

From the beginning of Chief Master Sergeant Phil Lambing's illustrious thirty-eight year career, he was looked upon as "Mr. Maintenance" for the 111th Tactical Air Support Group, Willow Grove Naval Air Station. From 1953 until his retirement in July 1979, Chief Lambing could always be counted on to take on the toughest job and to get the job done. He had a unique ability to extract the ultimate effort from all of his troops, because he would work with them. He did whatever he could for his troops and as a result, when he needed it they would do anything for him. Chief Lambing's efforts and leadership abilities did not go unnoticed and in 1960 he was promoted to Chief Master Sergeant – one of the first in the Air National Guard.

Chief Lambing repeatedly demonstrated his commitment and ability to get the job done. During his career with the 111th, he was responsible for no less than nine successful aircraft conversions in the maintenance area. Chief Lambing was the man in the maintenance area responsible for successful conversions involving the B29 Superfortress, the B26 Invader, the P51 Mustang, the F84F Thunderstreak, the F94A/B/C/Starfire, the F89H/J Scorpion, the C97G/G Stratofighter, the U3A Blue Canoe, and the O2A Skymaster. Chief Lambing was personally responsible for coordinating the manpower, training and equipment requirements for all of these conversions.

Chief Lambing was also in charge of the relocation of the 111th maintenance complex from the Philadelphia International Airport to Willow Grove NAS in 1961. He totally planned and engineered the movement of equipment and personnel and ensured that the new facilities were adequate to support the mission.

Chief Lambing wasn't just in charge of major projects, he was the chief enlisted man in maintenance for twenty-five years. He knew everything that was happening in maintenance. Chief Lambing was the man who "kept the planes flying" and ensured the mission could be accomplished. He didn't do this just by being a great boss. He personally picked up the slack working late into the evenings and weekends displaying his technical ability as well as his dedication to the unit.

The Pennsylvania Air National Guard was Phil Lambing's life. He was a fine worker, boss and good friend to all who knew him. Chief Lambing served the Pennsylvania National Guard and his country proudly and well for thirty-eight years including active service in two wars. He is a true American, soldier, airman, guardsman and patriot. The singularly distinctive accomplishment of Chief Master Sergeant Philip Lambing reflect great credit upon himself, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and truly warrant his induction into the Pennsylvania Air National Guard Hall of Fame.