



## A message from the Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps



7 September 2021

Marines,

Over the past two weeks we have had the opportunity to visit with some of your brothers and sisters recently wounded in Afghanistan. As anyone who knows Marines would expect, every one of them is eager to get back to their units as quickly as possible. All are positive, optimistic, and proud of their recent service. They should be. These Marines, with Sailors, Soldiers, and Airmen, helped nearly 130,000 people find a better, freer life in the largest non-combatant evacuation operation in history.

They also grieve for the Marines who did not make it home. We all do. As we mark the 20th anniversary of 9/11, we remember Marines like these – like you – who were willing to go to the hard places at the hard times on behalf of our country. In Afghanistan, like so many other theaters, you served honorably and courageously, doing all that was asked of you and more. From Camp Rhino in 2001, to Kabul in 2021, Marines made a difference.

While Afghanistan may be fresh in our minds, the impact of your service over these last two decades extends far beyond a country, region, or mission set. Since 9/11, you have deployed to every clime and place, distinguishing yourselves in both combat and crisis. From battlefields in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Syria, to counterterrorism support in Somalia and the Philippines, to relief operations in Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, Haiti, Nepal, Pakistan, and Liberia, to embassy reinforcement in the Central African Republic and Yemen, your courage, sacrifice, and example has been exemplary. You demonstrated to friend and foe alike that there is truly “No better friend, no worse enemy” than a United States Marine.

In the hours and days after the attacks of 9/11, an extraordinary number of Americans raised their right hands and took an oath to support and defend the Constitution. Many are now retiring, having spent their entire careers in the same conflict – unprecedented in the history of our Corps. On this anniversary, whether you have served for 20 years or 20 days, we encourage you to join your fellow Americans in quiet remembrance. Reflect on the sacrifice of others, connect with your fellow Marines, shipmates, and their families, and remain steadfast in your commitment to country and Corps. America expects her Marines to be most ready when the Nation is least ready – a solemn duty we all must fulfill while we have the watch.

David H. Berger  
General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Semper Fidelis,

Troy E. Black  
SgtMaj, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps

**SEMPER FIDELIS  
DISCLAIMER**

Some of the information compiled for Semper Fidelis comes from other sources to include experts in their respective fields, i.e. , DFAS, VA, and TRICARE. Content was current at the time this publication went to press. Any delays in mailing may be due to unforeseen circumstances and we apologize for the inconvenience.

**NOTE: The newsletter is posted online before it is mailed.**

Semper Fidelis accepts unsolicited material for publication for regular columns such as Second Career and Reunions, but reserves the right to reject any unsolicited material deemed inappropriate or illegible for publication.

Semper Fidelis is published quarterly by MMSR-6 to inform retired Marines and their family members on information of interest on their rights, benefits, and privileges. Items in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Marine Corps or the Department of Defense.



If you, or someone you know needs help, support is available 24/7. Service members and their families can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647, or chat at [militaryonesource.mil](http://militaryonesource.mil). Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at [1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255) and Press 1, chat at [veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net), or text to [838255](tel:838255).

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at [1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255).

**SEMPER FIDELIS NEWSLETTER  
FOR RETIRED MARINES**

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## Talking About Afghanistan

### We're Here for You

Current events in Afghanistan have left many in our community feeling understandably upset. The mental, physical and emotional wounds are deep. You may be wondering about the impact of your sacrifice and service, or the service of those who deployed there.

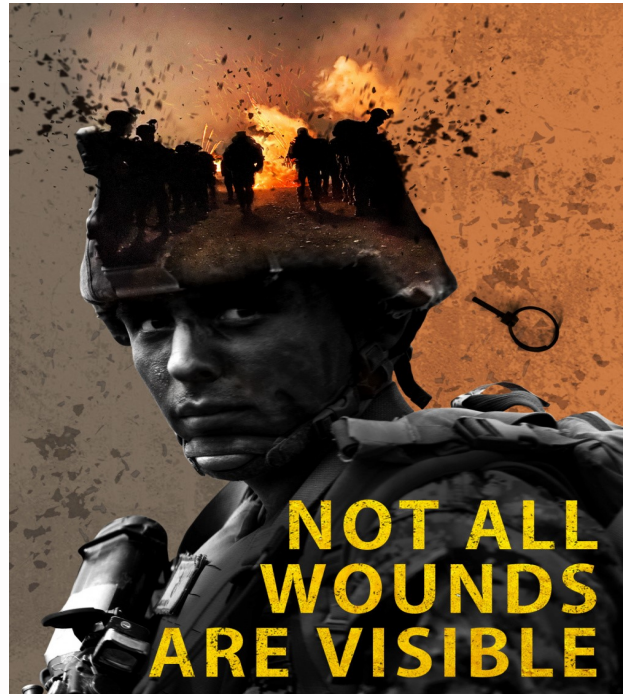
#### You are not alone.

Remember that what's happening now doesn't minimize or negate the experiences of all who served there. Countless answered the call of duty and did what was asked of them. Service is never for naught. Think about the times when valor and courage changed lives for the better. Or, focus on the present and what feels meaningful to you in this moment.

If you're feeling this way, it will take time to process your feelings. Talking can be very therapeutic, whether it's to a local chaplain, psychologist, or someone you served with in the military.

#### Do what feels right for you.

There isn't one way to think or feel or act. The important thing is to take advantage of available mental health care resources. Remember that this is one moment in time and regardless of what comes next, we'll get through it together.



(U.S. Marine Corps graphic by LCpl Sean A. Potter)

## Need to Talk? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

THE MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM OFFERS MANY MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES.  
**REMEMBER, YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

#### TRICARE Mental Health Coverage

See what's covered and how to make an appointment at:  
[www.tricare.mil/MentalHealth](http://www.tricare.mil/MentalHealth)

#### Military Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255, option 1  
<http://veteranscrisisline.net>

#### Psychological Health Resource Center

1-866-966-1020  
[www.health.mil/PHRC](http://www.health.mil/PHRC)

#### InTransition Program

1-800-424-7877  
[www.health.mil/inTransition](http://www.health.mil/inTransition)

#### Real Warriors Campaign

[www.health.mil/RealWarriors](http://www.health.mil/RealWarriors)



**VA**

U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

### VA Resources

The VA addresses the events unfolding in Afghanistan and encourages veterans to talk with friends and families, reach out to battle buddies, connect with a peer-to-peer network, or sign up for mental health services. View a list of common reactions and coping advice.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/2ecff31>

## VA Welcome Kit

*A handy navigational tool*

**By Mike Galloucis**

Executive Director of VA's Benefit Experience Directorate

Veterans oftentimes receive information about the Department of Veterans Affairs in a fragmented way. This can create confusion and a disjointed experience for veterans and their families as they attempt to understand and access VA's many different services and benefits. The VA has produced the VA Welcome Kit to specifically address this challenge.

Since assuming his current duties on February 8, 2021, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Denis R. McDonough has added customer experience (CX) principles to VA's longstanding "I CARE" (Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect and Excellence) core values.

In support of the Secretary's intent, the VA's Veterans Experience Office (VEO) under the direction of Chief Experience Officer John W. Boerstler, produces the VA Welcome Kit each year and distributes it in conjunction with Veterans Day. The product is specifically designed to make it easier for service members, veterans, family members, caregivers, and survivors to understand the many different benefits and services offered by VA.

"Veterans remain at the center of every decision we make. It is the responsibility of every [VA] employee to deliver exceptional outcomes and experiences," said Secretary McDonough. "Our individual and organizational commitment to delivering exceptional experiences in our service delivery continues."

