

We Salute Our Military Residents Captain George Edward Dille



WRITTEN BY PAMELA NANCE-PITTMAN AND GEORGE EDWARD DILLE | PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY GEORGE DILLE

ELIZABETHTOWN NEIGHBORS MAGAZINE IS HONORED

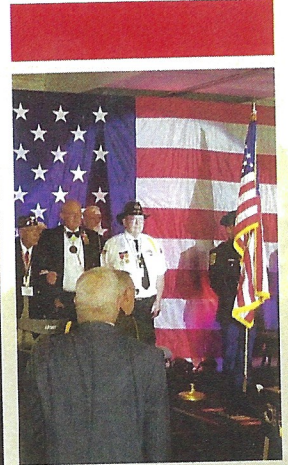
to salute Mr. George Edward Dille as we highlight his military service to our nation. So many times, we look for heroes on television, radio, in celebrities, and in other states and nations, and we have everyday heroes right here that are our neighbors.

I had the distinct pleasure of being invited into the home of Captain George Edward Dille who August 26-27, 2022, was inducted into the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame (KVHOF). KVHOF recognizes the efforts of Kentucky's distinguished men and women who have worn the uniform of our nation's armed forces and then honorably discharged living as a civilian in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. These men and women continue to contribute to their communities, state, and nation through exceptional acts of volunteerism, advocacy, professional distinction, public service, and philanthropy. This year approximately 70 veterans were nominated for selection into KVHOF and 29 were selected and inducted into KVHOF and of those 29, Captain George Edward Dille was among them.

George Edward Dille was born October 30, 1943, in Akron, Ohio. Captain Dille was commissioned at the end of ROTC summer camp, Aug 4, 1967, as a second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery Branch. After Branch training and Helicopter training, he served 13 months in Vietnam, six months as a Basic Training Commander and 10 months in Vietnam on his second tour. His last assignment was as the MEDIVAC Detachment Commander at Ft. Knox.

Captain Dille's involvement with veteran organizations began with helping to organize Chapter 1051 of the Vietnam Veterans of America in 2013. After the first year they had over 60 members. He served with them as Membership Chairman, Vice President and President.

One of his most memorial times occurred during his second tour with the 174th AHC, out of Chu Lai, Vietnam. "The company was supporting the operation going into Laos. We had been moved up to Dong Ha on the DMZ. Most of the ships were out on mission at this time, I was asked to fly this special mission across "the fence" into Laos. The ship had to have a special radio setup for the passengers. We loaded up and took off. There were some high-ranking officers on board. Enroute to the area they told us details about the mission. We were going to fly a tight oval route over the ridgeline while a B-52 dropped bombs along the ridgeline on the outside of our pattern. We started our oval and got the ok for our formation. You could see where the bombs were hitting and blasting up dirt and rocks. We finished a couple of ovals and left the area. A few days later I heard that there was a large force of NVA that greeted the forces that were dropped in. It could have been a more dangerous mission than what happened if they had some machine guns setup. But everything turned out well for us."



According to Robert W. Griffin, who nominated George Dille for this award: "He (George Dille) has earned two Bronze Star Medals (W/V), Air Medal (W/V) (plus 17), National Defense Service Medal, Army Aviation Badge, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal (W/60 Device). Captain Dille's civilian service involved service with veteran organizations helping to organize Chapter 1051 of the Vietnam Veterans of America in 2013. After the first year we had over 60 members. He has served with them as membership chairman, vice president and president. Other organizations he has served with are DAV Chapter 003, Adjutant for the past 7 years, 192nd AHC Association- member and president - 2015-2016, Second District DAV- Adjutant for the past 6 years, 15 Cav Association, Fort Knox Area Chapter-Life Member 5 years, Veterans Tribute Association-4 years, Vietnam Pilots Association - Life Member 5 years. Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chapter 10281-Life Member for 1 year."

Dave Jarrett statement in support for George Dille, Nominee for KVHOF Class of 2022 read:

"I have known George Dille since 2014 through my association with DAV Chapter 003 Elizabethtown, DAV Department of Kentucky, and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1051, Elizabethtown. George Dille is a stand-up military veteran who gives of his time and talents to assist and help veterans and their dependents in our local community in Hardin County. For the past seven years he has served as Adjutant of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 003, Elizabethtown. As Adjutant, he has provided invaluable service to our Chapter, its officers, and members. The Adjutant is the person who keeps the wheels of the organization rolling. In addition, George has volunteered to assist our Veterans Service Officers in the performance of their duties when meeting veterans who seek DAV help in filing disability claims. He met with the veterans and/or dependents and performed a preliminary workup prior to meeting with the service officer. I also had the pleasure of working with George and others as members of the Hardin County Veterans Tribute Group that made the 80% replica of the Vietnam Wall constructed at the Nature Park in Elizabethtown a reality."

I would like to thank Mr. George Edward Dille for his military service and for he and his wife, Bobbie, for inviting me into his honorable military service and their home.

Elizabethtown Neighbors salute you!

