

Heraldry of the

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON PATCH

The Rushmore Composite Squadron, CAP designation NCR-SD-031, is located on Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, SD. It is one of six squadrons in the South Dakota Wing.

The squadron is named after the Shrine of Democracy, commonly known as the Mt. Rushmore monument, an iconic symbol of South Dakota. As the Rushmore Composite Squadron is located on Ellsworth AFB, home to one of the U.S. Air Force units equipped with the B-1 bomber, the squadron's patch blends elements of both into its design.

The squadron's distinctive unit patch is in the traditional round shape and consists of two rings and a central medallion. The narrow outer ring is black. The wide inner ring is red. At the top center of the red ring is an abbreviated form of the squadron's CAP designation in white. Below, and to the right and left are two white stars that symbolize the Civil Air Patrol's mission of aerospace education. Around the base of the red ring is the squadron's name in white. The central medallion depicts a black and grey U.S. Air Force B-1 bomber trailing white contrails as it soars through the dark blue South Dakota sky. Below the bomber is a depiction of Mount Rushmore in light blue and white with scattered trees in black at the base and sides of the monument.

No record has been found that mentions who designed the patch, when it was designed, or when it was approved for wear on CAP uniforms.