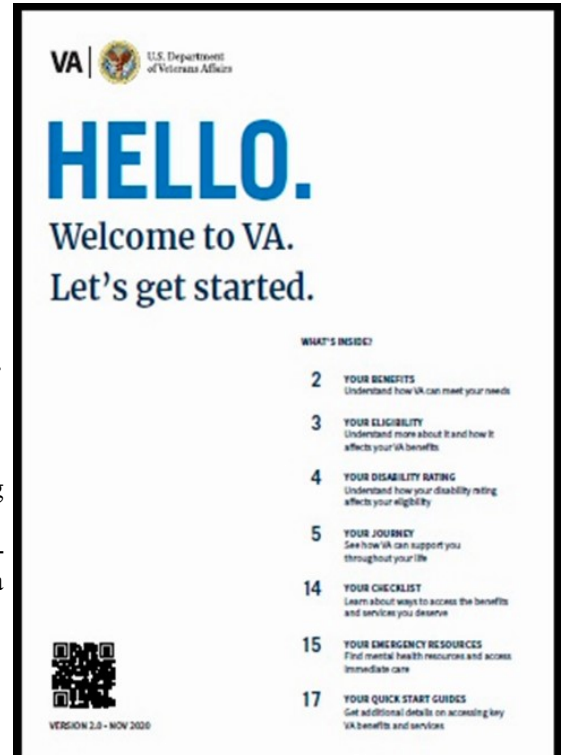
The VA Welcome Kit provides pertinent information and helps overcome the natural apprehension most people experience when interacting with a large, complex organization like VA for the first time. It is written in an easy-to-understand and concise manner and includes information on popular VA benefits, including applying for VA healthcare, a disability rating, education benefits, etc. The VA Welcome Kit highlights key VA benefits and services available that can positively impact quality of life and explains how and where to go to access those benefits and services.

The VA Welcome Kit also includes handy one-page (front and back) Quick Start Guides (QSGs) focused on specific topics of interest to service members, veterans, family members, caregivers, and survivors validated through empirical and anecdotal field research. The Welcome Kit is regularly updated online as new information becomes available.

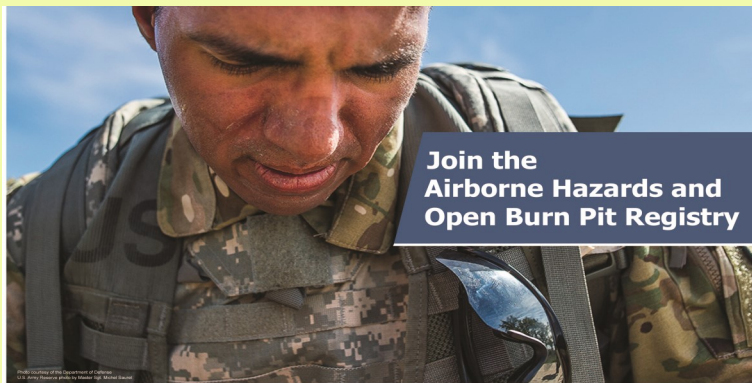
Within VA, the Benefits Experience (BX) Directorate is assigned responsibility for producing the VA Welcome Kit. BX is a diverse, dedicated, and effective team comprised of veterans (including several Retired Soldiers and four combat veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom) and other highly qualified men and women with many years of VA experience in different service lines. BX personnel routinely interact with veterans and family members virtually and at different venues and relies on those interactions and field research when developing content for, and identifying ways to improve, the Welcome Kit.

The VA Welcome Kit can be downloaded and printed directly from the website <https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit>. General feedback and suggestions on ways VA can improve the Welcome Kit can be sent directly to [vawelcomekit@va.gov](mailto:vawelcomekit@va.gov). A YouTube video on the Welcome Kit can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/DZvITWcWutE>.

Mike Galloucis is the Executive Director of VA's Benefit Experience Directorate and a retired Army colonel who served 30 years on active duty. He commanded an Army brigade in Iraq for 15 months in 2006-07.



**VETERANS AFFAIRS NEWS: AIRBORNE HAZARDS AND OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY**



**Join the  
Airborne Hazards and  
Open Burn Pit Registry**

Check eligibility and learn more at [Health.mil/AHBurnPitRegistry](https://Health.mil/AHBurnPitRegistry)



Did you know the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) collects, analyzes, and publishes data on health conditions that may be related to environmental exposures experienced during deployment? The Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry is a secure database of health information voluntarily provided by service members and veterans, and is instrumental in enabling the VA to improve care and services for veterans.

The registry consists of an online questionnaire followed by an optional, but recommended, medical evaluation. The questionnaire helps you document your deployments and exposures

to airborne hazards (which include sand, dust, smoke from oil well fires, and more-not just burn pits) to create a snapshot of your health. Upon completing the questionnaire, you are encouraged to discuss your exposure history and health with a provider in a free, optional medical evaluation. Participants also receive information from VA about registry updates and ongoing health studies.

Service members and veterans who were deployed in the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after August 2, 1990, or who were stationed in Afghanistan or Djibouti on or after September 11, 2001, are eligible to sign up for the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry. These regions include the following countries, bodies of water, and airspace above these locations:

- Afghanistan
- Bahrain
- Djibouti
- Gulf of Aden
- Gulf of Oman
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates
- Waters of the Arabian Sea, Persian Gulf, and Red Sea

If you meet these eligibility criteria, please consider joining the registry to document your exposure and health information and support the health of other service members and veterans.

“In addition to encouraging eligible service members and veterans to register, we are working across the Military Health System and in collaboration with VA to make it easier for health care providers to access patients’ environmental exposure data and assess their health concerns,” said Steve Jones, Force Readiness and Health Assurance Policy director and retired Army Environmental Science and Engineering Officer. “Through all these efforts, we’ll continue to collect critical data and gain a better understanding of how airborne hazards impact our troops’ short and long-term health.”

Need more information? Check out [Health.mil/AHBurnPitRegistry](https://Health.mil/AHBurnPitRegistry) for a brief informational video, frequently asked questions, and other helpful materials. Please note that the registry is completely voluntary. You do not need to be enrolled in VA health care to participate, and the registry does not affect access to VA health care or compensation benefits.

**Your Health Is Important**

Visit [Health.mil/ AHBurnPitRegistry](https://Health.mil/AHBurnPitRegistry) to review eligibility criteria and other registry details.

## Have you updated DEERS lately?

When TRICARE tried to reach a group of retirees with critical information recently, more than 6 out of 10 had incorrect information in DEERS. Is your information correct?

### Why do you need to update your information in DEERS?

Your information must be correct in DEERS so that:

- You and your family maintain access to your medical benefits
- Your healthcare team can contact you with critical healthcare and appointment information
- TRICARE can reach you with vital authorization, claims, and enrollment information
- Home delivery prescriptions can be delivered properly

### When do you need to update DEERS?

Beneficiaries need to update DEERS as soon as possible anytime they move, change contact information, or experience a Qualifying Life Event (QLE).

A beneficiary must update DEERS whenever they experience the following (this list is not all-inclusive):

- Change in sponsor's status
- Retiring or separating
- Activating or deactivating
- Having a baby or adopting
- Moving to a new location for any reason
- Change in a student's full-time enrollment status
- Becoming eligible for Medicare
- Death of sponsor or family member

If a beneficiary is enrolled in any TRICARE plan (e.g., TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Select, TRICARE Reserve Select, TRICARE Retired Reserve or TRICARE Young Adult), remind them to also change their address and other personal information with their regional contractor.

### How do you update DEERS?



- To learn how to update DEERS, visit <https://www.TRICARE.mil/DEERS>
- Or update contact information on milConnect at <https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/>
- Call 1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD: 1-866-363-2883)
- Fax updates to 1-800-336-4416 (Primary) or 1-502-335-9980 (Alternate)
- Mail updates to:
 

Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office  
Attn: COA  
Gigling Road  
Seaside, CA 93955-6771
- To add or remove family members, go to a local ID card office.

