

Mike Bibb – Mike recently constructed and installed a military flag memorial at the Safford Union Cemetery. He presented the flag memorial idea to the City Council last year as he thought the memorial would be an attractive addition to a large cross that he had constructed and donated to the cemetery a few years ago. The project was approved and construction began February of this year. Six poles were erected atop concrete and tiled bases and flags representing the five major branches of the armed services – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force and a POW/MIA flag were raised. Between the two middle poles a memorial plaque, a sign reading “Duty, Honor, Country” and a Veterans Bell were placed.

Mike has built and donated other projects to various organizations including the large cross in front of the local Methodist Church and various projects at a children’s facility in Mexico.

Mike has been a resident of Safford and Graham County for 54 years having moved here with his parents in 1956. Following graduation from Safford High in 1965, he attended college until 1968 and then enlisted in the Marine Corps serving in an air unit. After being released from active service in 1970, he worked for Phelps-Dodge in Tyrone, New Mexico and resumed schooling at Western New Mexico University in Silver City. Following this, he returned to Safford and was again employed by Phelps Dodge in Morenci in the old Smelter Test Department. In 1977 he went to work for United Parcel Service and retired in 2002 after twenty-five years of service.

Our community thanks Mike for this inspiring tribute.