

Chief Deputy Dennis E. Mills (1949-2020)

Dennis was born November 25, 1949 in Artemus, Kentucky to Earl and Axie (Black) Mills. The family moved to Montgomery County, Ohio and Dennis attended West Carrollton High School, graduating in 1967.

Dennis joined the United States Army about the time that 500,000 men were sent to fight in the Vietnam War. He was assigned to the Military Police at Fort Carson, Colorado, and honorably discharged at the end of his tour.

Later, he took law enforcement courses at Sinclair Community College and completed his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Dayton.

Dennis joined the Warren County Sheriff's Office in 1973. By 1975, he was promoted to Detective and by 1976, Lieutenant. He led the SWAT team and personally arrested the barricaded suspect in the shooting of a Carlisle Police Chief in 1977. On December 2, 1977, Lieutenant Mills was named Police Chief of Blanchester in Clinton County. He returned to Warren County when, on January 2, 1979, he was named Chief Deputy. Colonel Mills resigned at the request of a new incoming sheriff on December 29, 1980. He then joined the Dayton Police Department as a Police Officer. By January 1988 he had been promoted to Detective. He retired from the Dayton Police Department with dozens of years of service to the country and three Ohio counties.

Chief Mills died on December 1, 2020 at the age of 71.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Kathlee M. "Kathy" (Simila) Mills, and other family and friends.

A private family inurnment will be held at Mt. Zion Park Cemetery in Beavercreek.

Memorials requested to any animal charity.