	<h2><u>2021 Retired &amp; Annuity Pay Dates</u></h2>	
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<u>Entitlement Month</u>	<u>Retiree Pay Date</u>	<u>Annuitant Pay Date</u>
September 2021	October 1, 2021	October 1, 2021
October 2021	November 1, 2021	November 1, 2021
November 2021	December 1, 2021	December 1, 2021
December 2021	December 30, 2021	January 3, 2022



### Get Ready...It's Coming...**TRICARE** Open Season...

TRICARE Open Season is the annual period when you can enroll in or change your health care coverage for the next year. In 2021, TRICARE Open Season begins November 8, 2021, and ends December 13, 2021. Any enrollment changes you make will go into effect on January 1, 2022. Open season applies to anyone enrolled in or eligible for a TRICARE Prime option or TRICARE Select. Learn more at <https://tricare.mil/openseason>.

If you're eligible to participate in TRICARE Open Season, you have three options:

- **Stay in your plan.** If you want to stay in your current TRICARE health plan, you don't have to re-enroll. You'll continue in your current health plan through 2022 or as long as you're eligible.
- **Enroll in a plan.** If you're eligible for a TRICARE Prime option or TRICARE Select but not enrolled, you can enroll in a plan now.
- **Change plans.** If you're already enrolled in a TRICARE Prime option or TRICARE Select, you can switch plans and switch between individual and family enrollment.

#### **What Happens if I Don't Take Any Action?**

If you aren't already in a plan and don't enroll in a plan during open season, you'll only be eligible for care at a military hospital or clinic if space is available.

#### **Making Enrollment Changes Outside of Open Season**

Outside of TRICARE Open Season, you can enroll in or change enrollment to TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select following a Qualifying Life Event (QLE).

A QLE is a certain change in your life, such as marriage, birth of a child, or retirement from active duty, which may mean different TRICARE health plans are available to you and your family members. A TRICARE QLE opens a 90-day period for you to make eligible enrollment changes. A QLE for one family member creates a chance for all eligible family members to make enrollment changes. To learn more, visit [www.tricare.mil/lifeevents](http://www.tricare.mil/lifeevents).

Outside of the Federal Benefits Open Season, you can only enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) or make changes to your existing FEDVIP plan if you experience a FEDVIP QLE. Remember, FEDVIP QLEs may be different from the TRICARE QLEs. To learn more, visit [BENEFEDS.com](http://BENEFEDS.com).

# VIRTUAL BENEFITS FAIR



Retiring service members are considered newly eligible for Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) - the voluntary, enrollee-pay-all dental and vision program available to certain retired uniformed service members, active duty family members, and survivors. FEDVIP replaced the former TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, and it offers supplemental vision coverage for those who are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan.

As you may know, FEDVIP enrollment is not automatic; retiring service members must take action to enroll in FEDVIP. If they do not enroll within 60 days following their retirement date, they must wait to enroll until the next Federal Benefits Open Season. The Federal Benefits Open Season (or open season) is your annual opportunity to enroll in, change, or cancel a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan. Each year, open season runs from the Monday of the second full work week in November through the Monday of the second full work week in December. Once you enroll in a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan, your coverage will automatically continue each year. You can make changes to your plan during open season or if you experience a qualifying life event (QLE).

**Coverage effective date: If you enroll during open season, your FEDVIP coverage will be effective on January 1, the start of the next plan year.**

Mark your calendars for the 2021 Virtual Benefits Fair (VBF). The annual event will be held throughout the Federal Benefits Open Season this fall. The VBF is an online health fair that houses 2022 plan information in a single online location, enabling federal employees to browse exhibits, view and download plan brochures, and connect with program representatives via chat. Last year, more than 43,000 people visited the fair.

Participants in this year's event include all of the FEDVIP carriers, more than 20 Federal Employees Health Benefits Program carriers, and representatives for both the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program and the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program. Registering for the VBF will be available online and will allow access to the four live chat days: November 12, November 19, December 1, and December 8. Check here for registration information:

[Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program \(FEDVIP\) | Benefits.gov](#).



**Questions about FEDVIP enrollment or your account? Get in touch:**

**Phone**  
**1-877-888-FEDS** (1-877-888-3337)  
**TTY:** 1-877-889-5680  
**International:** +1-571-730-5942

**Mail**  
 BENEFEDS-FEDVIP  
 P.O. Box 797  
 Greenland, NH 03840-0797



## Life-Changing Event? Keep DFAS Informed

DFAS Cleveland - Ensuring your retired pay comes to you accurately and on time is our primary goal at DFAS. To do this, we need your help to keep your account updated.

As a retiree, the sooner you alert DFAS to any change that might affect your pay, the more timely and accurate your pay will be. Keeping your account updated includes making sure your mailing address, email address, banking information, allotments, tax withholding status, and your beneficiary choices are current.

Be sure to report any change of life events as soon as they happen. These life-changing events might include:

- Moving
- Marriage or Remarriage
- Divorce
- Birth or adoption of a child
- Death of a spouse or child

Some changes, especially those regarding Survivor Benefit Plan coverage, have a one-year time limit, so it is very important that you notify DFAS of life-changing events when they happen. When you notify us, be sure to include copies of supporting documents, such as birth or marriage certificates.

If you are making a change to your SBP coverage because of a life event, you can now use the convenient, online askDFAS upload tool on [DFAS.mil](https://www.dfas.mil) to submit your DD 2656-6 (Survivor Benefit Plan Election Change Certificate) and supporting documents. And when you submit a DD 2656-6, you'll get email status notifications to the email you provide in askDFAS, or if you send it by postal mail or fax, to the email in your myPay account.

Keeping your contact information updated is key to staying informed. DFAS occasionally sends out correspondence regarding changes in the law that affect your pay. If your mailing address is not correct and you are not on myPay, we have no way of notifying you about changes. DFAS is also communicating more via email to provide more convenient customer service, and you will be better informed if you have a current email in your myPay account.

The easiest way to keep your account updated is to use myPay. You can use myPay to change your mailing address, your email address, your direct deposit information, some allotments and your tax withholding status. You can also use myPay to verify payment information, including allotment amounts, or tax withholding, or check your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage on your RAS.

If you're not yet using myPay, it's easy to get started and add your email address for status notifications. We have a handy step-by-step, downloadable "Get Started with myPay" guide available at:

<https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/manage/mypay/>

DFAS continues to develop helpful tools and information for you and our website puts it all at your fingertips: <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>.



# Stay Connected

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program -  
Helping people stay connected during the COVID-19  
pandemic



**The Emergency Broadband Benefit is a Federal Communications Commission program to help families and households struggling to afford internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband services to eligible households. These households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or a tablet (if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase). The program will end when funds are exhausted, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) declares an end to the pandemic.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

A household is eligible if it meets at least *one* of the following criteria:

- Has an income that is at or below 135% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#) or participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, or [Lifeline](#);
- Approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020 and the household had a total income in 2020 at or below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or meets the eligibility criteria for a participating providers' existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

## HOW TO APPLY:

- 1) Eligible households can enroll by going to <https://getemergencybroadband.org/>
- 2) Eligible households can enroll through an approved provider:
  - a. Participating providers can be found at this link:

<https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-broadband-benefit-providers#Texas>

The application requires that applicants prove their eligibility by providing information on their household income (i.e. tax returns, benefit statements, etc.), providing information on relevant assistance programs (i.e. SNAP and Medicaid), identity verification, address and, if relevant, proof of substantial loss of income.

