

DICK BARRON



Dick Barron got into the snow business when Kaufmann's store at Seven Springs Mountain hired him to work part time in its ski shop while he attended computer classes at a nearby technical school.

Dick had thought about a career in technology, but after graduation soon found that the office environment was a bit too confining. He longed for open spaces. The ski shop job was a start.

But a war intervened. Dick was drafted Jan. 2, 1968, and served 13 months in Vietnam as a communications specialist with an artillery unit in Dau Tieng, about 10 miles from the Cambodian border.

Returning home, the Fayette County native decided to take some time off to ski at Seven Springs and was soon invited to join the resort's ski patrol.

Now, 40 years later, Barron is doing quite well. As director of ski and snowboard operations at Seven Springs, he oversees the ski patrol, safety rangers, snow makers, snow groomers and lift attendants. He coordinates on-mountain special events, records the snow reports and sends them on to local and regional meteorologists and broadcasters.

Dick's work has been recognized by the National Ski Patrol which awarded him its Yellow Merit Star for his "outstanding support" of the national patrol and its Patriot Star for his military service. Dick joined NSP in 1970 and currently holds a Lifetime Alpine Certified Member Classification. He is still an NSP Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor and Instructor-Trainer.

Dick is also proud to be an active supporter of the Wounded Warrior Patrol organization.

