

Bill Richard was born and raised in Catawba County in Maiden NC. He graduated from Maiden High School and also attended Catawba Valley Community College for two years taking business courses. At age sixteen he became an Eagle Scout.

He enlisted in the Air Force in 1975 where he went to Basic Training and Advanced training at Lackland Air Force base in San Antonio Texas. He served as a Security Policeman at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro NC. Bill was Honorably Discharged from the Air Force in 1977.

Bill has been married to his wife Elaine for 20 years. They have a son Jeremy and a daughter Gwendolyn who resides in Odessa Texas with their three Grandchildren Caleb, Isaac, and Jaela.

22 years ago, Bill joined the American Legion. He has served as a Post Commander for 2 years where he had a 100% membership Post for both years. And he served in various positions in the Post.

He served as the 22nd District Commander from 2008 thru 2010. As District Commander he completed the IN GOD WE TRUST program where he placed framed copies of our National Motto in all the classrooms in his District.

In 2010 he received the Joe Riley Award for being the top District Commander in the state.

Bill served as the Department Vice Commander for the 5th Division 2010-2011.

He has served on the State Oratorical Committee for 3 years as Vice Chairman, and on the Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission for 2 years, the Rules and Credentials Committee in 2009, and was the State Representative to the National Oratorical finals in Indianapolis in 2009.

He received the Pioneer Award for opening new Posts in 2010 and was the NC Parade Chairman at the National Convention in Milwaukee in 2010.

Bill is currently serving as the North Carolina American Legion Department Commander for 2012-2013.