**2021 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS**

**NOTICE: To prevent the possible spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), some events listed below may be canceled. Before traveling long distances to attend an event, please call the contact phone number for the event to ensure it will be held as scheduled.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
2 Oct	Schofield Barracks, HI	808-271-4142/655-1514
15 Oct	Fort Knox, KY	502-624-1765\7236
15 Oct	USAG BENELUX-Brussels	31-45-534-0260
16 Oct	Carlisle Barracks, PA	717-245-4501
16 Oct	Fort Polk, LA	337-531-0402
16 Oct	USAG BENELUX (SHAPE)	32-68-25-5581
19 Oct	USAG Bavaria	9641-70-526-4430 (DSN) 526-4430
22 Oct	Redstone Arsenal, AL	256-842-2719
23 Oct	Fort Hamilton, NY	718-630-4552
23 Oct	Fort Riley, KS	785-239-3320
26 Oct	USAG Italy (Vicenza)	9802-83-3301
29-30 Oct	Fort Hood, TX	254-287-5210
29 Oct	Fort Rucker, AL	334-255-9124
30 Oct	Fort Leavenworth, KS	913-684-5583
30 Oct	USAG Wiesbaden	0611-705-5338
5 Nov	Fort Benning, GA	706-545-1805
6 Nov	Fort Gordon, GA	706-791-5210

Experience camaraderie and esprit de corps at a Retiree Appreciation Day.

To view these events and others visit:

[http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs and Other Retiree-Veterans Events.html](http://www.hostmtb.org/RADs_and_Other_Retiree-Veterans_Events.html).

# USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
E Co 2/7 Vietnam Veterans MSgt William Dyer, USMC (Ret.)	26 Sep -2 Oct 2021 Colorado Springs, CO	(904) 504-1582	parthree@comcast.net
26th Marine Assoc. Annual Reunion 26'ers of all times: Iwo Jima to current (Regiment, MEU, and SupUnits) Sonny Hollub	30 Sep - 4 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(512) 825-4730	www.26thMarines.com sonnyusmc@gmail.com
ANGLICO Assoc. Biennial Reunion: open to all eras, former, attached, and present ANGLICO personnel SgtMaj Reginald Owens, USMC (Ret.)	7-10 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(760) 212-1520	owens.reginald33@gmail.com
Marine Corps Tanker Assoc. (MCTA) 1stSgt Rick Lewis, USMC (Ret.)	14-18 Oct 2021 Washington, DC		ricklent@aol.com www.USMCTankers.org <a href="http://www.hyatt.com/en-us/group-booking/WASRC/G-MCT1">www.hyatt.com/en-us/group-booking/ WASRC/G-MCT1</a>
Marine Corps Counterintelligence Asso- ciation (MCIA) Reunion George Turner	18-22 Oct 2021 San Antonio, TX	(830) 285-1636	gpturner@ktc.com
TBS Class 6 -70 Fox Co 50th Col Tom Kanasky, Jr. USMCR (Ret.) Col Mitch Youngs, USMC (Ret.)	21-24 Oct 2021 Quantico, VA	(203) 366-3156 (703) 493-9435	tlkanasky@earthlink.net mitchyoungs@verizon.net
TBS 3/67 and 41st OCC Reunion Robert Wright	21-24 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(510) 333-3165	rbwright1@mac.com
HMM-165/VMM-165 All Hands/All Years	21-24 Oct 2021 Glendale, AZ		165whiteknights.com
USMC A4 Skyhawkers Mark Williams	21-24 Oct 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(425) 327-6050	usmcskyhawker21@gmail.com
38/39th OCC - Basic Class 8199 3-66 & 4-66 Walt Flynn Lonnie Myers	25-29 Oct 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(617) 974-8199 (541) 910-1061	whflynnjr@comcast.net myersl@eou.edu
2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afghanistan (2009-2010) 10-Year Reunion LtCol Matt Frazier, USMC (Ret.)	13-15 May 2022 Quantico, VA	(760) 623-5918	taskforceleatherneck@gmail.com Facebook: 2dMEBAfghanistan <a href="https://mca-marines.org/task-force-leatherneck-reunion/the_frazier_family@yahoo.com">https://mca-marines.org/task-force- leatherneck-reunion/ the_frazier_family@yahoo.com</a>
USMC WX Service Reunion Kathy Donham Dave Englert	19-24 Jun 2022 Overland Park, KS	(252) 342-8459	kathy.donham@hotmail.com englertd@psci.net

Note to Reunion Planners: Send your reunion events as soon as possible to our organizational mailbox ([smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil)) to ensure timely inclusion in this publication. We apologize for the inconvenience with any delayed or missed events due to an unforeseen change in the distribution of this publication. Visit the MCCS web site (<http://www.usmc-mccs.org/reunion/>) for information on how to organize your reunion and lists of upcoming events.

# USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
TBS Class 5-71 E Co LtCol Robert Lange, USMC (Ret.)	Jun 2022 Quantico, VA Planning stages	(949) 644-8229	rlange@brandtgp.com Seeking planner/ financial assistance available to defray organizing costs.
AWS 1-82 Classmates & Staff 40th Reunion LtCol Paul LeBlanc, USMC (Ret.)	Jun-Jul 2022 Planning stages	(619) 417-4306	pepelb@aol.com
10th Marine Regiment (all years) MSgt John Fontenoy, USMC (Ret.)	Summer 2022 Planning stages		10thmarinereunion2020@gmail.com
TBS Class B-2-68 Bravo Co Col Michael Cathey, USMC (Ret.)	28 Sep –1 Oct 2022 Quantico, VA	(703) 868-2198	colmcathey@gmail.com http://www.tbs2-68usmc.com
TBS Class 4-73 Delta Co 50th Reunion Col Bill Anderson USMCR (Ret.) Col Bob Donaghue USMCR (Ret.)	2023 Planning stages	(540) 850-4213 (617) 840-0267	binche57@yahoo.com ip350haven@comcast.net
TBS Class 3-72 Charlie Co 50th Reunion Col Joseph N. Mueller, USMCR (Ret.)	20-23 Apr 2022 Quantico, VA	(818) 815-8331	jnm21213@yahoo.com
Vietnam CoVan Advisor Reunion Col Regan Wright, USMC (Ret.)	27-29 Apr 2022	(619) 224-1800	oneputt868@aol.com wright868@aol.com

## Cold War Recognition Certificate Program

In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding the Cold War Recognition Certificate (CWRC) to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the Cold War era, which is defined as September 2, 1945, to December 26, 1991.

The United States Army operates the only official site on which to request the CWRC. Any other site offering these certificates or replicas for sale or purchase are not official sites and are not approved or endorsed by the United States Army. The CWRC is available to qualified individuals at no cost.

To apply for a certificate visit:  
[www.hrc.army.mil/content/Cold%20War%20Recognition%20Certificate%20Program%20Overview](http://www.hrc.army.mil/content/Cold%20War%20Recognition%20Certificate%20Program%20Overview).



Colonel James Murray, Jr. USMC, and Colonel Chang Chun San, of the North Korean Communist Army, initial maps showing the north and south boundaries of the demarcation zone, during the Panmunjom cease fire talks, October 11, 1951. Photo by F. Kazukaitis, U.S. Navy.



## HONORING OUR 2021 CENTENARIAN MARINES

### 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING

#### *COLONEL*

Anglin, Jr., Emmett O. (1942-1969)  
 Garner, James E. (1940-1973)  
 Lehnert, Robert C. (1942-1973)  
 McPhail, Joe (1941-1981)  
 Miniclier, John F. (1940-1971)  
 Vanschooneyeld, William H. (1942-1981)

#### *LIEUTENANT COLONEL*

Anseman, Norman E. (1942-1981)  
 Boeddiker, Robert E. (1942-1981)  
 Foust, Harry L. (1942-1981)  
 Skeath, Jr., Marvin A. (1942-1966)

#### *MAJOR*

Ferguson, Jr., Glenn L. (1939-1963)  
 Healy, John F. (1942-1981)  
 Tashjian, John H. (1942-1981)

#### *CAPTAIN*

Miles, Ross R. (1941-1945)

#### *MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT*

Alexander, George L. ( 1943-1968)  
 Schroeder, Sr., Harvey J. (1942-1965)

#### *FIRST SERGEANT*

Gow, Robert W. (1944-1966)

#### *MASTER SERGEANT*

Butts, Newton (1941-1952)  
 Krueger, H. A. (1940-1960)  
 Mullican, Albert F. (1942-1965)

#### *GUNNERY SERGEANT*

Derewiany, Steve (1940-1963)  
 Filko, Joseph J. (1942-1962)

#### *STAFF SERGEANT*

Deweese, Max I. (1946-1981)



# TAPS

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**Note:** In an effort to reduce erroneous listings, Semper Fidelis will only announce deaths that have been confirmed from DFAS. Telephonic reporting of deaths to MMSR-6 are first confirmed before posted in this column.

