



Biographical INFO

ARTHUR H. WILSON

President

DAV National Service Foundation (NSF)

Arthur H. Wilson, a service-connected disabled Vietnam veteran who served in the U.S. Air Force, was elected president of DAV's (Disabled American Veterans) National Service Foundation in August 2013.

The National Service Foundation helps provide lasting income to fund DAV programs and services. Gifts to the Foundation are used in support of the goals and mission of the more than 1 million-member DAV, including providing support to the national service program and other service initiatives for America's injured and ill veterans and their families. As president, Wilson guides Foundation efforts to ensure veterans and their families receive DAV services as long as they are needed. He is also closely involved in the oversight of The Columbia Trust, a restricted trust fund within the Foundation which provides grants to support a variety of service programs.

Wilson was co-founder of the Disabled Veterans' Life Memorial Foundation in 1998, and served as president of the board until 2015. He currently still serves as ex-officio member.

Wilson's DAV career began in 1966 as a national service officer trainee in Atlanta, Georgia, followed by assignments in Buffalo and Philadelphia, and later in supervisory positions at DAV national service offices in New Orleans, Boston and Syracuse, New York. He became supervisor of DAV's National Appeals Office at the Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Veterans' Appeals in Washington, D.C., in 1974. He also served as president of the National Guild of Attorneys-in-Fact in 1973-74. He served 12 years as national service director in DAV's Washington headquarters beginning in 1981 and then served as its executive director, guiding the organization's national service, legislative, employment and voluntary services programs. In 1994, he was appointed as DAV's national adjutant/chief executive officer, a position he held until his retirement June 1, 2013.

A graduate of Lynn Classical High School in Lynn, Massachusetts, Wilson attended Burdette College in Lynn until enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in September 1962. He served as a runway construction specialist in Vietnam, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Taiwan from 1964 to 1966. Shortly after his discharge, he was admitted to a Department of Veterans Affairs medical center for major surgery.

Wilson, a native of Nahant, Massachusetts, has been active in a number of DAV chapters and departments, and holds membership in several other military and veterans organizations. He and his wife, Mary, have four children and seven grandchildren.