

SALUTE to Veterans

Defenders of Liberty, we Salute You

Pastor Doug Massingill: Faith shaped through service

■ By Nathan Wilson
Columbia Gorge News

ODELL — “The plan was to go in, get the skill set and then get out,” said Doug Massingill, an Air Force veteran and pastor of Wy’east Community Church in Odell. “Sometime along that line, the shot of patriotism, the awareness of being part of something bigger than myself, the camaraderie, the pride in your nation — that all really took hold.”

Growing up on a dairy farm outside of Salem, Massingill felt called to be a pastor, but he didn’t have the financial means for seminary. Instead, he attended Central Oregon Community College in Bend, where Massingill met and married his wife, Linda, at 20 years old, and joined the Air Force three years later.

What was supposed to be a brief pit stop turned into nearly three decades of service, time that, looking back, Massingill believes was a critical step in his religious growth.

Massingill originally trained as an air traffic controller, and his first assignment was on Ramstein Air Base in Germany, where he was stationed when the Berlin Wall fell in 1989. Each day, he spent eight hours talking to pilots and working traffic for five airports across the western half of the country, eventually returning home after about four years for another assignment on Holloman Air Base in New Mexico.

There, Massingill worked



After nearly three decades serving in the Air Force, Doug Massingill became the pastor of Wy’east Community Church in 2020.

Nathan Wilson photo

the same job. At the end of his tenure, however, he shifted gears as a different opportunity presented itself: Operation Desert Storm, or the American-led siege on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait, instigated by Saddam Hussein, in August 1990.

“The closer I was able to get to the actual engagements, the more I felt like my contributions were mattering,” he said, so Massingill went down a more specialized path.

As the weapons director on an AWAC (Airborne Warning and Control Plane), designed for long-range radar detection, he would tell friendly forces which specific targets to engage

— essentially managing the air war, Massingill described. No longer an enlisted role, Massingill found himself at the heart of the largest American conflict since Vietnam, but the fatigues had transitioned from dark green to desert camouflage.

The responsibility he felt was immense, and it would only deepen over the following eight years when Massingill went on six deployments with his AWAC team across the Middle East. For instance, he vividly remembers Operation Anaconda, the first major ground assault of the United States’ 20-year War in Afghanistan, and how helicopters ferrying soldiers were shot down while his team scrambled support aircraft to engage enemy forces.

“You’re on the other side of the planet from your family, and I think that makes your own mortality very real,” Massingill said. “We’re all going to die sometime, and having that faith in God is what helps motivate you and keep you going.”

Then, Massingill took a step further into the fire by becoming a sensor operator on an AC-130H Spectre gunship. Instead of managing traffic or even picking out enemy marks, he was shooting a 40 mm Bofors cannon and a 105 mm Howitzer with 50-pound rounds, making the aircraft akin to a “flying tank.”

As he explained, Massingill would toggle between an infrared and low-light systems to find and track targets. Together, with a gunner crew reloading the machines, a fire control officer monitoring safety, a navigator in communication with ground forces and a pilot overseeing the whole operation, he shot rounds from above, all while accounting for gun errors like the wind that could inadvertently maim American troops.

“That was probably the most impactful assignment of my career,” Massingill said, and one that spanned four deployments. “That job is killing people. You’re out

there blowing stuff up, and it’s done in order to save our guys, but it doesn’t minimize that you’re causing devastation to others.” The role is also filled by officers now.

Toward the end of his career, Massingill took on an administrative role, but the stakes were still high. As the Air Force’s career field manager in the Pentagon, he managed 15,000 active and reserve career enlisted aviators, billions of dollars in training assets and an annual budget that ranged in the hundreds of millions.

At last, however, Massingill retired from the Air Force in 2013 and settled down with Linda, who picked up odd

jobs, finished her bachelor’s degree and raised their son as Massingill went from one deployment to another.

The two bought a home in Hood River, and Massingill completed his master’s in Christian studies. At a Wy’east Community Church yard sale in 2020, he learned they had just lost their pastor, so Massingill assumed the role within a week. All his years spent in the military prepared him to better support and relate to his neighbors.

“For somebody who is going through separation, or has lost a loved one, or has had a child killed, I think God has let me experience this to have the ability to empathize with people and say, ‘I’ve been there, and I understand,’” Massingill said.

Since then, the Wy’east congregation has grown from a handful of people to more than 100 and expanded to the church in Pine Grove as well. Fittingly enough, their son, Kyle, also joined the Air Force and flies with an Alaskan rescue unit on the same airframe Massingill was on during his days as a sensor operator. It’s clear that service runs in the family, and Massingill emphasized Linda’s role in particular.

“It involved a lot of sacrifice on her part ... she did it without the spotlight, like all spouses and families do,” said Massingill. “They’re the ones that are the real unsung heroes.”



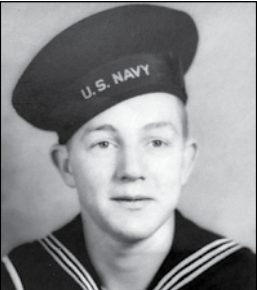
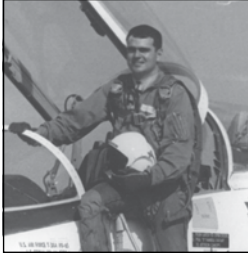
Doug and Linda Massingill attending the Air Force Ball on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in 2010.

Photo courtesy Doug Massingill



From left to right, Staff Sergeant Brad Atwater, Tech Sergeant Roy Gentry and Chief Master Sergeant Doug Massingill in front of an AC-130H Spectre gunship while stationed in Afghanistan nearly two decades ago.

Photo courtesy Doug Massingill

Private First Class Janice Acree  U.S. ARMY 1990-1993 Desert Storm	Chief Radioman Gene Adkisson  U.S. NAVY WWII South Pacific	1st Lieutenant Merril M. Adkisson  U.S. AIR FORCE 1942-1946	Fred Akita  U.S. ARMY	Sgt. James N. Akita  U.S. ARMY Vietnam, Bronze Star	Corporal Robert Joseph Alaimo, Sr  U.S. Marines - 1941-1945 WWII - South Pacific Purple Heart
Corporal Elmer B. Alford  1st Marine Division WWII - Guadalcanal	Thomas Merle Alford  U.S. NAVY	Petty Officer 3rd Class Don Allegre  U.S. NAVY 1943-46, Hickam Field, HI Crew Chief, PBV-5	Major Mike Allegre  U.S. AIR FORCE 1976-1980, Security Police 1985-2007, Oregon Air National Guard, 142nd Fighter Wing	Sergeant Jeremy Anderson  U.S. ARMY 1999-present Operation Iraqi Freedom	3rd Class Petty Officer Vernon T. Anderson  U.S. NAVY Seabees 1942-1945 WWII Freetown, Africa, Casablanca, Okinawa
Roland Aplin  U.S. Coast Guard 1967-1987 Vietnam, Grenada	Kenneth Ashbaugh  U.S. NAVY 1950-1954 Korean War	Jay Ashcraft  U.S. ARMY 1964-1967, Seabees 1983-2004, Retired Military	Captain Jesse Atay  U.S. MARINE CORPS 2001 - 2013 Iraq, Afghanistan	Sergeant Steven Austin  U.S. MARINES 1969-1970 Nat'l Defense Service, Vietnam Campaign, Combat Action, Good Conduct Medals	First Class Earl Ayers  U.S. NAVY 1943-1951 Pharmacist
Tech 3, Staff Sergeant Mervin G. Bachofner  U.S. ARMY 1945-1947 Finance Clerk 7th Infantry Division	Herman Bagge  U.S. Marines 1942-1945 Pearl Harbor, MP, Guard Duty	Specialist ES Dennis Michael Bacon  U.S. ARMY 1965-1968, Vietnam War 101st Airborne Division	E4 Corporal Will Berthold  U.S. MARINE CORPS 1998 - 2000 - MOS 1833 AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE CREW CHIEF, WEST PAC	Cadet Nurse Dora McLean Bailey  U.S. NAVY WWII	Leonard "Dude" Bailey  U.S. AIR FORCE WWII, 1944-1945 Italy
Master Chief Loren G. Bailey  U.S. NAVY 1989-2013 Linguist	Captain Thomas E. Bailey  U.S. AIR FORCE 1968-1972 86 Combat Mission, Vietnam	MM2C(T)(CB) Earl Cleo Baldwin  U.S. NAVY 1943-1945 Const. Batt. Seabees	SGT Camden Ball  U.S. ARMY 2010-2014 4-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Fort Lewis Washington. NATO Defense Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal	Jarrett Ball  U.S. ARMY 2014-2016 5th RTB	SFC George Balzer  U.S. ARMY 1941-1945 North Africa & Sicily