## BRIGADIER GENERAL

PORTER, ROBERT R. Aug 89/Jul 21  
TAYLOR, ROBERT W. Jul 75/Jul 21

## COLONEL

BABE, GEORGE A. Aug 71/Jul 21  
BLESSING, PATRICK J. Mar 97/Jun 21  
CHESTON, MICHAEL G. Aug 13/Jul 21  
COULTER, ROBERT S. Oct 84/Jul 21  
CRANGLE, CHANDLER C. Jul 97/Jun 21  
FIGARD, CHARLES R. Jul 72/Apr 21  
FINLON, ARTHUR P. Jul 81/Jul 19  
GEE, DAVID M. Mar 94/Jul 21  
GILES, JOHN B. Dec 02/Jun 21  
HARP, JAMES J. Sep 78/Jul 21  
PEDUZZI, RONALD E. Aug 93/Jul 21  
PHILLIPS, RHYS J. Apr 80/Jun 21  
RUSHFELDT, COLLIN H. Jan 83/Jul 21  
SCHNEIDER, DONALD E. Nov 80/Oct 20  
SMITH, DANIEL M. Aug 92/Jul 21  
TYSON, GREGORY S. Oct 08/Jul 21

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL

ADAMS, ROBERT T. Jul 77/Jun 21  
ALVAREZ, GEORGE L. Dec 88/Apr 21  
BLOOM, JR., PAUL J. Oct 93/Jul 21  
BRUNSVOLD, KENNETH T. Apr 84/Jun 21  
COTTON, RANDOLPH P. Feb 91/Jun 21  
DOEZEMA, RICHARD M. Mar 67/Jun 21  
GIESEN, JOHN H. Jul 15/Jun 21  
GOODSON, GEORGE O. Aug 74/Jul 21  
LUMSDEN, JAMES L. Mar 80/Apr 20  
MCCARTHY, DAVID M. Jan 18/Jul 21  
MCENTYRE, HUBERT Nov 84/Jun 21  
MITCHELL, CORBIN B. Sep 89/Oct 20  
PEREIRA, JR., NICOLA M. Apr 88/Jul 21  
ROBERTS, RICHARD T. Aug 74/Jul 21  
SACKETT, WILLIAM H. Sep 75/Jan 21

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL (continued)

SUBLETTE, WILLIAM J. Jan 89/Jun 21  
TALBOTT, RICHARD B. Oct 71/Feb 20  
WIGAND, JR., ROBERT C. Jun 84/Jul 21

## MAJOR

ACKERS, THOMAS E. Jun 95/Oct 20  
CORNISH, CHESTER L. Sep 68/Jan 21  
KEOGH, WILLIAM P. Dec 86/Jul 21  
KNUEBEL, KENNETH P. Jun 75/Jul 21  
LEFFEN, JOHN S. Aug 86/Jun 21  
LYTLE, JOHN T. Aug 77/Mar 21  
MASTROBERTI, MICHAEL P. Jan 78/Jul 21  
PUCKETT, MICHAEL D. Oct 98/Jun 21  
ROWE, DAVID T. Sep 85/Jul 21  
SANTOS, IAN P. Aug 13/Jun 21  
UNKLE, JOHN W. Sep 68/Jul 21

## CAPTAIN

BISPLINGHOFF, GARY W. Aug 78/May 21  
CAPPOCK, ROBERT J. Feb 71/Jul 21  
CARR, WILLIAM R. Oct 76/Apr 20  
CRISTMAN, RAYMOND J. Sep 93/Jul 21  
CULP, LEO V. Jun 74/Jul 21  
FOWKES, DAVID W. Dec 74/Jul 21  
HAMEL, ROLAND L. Aug 71/Jul 21  
HAMILTON, ROBERT E. Jul 77/Feb 21  
JENNINGS, JAMES Aug 72/Jul 21  
KEARNEY, BRANTLEY E. Feb 72/Jun 21  
KRAMER, WILLIAM L. Oct 73/Jul 21  
MAJEWSKI, NORBERT L. Jan 74/Jul 21  
O'SHIELDS, ROBERT C. Jul 76/Jun 21  
RENEGAR, EDWIN J. Aug 76/Jul 21  
VOSS, HENRY R. Aug 67/May 21



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## FIRST LIEUTENANT

KENNEDY, DELBERT E. Sep 69/Jun 21  
SULLIVAN, GEORGE R. Nov 67/Jan 20

## CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

BAUMERT, ROBERT J. CWO3 May 95/Jun 21  
BOLICK, GERALD J. CWO4 Jul 86/Dec 20  
FLORES, DANIEL V. CWO2 Aug 98/Mar 18  
LAMPMAN, GEORGE V. WO Jul 67/Jun 21  
SCHERTZ, JESSE M. CWO4 Jan 19/Jul 21

## SERGEANT MAJOR

FOGLE, HERMAN J. Aug 81/Mar 20  
GRANT, BILLY H. Feb 85/Jul 21  
HUNTER, DENNIS W. Nov 97/Jun 21  
JACKSON, SAMUEL A. Jul 93/Jul 21  
MERTEN, EDWARD C. Nov 97/May 21  
ROUGAS, JOHN N. Jul 78/May 21  
TULLY, KIM R. May 96/Jun 21  
WILSON, LEON R. Nov 88/Jun 21

## MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT

BEDENBAUGH, JR., CLAUDE F. Jul 79/Jan 21  
COKER, JAMES A. Jul 85/Jul 21  
GREEN, JAMES R. Jul 88/Jul 21  
HOLMES, JOSEPH C. Jul 84/Jul 21  
HUDGINS, ROBERT E. Sep 84/Jul 21  
KELLENBERGER, HARRY N. Aug 83/May 19  
LYTLE, NORMAN G. Jun 88/Jun 21  
OLSON, JOHN E. May 95/Dec 20  
PASCHAL, JAMES C. Jun 86/Jun 21  
PAULING, JR., CURTIS A. Jul 88/Jun 21  
REINHARD, TERENCE J. Jun 82/Apr 21  
SNOW, WILLIAM J. Jun 91/Jun 21  
STEWART, SHAWN D. Dec 19/Jul 21  
STOKES, WILLIAM A. Jan 73/Jul 21  
VARGAS, CARLOS M. Aug 95/Mar 21

## FIRST SERGEANT

BREEDLOVE, WILLIAM A. Oct 90/Jul 18  
FRENCH, HARRIS G. Sep 75/Sep 20  
HAMILTON, RICHARD E. Aug 68/Jul 21  
MACHESNEY, RICHARD D. Dec 77/Jun 21  
MCNUTT, JAMES J. Jan 85/Jul 21  
OLIVER, HARRY W. Mar 83/Jul 20  
O'ROURKE, GEORGE Aug 70/May 21  
PONIKVAR, VERNON R. Apr 70/May 21  
PRYOR, ELLER L. Aug 79/Jan 21

