AVIATION WALL OF HONOR



Robert Phillips, son of Fred and Angeline Phillips, was born in Sault St. Marie and moved to Ishpeming in 1958. His family moved a few years later to Harvey where he has lived most of his life. Bob finished high school and was a good athlete in football.

After he graduated he signed up for the Army. He went into basic training in June 1967 at Fort Campbell, KY.

Later, Bob went to Ft. Eustace, VA for training for aircraft mechanics. After 9 weeks he was shipped to Vietnam for troop replacement and was stationed in Pleiku where he served as crew chief and observer for the 219th Reconnaissance Aviation Company (Headhunters). Bob flew and maintained the L-19 Birddog recon planes, and completed 28 combat missions during the 1968 Tet Offense, spending more than 500 hours in the air. He earned the Air Medal, the Silver Service Star, the Bronze Service Star, and the Army Commendation Medal, along with the Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Gallantry Cross, leaving the Army as a specialist.

When Bob came home he began a career at the Marquette Fire Department where he retired as Captain. He raised three boys: Mark, Brian, and Rob, who all live in the Marquette Area. Bob is an avid hunter and sportsman who finds retirement an enjoyable, busy time.