SEMPER FIDELIS NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MARINES

Toys for Tots Program: Making a Difference in the Lives of American Families





Toys for Tots began in 1947 as the brain child of Marine Corps Reserve Major Bill Hendricks (pictured left). Actually it was his wife, Diane, who was the real inspiration. She had a few handcrafted dolls and asked Bill to deliver them to an agency that supports children in need.

When Bill reported back to his wife that he could not find such an organization, she instructed him to "start one!". Major Hendricks and the Marines in his reserve unit in Los Angeles, CA collected and distributed 5,000 toys in 1947.

Seeing such successful community engagement in 1947, the Commandant directed all Marine Reserve Sites to implement a Toys for Tots campaign transforming it into a national community action program in 1948.





Bill Hendrick's civilian job was Director of Public Relations at Warner Brothers Studios. He was friends with many celebrities who he asked to help support the newly created Marine Toys for Tots Program. As a personal friend and as a favor to Bill, Walt Disney designed the first Toys for Tots poster which included a miniature three car train that was subsequently adopted as the Toys for Tots logo.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501 (c) (3) not-forprofit charity, was established in 1991 at the behest of the Marine Corps to

help run and support the Marine Toys for Tots Program.



The Foundation raises funds, purchases toys, provides promotional and support materials, manages all funds raised and donated, solicits corporate support, educates the public, and handles day-to-day operations.

Presently, the Marine Toys for Tots Program distributes an average of 18 million toys to 7 million less fortunate children annually.

https://www.toysfortots.org/

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 <u>militaryonesource.mil</u>. Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat at <u>veteranscrisisline.net</u>, or text to 838255.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at 1-800-273-8255.

SEMPER FIDELIS NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MARINES

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ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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Access it online:

https://www.hqmc.marines.mil/ Agencies/Manpower-Reserve-Affairs -MMSR-6/

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 3) CRSC/CRDP 2020
- 5) 2021 COLAs
- 7) MCRC Seek's Retiree's Help
- 8) ID Cards Access and Information
- 10) DFAS: New IRS W-4 Form
- 11) Retired and Annuitant Pay Dates
- 12) Reunions
- **14) TAPS**
- 22) Directory Pages

CRSC & CRDP (2020)

There are two concurrent receipt programs available to Navy and Marine Corps retirees who have VA rated disabilities. They are the Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments (CRDP) program and the Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) program. Retirees who receive VA disability payments have their retired pay "offset" (reduced) by the amount of their VA pay. These concurrent receipt programs "restore" some or all of that retired pay.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) calculates and pays monthly CRDP and CRSC compensation. It is highly recommended that you have a **myPay** account set up with DFAS to manage your retired pay: http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/manage/mypay.html

In order to be eligible for these programs, disabled retirees **must be eligible for retired pay AND be in receipt of VA disability compensation**. Medical retirees (TDRL & PDRL) with less than 20 years service are eligible for CRSC only. Twenty year and Temporary Early Retirement Authority (TERA) retirees (15-19 years of service) and Reservists (age 60) are eligible for both CRSC and CRDP, but can receive compensation from only one program. CRSC claimants must apply to the service CRSC Board from which they retired. Use Claim Form DD2860 (Jul 2011) https://www.esd.whs.mil/Directives/forms/dd2500_2999/

CRDP is an automatic program and is paid to 20 year and TERA retirees who have VA rated service connected disabilities of a 50% or higher total percentage. There is no application required, nor accepted. DFAS determines eligibility and pays monthly CRDP compensation. CRDP is considered retired pay and payments are taxed.

CRSC is for military retirees with combat-related disabilities of 10% or greater. Combat related determinations are made by the CRSC Board for the branch of service from which the member retired. A combat related determination is made for each VA disability claimed. The retiree must apply using the CRSC application form (DD- 2860 July 2011). The "burden of proof" as to the cause of the disability is on the claimant and the claim must be **supported by official documentation**. That may include the DD-214, VA Rating Decisions, applicable Service Medical Records (SMR's), and pertinent service personnel records. Reconsiderations are accepted if new official documentary evidence is provided or for any new disabilities rated by the VA. Appeal authority for CRSC is the Board for Correction of Naval Records (BCNR).

CRSC compensation for medical retirees is calculated by DFAS using a complicated formula that takes into account the PEB, VA, and CRSC percentages. CRSC pay cannot exceed what would have been the Years of Service (YOS) retired pay amount. CRSC pay is a benefit and is not taxed.

Claimants may apply for CRSC under one of four categories:

- 1) Direct result of Armed Conflict (AC),
- 2) while engaged in **Hazardous Service (HS)**
- 3) in the performance of duty under conditions Simulating War (SW)
- 4) disabilities resulting from the operation of an **Instrumentality of War (IN)**.

In order for a CRSC claim to be approved, there must be a direct causal relationship between the armed conflict or training exercise that simulates war and the resulting disability. The CRSC board makes combat related determinations only on VA rated service connected disabilities. Slips, trips, and falls, lifting heavy objects, as well as physical training, are not combat-related disabilities. The fact that a veteran incurred a disability during a period of war or simulated war; or in an area of armed or simulated conflict, or while participating in combat or simulated combat operations; is not sufficient to support a combat-related determination. Only the CRSC Board for each branch of service is authorized to make combat-related determinations for CRSC. Combat Zone (CZ) notations in VA and PEB documents are not combat related determinations.

A reconsideration request to the CRSC Board is required if your VA rating percentage increases due to the VA approval of a new or unclaimed disability. http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/documents/CRSC-Navy-Recon-Request-Form-APR-2015.doc

Retroactive payments are paid for CRSC, but CRSC compensation is subject to the **6-year Barring Statute.** DFAS and/or the VA can pay back pay up to six years back from your application, but can go no further back than the VA effective date, age 60 birthdate for reserve retirees, or the CRSC program effective date.