## MASTER SERGEANT

ABELL, MICHAEL E. Sep 79/Jun 21  
ALLISON, JR., WILLIAM J. Jul 15/Jun 21  
BARNETTE, PAUL R. Jan 88/Jul 21  
BROGDON, JOHN G. Dec 76/Jun 21  
BRULE, CLARK A. Sep 78/Jul 21  
COOK, JOHN J. Oct 77/May 21  
EDENS, TERRY C. Sep 95/Jul 21  
EDWARDS, KIM A. Dec 95/Dec 20  
FARMER, IVORY Apr 10/Jun 21  
GALE, JR., FRANK Sep 63/Jun 21  
GARCIA, GILBERTO R. Dec 78/May 21  
HARVEY, GLEN L. Jun 63/Jun 21  
HUBBARD, JR., MELVIN S. Mar 73/May 21  
JOHNSON, DENNIS A. Mar 90/Jun 21  
JONES, JAMES E. Oct 75/Jul 21  
JUDGE, WILLIAM K. Dec 87/Jul 21  
KEEGAN, EARL W. Jun 75/Aug 21  
LAUER, JIMMY D. Dec 80/Jul 21  
LOCKE, SCOTT E. Jul 88/Jun 21  
LOGING, WILLIAM G. May 76/Jun 19  
LYNCH, JOHN A. Aug 96/Jun 21  
MALISHESKI, VALENTINE J. Jan 93/Jul 21  
MARSHALL, DONALD H. Sep 73/Jun 21  
MCCRANIE, LAWRENCE P. Jul 89/May 21  
MEALER, JACK W. Sep 71/May 21  
MENDIVIL, JESUS S. Jun 77/Jun 21  
MURPHY, THOMAS E. Jul 82/Jun 21  
OWENS, CHESTER A. Nov 83/Jul 21





# TAPS

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## MASTER SERGEANT (continued)

PUCCI, RAYMOND J. May 90/June 21  
 RHOADES, STEVEN R. Dec 86/June 20  
 SOLOMON, VERNON Sep 70/May 21  
 TOLES, ROBERT J. Dec 88/May 21  
 TROUP, JOHN M. Nov 04/June 21  
 WERSLER, DONALD D. Aug 66/May 21  
 WHITLOW, CLARK D. Aug 78/June 21  
 WIESNER, JAY H. Feb 79/June 21  
 WILLIAMS, PAUL M. Dec 82/May 21  
 WILT, NEIL W. May 73/June 21  
 ZUNIGA, ANTONIO Oct 96/July 21

## GUNNERY SERGEANT

ASHTON, THOMAS W. Feb 67/July 21  
 BENEFIELD, JAMES E. Feb 92/July 21  
 BOCHENEK, PETER O. Dec 07/July 21  
 CLARK, HOWARD Jul 81/Dec 20  
 DUCHNOWSKI, DEBRA A. Aug 95/July 21  
 ELSMO, TODD Mar 76/Apr 21  
 ENOS, DOUGLAS M. May 98/June 21  
 EWING, EUGENE L. Dec 68/July 21  
 GARREN, JR., RAYMOND M. Aug 69/June 21  
 HAGEN, CALVIN C. Jul 70/June 21  
 KALANI, JR., PAUL Oct 74/July 21  
 MCCABE, AVERY I. Apr 77/June 21  
 MIDDLETON, NATHANIEL F. Nov 11/July 21  
 NEWMAN, DAVID C. Mar 05/June 21  
 OLSEN, GEORGE E. Jan 70/Dec 20  
 ROBERTS, DONALD K. Jan 72/Aug 21  
 SPRENGELMEYER, CARL L. Jun 75/July 21  
 STOEL, CLARENCE Aug 69/June 21  
 VOGEL, MARTIN F. Sep 99/June 21  
 WALLACE, ROBERT L. Oct 77/July 21  
 WHIMPER, GUY L. Jul 01/May 21

## STAFF SERGEANT

BUTLER, R. A. Mar 67/Apr 21  
 CASTALDI, RENALDO Apr 07/Dec 20  
 DAVIS, GENE W. Feb 98/May 21  
 FIORVANTI, RICHARD W. Mar 71/July 21  
 JONES, BILLY J. Dec 76/July 21  
 RUIZ, DANIEL C. Jan 74/July 21  
 RYAN, DAVID M. Nov 11/July 21  
 SCHNELLE, LLOYD G. Nov 66/May 21  
 SHELMAN, WILLIE D. Jun 86/June 21  
 WALLACE, KIRK T. Jun 07/July 21  
 WOOTEN, RICHARD Apr 74/June 21

## SERGEANT

MAIETTA, JOSEPH D. Jul 53/July 21  
 SADLER, OLLIE W. Dec 75/July 21  
 WILDER, H. M. Nov 58/June 21

## CORPORAL

JONES, DONALD L. Jul 68/June 21  
 KROEPIL, JR., GODFREY J. Apr 69/June 21  
 SCOTT, CHARLIE J. Apr 68/July 21

## LANCE CORPORAL

BARBER, DAVID J. Jul 67/July 21  
 CESSARIO, JEFFREY E. Nov 71/May 21  
 SLUGG, MARVIN L. Jan 68/June 21

## PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

GEURINK, TERRY A. May 71/June 21  
 MORGAN, EDWARD C. Sep 53/July 21  
 PERRELLI, ANTHONY C. Dec 52/June 21  
 VALENTINE, MILTON C. Sep 53/July 21

## PRIVATE

TULL, JR., CHARLES A. Mar 63/June 21



## ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION EVENTS



2021 marks the centennial of one of the nation’s most important shrines: the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One hundred years ago, on November 11, 1921, the United States laid to rest a fallen American hero. In combat, he lost not only his life, but also his identity.

Originally interred in France, where he fell in battle, the World War I Unknown Soldier was returned home to be buried in a tomb at Arlington National Cemetery. Other locations for the tomb were considered. However, Congress selected Arlington, the nation’s premier military cemetery, as the place to construct a tomb in which to bury the Unknown, and to enshrine the memory of all those who have given their lives in service to the United States.

Since 1921, the Tomb has been a place to honor service and sacrifice. It has been - and continues to be - both a site of mourning and a site of commemoration. Arlington National Cemetery and the United States Army are proud to maintain and guard this sacred site, a symbol of the nation’s shared sacrifice.

Charles “Ray” Alexander Jr., Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, said: “Our dedicated team has worked for years to prepare for the public to pay their respects at the Tomb in November 2021. This year’s events will include a ceremony during which visitors may place flowers onto the Tomb plaza. This will be the first time in many years that the public will be allowed to walk across the Tomb plaza and honor the Unknowns at their gravesite.”

Throughout this year, Arlington National Cemetery will hold events leading up to the centennial ceremony on November 11, 2021. The public will be able to experience and participate in the commemorative events in many ways, both at the cemetery and virtually.

Additional information and resources are available at several websites:

- Download TUS100 Resource Guide.pdf ([arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://arlingtoncemetery.mil))
- Education Program: <https://education.arlingtoncemetery.mil>
- COVID-19 Information: <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/COVID>
- Society of the Honor Guard/Centennial (TUS100) ([tombguard.org](http://tombguard.org))

<p><b>November 9, 2021</b> U.S. Naval District of Washington Historical Plaque Dedication, Naval Symposium and 21-Gun Salute Ceremony (Washington Navy Yard)</p> <p><b>November 11, 2021</b> U.S. Army Military District of Washington Joint Full Honors Procession (evoking elements of the WWI Unknown’s 1921 funeral procession)</p>	<p><b>November 9-10, 2021</b> U.S. Army Military District of Washington Public Flower Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (Arlington National Cemetery)</p> <p><b>November 11, 2021</b> Armed Forces Full Honors Wreath Laying Ceremony (Arlington National Cemetery)</p> <p><b>November 11, 2021</b> National Veterans Day Observance</p>
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A woman mourns at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1922. Thousands of American families lost loved ones in World War I, many of whom remained missing or unidentified. (Library of Congress)

