



**Airman Howard (Woody)
Rackley
25th Transportation
Squadron
Chambley AB, France
1965 to 1967**

Howard (Woody) Rackley went from Dover AFB to Chambley Air Base, France in April 1965 and left two years later when they closed the base. Woody was in the 25th Transportation Squadron where he worked on fire trucks, refuelers, towing tractors and all the Special Purpose Equipment. His base commander was Col. Fancher and the Wing Commander was Col. Cummins with a Capt Trefetheren in Headquarters Company.

One time Woody had Charge of Quarters duty for Headquarters Company and one of the things he had to do was play a record of Reveille on the base sound system. Because the recording was scratchy, Woody went to the barracks and got a record of DON RENO playing Military March on the five string banjo. Woody then had to go see Col Cummins (Col Fancher had left) and after the colonel gave Woody a little hell, he asked Woody to make him a copy of it, so he put it on one of those little reels of tape that were in use during that period.

Woody ran all over the area with singing groups. There was a group called the Ranch Hands, a guy named Dusty from POL, Bill Dorton from the 31 Weather Detachment, Johnny and Doreen Shaw from the Transportation Squadron, and several others that played country and Beatle stuff. Woody has lots of other pictures on disc from Chambley,

along with one of the black beer mugs from 1966 with the rim trimmed in Gold.

After Chambley Woody was then assigned to Wethersfield England, then to Laughlin, Del Rio, Texas. Woody left the Air Force in September 1968 as an E-4 Sergeant and worked 33 years for the Defense Logistics Agency except for three years at Scott AFB, Illinois on the MAC Inspector General Team and then retired from the Defense Supply Center Richmond, Virginia.

Woody plays music for pleasure and has 30 CD's out and resides in Prince George, Virginia. He is married to Pat and have eight children. Corey and Jessica are the youngest and still living at home while attending Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia.