



THE HIGH-FLYING MEN OF OKK:

OLD FLYIN' TIGERS, EAT YOUR HEARTS OUT ... OLD KIA KIMA PILOTS INCLUDE A FLYIN' CHIGGER!

He's Harry "Chigger" Danciger, and he is among the ranks of current and former pilots and flight crews who always love to fly high above the South Fork waters.

In June of 1968, our own Harry "Chigger" Danciger and Danciger Equipment Company was featured in a Wall Street Journal story about an added dimension of service to the company's clients. Chigger was known for "delivering the goods" to his customers in his own airplane.

When it came to selling rolling equipment such as stainless steel food carts, stretchers, and linen trucks to hospitals over a 5-state area, Chigger decided it was easier to bring the customers to the equipment, then fly them somewhere else to see the equipment being used. He did it in his new Piper Twin Comanche.

The Wall Street Journal, June 6, 1968



Harry "Chigger" Danciger

Early on, as an Air Force officer, he served as the executive / supply officer at an Air Force pilot training school. Although ineligible for USAF piloting, his charming personality won the trust of his fellow flying officers who frequently invited him to fly in T-28 trainer aircraft.

This instilled in him his love for flying and gave him the opportunity to learn the vernacular of flying. Later he qualified as a multi-engine civilian pilot. Thus the Wall Street Journal story

Like our other OKK flying brothers, Harry "Chigger" Danciger has put his OKK Eagle flying values to good use in his business and service to humankind.

There is so much to tell about the surprising number of Old Kia Kima men who have spent so much time in the air, and in service to our country. Some still do.

This account will necessarily be brief, for the simple reason that there is enough information to fill a book, and we are obviously limited by space. However, we've also included an amazing collection of photography, featuring an array of military and civilian aircraft manned by the men of Old Kia Kima in their earlier and current lives.



Bobby Harriss

Bobby Harriss is today an active member of the Pilots for Christ, spending much of his free time delivering Bibles across country. But Bobby also delivers people who are in need of transportation to and from health care facilities that might otherwise be too far away and require too much travel time by car.

HOW MUCH DO YOU REALLY KNOW ABOUT THE MEN OF OLD KIA KIMA?

As for Phil “Poncho” Adams, he flew 11 different airplanes for a total of 5,400 hours during his 22 years of service in the U. S. Air Force. Poncho spent 7 years in the Strategic Air Command, 3 years in the Tactical Air Command and 11 years in the Air Training Command.

Phil’s overseas duty included stints in England, Spain, Morocco and Thailand. As you will see in the following photo gallery, our “Poncho” did it all...from F-84’s to B-47’s.

Mason Ezzell’s time in the Air Force included 1,000 hours in combat, flying the EC-121 Super Constellation as a radar platform for early warning. In combat, he flew out of Thailand, over Cambodia, Laos, etc. His big “Connie” was equipped to

monitor troop movements with sensitive acoustic listening devices.

Our Ron Pollard is known and respected as one of the best of the best among aircraft carrier pilots. Graduating in the top 15% of his class in flight training, Ron qualified for just about anything going. His skills eventually put him in the cockpits of some mean looking air machines, namely the RA-5C Vigilante and the famed F-8 Crusader. Vigilante was the biggest and fastest plane that has ever flown off the deck of an aircraft carrier. It was also known by Ron’s fighter and attack pilot buddies as the most difficult aircraft to operate off of a carrier.

These days, Ron flies his Cessna 210. Destination? High above the South Fork waters.

And last, but the least exotic of our military flying guys, Ron “Tater” Tate. A submariner by training, Tater was attached to SubRon 4, and also crewed on a P2-V Neptune. Assigned by the Naval Photographic Center in Washington, DC, this aircraft was responsible for filming ASW (anti-submarine warfare) on-station tests of MK-14 and MK-16 torpedoes, with Tater pushing the buttons.

THERE IS MORE ON THE WAY. HOPEFULLY, FROM YOU!

Before you have a look at our photo gallery, consider this a call to help us update what you might call
The Old Kia Kima Continuing Education curriculum.

Brothers of the South Fork...EDUCATE US!

Tell us about your service to your country. *We know* you are out there. Whether you were in the air...on the water...under the water...or on good ‘ol terra firma...educate us.

Send us your pictures. Send your information, so we can put you in the spotlight.

Hopefully, at the September reunion, we’ll assemble everything for all attendees to see.

After all, when we talk about the heritage of our Old Kia Kima...here’s something to remember...

