

Dick Jonas

Dick Jonas was born and raised in the Suwannee River Valley of northern Florida.

He served four years as an infantryman in the Georgia Army National Guard while attending Valdosta State College. He graduated in 1965 with a BS in Physics and Math. He entered the Air Force, and was commissioned at Officer Training School. In 22 years service he flew 3,000 jet fighter hours in the F-4 and the F-16. During 125 missions in the Vietnam War, he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters and the Air Medal with 12 clusters. He recorded his first albums of military ballads in 1969, after returning from the Vietnam War.

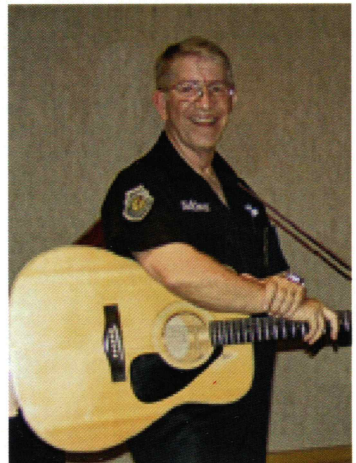
He retired from the Air Force in 1986 as a Lieutenant Colonel, and became an Air Force Junior ROTC instructor.

During 1991 and 92, in 325 performances he played the lead role in *Guv: The Musical* a stage production of the Mill Avenue Theater in Tempe, Arizona.

He retired from teaching in 2004 after 15 years service. He is now a full time military folk music producer. His aim is to perpetuate the legacy of the warrior musician — *the songs we sang about the planes we flew and the people we knew in the wars we fought.*

He has produced 32 albums and published three books about military folk music. He has published four books in a series about fighter pilot philosophy, called *A Fighter Pilot Looks At the World Upside Down*. He holds copyright to 120 musical compositions. He is a member of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in the Class of 2016.

Dick and his wife, Mary, reside in Chino Valley, just north of Prescott, Arizona.



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