The primary means of communication with the SECNAV CRSC Board is by email at: CRSC@navy.mil. If you would like a return phone call, include your phone number in your email. The fax for the CRSC Board is: (202) 685-6610. Voice mail is: (202) 685-1683.

Please review the CRSC website prior to applying or contacting the Board. The website address is: http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/pages/crscb

You may scan and email your CRSC claim to: CRSC@navy.mil. Mail your CRSC claim via FEDEX, UPS or U.S. Postal Service to:

Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards Combat-Related Special Compensation Board 720 Kennon Street SE Suite 309 Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023

<u>Do not send your entire medical record</u> as this slows the process of reviewing your application. Submit only those select portions which document the cause of your injury. This could be as little as one or two pages but should confirm "where, when, and how" an injury occurred (i.e. combat engagement, enemy artillery, combat training, etc.).

Article courtesy of Colonel Leif R. Larsen, USMC (ret) President, Combat-Related Special Compensation Board SECNAV Council of Review Boards (SECNAV CORB)





2021 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs)

The following Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) for retired and retainer pay, survivor annuities, and premium determinations are effective December 1, 2020, unless specified otherwise. These COLAs reflect the required adjustment for cost-of-living as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the four quarters ending with the third calendar quarter of 2020 (July, August, and September 2020). The term "retired pay" includes retainer pay and the term "members" includes former members. Where applicable, the appropriate section of United States Code (U.S.C.) is cited.

COLAs for Retired Pay

1. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service before September 8, 1980, is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

Rates of Pay Effective	Percent Increase	10 U.S.C. Authority
Before January 1, 2020	1.3 percent	1401 a(b)(2)
January 1 - December 31, 2020	1.1 percent	1401 a(c)

2. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service on or after September 8, 1980, including those members covered by the High-3 or Blended Retirement System (BRS), is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

Retirement Effective:	Percent Increase	10 U.S.C. Authority
Before January 1, 2020	1.3 percent	1401a(b)(2)
January 1 - March 31, 2020	1.1 percent	1401 a(d)
April 1 - June 30, 2020	0.7 percent	1401 a(d)
July 1 - September 30, 2020	1.3 percent	1401a(d)
October 1 - December 31, 2020	0.0 percent	1401a(d)

3. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service on or after August 1, 1986, and also elected to receive a career status bonus under the provisions of Sections 322 (as in effect before January 28, 2008) or 354 of Title 37 U.S.C. is specified according to the date of their retirement, as follows:

Retirement Effective	Percent Increase	10 U.S.C. Authority
Before January 1, 2020	0.3 percent	1401 a(e)
January 1 - March 31, 2020	0.3 percent	1401 a(e)
April 1 - June 30, 2020	0.2 percent	1401a(e)
July 1 - September 30, 2020	0.3 percent	1401 a(e)
October 1 - December 31, 2020	0.0 percent	1401a(e)

Continued on page 6



2021 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs)

COLAs for Survivor Annuities

- 4. Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan annuities payable on December 1, 2020, under the provi sions of Subchapter I of Chapter 73, Title 10, U.S.C., to the spouse or child of a member who died on or before March 20, 1974, will be increased by **1.3 percent** (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1434 (e)).
- 5. Annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) under the provisions of Subchapter II of Chapter 73, Title 10, U.S.C., will be increased by the same percentage specified in paragraphs 1, 2, or 3 above by which the retired pay of the person providing the annuity would have been increased at such time if the person were alive and otherwise entitled to such pay. (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1451 (g)).
- 6. COLAs for supplemental annuities paid to certain low income widows of members who were deceased before November 1, 1953, will be increased **1.3 percent** (ref: Public Law (P.L.) 100-456, Section 653(c)).
- 7. Annuities for Certain Military Surviving Spouses (ACMSS) payable monthly under the provisions of Section 644, P.L. 105-85, November 18, 1997, will be increased **1.3 percent** from \$267.17 to **\$270.64** effective December 1, 2020. (ref: P.L. 105-85, sec 644).

Increase in the SBP Low-Cost Premium Threshold

- 8. Previous amounts with respect to which the 2.5 percent factor of the SBP premium (cost) formula apply will be adjusted effective December 1, 2020 in conjunction with the adjustments in retired pay made under the provisions of Section 1401a of Title 10, U.S.C. (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1452(a)(4)(B)). The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will perform necessary calculations to determine actual premiums based on the individual circumstances of each case.
- 9. The amount with respect to which the 2.5 percent factor of the SBP premium (cost) is applied will be increased **3.0 percent effective January 1, 2021**, from \$869 to **\$895**. The threshold premium is **\$22.38**. Therefore, the Low-Cost Threshold premium is **\$22.38** plus 10 percent of the difference between retired pay

Increase in the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA)

10. In accordance with provisions of Section 1450(m) of Title 10, U.S.C., as amended by Section 621 of P.L. 115-91 and Section 622 of P.L. 115-232, the maximum amount of SSIA payable will be increased by **1.3 percent effective December 1, 2020.**

The new SSIA rate will be \$327. 00 (ref: 10 U.S.C. 1450(m)).



Marine Corps Recruiting Command Seeks Retired Marines' Help

Marines,

Happy Holidays and greetings from Quantico. Sergeant Major Brown and I want to thank you for your many years of dedicated and faithful service to our Corps and Country. Once a Marine! Always a Marine! You have each contributed to the rich history and legacy of our Corps — something each of us in uniform today strive to emulate.

As you know, the three important things the Marine Corps does for the Nation are making Marines, winning our nation's battles, and returning quality citizens to society. You have each played an important part in these missions and the Sergeant Major and I are asking for your service once again.

As Marine Corps representatives and proof sources of the benefits of earning the title Marine in your communities, we respectfully request two things of you.

- 1. Visit your local Marine Corps recruiters and introduce yourself. Share your experiences and offer your assistance with potential applicants, poolees, parents, and other influencers. Share how the Marine Corps changed your life for the better. We would also be grateful for any referrals of men and women who might have an interest in earning the title Marine.
- 2. Proudly show your colors and pride in being a Marine. If not already doing so, we ask that you prominently display the classic metallic Marine Corps emblem sticker on the back window of your vehicles...and other places of prominence. We stocked your local recruiting stations with this classic symbol of the bond that draws Marines together. Stop by and let your local recruiters know that Major General Bohm and Sergeant Major Brown sent you to pick up your stickers.

The restrictions experienced during the recent pandemic have increased the difficulty of finding the right men and women to join our Corps. Anything you can do to help our hard-working and motivated recruiters is greatly appreciated. Thank you for remaining forever Semper Fidelis.

God Bless, and Semper Fi,

Jason Q. Bohm Commanding General Cortez Brown Sergeant Major





https://connect.marines.com/



ID Cards & Access Information Sources

How and where to obtain or renew ID cards

DoD ID Card Reference Center

http://www.cac.mil

Site Visitors: All

Purpose: This website provides DoD members and members of the public, information on a variety of topics related to DoD Identification Cards:

- DoD Common Access Cards (CAC)
- Uniformed Services ID Cards (USID)
- ID Card Lifecycle
- DoD ID Card Policies
- Resources

Login required: No, open to public

ID Card Office Online (IDCO)

https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/self_service

Site Visitors: Service Members, DoD Civilians, Contractors, and Retirees

Purpose: ID Card Office Online is a self-service application that allows Service Members, DoD Civilians, Contractors, and Retirees to accomplish personnel functions online that were normally done in-person at an ID card office. The following functions can be performed:

All:

- Request renewal/replacement for Family ID Cards
- Verify current Family Members
- Nominate a new Family Member for inclusion into DEERS

For CAC Recipients:

- Update Your CAC email & certificates
- Activate the PIV Authentication Certificate

Login required: Yes

Login types: CAC, DS-Logon

RAPIDS Site Locator (RSL)

https://rsl.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl

Site Visitors: All

Purpose: This website allows you to locate the nearest ID Card Facility/RAPIDS Station based on

City, Zip, State, or Country.

Login required: No, open to public

Login types: N/A

Continued on page 9



ID Cards & Access Information Sources How and where to obtain or renew ID cards

MilConnect Portal

https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/

Site Visitors: Sponsors, spouses, eligible beneficiaries over 18 years, and dependants that are registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

Purpose: This website allows beneficiaries to review personal, health care, and personnel information from one reliable source: DEERS. The following functions can be performed:

Personal/Personnel Information

- Update personal, work, and duty contact information in DEERS
- View and update GAL Information
- View personnel information
- Find the nearest Military ID card issuing facility

eCorrespondence

- View, print or save: TRICARE enrollment card, Dependent 21/23 letters, TRR/TRS information letters
- Health Care Information
- View medical, pharmacy, and dental information
- View and update Other Health Insurance policies
- View claims and fees paid for the prior year
- View current and historical Immunizations

Miscellaneous

- Transfer Education Benefits to one or more family members
- Modify transfer requests that have already been submitted
- Service Members' Group Life Insurance(SGLI)
- View and update coverage details for SGLI
- Incapacitation Dependency Redetermination
- Uniformed Service Members with incapacitated dependents already receiving benefits can use this portal to complete a streamlined quandrennial financial form to re-determine eligibility for continued benefits

Login required: Yes for benefits and personal information, but FAQs available to public

Login types: CAC, DS Logon, DFAS Login





What Retirees Need to Know about the New IRS 2020 W-4

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 brought many changes, some of them quite recently. One is that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued a new 2020 IRS Form W-4 that is quite different from previous W-4s forms.

Another change is that the 2020 tax tables from the IRS created some withholding changes, even for those who did not request a change to their individual withholding. These changes were made because of guidance from the IRS that provided different withholding based on a retiree's previous tax status. Because of this guidance, some people saw an increase in their tax withholding. You can verify and update your tax withholding information easily in myPay by clicking on "Federal Withholding" under "Pay Changes" in the menu on the left. You can also mail or fax DFAS a new 2020 IRS Form W-4 to request a change in your federal withholding.

It's important to note that you are not required to file a new IRS Form W-4, unless you are claiming exemption from federal taxes. Retirees claiming exemption from federal taxes must submit a new W-4 every year. The word "EXEMPT" must be written above the signature date.

On the new IRS W-4 form, Step 1 and Step 5 are the critical steps that need to be filled out. Without this information, DFAS cannot process any updates to your account. Step 1 is Personal Information, including filing status. On the new W-4, taxpayers now must choose either Single, Married, or Head of Household instead of the previous statuses where a taxpayer may have chosen, for example, Married with two deductions (M-02) or Single with no deductions (S-00). For Step 3 and Step 4, you should follow the instructions carefully. Some retirees have sent W-4s with additional income or withholding that causes their net pay to be zero. DFAS cannot process these, so we will leave the tax withholding as is and send a letter. Step 5 is the filer's signature and date. DFAS cannot process a W-4 that is not signed and dated.

You should keep in mind that DFAS is unable to provide tax advice. If you have tax or withholding questions, consult a tax professional or the IRS website at https://www.irs.gov. You can also use the IRS estimator at: https://www.irs.gov/individuals/tax-withholding-estimator

Include your full name, daytime phone number, social security number and signature on all written correspondence.

For retirees:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Retired Pay 8899 E 56th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200 For annuitants, beneficiaries and survivors:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Annuitant Pay 8899 E 56th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300 For claims for non-receipt of payment:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service Cleveland Center 1240 East Ninth Street Attention: 19th Floor Vault Cleveland, OH 44199

Online Contact Info for DFAS

<u>AskDFAS</u> - Helpful questions and answers about your retired or annuitant pay https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/custMain.action?mid=12

<u>DFAS YouTube channel</u> - How-to videos https://www.youtube.com/user/WePayDoD

<u>Facebook</u> - News and reminders https://www.facebook.com/DFASOfficial



Fax:

Retired Pay: 800-469-6559

Annuitant/Survivor Pay: 800-982-

8459

Claims for non-receipt of payment: 216-522-6081 or 216-522-6358



2021 Retired & Annuity Pay Dates



To help you plan for 2021, below is a list of the days you should expect to receive your retired or annuitant pay. Retired and annuitant pay is due on the first of the month. However, if the first falls on a weekend or holiday, retirees get paid on last business day of the prior month and annuitants get paid on the first business day of month. For example, payment to retirees for December 2020 will be paid on December 31, 2020.

Entitlement Month	Retiree Pay Date	Annuitant Pay Date
December 2020	December 31, 2020	January 4, 2021
January 2021	February 1, 2021	February 1, 2021
February 2021	March 1, 2021	March 1, 2021
March 2021	April 1, 2021	April 1, 2021
April 2021	April 30, 2021	May 3, 2021
May 2021	June 1, 2021	June 1, 2021
June 2021	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2021
July 2021	July 30, 2021	August 2, 2021
August 2021	September 1, 2021	September 1, 2021
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

Need help?

DFAS Retired and Annuitant (R&A) Pay is your payroll office. They establish and maintain military retired pay, annuity accounts, and issue monthly payments to both military retirees and their eligible survivors, including the following:

- Regular and Reserve Retirement payments
- Temporary and Permanent Disability Retirement payments
- Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay
- Combat-Related Special Compensation payments
- Survivor Benefit Plan

Contact DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay: online, via mail or fax, or by calling the Customer Care Center at 1-800-321-1080.

USMC REUNIONS



ORGANIZATION/POC	DATE	PHONE	EMAIL/WEB
Vietnam CoVan Advisor Reunion Col Regan Wright (Ret.)	28-30 Apr 2021 San Diego, CA Planning stages	(619) 224-1800	oneputt868@aol.com
2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade Afghanistan (2009-2010) 10-Year Reunion	7-9 May 2021 Quantico, VA		taskforceleatherneck@gmail.com Facebook: 2dMEBAfghanistan https://mca-marines.org/task
115th OCC/B Co TBS 2-81 40 Year Reunion Steve Emerson Katie Haddock (Ridenuer)	13-16 May 2021 Quantico, VA	(813) 763-7505 (202) 468-1463	https://www.facebook.com/115th-OCS-Bravo-2 -81-TBS-USMC-106618874236279 steveemerson@ec.rr.com KTHaddock@gmail.com
TBS Class 6-70 Fox Co 50th Col Tom Kanasky, Jr. USMCR (Ret.) Col Mitch Youngs USMC (Ret.)	10-13 Jun 2021 Quantico, VA	(203) 366-3156 (703) 493-9435	tlkanasky@earthlink.net mitchyoungs@verizon.net
TBS Class 5-70 E Co LtCol Robert Lange (Ret.)	17-19 Jun 2021 Quantico, VA Planning stages	(949) 644-8229	rlange@brandtgp.com Seeking planner/ financial assistance available to defray organizing costs.
Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 267 Mag 39 GySgt Rob Catha (Ret.)	18-20 Jun 2021 Oceanside, CA	(214) 534-0490	rjcatha@gmail.com Facebook: HMLA-267 MAG 39 https://gf.me/u/ymc5zk
USMC WX Service Reunion Kathy Donham Dave Englert	20-25 Jun 2021 Overland Park, KS	(252) 342-8459	kathy.donham@hotmail.com englertd@psci.net
Hotel 2/7 Vietnam Veterans (1965-1970) Steve Cone	24-27 Jun 2021 Jacksonville, FL	(843) 424-8279	scone1948@yahoo.com
Marine Corps Disbursing Assoc. MGySgt Kevin Gascon (Ret.)	8-12 Aug 2021 Reno, NV	(760) 458-2655	mojorisin68@hotmail.com www.usmcdisbursers.com
VMF-311, VMA-311 Jim Galchick	Sep 2021 New Orleans, LA	(330) 337-9383	jgalchick@neo.rr.com www.vmfvma311reunion.org
E Co 2/7 Vietnam Veterans MSgt William Dyer (Ret.)	26 Sep -2 Oct 2021 Colorado Springs, CO	(904) 504-1582	parthree@comcast.net
TBS Class B-2-68 Bravo Co Col Michael Cathey USMC (Ret.)	29 Sep -2 Oct 2021 Quantico, VA	(703) 868-2198	colmcathey@gmail.com http://www.tbs2-68usmc.com

Note to Reunion Planners: Send your reunion events as soon as possible to our organizational mailbox (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 3/67 and 41st OCC Reunion Robert Wright	21-24 Oct 2021 San Diego, CA	(510) 333-3165	rbwright1@mac.com
USMC A4 Skyhawkers Mark Williams	21-24 Oct 2021 Las Vegas, NV	(425) 327-6050	usmcskyhawker21@gmail.com
TBS Class 3-72 Charlie Co 50th Reunion Col Joseph N. Mueller, USMCR (Ret.)	Oct 2021 Quantico, VA		jnm21213@yahoo.com
10th Marine Regiment (all years) MSgt John Fontenoy (Ret.)	2021 Planning stages		10thmarinereunion2020@gmail.com
TBS Class 6-71 Fox Co 50th Reunion Col Doug Holdstein (Ret.)	Jan-Feb 2022 Planning stages	(910) 270-4144	jholdstein@gmail.com
AWS 1-82 Classmates & Staff 40th Reunion LtCol Paul LeBlanc (Ret.)	Jun-Jul 2022 Planning stages	(619) 417-4306	pepelb@aol.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

Did you know? Using TRICARE For Life with Other Health Insurance

If you have other health insurance, such as a Medicare supplement or an employer-sponsored health plan, you can use TRICARE For Life as long as you have both Medicare Parts A and B.

- TRICARE pays last after Medicare and your other health insurance.
- Visit the Medicare website (https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/02179-Medicare-Coordination-Benefits -Payer.pdf) to see which plan—Medicare or your other health insurance—pays first.
- After your other health insurance processes the claim, you will have to file a paper claim with the TRICARE For Life contractor, Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS).
- WPS will process the claim and pay TRICARE's portion of the claim directly to you.

Send your paper claims (https://www.tricare.mil/FormsClaims/Claims) to WPS along with a copy of:

- your provider's itemized bill,
- the Medicare Summary Notice, and
- the explanation of benefits from all other health insurances.

Your claim must be filed within one year from the date of care. For more information, visit the WPS website (https://www.tricare4u.com/wps/portal/tdb/welcome/!ut/p/

z1/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfIjo8ziAzw8zDwMLQx83E1czQwcXZ0tnAOcjS1CDEz1w8EKDHAARwP9KGL041EQhd_4cP0oQkoKckMjDNIVFQEDFYhB/dz/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/).



TAPS

The Marine Corps wishes to extend heartfelt sympathy to the loved ones and friends of our fallen comrades. Because of the Privacy Act, we cannot release addresses of the next of kin. The following list includes the Marine's name, last grade held that was reported to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, month and year of retirement, and month and year of death.

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.

COLONEL

ANGLE, PETER F. Apr 89/Sep 20 CLIFF, DONALD K. Jul 82/Sep 20 FRANKEL, ERNEST Jan 83/Sep 20 GRACE, JOHN J. Sep 78/Sep 20 KOPPENHAVER, HOWARD M. Mar 82/Aug 20 LEY, ANDREW J. May 05/Oct 20 MARSHALL, JOHN T. Sep 90/Sep 20 PALMER, RICHARD L. Aug 81/Sep 20 POPE, JAMES F. Jan 91/ Jul 20 RUTHERFORD, BRUCE B. May 81/Sep 20 SAMUEL, GORDON A. Jun 92/Oct 20 STUTLER, FRED Jun 86/Sep 20 TABER, RICHARD B. Jul 81/Sep 20 WILCOX, WILBUR D. Feb 71/Sep 20

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

BAILEY, GARNETT R. Aug 73/Sep 20 BELGUM, RICHARD J. Dec 88/Sep 20 CASHMAN, MICHAEL E. Apr 95/Sep 20 CLASEN, DARCY L. Jul 84/Sep 20 DIXON, HOWARD V. Dec 89/Sep 20 ESPOSITO, ROBERT J. Feb 79/Sep 20 GOODY, JOHN B. Jul 86/Sep 20 ISALY, DOUGLAS K. Jun 89/Mar 19 LOVELACE, RICHARD J. Aug 93/Sep 20 LYNCH, RICHARD D. Dec 83/Sep 20 MASSEY, WILLIAM W. Feb 72/Sep 20 MAURER, JEFFERY W. Oct 02/Mar 05 MILLER, HUEY P. Jan 78/Sep 20 NILSEN, GEORGE H. Jul 68/Oct 20 NORMAN, J. L. Mar 69/Sep 20 RASDAL, ROBERT W. Aug 71/Feb 20 ROLL, RAYMOND A. Apr 88/Aug 20 SIMS, WILLIAM C. Feb 96/Sep 20 SMITH, WILLIAM W. Jan 76/Sep 20

LIEUTENANT COLONEL (continued)

SPARKS, JOHN A. Jul 73/Aug 20 VOGT, JOHN S. Nov 80/Jul 20

MAJOR

BAER, ROBERT A. Apr 76/Aug 20 BAKER, WILLIAM H. Apr 71/Aug 20 BOEYEN, WILLIAM C. Jun 77/Oct 19 CLEAR, JAMES R. Dec 85/Sep 20 FRAZIER, CATHERINE L. Jan 83/Oct 20 GILES, JAMES H. Dec 94/Aug 20 HARRISON, GREGORY Mar 85/Oct 20 HILL, STEPHEN D. Mar 88/Nov 19 HOWARD, GRADY K. Jun 83/Sep 20 JOHNSON, WILLIAM H. Jul 64/Sep 20 KNOWLES, CHARLES A. Jan 92/Jul 20 MAUGHAN, WILLIAM L. Jul 66/Sep 20 McGRADY, MICHAEL G. Apr 76/Sep 20 NIELSEN, HOWARD B. Oct 85/Sep 20 PYLES, DONALD M. Dec 94/Sep 20 ROBERTSON II, GERALD B. Oct 94/Sep 20 SCRUGGS, ROBERT L. Aug 68/Sep 20 SHOCKLEY, JAMES G. Feb 88/Sep 20 SPENCER, ROGER K. Sep 89/Sep 20 TRAQUAIR, WILLIAM C. Nov 14/Sep 20 VOGEL, WILLIAM P. Dec 90/Oct 20 WOLF, WILFRED Jul 97/Sep 20

CAPTAIN

ALBIZO, JR., DAVID G. Oct 76/Sep 20 BURCH, VERLE E. Aug 70/Oct 20 FERREE, DOUGLAS R. Jun 76/Sep 20 LAMBKA, HARVEY L. Jul 78/Jul 20 LITTLE, JR., FOSTER Sep 71/Sep 20 MILLER, EARL F. Apr 64/Aug 20



TAPS

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CAPTAIN (continued)

MOEN, DALE A. Oct 73/Aug 20
MORRISON, ALLEN W. Sep 70/Aug 20
ROBERTS, LEWIS C. Oct 71/Oct 20
SALUSTRO, ANGELO Oct 77/Oct 20
SCARANGELLO, ANTHONY F. Jun 72/Sep 20
SEDER, ELMER C. Jul 73/Sep 20
STOLTZFUS, DAVID S. Sep 75/Sep 20
SWANEY, DAVID O. Aug 76/Sep 20
WEARE, EVERETT A. Oct 75/Oct 20
WILLIAMS, JR., SAMUEL G. Nov 70/Sep 20
WINTER, WARREN W. Oct 79/Sep 20

FIRST LIEUTENANT

MOLKO, JOHN Dec 76/Oct 20

SECOND LIEUTENANT

JONES, BILLY L. Oct 54/Oct 20

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER

BUCKHOUT, EDWIN A. CWO4 Aug 87/Sep 20 CHENEY, DAVID N. CWO4 Dec 07/Sep 20 HARPER, JR., CHARLES A. CWO4 Apr 91/Sep 20 JONES, SAMUEL J. CWO4 Jun 74/Aug 20 MOORE, RUSSELL E. CWO2 Jul 69/Sep 20 MURPHY, JAMES J. CWO4 Sep 99/Sep 20 OLGUIN, RICKE S. CWO4 Nov 98/Jun 20

SERGEANT MAJOR

CHARLES, BILLY G. Jun 77/Sep 20 HALL, BILLY C. Jun 74/Sep 20 LEM, LOUIE H. Oct 88/Oct 20 TURNER, EDDIE G. Aug 76/Sep 20

MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT

ANDERSON, ROBERT S. Jul 69/Oct 20
BETHLEY, CHARLES E. Jul 01/Oct 20
BOONE, ROBERT A. Jan 02/Sep 20
BROUGHMAN, CHARLES L. Apr 02/Oct 20
CHAFFIN, HARRY Mar 76/Sep 20
FLORES, GEORGE A. May 76/Oct 20
GIBSON, BILLY G. Jan 92/Sep 20
HOLDER, ROBERT L. Jan 87/Sep 20
HUNDLEY, JOSEPH F. Sep 87/Sep 20
MANN, BOBBY F. Feb 89/Sep 20
STRICKLAND, BENNIE A. Jan 93/Oct 20
WILLIAMSON, THOMAS L. Oct 05/Sep 20
YORDT, MARION R. Jul 92/Oct 20

FIRST SERGEANT

BEYER, GARY P. Nov 80/Sep 20
BUHMEYER, DOUGLAS A. Jun 93/Sep 20
CORYER, JAMES A. Jun 73/Oct 20
CRISWELL, RONNIE L. Dec 97/Oct 20
DAVENPORT, CHARLES C. Jun 73/Sep 20
EDWARDS, HOWARD J. May 73/Aug 20
FOLSOM, GLEN E. Feb 90/Sep 20
HULSEY, AARON L. Nov 82/Sep 20
HUNT, ROBERT J. Nov 86/Oct 20
PLAVNICK, DONALD G. Feb 05/Aug 20
STURGES, JOHN C. Jun 77/Oct 20
TREVINO, DAVID Sep 92/Sep 20
WILKERSON, RAYMOND O. Feb 70/Dec 19
WILLETT, WILLIAM E. Nov 02/Aug 20

MASTER SERGEANT

ADAMS, ANDREW Dec 79/Aug 20 BURKHART, FREDDIE W. Jun 83/Oct 20 BUSBEE, WENDELL D. Apr 89/Sep 20 CHILDRESS, OWEN T. Jun 72/Sep 20



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MASTER SERGEANT (continued)

CORBIN, EULA M. Jul 94/Sep 20 DICKMAN, BERNARD E. Jan 95/Sep 20 DUPUIS, VAN S. Oct 87/Sep 20 ELSTON, JAMES P. Aug 91/Oct 20 FOLEY, EMMETT R. Jun 91/Oct 20 FORTON, RICHARD E. Sep 75/Sep 20 FREED, JOHN A. Jun 92/Oct 20 FURR IV, HARRY W. Feb 86/Sep 20 GOAZ, HARRY P. Aug 69/Sep 20 GOOGE, BOBBY H. Jun 72/Oct 20 GREER, JAMES S. Jul 00/Sep 20 HARRIS, BRUCE J. Sep 92/Sep 20 HAYNES, RAYMOND M. Sep 80/Sep 20 KUHN, JOSEPH A. Aug 00/Sep 20 LOVE, BENNETT F. Jul 91/Oct 20 MICHAUD, JOSEPH E. Aug 86/Sep 20 MICKLE, G. W. Apr 68/Sep 20 PICKUP, ROLAND E. Jun 73/Sep 20 RAY, CHARLES A. Nov 86/Oct 20 RENFROE, BENJAMIN Jan 99/Sep 20 REYES, ROBERT Mar 81/Oct 20 RMINSKI, JASON C. Aug 09/Dec 18 RUSSI, JOHN C. Oct 72/Oct 18 SETTLES, CHARLES L. May 92/Sep 20 SHELDON, RICHARD I. May 72/Oct 20 SHIELDS, LARRY B. Dec 87/Sep 20 SWEENEY, JOHN M. Jul 72/Oct 20 TOLBERT, LUTHER B. Jan 77/Sep 20 TORRES, LUIS A. Oct 10/Oct 20 VANHOOK, WILLIAM C. Jun 77/Sep 20 VARRICHIO, ANGELO L. Sep 77/Sep 20 WATTS, WALTER N. Aug 80/Sep 20 WEST, RICHARD A. Sep 87/Sep 20

GUNNERY SERGEANT

ARWEILER, JOSEPH H. Nov 76/Oct 20 BAILEY, ROBERT L. Jul 75/Aug 20 BARTELS, KENNETH W. Jan 87/Sep 20 BENNETT, EARL C. Sep 72/Sep 20 BINDER, ROBERT E. Jul 71/Oct 20 BLUM, ROBERT F. Jun 65/Sep 20 BOWMAN, DAVID N. Mar 94/Jul 20 BOYETT, JR., CLARENCE E. Jun 63/Sep 20 BOYNES, SAMUEL A. Jul 92/Sep 20 BYNUM, ELTON R. Sep 88/Sep 20 COX, CHARLES E. Jan 94/Sep 20 DICKERSON, WILLIAM A. Jun 86/Sep 20 DINSMORE, NATHAN J. Sep 15/Sep 90 ELLIS, TONY M. May 99/Oct 20 FALL, RALPH K. Mar 71/Sep 20 FOKKEN, GARY D. Jan 77/Sep 20 FRYE, GERALD D. May 92/Oct 20 GALICZYNSKI, CARL J. Jan 73/Sep 20 GEARY, BYRON C. Jul 74/Sep 20 GILES, KENNETH L. Nov 75/Sep 20 GIVENS, TOMMY L. Sep 05/Sep 20 GUILLOT, JOHNNY O. Aug 80/Oct 20 HAGAN, PHILIP E. Feb 71/Sep 20 HAMBLIN, LAWRENCE F. Nov 75/Sep 20 HAMRIC, JAMES L. Dec 93/Oct 20 HERNANDEZ, JOHNNY R. Oct 91/Sep 20 HORN, KEITH T. Apr 99/Sep 20 HUNDSHAMER, I. W. Aug 61/Sep 20 HUNTER, GARY D. Jun 97/Sep 20 KERLEY, JAMES E. Feb 69/Oct 20 KINSLEY, MARTIN D. Dec 79/Sep 20 KOMM, FREDERICK K. Aug 83/Sep 20 KRAPF, FREDERICK E. Jul 68/Sep 20 LEVINSKY, VICTOR May 68/Sep 20 LISA, JOHN Sep 77/Sep 20 NICHOLAS, DONALD S. Oct 74/Sep 20 NORTH, JR., ROBERT F. Jul 88/Sep 20 NOTARO, THOMAS L. Jul 65/Sep 20 OLMSTEAD, PAUL R. Jul 05/Oct 20 ONKEN, LESTER E. Mar 84/Sep 20



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GUNNERY SERGEANT (continued)

PATTERSON, JR., CLIFTON G. Jul 73/Oct 20 PEER, ERNEST G. Oct 64/Sep 20 QUINN, DANIEL J. Jun 68/Sep 20 REEVES, STACEY O. Jan 00/Sep 20 ROBERTS, JAMES R. Mar 78/Sep 20 ROSS, JR., CLIFTON A. Jan 80/Sep 20 SCOTT, JAMES M. Feb 99/Sep 20 SHIRLEY LOUIS C. Apr 71/Jul 20 SMART, JAMES E. Aug 69/Oct 20 SPENCER, ROBERT E. Dec 71/Sep 20 STEVENS, JAMES E. Jun 75/Sep 20 TINDAL, CORNELIUS D. Oct 87/Jul 20 WILLIAMS, JOHN E. May 72/Aug 20 WILLIAMS, VERNON A. Oct 73/Sep 20 WILSON, WILLIAM G. Jun 95/Sep 20 ZERBA, KRIS A. Jun 02/Sep 20 ZOLENSKI, STANLEY J. Sep 93/Sep 20

STAFF SERGEANT

BARROW, DONALD R. Apr 76/Aug 20
BETANCOURT, ROBBIE C. Jun 18/Sep 20
CALLAHAN, GRADY A. Dec 74/Sep 20
CLARK, A. F. Feb 68/Sep 20
CLONTZ, JAMES M. Oct 06/Sep 20
DELANEY, JOSEPH J. Oct 69/Sep 20
KRUSE, MARK A. Oct 05/Oct 20
LESH, ROBERT D. Jun 75/Aug 20
MOSLEY III, ROLLIN A. Apr 02/Jul 20
PAINTER, WALTER W. Feb 65/Jan 20
PARRISH, JR., OSCAR C. Sep 75/Oct 20
PRZEKOP, I. B. Feb 62/Sep 20
SCOTT, MYRA L. Nov 09/Sep 20
VERDECKBERG, DAVID Apr 95/Aug 20
WEEDEN, ROGER F. Jan 70/Sep 20

SERGEANT

ARCISZEWSKI, LEE O. Jan 68/Oct 20 BROWN, JOHN M. Feb 68/Sep 20 CHARLES, BILLY G. Jan 68/Oct 20 CREE, TIMOTHY J. Jun 84/Sep 20 DENSON, FRED A. Apr 52/Aug 20 DOUGHERTY, JAMES E. Dec 68/Sep 20 HALL, BILLY C. Dec 62/Sep 20 HARTNETT, JERRY D. Mar 72/Aug 20 KEEGAN, R. P. Dec 62/Sep 20 LIDDLE, JOHN E. May 89/Sep 20 SANTANA, BERNARD J. Dec 51/Aug 20

CORPORAL

ANDREWS, ROBERT J. Apr 68/Sep 20 BURCHETT, GERALD K. Jan 70/Sep 20 CLARK, JR., WILLIS Jul 52/Jul 20 HIGGINS, FRANK W. Mar 68/Sep 20 HOOPER, GARY D. Oct 68/Oct 20 JOHNSON, TIMOTHY E. Dec 91/Sep 20 LICHTENFELT, SIDNEY L. Jun 68/Sep 20 OLIVAS, JOHN Jan 71/Aug 20 SKRUMBELLOS, FRANK L. Nov 68/Oct 20 TANNER, GARY L. Jul 69/Sep 20 VASQUEZ, JR., ANGEL Feb 69/Sep 20 WASHINGTON, JAMES H. Oct 69/Jul 20



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LANCE CORPORAL

BIDDLE, CHARLES W. May 70/Sep 20
BORNSCHEUR, WILLIAM F. Nov 67/Sep 20
CHILDS, MARY A. Feb 70/Sep 20
CLARK, JR., MELVIN T. May 69/Sep 20
CROTEAU, LEE E. Apr 70/Jul 20
ELLIS, RICHARD L. May 71/Aug 20
GRANTHAM, WILLIAM T. Mar 69/Aug 20
KERLEY, WILLIAM R. Aug 70/Oct 20
LAWRENCE. LELAND F. Mar 63/Sep 20
PASSONNO, JR., HAROLD W. Aug 74/Oct 20
PUGH, MICKEY Mar 55/Sep 20
RITTER, REX L. Jul 67/Sep 20

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

BRELSFORD, WILLIAM B. Jul 61/Aug 20 JOHNSON, JAMES F. Mar 70/Sep 20 MILLISON, J. B. Dec 59/Aug 20 SAYERS, ROBERT A. Sep 70/Aug 20 TAINTER, GARY G. Sep 69/Sep 20 WHITE, JR., ARCHIE L. Oct 64/Sep 20

PRIVATE

ABDUL, AZIZ RASHEED Dec 70/Sep 20 FRANKLIN, SPENCER L. Feb 70/Oct 20 HATCHER, CRAIG L. Feb 70/Sep 20 LEWIS GEORGE W. Apr 71/Sep 20



News Release: SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security Announces 1.3 Percent Benefit Increase for 2021

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 1.3 percent in 2021. The 1.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 64 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2021. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2020. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits). The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$142,800 from \$137,700.

Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail starting in early December about their new benefit amount. Most people who receive Social Security payments will be able to view their COLA notice online through their personal *my Social Security account*. People may create or access their my Social Security account online at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Information about Medicare changes for 2021, when announced, will be available at www.medicare.gov. For Social Security beneficiaries receiving Medicare, Social Security will not be able to compute their new benefit amount until after the Medicare premium amounts for 2021 are announced. Final 2021 benefit amounts are communicated to beneficiaries in December through the mailed COLA notice and my Social Security's Message Center. The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. To learn more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/cola.

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

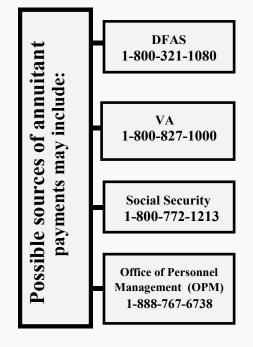
Fax: 1-800-982-8459

- 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
- Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System: 1-800-538-9552

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:



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. Additional information from DFAS is available at 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 (<u>www.ssa.gov</u>) 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. Acopy of the sponsor's DD 214 is required. Visit 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

GOLD STAR WIVES OF AMERICA, INC. Military Funeral Honors: 1-866-826-3628 or (703) 432-9524

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: (703) 696-4904, www.nmcrs.org

National Military Families Association: 1-800-260-0218, www.nmfa.org

Society of Military Widows: 1-800-842-3451, www.militarywidows.org/ home.aspx

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors: 1-800-959-8277, 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

AMC PASSENGER TERMINAL:

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

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: (703) 607-8000

www.arlingtoncemetery.mil

ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTERS:

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

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

\mathbf{C}

CAMP LEJEUNE NOTIFICATION REGISTRY:

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

COLD WAR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM:

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480, USAHRC

1600 Spearhead Division Ave. Ft. Knox, KY 40122-5408

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

https://www.hrc.army.mil

(Type "Cold War Certificate" in the search box)

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; 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, VA22134-5030 1-800-268-3710; smb.manpower.mmrp@usmc.mil

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE:

1-800-321-1080, 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

\mathbf{E}

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

FEDVIP: Office of Personnel Management's Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program 1-877-888-FEDS (1-877-888-3337) https://www.benefeds.com/

\mathbf{M}

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION: 715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA22134 1-866-622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162 mca@mca-marines.org

Leatherneck Magazine

1-800-336-0291, ext. 115; Fax: (703) 640-0823 leatherneck@mca-marines.org

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

gazette@mca-marines.org

MARINE BARRACKS WASHINGTON:

8th and I, Washington, DC, www.barracks.marines.mil

MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION:

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MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL HQ:

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SISTER SERVICE RETIREE PUBLICATIONS:

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Directory Assistance Pages

- Army Echoes: https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement/echoes
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