## Falcon losing one of its finest

by Sgt. George Hayward 2nd Space Wing public affairs

On Sept. 30, Bill Baugh will step down as chief of public affairs for the 2nd Space Wing. He has been the wing's PA chief, its spokesman, since it was activated in July 1985. With his departure to the civilian arena, Falcon AFB will lose not only a fixture, but also one of the finest individuals ever to pass through the Entry Control Facility.

Most Falcon people know
Baugh's background — a retired
Air Force colonel who spent six
years as a prisoner of war in
Vietnam, where he endured pain
and suffering beyond
comprehension. Despite his inner
and outer scars, his ability to
relate his experiences with
eloquence and humor has made
him one of the most sought-after
public speakers in the local
civilian and military communities.

Baugh's rank and experiences command respect. With his 6-foot-4-inch frame, booming voice and intense gaze, he seems to demand it. But what is behind that gaze is what earns your

respect. For his spirit touches each person he meets.

Baugh's eyes blaze with love for his country and appreciation of freedom. His Vietnam experiences, rather than stain his soul, have made him a patriot in the truest sense. For him, patriotism is a contagious disease, and everyone he touches catches the bug.

His eyes also reflect inner



1966 ... The pilot



1973 ... Thinner, but free!



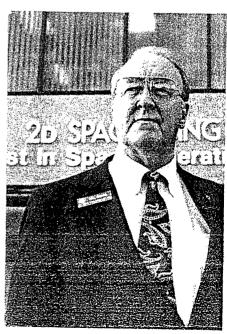
1979 ... The colonel

strength and serenity. He is a soul at peace. Always at ease, never angry, one of his credos is "there's no such thing as a bad day." In a world filled with stress and anger, he is an island of welcome tranquility.

He also is an island of unbiased friendship. Baugh regularly rubs shoulders, on and off duty, with generals and politicians. But despite his status, he is a man without ego. He treats all people with equal and sincere respect, regardless of their rank or social standing. He's quick to lend a hand, a pat on the back or just a warm smile of friendship.

For Falcon AFB, Baugh's departure is a loss of immeasureable magnitude. The 2nd SWG will get another public affairs chief. But it cannot replace the caring soul who's left an indelible mark on everyone he's touched.

Bill Baugh, you will be missed.



1991 ... Moving on