



## **Veteran of the Month October 2008**

### **Congratulations to Terry D. Vance!**

In partnership with the Veterans Coordination Commission, we are pleased to present the October 2008 Veteran of the Month Recognition to Terry D. Vance.

Terry grew up in Manila, Arkansas and enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1963. He graduated from Airframe Repair School and remained in this field throughout his entire military career that spanned more than thirty years. During his career, Terry was assigned to several Air Force Bases in the United States as well as overseas, including Okinawa, Vietnam and Germany. While in Vietnam, he spent his tour of duty repairing battle damaged F-4 Phantom aircraft. During his stay in Germany, Terry worked on a variety of aircraft including the C-130, C-131, T-29, C141, and C9 Air Evac. His last major task in the Air Force was to combine three major squadrons, Field Maintenance, Avionics Maintenance and Munitions Maintenance into a "Super Maintenance Squadron". He completed two tours of duty at Ellsworth AFB and retired as Chief Master Sergeant (E9) in November, 1993.

During Terry's long military career, he received many awards and accomplishments including Maintenance Man of the Month, Outstanding Senior NCO of the Quarter, and his greatest accomplishment of being the first enlisted man in the Air Force to receive the Lt. Gen James H. Doolittle Project Warrior Award. His decorations include: Meritorious Service Medal, AF Commendation Medal, AF Outstanding Unit Award w/V device and 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, AF Good Conduct Medal w/Silver OLC, AF Overseas Ribbon Short Tour, AF Overseas Ribbon Long Tour, AF Longevity Service Award Ribbon w/ Silver OLC and Bronze OLC, NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon w/OLC, AF Training Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Terry Vance served a long, distinguished and rewarding career in the United States Air Force. His many accomplishments are indicative of his loyalty and character. Upon retirement from the Air Force, Terry worked in the woodworking field until poor health forced his retirement. He is a life member of TREA, served on their Board of Directors and is a member of the Disabled Veterans of America. Terry and his wife Sylvia have three adult sons - Brad, Mike and Darren. His compassion for his fellow veterans is beyond caring and he can be counted on to help whenever needed.