



Biography

Master Sergeant Guy Cantonwine
Noncommissioned Officer in Charge,
Starlifter

Master Sergeant Guy Cantonwine is the bassist and vocalist in the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America's rock combo Starlifter.

Sergeant Cantonwine was born in Naples, Italy, and graduated from Kecoughton High School in Hampton, Virginia. He attended Southwestern Community College in Creston, IA, and East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. Sergeant Cantonwine's primary teachers included Dan Via, Principal Bass of the Norfolk Philharmonic and Jack Budrow, Principal Bass with the North Carolina Symphony.

Sergeant Cantonwine freelanced for many years as bassist and vocalist with numerous top 40, rock, soul, R & B, country and jazz groups. In 1986, he auditioned for the U.S. Air Force Bands & Music Program. He has since then played in various Air Force rock bands and been assigned with the Heritage of America Band, Langley AFB, Virginia (1986 - 1989), the United States Air Forces in Europe Band, Ramstein AB, Germany (1989 - 1994), the Band of Flight, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio (1994 - 1998) and the Band of the Pacific, Hickam AFB, Hawaii (1998 - 2001). Sergeant Cantonwine was assigned to the Band of Mid-America in July 2001. In March 2002, he was named Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the group, and led it through its successful recording project, *Takin' it to the Streets*.

Sgt. Cantonwine's military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with three oakleaf clusters, and the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oakleaf cluster. He was named the Band of Mid-America's Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year in 2002