

Dear Griffins Past and Present,

I'm sorry to inform you that yesterday we lost one of our long-term brothers, Lt Col Seth "Jethro" Nehring. I'm sure most of you are aware at this point of the SU-27 accident in Ukraine yesterday that claimed his life. I know many of you were on pins and needles yesterday wondering who it might be; but out of respect for his family, we are required to wait over 24 hours after notification of next of kin before releasing his name. I hope you understand. His mother and step-father were notified yesterday afternoon.

Jethro enlisted into the 144FW as a Crew Chief in 1994, and made it to Staff Sergeant. In 1999, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt, we sent him to pilot training, and he became one of our F-16 Viper pilots with over 2050 hours. Jethro later converted to the F-15 Eagle and flew 224 hours. Jethro was a Project Officer this entire year for both the Clear Skies exercise that is currently underway in Ukraine, and the Trident Juncture exercise in Finland immediately following Clear Skies.

Jethro was set to retire on 12 JAN 2019.

Very sad. I'm sure many of us have fond (and probably humorous and crazy) memories of Jethro. He was "Fresno Guard" to the bone, and he was a good friend to many of us.

I will miss him. I'm sure you will too.

Respectfully,

Siko

VICTOR S. SIKORA, Colonel, CA ANG

Commander, 144th Operations Group