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Douglas Schacht
Seaman First Class
US Navy



Dwight Stanley
Sergeant Major
USMC



Skylar Schacht
Sergeant
USMC

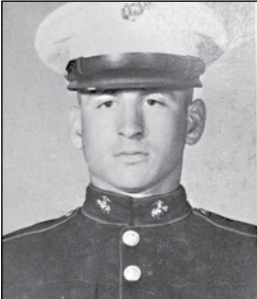
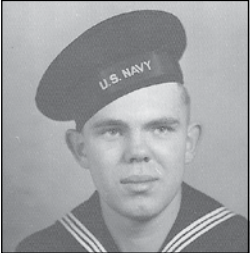


Jacob Schacht
Corporal
USMC

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Rodger Barber  U.S. AIR FORCE 371ST GROUP P47 PILOTS 404TH SQUADRON	Seaman First Class Carl A. Barnett  U.S. NAVY 1944-1946 WWII	Radioman 2nd Class Bob Barrett  U.S. NAVY 1950-53 Korean War	AMM 1st Class Jack Arthur Bartell  U.S. NAVY 1941-1946 WWII Pearl Harbor Survivor, Flew 119 Combat Missions In South Pacific in PB4Y-1 (B-24s)	Eugene "Gene" Baskins  U.S. ARMY 1966-1968 Awarded 2 Purple Hearts	SP 5 Christian Logan Batty  U.S. ARMY 1987-2009 FORT LEWIS, DMZ SOUTH KOREA, FORT CAMPBELL, RETIRED
Radioman 2nd Class John F. Baumgarten, Jr.  U.S. NAVY 1995-1999 U.S.S. CALIFORNIA, PERSIAN GULF	Robert Baumgarten  U.S. NAVY 1994-2016, OIF/OEF Operation Desert Shield, Operation Southern Watch, Meritorious Unit Citation, Armed Expeditionary	SR Jack Baumgartner  U.S. NAVY 1953-1956 NATIONAL DEFENSE CHINA SERVICE AWARD	Sergeant John Becharas  U.S. ARMY Airborne 1941-1945 Paratrooper, Fort Bragg Camp Adar, Corvallis, OR	Private Ivan Benedict  U.S. ARMY 1942-1945 WWII prisoner of war, 3½ years	Warrant Officer 2 Jacob S. Beno  ARMY AVIATION/BLACKHAWK PILOT - 2005 TO PRESENT 3-158TH AVIATION REGIMENT, STORM RIDERS, KATTERBACH, GERMANY
Captain Kelsey J. (Riise) Beno  ARMY AVIATION/BLACKHAWK PILOT - 2007 TO PRESENT 3-158TH AVIATION REGIMENT, STORM RIDERS, KATTERBACH, GERMANY	Major Claude Berthold  U.S. NAVY, U.S. MARINE CORPS - 1996 TO PRESENT - AFRICA, AFGHANISTAN HMH 464 HMH T302	E5 Sergeant Philip Berthold  U.S. MARINE CORPS 1967-1970 - 3rd Marine MOS 1121 Viet Nam	E4 Corporal Rodney L. Berthold  U.S. MARINE CORPS 1967-1970	E4 Corporal Will Berthold  U.S. MARINE CORPS 1998 - 2000 - MOS 1833 AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE CREW CHIEF, WEST PAC	BM2-E5 John Michael Bishop  U.S. NAVY 1968-1976 Vietnam
Fireman 1st Class Clyde Blaisdell  U.S. NAVY, 1943-1946 WWII VICTORY MEDAL, AMERICA, ASIATIC-PACIFIC, CHINA AND PHILLIPINES	Renolds W. Blazer  U.S. AIR FORCE 1953-1957 Korean War	Sgt. James C. Block  U.S. ARMY 1942-1946 Battle of the Bulge	SFC James Block  Army National Guard 1961- 67, 1987-2004 Vietnam Era Operation Desert Storm	Kenneth Block  U.S. NAVY 1968-1972	Boatswains Mate 3rd Class Jesse Bloom  U.S. NAVY 2009-2015, Honorable Discharges
AWF2 James C. Bodolay  U.S. NAVY NSW Support Activity I	Sergeant Joseph S. Bodolay  U.S. ARMY 1968-1969, Vietnam 39th Cavalry, 9th Infantry Div.	CE-2 Justin W. Bodolay  U.S. NAVY NMCB-18 DET 2	Boatsen Mate 2/C Hollis Bolton  U.S. NAVY WWII 1942-1946 SOUTH PACIFIC	Lynn Bolton  U.S. NAVY 1944	SP4 Alan Gene Borton  U.S. ARMY 1971-1972, Vietnam - Financial School, 3rd in Class
Sonar 3rd Class Alfred L. Borton  U.S. NAVY 1941-1945, WWII Boatson 2nd Class	Staff Sergeant Steven L. Borton  U.S. ARMY 1968-1969, Vietnam War Awarded 2 Bronze Stars	SP-4 J. Harrison Bowlds  U.S. ARMY 1966-1968 South Korea, 2nd Inf. Div.	AM2 (AW) Justin Bowlin  U.S. NAVY 2003 - present	Private 1st Class Francis O. "Jake" Bradford  U.S. ARMY - 1944-1946 WWII, Phillipines	Staff Sgt. John M. Brady  U.S. ARMY, 10th Mountain Div. 1999-present Infantryman/Sniper



Dennis Morgan, USAF

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and their families -
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Dennis Morgan
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Breckner

U.S. AIR FORCE, 1955-1986
Air Defense Europe, USS Intrepid,
Chief of Staff Ramstein,
Commander 17th Air Force NATO

Glenn Brittenham

U.S. MARINES
1957-1967
Vietnam Helicopter Crew Chief

Daniel Brock
U.S. NAVY

1970-1974
2 Tours Vietnam

T/SGT
Walter M. Brock

ARMY AIR CORPS
1942-1946
1503 Base Unit World War II

Paul Philip Brooks

U.S. ARMY, 1942-45
80th Infantry Division
317th Infantry Regiment
France, Ardennes,
Rhineland

Captain
Daniel R. Brophy

Marine Corps.
Semper Fidelis
1957-1969 Vietnam

Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class
Alfred L. "Barney" Brown

NAVAL AIR FORCE
1942-1946 - STATIONED
IN BRAZIL & PANAMA

Captain
Dr. Albert N. Brown

U.S. ARMY Air Force
1937-1947
Oldest living survivor
of Bataan Death March
(104 yrs), POW 42 months

S/Sergeant
Clarence Andres Brown

U.S. AIR FORCE,
Aerial Engineer - 1943-1945,
WWII So. Pacific, 66th,
5th Air Force

Gunnery Sergeant
Lewis Brown

U.S. NAVY
WWII

Staff Sergeant
Lyle Brown

U.S. ARMY
1942-1947

Corporal
Robert G. Brown

U.S. ARMY 1953-1961
7811 Army Unit
Schweinfurt, Germany

Robert Olin
Browning

U.S. NAVY
Served 4 years

CoMM (AA)
Jack M. Buce, Jr.

