

*Man's Flight
Through Life Is
Sustained By The
Power Of His
Knowledge*

TO HONOR AMERICA'S CREW

B-52D CREW S-71, CARSWELL AFB, TEXAS

B-52D Crew S-71, known informally as "America's Crew" (derived from the late nineteen seventies nickname of the Dallas Cowboys as "America's Team") of the 9th Bomb Squadron, 7th Bomb Wing, 8th Air Force, Strategic Air Command, flew together for two years during the height of the Cold War, garnering many accolades for their flying and precision bombing skills, successful testing and evaluation of ordnance and new navigation/bombardment systems, and their performance of duty at RAF Marham, England, during a 30-day deployment. America's Crew upheld the highest standards characteristic of American bomber crews during WWII when first stationed in England. The crew pulled nearly 100 days of SAC "Alert" in these two years, yet was always ready to fly, even during their Combat Crew Rest and Recovery time. Their dedication to duty and superior performance earned them the 9th Bomb Squadron Crew of the Year for 1980.

Crew: Dave Johnson (P), Tony Grady (CP), Dan Lange (EW), Gary Hinkle (RN), Paul Pirog* (N), and Roy McPherson (G)*

** USAFA, Class of 1977*

By: Surviving crew members Gary R. Hinkle, Walter A. "Tony" Grady Jr., and Paul E. Pirog a/o Jan 2026