# Steps to Take When an Annuitant Dies

## ELIGIBILITY FOR SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ANNUITY PAY ENDS WITH THE DEATH OF THE ANNUITANT (BENEFICIARY)

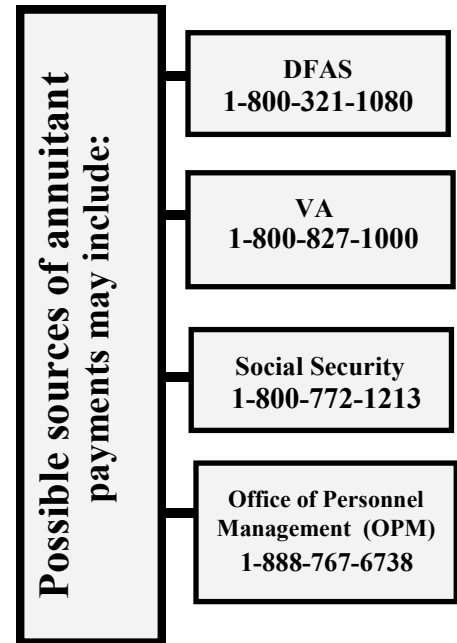
Prompt reporting of a deceased military annuitant’s death can help avoid delay and prevent possible financial hardship for the surviving family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned payments of the decedent’s annuity pay if payment is erroneously received.

\*\*\*While the VA does not provide burial benefits for annuitants, the annuitant may be eligible for burial in a military cemetery.

Follow these steps to report the death of an annuitant:

1. Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 to report the death and stop annuity pay.
2. Mail or fax a copy of the annuitant’s death certificate to:
 

**DFAS - U.S. Military Annuitant Pay**  
**8899 E. 56th Street**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300**  
**Fax: 1-800-982-8459**
3. Inform any financial institutions receiving payments about the death of the annuitant. (Provide a copy of the death certificate when it becomes available).
4. If applicable, contact the following agencies/departments immediately to report the death:
  - **Social Security Administration:**  
1-800-772-1213 [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
  - **Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System:**  
1-800-538-9552
  - **Department of Veterans Affairs:**  
1-800-827-1000 (annuitants in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation)  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



If you believe you are the victim of an error or injustice which affects your military record, you may apply for a Correction of Military Records by completing and submitting a DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record. Examples of corrections include: upgraded discharge, promotions, retired pay, household goods, pay date change, bonus, and MGIB programs. DFAS pays military members when the Board for Corrections of Naval Records (BCNR) rule in their favor. If you received a decision from the BCNR and you do not agree with it, write the Board and explain your reasoning. Reference the appropriate address on page 2 of the DD Form 149. If you would like to check the status of your request contact the BCNR directly at (703) 604 - 6884 (Navy/Marine Corps). If you believe DFAS paid you incorrectly for your Correction of Record, provide documentation with a handwritten signature explaining why you are protesting the amount to:

**DFAS-IN**  
 Dept. 3330, Attn: COR/Claims  
 8899 East 56th Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300  
 DFAS Inquiry Line: (317) 212-6167  
 (Hours: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, EST)

## Steps to Take When a Retired Marine Dies

1. **REPORT THE DEATH TO DFAS at 1-888-332-7411** to stop retirement pay and avoid indebtedness. If the retired Marine was receiving pay from another source due to a disability from the VA or civil service retirement from the Office of Personnel Management, contact that agency to return the payment. If you fail to do this, you will have to repay it later.

You may also report the death online at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html). Additional information from DFAS is available at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death.html).

For families located overseas, the commercial number is **216-522-5955**, select option 3 to be directed to the appropriate representative.

NOTE: DFAS will forward a confirmed death listing to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (MMSR-6) for inclusion in an upcoming issue of this newsletter under the TAPS column.

2. Within 7-10 business days after reporting the death to DFAS, you should receive a letter containing the following documents:
  - a. SF1174 Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Member of the Uniformed Service
  - b. Annuity account forms and instructions (if the decedent was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan)
  - c. W-4P Withholding Certificate for Pension or Annuity Payments
  - d. Direct Deposit form

Complete the forms you received with your letter and return them with a copy of the retiree's death certificate that includes cause of death to:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
 U.S. Military Retired Pay  
 8899 E 56th Street  
 Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

If you need assistance completing your claim forms, please call 800-321-1080.

3. **REPORT SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ELECTION, if applicable.** Designated annuitants will receive notification from DFAS if the deceased retired Marine elected SBP. If you are uncertain whether an election was made, call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080.
4. **UPDATE YOUR MILITARY ID CARD.** Your status has changed, and as the survivor of a deceased Marine, your ID card must be updated to reflect it due to the Marine's death. Access your nearest ID site at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco> or call HQMC (MMSR-6) at 1-800-336-4649 or (703) 784-9310 to obtain the sites closest to you.
5. **NOTIFY THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION** at 1-800-SSA-1213 ([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)) to apply for the \$255 death benefit, *if applicable*.
6. **CONTACT THE VA** at 1-800-827-1000 **FOR BURIAL AND OTHER VA BENEFITS, such as VA disability payments.** A copy of the sponsor's DD 214 is required. Visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for more information.
7. **CONTACT THE U.S. OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT** at 1-888-767-6738 if the sponsor was receiving civil service pay.

## **MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR BURIALS OUTSIDE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY (ANC)**

The funeral director (preferred) or a family member can contact the HQMC Military Funeral Honors Section at (866) 826-3628 or (703) 432-9524 to request Military Funeral Honors for a veteran. The funeral director (or family member) must be able to provide the Marine's complete name, SSN, rank, status (retired or veteran), date of birth, date of death, and place of death/interment. In addition, a copy of the Marine's DD-214 needs to be provided for verification of "honorable service". If a DD-214 is not readily available, it can be requested through the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO. The following link provides additional details:

<https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/Agencies/Casualty-MFPC/Funeral-Honors/>

## **MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS FOR BURIALS AT ANC**

A family member will need to contact ANC directly. The following link provides information on eligibility, required documents, and additional resources for scheduling and attending funerals at ANC. Marine Barracks Washington provides Military Funeral Honors for Marine burials at ANC.

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Funerals/Scheduling-a-Funeral>

## **Agencies Providing Aid and Assistance To Surviving Spouses**

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000

Gold Star Wives of America: 1-888-751-6350, [www.goldstarwives.org](http://www.goldstarwives.org)



Military Funeral Honors: 1-866-826-3628 or (703) 432-9524

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: (703) 696-4904, [www.nmcrcs.org](http://www.nmcrcs.org)



National Military Families Association: 1-800-260-0218, [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

Society of Military Widows: 1-800-842-3451, [www.militarywidows.org/home.aspx](http://www.militarywidows.org/home.aspx)

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors: 1-800-959-8277, [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

### SOME THINGS YOU WILL NEED TO DO:

- Gather important documents for claims processing (e.g., birth certificate, will, etc.)
- Begin to make funeral and burial arrangements
- Start claim process for applicable benefits (e.g., SBP, VA life insurance, Social Security)
- Determine immediate and short-term financial needs and income sources
- Arrange for help with legal affairs of the deceased
- Notify joint account agencies (e.g., credit cards, banks, auto registration, home/auto insurance)
- Review survivor's own legal documents for possible revision
- Obtain multiple certified death certificates (6-12 copies)



## Directory Assistance Pages

### A

#### AMC PASSENGER TERMINAL

<http://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/>

#### ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

(703) 607-8000

[www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil)

#### ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS

[www.armymwr.com/travel/recreationcenters/](http://www.armymwr.com/travel/recreationcenters/)

- **Edelweiss Lodge and Resort (Germany)**  
(011-49) 8821-9440
- **Hale Koa Hotel (Hawaii):** 1-800-367-6027

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (GULFPORT)