U.S. NAVY 1940-1944
WWII U.S.S. Tennessee,
Pearl Harbor
Y.M.S. 365 Minesweeper

Lieutenant
Jack M. Buce, III

U.S. NAVY 1970-1974
U.S.S. Roark DE1053
Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam

Corporal
Eugene E. Buckley

U.S. ARMY
1917-1919, WWI
63rd Coast Artillery

James S Burgett

U.S. ARMY 1969-1971
82nd field artillery,
1st battalion, Americal Division,
Vietnam Veteran

Michael R Burgett

U.S. NAVY
1967-1971
Served on USS Caiman, USS Trout

First Class
Carl Burke

U.S. AIR FORCE
Airman
Korea

Private
Arthus Burslie

U.S. ARMY Overseas
1918-1919
Bat. D, 334d F.A.
86th Division

PFC.
Lynn Burtner

U.S. ARMY
1942-1946

Sergeant
Edward Murphy-Bustos

U.S. ARMY National Guard
2010-2011
Operation New Dawn

Spec. 4
David B. Butler

U.S. ARMY
1962-1965
Mechanic, served in Germany

Sergeant
Harold D. Calkins

U.S. ARMY 1950-1953,
Korean War Missing in
action, 1953 Bronze Star,
Purple Heart

Master Staff Sergeant
Robert E. Calkins

U.S. AIR FORCE,
WWII 21 Years of Service
Air Traffic Controller

Thurman Cantrell

U.S. ARMY
1965-1972

Lt. Cmdr.
Robert Camillucci

U.S. Coast Guard
1986-2008

Radarman
Leonard Robert Card

U.S. NAVY
1942-1945, WWII South
Pacific Theater

R. Woodrum
Carlile

U.S. ARMY
1942-1945 WWII

Quartermaster
Alfred Carlson

U.S. NAVY WWII
USS Liscome Bay,

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Captain Ian P. Chandler  U.S. ARMY 2003-2006	Sergeant Richard Chance  U.S. ARMY National Guard 2003-present - USN, Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom	Master Chief Electrician Robert J. Chapman  U.S. NAVY 1976-2007	Airman Gilbert Clayton  U.S. NAVY 1952-1956	John F. Clausen  U.S. ARMY 1965-1967	S. Sergeant Chester C. Coats  U.S. AIR FORCE 1943-1945 1024th Signal Service
Third Class Petty Officer David Cochenour  U.S. NAVY 1966-1970 Vietnam/Aircraft Crash Fire and Rescue Squadron	LTC Lester D. Cochenour  Oregon National Guard & Army Reserve 1961-1992	Mechanic D 2nd Class Marlin A. Cochenour  U.S. NAVY 1943-1948 Vietnam	SK3 Steven Cochenour  U.S. NAVY 1969	Sergeant Amanda Cochran/Green  U.S. ARMY 2012-2019 Operation Enduring Freedom	Rudy Michael Cochran  U.S. ARMY 2013-2016 Tanker Unit
Chief Petty Officer Stan F. Coelsch  U.S. COAST GUARD 1941-1945, WWII Pacific Operations Asiatic Pacific Medal	PO3 Michael J. Coiner  U.S. NAVY 1987-1990 USS America 1989 Mediterranean/Indian Ocean	Master Sergeant Jerry Cole  U.S. MARINES 1963-1967	Master Sergeant Mark Wayne Coleman  U.S. ARMY, Special Forces 1988- KIA 5-2-2010 Kandahar Prov., Afghanistan	Specialist 4th Class Mike Collier  U.S. ARMY 1956-1958 & 1961-1962 Korean War, Berlin Crisis	Sergeant James W. Combs  U.S. ARMY KOREAN WAR
Corporal James Comini  U.S. ARMY March 1951-1953	SP4 Tony Commander  U.S. ARMY 1969-1971, Vietnam Crew Chief, Door Gunner 176th Assault Helicopter	Sgt. Jessica Concolino  U.S. ARMY	Captain Luke Conklin  U.S. AIR FORCE 2017 - Current Chief Medical Officer, Scott AFB	Daniel Connell  U.S. ARMY 1993-1999 2008-2013	PFC Gary Cotter  Merchant Marine 1944-45 U.S. ARMY 1951-1953 WWII & Korean War
ABH 3 Donnie Cotterell  U.S. NAVY 1972-1976	HM3 Larry J. Couch  U.S. NAVY U.S.S. Cochrane Deployed in Vietnam	Keith Cox  U.S. ARMY	Martin Craig  U.S. NAVY 1995-1998	SP E4 Victor M. Cruz  U.S. ARMY IRAQ	Alexander Currie  Royal Canadian Airforce 1940-1946 European Bomber Command Dispatch Writer



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Eugene Dallas



U.S. NAVY
Korean War

E-4
William Dansereau



Marine Corp 1991 - 1995
National Guard
1998 - 2000
Army 2000 - 2003

Ben Davidson



U.S. ARMY
30+ years of service including
tours in Iraq and Afghanistan

E4 Comm. Specialist
David Norman Davis



U.S. AIR FORCE
01/1957-07/1960
Vietnam

Tech 4
Everett B. Davis, Jr.



U.S. ARMY
Jan. 1942 - Oct. 1945
5th Ranger Battalion,
Landed on Omaha Beach
June 6, 1944

OS3
George M. Davis



U.S. NAVY 1990-1994
USS Denver, Desert Storm,
Somolia

2nd Lieutenant
Norman W. Davis



U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
Lost in Action 4-2-1945
Purple Heart, Presidential Citation

Sergeant
Jim Day



U.S. ARMY
1969-1971
Vietnam

SP4-E5
Darold D. Dayley



U.S. ARMY
1958-1960

Charles
Forrest Decker



U.S. NAVY 1944-1947
USS South Dakota (BB57)

Tech 4
Boen Delay



U.S. ARMY
WWII

Sergeant
Tyler Delepine



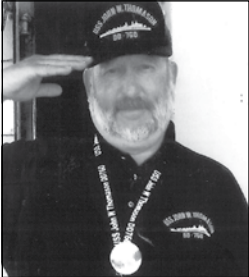
U.S. ARMY
2018-present
Atlantic Resolve

MO-MA 1st Class
John E. 'Curly' DeMoss



U.S. NAVY Seabees
1942-1945 - 4th Naval
Construction Batt.

ET 1
John E. DeMoss Jr.



U.S. NAVY - 1968-1976
Vietnam - 2 Tours

Private First Class
John (Jack) Denslinger



U.S. ARMY
1950-52 Korean War
48th Division, 180 Reg.
Communications, Seoul

Aerographer Mate
1st Class
Bob DePriest



U.S. NAVY
1942-1945

Lance Corporal
Jacob Deswert



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2010 - present
Afghanistan, North
Carolina

Bob
Dewitz



U.S. NAVY
1942-1945

FC 3C
Lee Dickson



U.S. NAVY
1943-1946

Robert
Divish



U.S. ARMY
1970-1972
Vietnam

Mach MMIC
David Duff



U.S. NAVY
1942-1945

Charles R Duckwall



U.S. ARMY
1942-1945
10th Mountain, 86th Division
Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Ken Duncan



U.S. NAVY 1954-1958
Aircraft Carrier
USS Hancock CVA-19

SSG E-6
Leonard A. Dunn



U.S. ARMY
1960-1973, Vietnam
Drill Sergeant, A22,
101st Airborne, Mine Sweep

E6/PO 1
Gary Duree



U.S. NAVY
Retired
1976-1999

Roy Donald
"Don" Duvall



U.S. NAVY 1942-1945
Aerographer's Mate
Second Class

Radioman 2nd Class
Bob Earls



U.S. NAVY
1963-66, 1972-78
Proud Vietnam Vet

Sergeant
Michael Earls



U.S. MARINE CORPS
1998-2003

Corporal
Lynn Eberhardt



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2007-2012 Operation
Enduring Freedom

Captain
George Economou



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2002-2009
3D Marine Division, 1st Radio Battal-
ion, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit,
3rd Marine Air Wing Operation Iraqi
Freedom - Al Anbar, Iraq





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Captain
Sarah Economou



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2003-2009
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Sergeant
Roland Ekstrom



OREGON
NATIONAL GUARD
1957

TECH SGT
Gary S. Elkinton



U.S. AIR FORCE
1976-1994

SPEC 4
James E. Elkinton



U.S. ARMY
1970-1973

SPEC 4
Glenn Elden Ellett



U.S. ARMY
Engineering Company
Korea 1956-1957

Gary L.
Elliott



U.S.NAVY

1st Lt. Ella Mae
Beaumaster Ellison



U.S. ARMY
1943-1946 - WWII
Nurse, England, DDay

Bill Elton



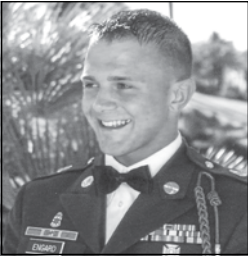
U.S. NAVY
1944-1946

Sho Endow, Jr.



U.S. ARMY 1941-1945
442 Battalion Company L
Italian Campaign, Battle Participation Star,
Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation,
Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, American Defense
Service Medal, European-African Middle
Eastern Theatre Ribbon, Combat Infantry
Badge, Good Conduct Medal,
Shell Fragment Injury 10-20-1944,
Vicinity Bruyeres, France

Sergeant
Corey Engard



U.S. ARMY - Artillery
March 2007-Present
Currently on
second tour in Iraq

T. Sgt.
Harold Engberg



U.S. ARMY
1942-1946
WWII - Europe Theatre

Staff Sergeant
Enrique Esquivias



ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
2004-2007 Iraq

E-7
Herbert Esperas



U.S. AIR FORCE
Occupied Japan

Specialist 4
Donald Elroy Fagen



U.S. ARMY
1961-1964
Cuban Crisis

James Louis
Farring



U.S. NAVY
1969-1971

Specialist 1st Class
Joshua E. Farris



U.S. ARMY
2000-2004
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Robert
Fehrs



U.S. ARMY

SP4
Jesse Flem



U.S. ARMY
1981-1985
First Infantry Division

Corporal
Lewis L. Flint



National Guard, Army
of the United States
1950-1952
Chief Radio Operator

Jeremy Fogle



U.S. ARMY 1941-1945
442 Battalion Company L
Italian Campaign, Battle Participation Star,
Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation,
Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, American Defense
Service Medal, European-African Middle
Eastern Theatre Ribbon, Combat Infantry
Badge, Good Conduct Medal,
Shell Fragment Injury 10-20-1944,
Vicinity Bruyeres, France

Gunnery Sergeant, E7
Andrew Foote



U.S. MARINES
Retired
Quantico, Virginia

Gordon
Foote



U.S. Merchant
Marines
WWII

E4
Phil Foote



U.S. ARMY 1971-1972
U.S. ARMY - Europe
Personnel Specialist

Tony Foote



U.S. Marines
1958-1962
Finance Kansas City, KA

David Ford



OR ARMY National Guard
2014-2020
National Defense Service Medal
Army Achievement Medal
Army Service Ribbon
Reserves Overseas Training Ribbons

Petty Officer - 2nd Class
Harley Fork



U.S. NAVY
09/1980 - 09/1985
Construction electrician

E-5 Sergeant
Lafayette L. Foster



U.S. ARMY 1940-1945
WWII - New Guinea,
Australia, South Pacific

2nd Class SC2C USN Cook
Cyril C. Fraley



U.S. NAVY 1966-1970
USS SIMON LAKE AS-33
Holy Loch, Scotland

Corporal
Darrell France



U.S. Marines
1968-1970

Daryl
Franklin



U.S. ARMY
1972-1973

Harold Franklin



U.S. NAVY
1944-1945

Jens Fredericksen



U.S. MARINE CORPS
1960-1964
Iraq 2008-2009

Captain Mike Fritz



U.S. AIR FORCE
1968-1970, Vietnam War
Flight Surgeon, 827th Medical
Group SAC, Grissom AFB

Keith M. Gallaher



U.S. ARMY
1943-1945
Paratroopers

Captain
Wayne K. Galloway



U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
1943-1946
WWII pilot

Medic Wayne
"Kenneth" Galloway, Jr.



U.S. ARMY
1965-1967
1st Calvary, Vietnam



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Wayne
"Kenneth" Galloway, III



U.S. NAVY
1990-1905
1st Iraqi War

Private First Class
Stephen L. Gast



U.S. ARMY
Vietnam era
663 Ordinance Company

Augie Gehrig



U.S. ARMY
WWII Japan - Drafted

Sgt. Edmund J. Gehrig Jr



U.S. ARMY
Awarded a Bronze Star for his
single-handed rescue of 12 American
soldiers surrounded by German troops.
Other awards: Purple Heart, Six Battle
Stars, French croix de guerre fourragere.

Harold Gehrig



U.S. ARMY
WWII Building Bridges

Rudy Gehrig



U.S. NAVY
WWII

Ted Gehrig



U.S. ARMY WWII
Building & Repairing Airfields

Norman H. Gerking



U.S. NAVY
1943-1945
Submarine

Command Sgt. Major
Stanley J. Getz



U.S. ARMY
1989-2011

2nd Class
Willis Gholston



U.S. Coast Guard
1942-1945
Motor Mechanic

Staff Sgt.
Brien Gibson



U.S. ARMY

Lt. Col.
Rupert I. Gillmouthe



U.S. ARMY, 296th Ordinance Co.
WWII: Guam, Philippines, Okinawa
OR Army National Guard, 20+ years

Staff Sgt.
Forrest Owen Gitt



National Guard
116th Armour Cavalry
1969-1975
Stateside - Vortex 1

Op. Specialist 1st Class
Jason Glasgow



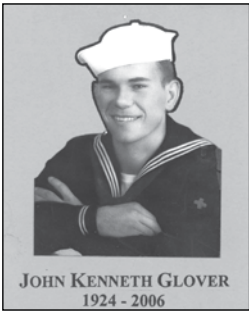
U.S. Coast Guard
1998-2006

Sergeant
John W. Glesener



U.S. Marine Corp.
1948-1952, Korean War
1st Marine Division

HMCM
John K. Glover



U.S. NAVY
1942-1961

SP 5
Michael Glover



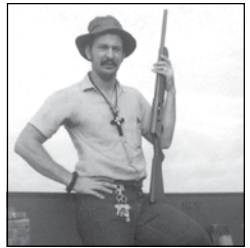
U.S. ARMY
1967-1969
South Korea

Second Class
Dick Goad



U.S. Coast Guard
1942-1945

Radioman 3rd Class
Gerald "Leon" Graf



U.S. NAVY
1968-1971
3 Tours Vietnam

William 'Forest'
Graham



U.S. National Guard
1955
Vista California

James A Grant



U.S. AIR FORCE

John L Grant



U.S. AIR FORCE

James Gray



U.S. ARMY
WWII

Jim Gray



U.S. ARMY
Vietnam War

Specialist
Josh Gray



U.S. ARMY
1996-2000 - S. Korea
Air Defense Artillery
Radar Operator

Russ Gray



U.S. ARMY
Airborne

Corporal
Alfred Daniel Green



U.S. MARINE CORPS
1942-1945 WWII
South Pacific, Iwo Jima, Guadalca-
nal, Saipan Silver Star, Bronze
Star, 2 Purple Hearts

MSGT
Daniel L. Green



U.S. AIR FORCE
1962-1968
U.S.A.F. Res 1973-1990
304th Air Rescue
Squadron C-130 Airborne
Radio Operator

A1C
David Curtis Green

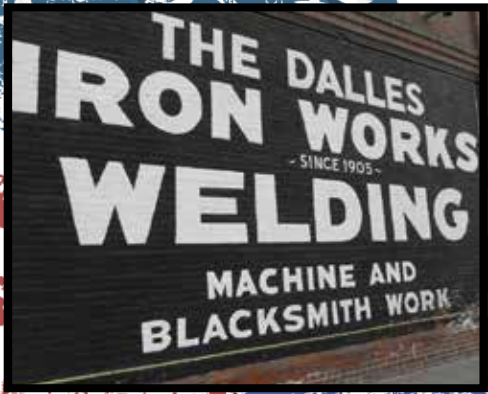


U.S. AIR FORCE 1990-1994
F-15 Crew Chief,
Desert Storm, Iraq

Sergeant
Jeremy Green



U.S. MARINE CORPS



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Yeoman 1st Class
Tom Griffith



U.S. NAVY
1941-1944 WWII

Seaman 1st Class
Robert Grindstaff



U.S. NAVY 1942-1945,
WWII U.S.S. Bullock AK165
Supply Ship

MR-E4
Thomas Griswold



U.S. NAVY
1961-1966
Vietnam

Colonel
Lynn Guenther



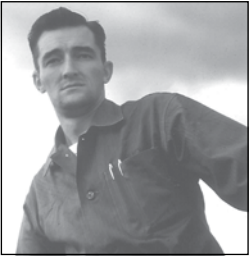
U.S. AIR FORCE
1968-1994
Vietnam POW 1971-1973

T5
Gus Gustafson



U.S. ARMY
1944-1948

Senior Airman
Marvin B. Haney



U.S. AIR FORCE
1951-1955
Korean War

Chief Petty Officer
Richard Harn



U.S. Navy Jan. 79 – Jan. 83
U.S. Coast Guard
July 83 – Aug. 00

James Harries



U.S. ARMY
1942-1945

Sergeant
John R. Harvey



U.S. ARMY
2003-2007
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Sergeant 1st Class
Kevin S. Harvey



U.S. ARMY
1984-2004, retired
father to John R. Harvey

CPL-E4
Donald F. Harwood



U.S. Marine Corp
1958-1961, Vietnam
76th Joint Task Force

Specialist E5
George E. Hasel



U.S. ARMY
1963-1966
Vietnam 1964-1965 MACV

Sergeant
Helen Haslett



US Marines
1943-1945
Recruiter

Sergeant
Richard (Dick)
Hattenhauer



U.S. ARMY 1943-1946
New Guinea, Solomons,
Luzon - Bronze Star,
Asiatic Pac Medal

Sergeant
Clark M. Hauer



U.S. ARMY Air Force
1941-1945,
WWII Radio Oper., B-17G, Ditchers
Dream, 4th E.R.S., Iwo Jima
Uncle to Corina & Cory Cameron of
The Dalles

Senior Master Sergeant
Doss Haug



U.S. AIR FORCE
1952-1976
Aircraft Mechanic

Master Sgt.
Casey L. Hearn



U.S. AIR FORCE
Munitions Systems Specialist
Japan, S. Korea, Middle East, Germany, US

Major General
Gerald Keith Hendricks



U.S. AIR FORCE
Korean War, Vietnam War
West Point Graduate 1951

Sergeant
Chris Henrikson



U.S. ARMY 2002-2008
2 Tours
Operation Iraqi Freedom

MOMM 3 / Sergeant Major
Allen F. Herriges



U.S. NAVY, 1942-45
Army Nat'l Guard, 1951-75
WWII South Pacific

Jurgen
Hess



U.S. NAVY
1960-1964

Sergeant
Curt Hickman



U.S. AIR FORCE
1970-1974
McChord Air Force Base

Truck Driver
Stan Hillgen



U.S. ARMY
1942-1946

Carmagene
"Kit" Hoffer



U.S. ARMY Cadet Corps
1944-45

PFC Jessica Holt



U.S. ARMY
June 2021-2022

1st Sgt.
Daryl Hornbeck



U.S. ARMY EOD Unit
1995-present
Korea, Iraq, Kuwait,
Afghanistan

Carpenters Mate 2nd
Class Jack Howe



U.S. MARINE CORPS
Seabees - Philippines
& S. China

SP 5
Roger Howe



US ARMY 101 ABN
1968-1970
Camp Eagle, Vietnam

Chief Petty Officer
John P. Huber



U.S. NAVY
Seabees
1977-2000

Ships Service Man 2nd Cl.
Robert K. Huber



U.S. NAVY
1943-1952
WWII, Korean War

Bob Huberman, Sr.



US Navy
1963-1966
Electrician Mate Fireman

Coramae
"Koco" Hulse



U.S. ARMY
Cadet Corps
1944-45

Senior Chief Petty Officer
E. Dale Humphreys



U.S. COAST GUARD
1953-1974
Retired

HM2
Geoff Hunley



U.S. NAVY
3 Tours in Iraq

Master Chief
James Huskey



U.S. NAVY
1981-2007
Kuwait, Gulf, Iraq

Master Sergeant
Aaron P. Ingebo



U.S. AIRFORCE 1994-2014
C-130 Hercules Flight
Engineer, Air Medal, Combat
Action Medal, Kosovo, Bosnia,
Africa, Iraq, Afghanistan



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U.S. NAVY 1942 - 1948
WWII, Tours & Combat in
North Atlantic and
South Pacific

Staff Sergeant
Jim Jackson



U.S. ARMY / National Guard
1940-1945

IT1 EXW
Robert Jamack



U.S. NAVY 1990 to 2011
Retired
Operation Iraqi Freedom
Operation Enduring Freedom

2nd Class Airman
Jesse James



U.S. AIR FORCE
1948-1953
Korean War, 5 Medals

John James



U.S. ARMY
1950-1953

Richard Johnsen



U.S. NAVY

E-5 Sergeant
Brian Johnson



NATIONAL GUARD
2001 - 2007
Afghanistan

2nd Lieutenant
William A. Johnson



U.S. AIR FORCE
1954-1957
Pilot

MM 1st Class
John Jones



U.S. NAVY

E5
Nancy Jones



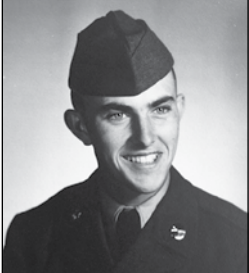
U.S. NAVY
1977-1982
Aviation electronics

EM2
Russell Jones



U.S. NAVY
1986-1997
Minesweeper

Corporal
Benjamin Joplin



U.S. ARMY
1952-1954
Korean War

Aviation
Electricians Mate
Norm Julian



U.S. NAVY

Signalman
Willet P. Justice



U.S. NAVY
1944-1946, WWII
T-2 Tanker, Pacific Theater

Master Sergeant
Robert John Kampert



U.S. AIR FORCE
1981-2012, Special Forces,
Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom

Sgt. First Class
Loren Kaufman



U.S. ARMY
Congressional Medal of Honor
Killed in Action Feb. 10, 1951
Company G., 9th Infantry Regiment,
2nd Infantry Division, Korea

Petty Officer 3rd Class E-4
Ken Karsmizki



U.S. NAVY
Inducted 1965
Active Duty 1966-1968

PFC Norman Keller



U.S. ARMY
1952-1955
Served in Germany
at age 16

Charles "Mick" Kelly



U.S. NAVY
1950-1955

Sergeant
Alexander J. Kessell



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2006 to present
Afghanistan
U.S.S. Peleliu

Sergeant
Christopher M. Kessell



U.S. MARINE CORPS
2006 to present
Afghanistan
U.S.S. Peleliu

Sergeant
Joshua I. Keyser



U.S. ARMY
Fort Carson,
Colorado

Pharmacist Mate 1st Class Medic
Dan B. Kicheloe, Jr.



U.S. MARINES
1942-1946
Purple Heart, 2 Silver Stars,
Bronze Star

Lieutenant
Richard King



U.S. COAST GUARD
1950-1976

Gorge-area Veterans Day events

Nov. 11 — Veteran's Day Ceremony,
11 a.m. to noon at the Columbia Gorge
Museum, 990 SW Rock Creek Dr,
Stevenson. Include flag raising, prayer and
pledge, Bells of Peace, guest speaker and
choir. All welcome.

Nov. 11 — The Dalles Veterans Day
Parade, 11 a.m. starting on W. Sixth Street
& Webber and ending in front of The Dalles
Chamber. Annual parade honors the
service and sacrifice of veterans from every
branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Nov. 11 — Hood River Veterans
Day Ceremony, 11 a.m. at River of Life
Assembly Church, 979 Tucker Road, Hood
River. It will include the posting of colors,
the national anthem, comments from Post
22 members, several guest comments and
readings, and the ringing of the peace bell.

Refreshments will follow the service. Due to
limited seating, registration is required by
emailing Lesley Tamura at lesley.tamura@gmail.com.

Veterans Day events will be updated
online at columbiagorgenews.com.



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Effective ways to support veterans year-round

■ Family Features

FOR THE APPROXIMATELY 18 MIL-lion veterans in the United States — roughly 6% of U.S. adults ages 18 and older, according to the U.S. Census Bureau — the return to civilian life can present challenges.

Because many veterans need assistance as a result of their military service, consider these impactful and meaningful ways to support veterans and ensure their sacrifices are honored and needs are met.

Engage in Community Outreach Programs

By participating in community events, you can help bridge the gap between veterans and civilians, fostering a sense of understanding and appreciation. Events such as parades, public ceremonies and educational forums can be organized to highlight the contributions of veterans. Additionally, volunteer opportunities within your community can also provide support to veterans, such as helping with home repairs, providing transportation to medical appointments or simply spending time with veterans who may feel isolated.



Photo courtesy Family Features

Provide Employment and Career Support

Gaining employment is an issue for many veterans transitioning back to civilian life. To help ease the transition, community members can support veterans by offering resume writing workshops, interview coaching and career fairs specifically targeted at veterans. Employers can also actively seek and hire veterans to leverage their unique skills and experiences. Veteran-friendly hiring practices

and mentorship programs can also be beneficial toward ensuring veterans find the financial stability and purpose they need to thrive.

Contribute to Veteran-Focused Charities

Donating to veteran-focused charities can help provide essential services such as housing, health care and educational assistance. In addition to monetary

donations, consider volunteering your time or skills. Many charities need volunteers to help with various tasks, from organizing events to providing administrative support.

Advocate for Veteran Health Care Initiatives

Many veterans require specialized medical care due to their service. Advocating for better health care policies and initiatives can help ensure they receive quality care. This includes supporting legislation that improves access to medical and mental health services for veterans. You can also work with local health care providers to develop programs specifically designed for veterans.

Promote Mental Health Awareness and Resources

Mental health is a critical aspect of overall well-being, and many veterans face unique mental health challenges, including post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. Promoting mental health awareness and providing resources can help veterans cope with these issues. This includes organizing mental health awareness campaigns, providing information on available resources and reducing the stigma associated with seeking help.



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Capt. Bill Caldwell: 42 years of U. S. Navy service

■ By Trisha Walker
Columbia Gorge News

WHITE SALMON — Capt. J. William Caldwell Jr., locally known as Bill, has a long and distinguished career with the U.S. Navy. He retired in 2009 after 42 years of service.

“Military service is the best thing that happened in my life,” he said. “I tell the young folks running around today, wondering about their future, that one good option is to join the military for a few years. It goes by fast, and you meet great people and are doing something for more than just yourself — you’re making a sacrifice to your nation.”

Caldwell enlisted in 1966 at age 17, immediately after graduating from high school. His father was also in the Navy at the time. And while his career is too long to fully summarize, there are memories that stand out.

Caldwell served two deployments — 1969 and 1970 — to the Western Pacific in support of combat operations in Vietnam. His ship was stationed in the Gulf of Tonkin in the South China Sea. Their mission was threefold: To launch planes and serve as a beacon for those returning; rescue pilots when launch failed; and provide combat search and rescue when pilots were shot down. He also made deployments to the Mediterranean, North Atlantic, Indian Ocean, and Caribbean.

“If you ask any vet, they always go back to the people they served with and their sacrifices,” he said.

He left active duty in 1977 and immediately



Bill Caldwell aboard ship in 1991.

affiliated with the Naval Reserve. He finished his Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering at Stanford, utilizing the GI Bill. After graduation, his commissions included assignments like Commanding Officer of Electronics Maintenance Officer of Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare, deploying with units to the Persian Gulf and Asia on various multinational and joint military exercises. He was voluntarily recalled to Commander, Space and Naval Warfare, in support of Enduring Freedom and later served as training officer for the reserve headquarters staff of Naval Special Warfare Command (SEALS).

One highlight was serving on the staff of Commander, U.S. Navy Forces Europe /

Commander, 6th Fleet, based in London and Naples, as military aid to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Normandy in 2009, a ceremony also attended by dignitaries like Queen Elizabeth and President George W. Bush. What hit him the hardest on that trip was when he and the secretary took a helicopter out of Paris and flew over the site beforehand. “And then to get out and be a part of the ceremony and see those graves — even more so, a lot of D-Day veterans were there,” he said.

He studied at the Naval War College and the National Defense

University, completing graduate courses in National Security Decision Making, and Joint Military Operations, and in addition to various campaign awards, he has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. His final assignment prior to retirement was on headquarters staff, Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Japan.

Though now retired, he continues to serve both country and community. Caldwell is on the Klickitat County Veterans Advisory Board, which keeps the agency updated

on the needs of local veterans and the resources and programs that may benefit veterans and their families.

He’s also American Legion Evan Childs Post 87 commander and member of Elks Lodge 1868. For the past eight or so years, the Legion has hosted an annual Flag Retirement Ceremony in Rheingarten Park on Flag Day, June 14. The local Elks Lodge also participates.

The patriotic ceremony retires old, worn United States flags given to the American Legion by Klickitat County residents, a service the American Legion provides nationwide, he said.



Caldwell in 1970.
Contributed photo

“There are three ways you can properly dispose of a worn flag in accordance to Congressional flag code,” he said. “You can bury it. Most common is to burn it. And three, unofficially, give it to the America Legion and we will dispose of it properly.”

The ceremony includes a ritual burning of one or two worn flags: The flag is doused in kerosene ahead of time, then hung over a five-gallon can; during the ceremony, the flag is lit and slowly lowered into the can. A brief history of the flag is also given; the Legion has eight historical flags that are used as part of the presentation. Legionnaires properly dispose of any remaining flags afterwards.

Though all are invited to attend this free event, participation has been sparse the past few years. As always, the Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place in Rheingarten Park on June 14, 2026; look for details in upcoming editions of *Columbia Gorge News*.



Bill Caldwell, American Legion Post 87 commander in White Salmon, helps organize preparation efforts by local members, veterans and volunteers in 2023.

At right, Dave Blevins, Cheri Michaelson, Carrie Billings (at podium) and Caldwell at a past flag retirement ceremony, held each year on June 14.

File photos



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Salute to Veterans publication.*

*Thanks to this support, we are able
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celebrate their service to our country.*

We are grateful for our veterans.

SALUTE to Veterans

Defenders of Liberty, we Salute You

Dale Rollins: Vietnam veteran and volunteer

■ Martin Gibson
Columbia Gorge News

DALE ROLLINS, A conscientious objector as a youth, would join the Navy and serve for six years with two tours in Vietnam. Now he now spends his days connecting with and supporting other veterans left isolated and alienated by the same war.

As a teenager, he filed with the draft board as a conscientious objector. “Frankly, the Lord started working on my heart,” he said. Rollins had attended a couple of bible colleges, both of which placed in management and logistics, in pursuit of an uncompleted bachelor’s degree. He “came to Christ” in 1963 when British evangelist Major Ian Thomas visited his high school.

His best friend was drafted and died the same year in Vietnam.

Rollins eventually changed his mind. “I would just tell them, ‘I’m draftable. I will serve my country.’ And so that same year, I applied to the U.S. Navy.” That was 1969.

They put him in the nuclear power program at first, but it didn’t click. He also went through electrician’s school at the top of his class, and submarine school and became electrician’s mate on the small but fierce aircraft carrier USS Oriskany, from which John McCain was shot down.

He spent about six months on a subtender off San Diego first.

He worked generator watches, and then tended the lights — including the flight deck lights pilots needed to land. “There’s planes coming back shot up, some didn’t come back, but several crashes on the deck wiped out all my lights,” he remembered. Once a failing plane banked so close in front of the window Rollins’ was looking through, he could see oil on the belly pan. The pilot jumped out and



Dale Rollins holds a historical photo of one of his heroes, the earliest army chaplain in the Revolutionary War, in the chapel at Oregon Veterans Home where he is a spiritual support volunteer.
Martin Gibson photo

vanished over the side of the deck, parachute barely opening in time. He was picked up uninjured, “nothing on but his skinny shorts, crash helmet, a duty bag and a big smile,” Rollins said.

Rollins’ close friends included “a Mormon kid, one was a Christian Science kid, another was a Baptist kid, and the other was just a renegade.” In port, they’d go exploring together on land.

“I had to really struggle, having been a conscientious objector, but I was going to serve my country,” Rollins said.

He told this to a senior chief, while both stood on the flight deck, watching airplanes head off to bomb locations in Vietnam. “He says, ‘You

know what we like about you guys? And I go, ‘You mean us electricians, chief?’ No, he knew my stories and my records. He said, ‘No, know you do not enjoy killing people.’”

Rollins’ ship sent more strikes into Vietnam than the nuclear powered monster Enterprise.

“To hear that from my senior chief, there’s a huge encouragement,” he said. “And I lost friends in that whole thing. I know a little bit about combat and war, but peace is very, very valuable.”

Rollins became a songwriter in the Navy. “I picked up the guitar in Tokyo and started writing these songs as one homesick Oregon boy,” he said, writing songs like Rogue River Ramblin’

and Chief Joseph. Son of a gypso (small family outfit) logger in southern Oregon and stepson to a river guide, he wrote about real places and people. His music met success on the airwaves, and he would play at Oregon’s capital and shake hands with Governor Vic Atiyeh in the 1980s.

Rollins doubts he’d be a songwriter without that tour of duty.

After his service ended in 1975, Rollins helped his stepfather, a river guide on the Rogue, for a year. Then he moved to a 5,000-acre dude ranch in northern California run by a “tough old Marine,” as a maintenance foreman. Promoted to general manager, he stayed for almost 12 years, raising his daughter with

her own pony. “It was idyllic,” he said.

Rollins had married his high-school sweetheart — at the command, he chuckles, of her 3-year-old daughter who walked up to him and said, “I think you should be my Daddy!”

“How can I say no? She adopted me. That’s the truth,” Rollins said. The family was together for 17 years.

After the R Ranch, he joined the Oregon State Police for several years. In Silverton, Rollins maintained state vehicles and patrol cars, installing the gun locks, cages, sirens, radios, etc.

He now travels with his current wife, Mary, to her art shows in Oregon and abroad.

Rollins became

committed to helping other combat vets. He’s now a Spiritual Support Volunteer at Oregon Veteran’s Home.

Loneliness and disconnection isolate many Vietnam vets, Rollins said. Some become alcoholics or face other issues. So he searches out vets in the community and visits facilities to connect with them. “I’m a combat vet. I know what it’s like,” he said.

Asked what he’d want for people in the navy nowadays, Rollins said: “The best thing was two words that popped up for us Vietnam vets ... ‘Welcome home.’

Because those guys are isolated from friends and family. They even feel like they’ve been betrayed by their own government,” many suffering through Agent Orange exposure.

“They can feel alone, because no one’s going to relate with their stories,” he said. “It’s more intense than the average citizen has to deal with, outside of maybe a fireman or a policeman or EMT.”

“The public during the Vietnam thing was convoluted about it, and left veterans feeling like no one really cared about their sacrifice and what it cost them to serve during that era,” he added later.

How can people help? Just visit, he said. Connect with veterans locally. “There’s nothing that probably encourages them more than to have real people drop in.”

“Sometimes there’s not a whole lot of light on the battlefield in war, and so to be kind of a light beam in the midst of the fray ... it’s a positive place to be.

“... It’s even twice as relevant to these guys. That’s why I’ve been invited to go to other veterans [facilities] and just hang out, that’s my mission, and sit down to listen to their stories.”

His next book “My Secret Mountain,” to be self-published, will include some of those stories.

Sgt. 1st Class
Bret A. Kiser



U.S. ARMY
1998-2022 - 24 yrs. retired

1st Sergeant
Herbert Klaviter



U.S. Army, 1953-1985
Reserves, 1985-1994
Radar Operations Korean War
Drill Instructor, Basic Training

Private 1st Class
Harold Klein



U.S. ARMY
1942-1945, WWII
1st Armored Div. under Patton
Europe-Africa-Middle East Medals

James Klein



U.S. NAVY
1990-1994
USS Carl Vinson

L/CPO
Donald Lee Knapp



U.S. MARINE CORPS
1969-1971
3rd Battalion, Golf Battery
Vietnam War-Dong Ha

Bosnmate Master Chief E9
Mike Knopf



U.S. NAVY RESERVES
Mar 1969
U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers Oct 1993-2007

Lee
Kober



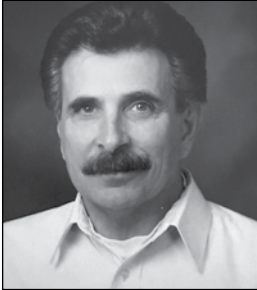
U.S. NAVY
1983-1990

Airman First Class
Christopher-
Andrew Koontz



U.S. AIR FORCE
2009 - 2012
Serving in Okinawa, Japan

Staff Sgt.
Steven Koontz



U.S. Air Force
1963-1976
Medical Specialist - Air Evac

E4
Duane Koops



U.S. ARMY
Air Cavalry
Vietnam

Sergeant
William G. Kopp



U.S. ARMY
1941-45, WWII
Darby's Rangers

Sergeant
Arthur Krein



U.S. ARMY
Western Europe
1944-1945
Bronze Star, Purple Heart

Staff Sergeant
Alfred W. Kruckman



U.S. AIR FORCE
1941-1945
WWII - South Pacific

T/5
Vernon C. Labsch



U.S. ARMY1943-1945
U.S. Navy Reserve
1946-1977
Seabees, WWII Europe

Sergeant
Herb Lacock



U.S. AIR FORCE
1950-54 Korean War & USA
13th Bomb Squadron
3rd Bomb Wing B-26 Aircraft

Electrician PO2
Gene LaDouceur



U.S. NAVY, 1970-1974,
USS Mt. Hood AE-29,
Vietnam - 3 Westpacs

1st Lieutenant
Brent Larson



U.S. ARMY
1980-1982
1991-1994

Kerry L. Lauritsen



U.S. ARMY
1969-1971

Morris Lauritsen



U.S. ARMY
1960-1963

First Class, E6
Joseph W. Lawrence



U.S. NAVY
Vietnam, 1964-72
Fire Control Technician
USS Decatur, USS Reeves

1st Lieutenant
Stephen E. Lawrence



U.S. ARMY
1967, Vietnam War
Infantry Platoon Leader
1st Air Cavalry Division

Sergeant
Darrell R. Leabo



U.S. ARMY
1940-1945
Combat Infantry Badge,
Bronze Stars, Award Ribbons

Radar Man II
David R. Lee



U.S. NAVY
1960-1963
2 West Pac Cruises, Mei Kong
River, Water Station Echo

Engineman 2nd Class
Don Lewis



U.S. NAVY
1968-1971
PBR Vietnam

Technician 5th Grade
James Herbert Lobdell



U.S. ARMY
Armored Field Artillery
Battalion
1943-1945 WWII

PFC, Ht3
Roger Lodmill



U.S. ARMY, NAT. GUARD,
Navy 1993-1996;
2003-2006
Iraq, Gulf War

Fireman 1st Class
Bert E. Long



U.S. NAVY
1944-1946
WWII

Staff Sergeant
Verne L. Lousignont



U.S. ARMY
1944-1946 - WWII
Asiatic Pacific/Phillippines
Liberation

Cary T.
Lowe



U.S. AIR FORCE
1971-1975

Harold
Luebke



U.S. ARMY

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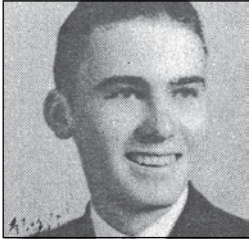
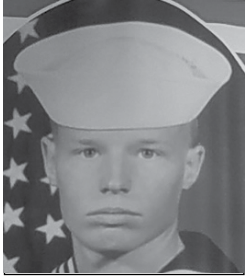
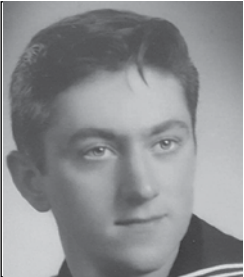
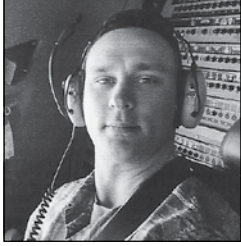


