

# Volunteer of the Month

## June 2016

*Harry McCown*



Harry McCown is the Buddy-to-Buddy Program's June 2016 Volunteer of the Month! Since training into the program last year, Harry has made many new connections throughout communities in Northeast Michigan by attending events as an at-large volunteer. His friendly and approachable manner make him an excellent ambassador for the program at community events.

By connecting with them at events he attends, Harry has been able to assist veterans with financial, employment, legal, and mental health concerns. Since he is involved with a few different military/veteran organizations, Harry has been able to help strengthen Buddy-to-Buddy's connection with several other veteran-focused organizations.

Harry is originally from Alabama but moved to Southeast Michigan when he was very young. He served four years in the Air Force from 1966-1970, maintaining B52s and KC-135s at Wurtsmith Air Force Base and in Thailand. Once his enlistment was up, Harry trained to become a switching equipment technician with AT&T, eventually working there for 33 years. While working full-time for AT&T, he completed course work at Oakland Community College and Highland Park Community College as well as participated in continuous specialized training for his job with AT&T.

Along with fellow Buddy-to-Buddy Volunteer Phil Presnell, Harry is a member of the Wurtsmith Air Museum and learned about Buddy-to-Buddy from Phil. Since he is a member of that museum, the B-52 Association, and is involved in the Air Force Together We Serve website, Harry is a part of a large network of veterans and was drawn to Buddy-to-Buddy because it would provide another avenue for connecting with even more veterans. Harry enjoys getting to meet many veterans and explaining the program and how it works to people in the community. He has been married to his wife Linda for 23 years and they have two sons and two daughters. He loves to spend his free time doing yard work, watching movies, and attending college hockey games.

**Thank you for your work building relationships with other veterans, Harry!**