Gulfport, MS: (228) 897-4418

<https://www.afrh.gov/gulfport-residents>

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOMES (WASHINGTON)

Washington, DC: (202) 541-7501

<https://www.afrh.gov/washington-residents>

#### AWARDS:

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired on or before 31 December 1998 should submit their inquiry to:

National Personnel Record Center  
Military Personnel Records  
1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138  
Phone: (314) 801-0800

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired on or after 1 January 1999 should submit their inquiry to:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMMA)  
2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134  
(703) 784-9342/9343  
Fax: (703) 784-9866

### B

#### BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

701 S. Courthouse Rd., Bldg. 12, Suite 1001

Arlington, VA 22204-2490

(703) 604-6884/6885; Fax: (703) 604-3437

[www.donhq.navy.mil/bcnr/bcnr.htm](http://www.donhq.navy.mil/bcnr/bcnr.htm)

### C

#### CAMP LEJEUNE NOTIFICATION REGISTRY

<https://clnr.hqi.usmc.mil/clwater>

#### COLD WAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480

1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408

Fax: 1-800-723-9262 or (502) 613-9510

<https://www.hrc.army.mil>

Search "Cold War Certificate"

#### COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION

SECNAV CRSC Board

720 Kennon St. SE, Ste. 309; Washington, DC 20374-5023

1-877-366-2772, Fax: (202) 685-6610

CRSC@navy.mil

<http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/pages/crscb/default.aspx>

### D

#### DD 214s

Marines who have been discharged, separated, or retired on or before 31 December 1998:

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO 63138

(314) 801-0800; Fax: (314) 801-9195

[PR.center@nara.gov](mailto:PR.center@nara.gov); [www.archives.gov/st-louis](http://www.archives.gov/st-louis)

Marines discharged/retired/separated on or after 1 January 1999:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)-10

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

1-800-268-3710; [smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil)

#### DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1-800-321-1080, [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

U.S. and OCONUS: (216) 522-5955, Fax: 1-800-469-6559

#### DFAS Special Compensation for the Severely Disabled

P.O. Box 998011; Cleveland, OH 44199-8011

(216) 522-6170

### E

**E-BENEFITS:** <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/appmanager/eb/veterans>

### F

#### Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

1-877-888-FEDS (1-877-888-3337)

[www.BENEFEDS.com/military](http://www.BENEFEDS.com/military)

#### Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)

1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337)

[www.LTCFEDS.com/Military](http://www.LTCFEDS.com/Military)

### M

#### MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134

1-866-622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162

[mca@mca-marines.org](mailto:mca@mca-marines.org)

- **Leatherneck Magazine**

1-800-336-0291, ext. 115; Fax: (703) 640-0823

[leatherneck@mca-marines.org](mailto:leatherneck@mca-marines.org)

- **Marine Corps Gazette**

1-800-336-0291, ext. 144; Fax: (703) 630-9147

[gazette@mca-marines.org](mailto:gazette@mca-marines.org)

## Directory Assistance Pages

### MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON

8th and I, Washington, DC, [www.barracks.marines.mil](http://www.barracks.marines.mil)

### MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

Marine Corps University  
2044 Broadway Street, Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 432-4874, [www.history.division@usmcu.edu](http://www.history.division@usmcu.edu)

### MARINE CORPS JUNIOR ROTC TECOM (C46JR)

1019 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5001  
(703) 784-3706; [www.mcjrotc.org](http://www.mcjrotc.org)

### MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL HQ

3619 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 115  
Stafford, VA 22554, (703) 207-9588: [JFoster@MCLeague.org](mailto:JFoster@MCLeague.org)  
(Membership Manager)

### MARINE CORPS RECORDS CORRESPONDENCE (MMRP-12)

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030  
1-800-268-3710, (703) 784-3930/4646/5616

### MCCS COMMUNITY SERVICES: [www.usmc-mccs.org](http://www.usmc-mccs.org)

**MEDICAL RECORDS:** Marines who have been discharged/separated/retired on 1 May 1994 or later:

#### VA Records Management Center

P.O. Box 5020; St. Louis, MO 63115-8950  
1-888-533-4558; Fax: (314) 538-4571

Marines who have been discharged/separated/retired before 1 May 1994 contact NPRC: (314) 801-0800.

**MEDICARE:** 1-800-633-4227; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

## N

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Triangle, VA 22172  
1-877-653-1775; [www.usmcmuseum.org](http://www.usmcmuseum.org)

### NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

(314) 801-0800; <https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/military-personnel>

### NAVY LODGE WORLDWIDE RESERVATIONS CENTER

1-800-NAVY-INN; [www.navy-lodge.com](http://www.navy-lodge.com)

### NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

875 N. Randolph Road Street, Suite 225, Arlington, VA 22203  
1-800-654-8364; <http://www.nmcrs.org>

## Q

### QUANTICO NATIONAL CEMETERY

(703) 221-2183; [www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/quantico.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/quantico.asp)

## S

### SISTER SERVICE RETIREE PUBLICATIONS

- **Air Force Afterburner:** <http://www.retirees.af.mil/Library/Afterburner/>

- **Army Echoes:** <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes>
- **Coast Guard Evening Colors:** [www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews](http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/retnews)
- **Navy Shift Colors:** [www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Media-Center/Publications/Shift-Colors/](http://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Media-Center/Publications/Shift-Colors/)

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

1-800-772-1213; [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

### SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN

[www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/sbp)

## T

**THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN:** 1-877-968-3778; Fax: (216)

367-3605; TSP mailbox: [ccl-mc-tsp@dfas.mil](mailto:ccl-mc-tsp@dfas.mil)

International callers: (404) 233-4400

<https://www.tsp.gov/index.html>

### TRICARE: <https://tricare.mil/>

- **East:** 1-800-444-5445; <https://www.humanamilitary.com/east/>
- **West:** 1-844-866-9378; <https://www.tricare-west.com>
- **Overseas:** 1-888-777-8343; <https://www.tricare-overseas.com>
- **Health Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator:** <https://tricare.mil//bcacdeao>

**TRICARE for LIFE:** 1-866-773-0404; [www.tricare4u.com](http://www.tricare4u.com)

### TRICARE Network Pharmacy Program

1-877-363-1303;

<https://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/index.shtml>

**TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery:** 1-877-363-1296;

<https://tricare.mil/homedelivery>

## U

**UNIFORM SUPPORT CENTER:** 1-800-368-4088;

Fax your DD 214 to 1-800-551-6289 before placing order.

## V

**VA:** 1-800-827-1000; [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

**VA EDUCATION:** 1-888-442-4551; [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

**VA LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS:**

1-800-669-8477; [www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

**VA SGLI/VGLI:** 1-800-419-1473

**VA STATUS OF HEADSTONES AND MARKERS:**

1-800-697-6947



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3280 RUSSELL ROAD  
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## Separation and Retirement Branch (MMSR)

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Glenda Williams

*Marine Admin Staff*  
SSgt Ramsay Flores  
Sgt Nicholas Perkins

#### WHO TO CONTACT:



**MMSR-2:** (703) 784-9324/25/26  
*Active Duty Separations and Retirements*

- **Officer**  
[smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr2o@usmc.mil)
- **Enlisted**  
[smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr2e@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-4:** (703) 784-9308/09  
*Disability Separations and Retirements*  
[smb.manpower.mmsr4@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr4@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-5:** (703) 784-9306/07  
*Inactive Reserve Separations and Retirements*  
[smb.manpower.mmsr5@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr5@usmc.mil)

**MMSR-6:** (703) 784-9311; 1-800-336-4649  
Fax: (703) 784-9834  
*Retired Services and Pay*

- Address Changes (Note: Annuitants must call DFAS)
- Identification Cards
- Semper Fidelis
- Survivor Benefit Plan

[smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil](mailto:smb.manpower.mmsr6@usmc.mil)