**HERITAGE DOESN’T GET ANY BETTER THAN HAVING A HISTORICAL RECORD OF WHAT OUR
MEN ACCOMPLISHED...IN LARGE MEASURE BECAUSE EACH OF US GREW TO BE MEN
ON THE BLUFFS HIGH ABOVE THE SOUTH FORK!**

**Now...SCROLL DOWN
FOR SOME AMAZING PHOTOS FROM THE PAST...
MEN OF OLD KIA KIMA**



Ron Pollard



North American RA-5C Vigilante on the catapult
Ron flew this aircraft the last 7 years of his Naval career



F-8 Crusader

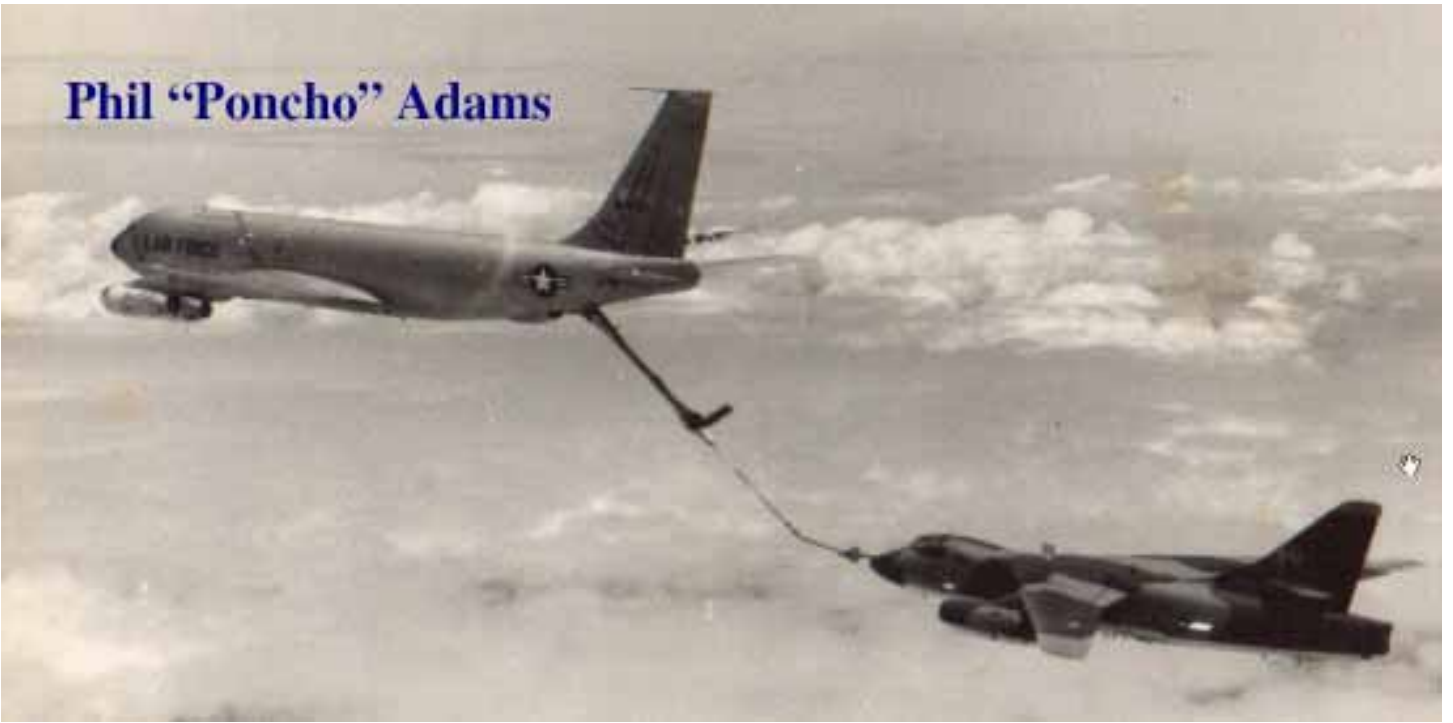


Ron has dibs on the driver's seat...



Ron Pollard today...Cessna 210

Phil 'Poncho' Adams



Poncho quenching his thirst for jet fuel EB-66



T-38



F-100



Poncho waving Bye Bye



B-47

Mason Ezzell



Mason and "Connie"

EB-66



T-38



Mason in Iceland EC-121

Ron "Tater" Tate



Tater... pushing buttons P2-V Neptune



USS Thomas A. Edison SSBN 610



USS Howard W. Gilmore AS-16
Submarine Tender