





CD-121D Super Constellation



C-123 Provider

James was born on 11 November 1942 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he attended Roosevelt Elementary School (1948–1953), South Mountain Junior High School (1954), Raub Junior High School (1955–1956), and Allentown High School (1957–1960). After graduating from high school, James enlisted in the Air Force as a Basic Airman in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 27 January 1961. He completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB) in Texas in March 1961, and then was assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base (AFB), also in Texas, for advanced training as a Reciprocating Aircraft Mechanic until July 1961. After that he was assigned to Otis AFB on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, where he was promoted to Airman 1/C. He remained at Otis AFB where he performed maintenance on RC-121D Super Constellation aircraft. In August 1963, James was ordered to Vietnam, where he served for a year and one day performing maintenance on C-123 Provider cargo aircraft for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron located at Tan Son Nhut Air Base near Saigon. James left Vietnam in September 1964 for Travis AFB near Fairfield, California, for discharge. He left active duty as an Airman 1/C on 14 September 1964 at Travis, and was transferred to the Air Force Reserves until 26 January 1967. James returned home to Allentown, where he went to work for Mack Trucks, Inc., on 26 January 1965 for over 41 years in various positions, lastly in the Sales Engineering Department. He retired from Mack Trucks on 1 May 2006. James married **Donna Ella Herdegen** (born 13 November 1943) on 26 March 1966 in Rockland, Massachusetts. They initially made their home in Allentown and remained there for two years. In 1968, they moved to and settled in Wescosville in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania. At that time James became a volunteer Firefighter for the Lower Macungie Fire Department, and served the Department as Fire Chief from 1977 to 1982. James and Donna have a daughter, Nicole Marie Wagner, born 20 November 1976. James' parents were **James Clinton Wagner Jr.** (26 October 1913 – 21 April 1994) and **Dorothy Marie Shropp** (11 October 1912 – 23 July 1992).