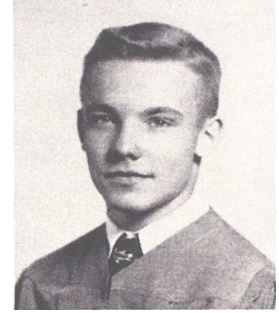




Mr. Robert M. “Mick” Greene

Class of 1951



Mick lettered in swimming, diving, and football, and was a member of the CSF for 2 years. He played the trombone in the TUHS band and orchestra, and was twice selected to the All-County Orchestra. He was an Eagle Scout. Graduating from TUHS at age 16, he worked in the Taft oilfields for a year until he was old enough to enter the U.S. Naval Academy, where he had obtained a competitive appointment both there and at the Military academy at West Point.

Mick graduated from the USNA with an Electrical Engineering degree, a commission in the Regular Air Force, and a highly competitive assignment to Air Force fighter pilot training. After training in the T-34, T-28, T-33, F-86F, and F-100A, he was assigned to Etain, France as part of the F-100 Tactical Nuclear Strike Force. He spent 4 years there and at Spangdahlem, Germany as a Select Crew Bomb Commander. He was then assigned to the Air University at Wright Patterson AFB Ohio, where he received a Master's degree in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering and subsequent duty at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory at Kirtland AFB New Mexico as a Project Scientist on a classified project. He then received a further assignment as a Nuclear Weapons Development Test Pilot, flying test missions in the F-100, F-104, and F-4 until 1966, when he was assigned to Viet Nam.

In Viet Nam, Mick flew Army close support missions with the F-100 for 6 months. As a climax to this tour, he volunteered for a six month assignment in a Top Secret unit flunit flying F-100 interdiction missions into North Vietnam and Laos. This unit was formally named Commando Sabre, but was more widely known by its radio call sign, “Misty”, chosen by Medal of Honor winner Bud Day, the first leader of the group and 5 1/2 year POW.





Mick left Viet Nam in 1968, having been awarded the Silver Star, 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Bronze Star, and multiple other decorations. He was then sent to Norton AFB, California, where he was a Design Engineer and Manager on the highly successful FX/F-15.

After an assignment to Lakenheath, England as a Squadron Commander, he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel to work in the civilian Aerospace sector, earning an MBA from Utah State University. Over the next twenty years, he was selected to several positions as Project Engineer, Chief Engineer, and Program Manager on the F-17 aircraft, the Tacit Rainbow Autonomous Radar-seeking missile, the MX/Peacekeeper Missile Stage I propulsion and control systems, the stealthy Sikorsky Comanche helicopter, and the Standard Missile 3 missile interceptor. He also worked in Saudi Arabia for two years, training Saudi engineers to be Technical Program Managers.



Mick has retired to Colorado, skis during the winter, hikes and backpacks during the summer, goes to dog shows with his AKC Champion German Shepherd, Sheriff, goes to Fighter Pilot reunions every year, and acts as the Scribe and communicator for the hundred or so volunteer Fighter Pilots still alive from the "Misty" Vietnam era experience.



Mick's AKC Champion "Sheriff"



Mick and Dick Rutan, flew in Viet Nam together and received the Collier Trophy together for flying around the world non stop and unrefueled in Dick's brother's designed "Voyager" prop-driven aircraft.



Mick and Bud Day (also a POW) flew together during Viet Nam and hunted geese in Canada, remained friends through the years.