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Arn Lund  U.S. ARMY 1942-1945	IS1 IW/SW Damien P. Lutgens  U.S. NAVY 2019-Present NCIS Quantico, VA	ETR3 David Lutgens  U.S. NAVY 1964-1968 U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt	STS2 (SS) Gaven Lutgens  U.S. NAVY U.S.S. Topeka SSN 754 Bremerton, WA	AT3 VF-32 Robert Lutgens  U.S. NAVY 1997-2001 U.S.S. Enterprise U.S.S. Harry S. Truman Operation Desert Fox	Sergeant Bradford Lynch  U.S. ARMY 1972-1975
Ed Macken  U.S. NAVY 1942-1945 WWII	MM 1st Class Peter J. Macnab  U.S. NAVY 1942-1945, WWII Navy Seabees	Captain (Pilot) Ralph Madsen  U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS 1943-1945 Awarded DFC, Air Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal	1st Lieutenant Richard H Maier  U.S. ARMY 10th Mountain Division Ski Troop Korean War / Purple Heart	2nd Lieutenant Robert "Bob" Majors  U.S. MARINE AIRCRAFT SQUADRON 1942-1945 WWII KIA 1945 in the Philippines	Harold R. "Richie" Malcolm, Jr.  U.S. NAVY USS Ranger CV-64
Harold Richard Malcolm, Sr.  U.S. NAVY Vietnam Veteran USS Osborne	Medic Jane Marinoni  U.S. ARMY 1944-1946	Sergeant Major Gavin McIlvenna  U.S. ARMY 1989-2012 Operation Noble Eagle Operation Iraqi Freedom	Fireman Donald A. Martin, Jr.  U.S. NAVY 2008 - Present	Medic Donald A. Martin  U.S. ARMY 1982-1985	E4 Kenneth R. Martin  U.S. NAVY 1958-1960 Pacific Fleet Pearl Harbor
T/5 Roderick Martin  U.S. ARMY 1944-1946 WWII, European theater Stateside after the war	Nurse Aletha Card Martinez  U.S. ARMY 1943-1967 WAC Nurse WWII, Germany, Austria, Surgical Nurse	Corporal Everett Marvel  Marines First Division 1942-1945	Staff Sgt. Alvin Marvin  U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS 1941-1945 Air Offensive Japan	Private 1st Class Cash L. Mathewson  U.S. ARMY 2017-present	AMH3 3rd Class Kenton Mathewson  U.S. NAVY 1962-1965 Vietnam
E-6 Darren Maurer  U.S. NAVY AIR 2002-present Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Senior Chief Petty Officer Robert "Max" Maxwell  U.S. NAVY 1955-1994 Two Korean Campaigns: USS Chickasaw, Eniwetok, Kwajalein Atolls, Nuclear testing	E-6 Staff Sergeant Mike May  U.S. ARMY 2001-2015, 4 yrs active duty Deployed to Iraq 2003-2004	2nd Lieutenant Stanley G. Mayfield  U.S. ARMY 1941-1945 WWII, Pearl Harbor HI	Capt. Caren McCurdy  U.S. NAVY JAG Corps 1994-2018	Cyndee Baker-McNeal  U.S. ARMY 1988-1991 56th Field Artillery Unit
Alden S. McNerney  U.S. NAVY 1957-1960 USS John Paul Jones	Eric McNerney  U.S. NAVY 2016-2022 P8 Poseidon aircrewman	Joel McNerney  U.S. ARMY 1980-1983 Ft. Richardson, AK	Sergeant Daniel L. Meader  U.S. ARMY 1986-1992 Operation Desert Shield Operation Desert Storm	Master Sgt. Joseph E. Meagher  U.S. AIR FORCE 1989- Present	Staff Sgt. Matthew Meartz  U.S. AIR FORCE 37th Security Forces 2002 - present Operation Iraqi Freedom

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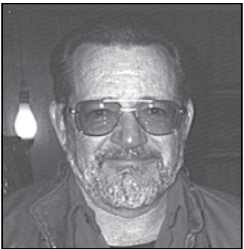
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Spec. 5
Donald E. Mee



U.S. ARMY
1965-1969
Vietnam

Chief Warrant Officer
Joseph W. Mee



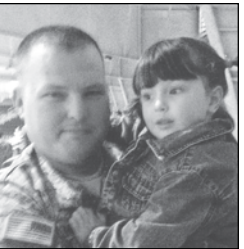
U.S. MARINES
1944-1964
WWII, Okinawa, Korean War

Sergeant
Charles Melvin



U.S. ARMY
1952-1956
Korean War

Sergeant
Nicolas Mendez



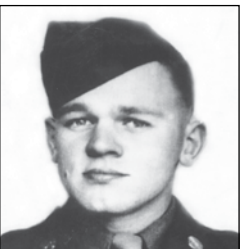
ARMY National Guard
1998-present
Iraq, Afghanistan

SP5 E5
Ronald A. Merz



ARMY National Guard
1970-1977

Sergeant
Hans "Bud" Meves



U.S. ARMY
WWII - 1943
10th Mountain Division
Bronze Star/Purple Heart

Sergeant
Wilson J. Meyer



U.S. ARMY
1941-45
Served on Okinawa
and the Pacific Rim

William
N. Meyers



U.S. MARINES, 1946-1949
U.S. NAVY, 1949-1967

Medical Specialist
Nicholas Scott Miles, Jr.



U.S. ARMY
2005-2008, 2-8 Cavalry
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Warrant Officer
Robert Millard



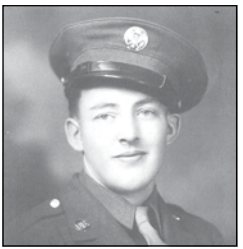
U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
1942-1946

E-4
Alan Miller



NATIONAL GUARD
1981-1985
1063rd Engineering Corps

Sgt.
Carl Hans Miller



U.S. ARMY
1942-1945
WWII

First Ltd.
Mynah Miller



U.S. ARMY
1941-1945

E-4 Electronic Warfare Tech.
Dan Minnis



U.S. NAVY
1969-1972
Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam

MM2 E5
Larry A. Mitchell



U.S. NAVY
Nov 1953 - Mar 1969
Korean - Vietnam War
4 tours to Vietnam

E-4
Kim F. Moffett



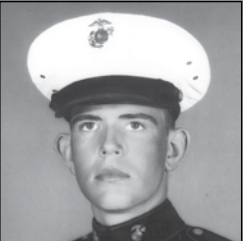
U.S. NAVY
Sept. 1971-Aug. 1974

Anna Flynn
Monkiewicz



U.S. AIR FORCE
1942-1944
WASP American Theater OPS

Arthur L.
Monroe



1st Marine Division
Vietnam, 1962
3rd Battalion, 5th Regiment

Sergeant
John E. Moore



U.S. ARMY
World War II
New Guinea, Philippines
41st Infantry Division,
Jungle/Amphibious warfare

PFC
Thomas Morelli



U.S. ARMY
1943-1945
5th Division, POW Germany

EN4
Allen T. Morinville



U.S. NAVY
1960-1964
U.S.S. Whetstone, Pacific
during Bay of Pigs

Corporal
Vern W. Morinville



ARMY - 996th Air Squad-
ron, 556 Air Service
1944 - 1947
Sent to Pearl Harbor after attack

Corporal
Wayne L. Morinville



ARMY - 538th Engineering
Battalion Construction
1963-1965
Built supply route from Thailand
through Cambodia to Viet Nam

Major (Dr.)
George G. Morris



U.S. ARMY 41st Division
Oregon National Guard
116th Medical Battalion
Pacific Theater, 1943-1945

Nurses Cadet Corp
Mary Lou Miles Morris



U.S. ARMY
1943-1948

SW3
Lloyd Morrow



U.S. ARMY
1966-1988
Germany

Sergeant First Class E7
William J. Nagle



U.S. ARMY 7th Infantry Div.
1947-1953
Korean War

E-4P
Ron Nails



U.S. ARMY
1987-1989
101st Airborne

E-5 Machinery
Repairman 2nd Class
Gary Lee Navarre



U.S. NAVY
01/1965-12/1967
Vietnam

Corporal
Kayla Nelson



U.S. MARINES
2005-2009



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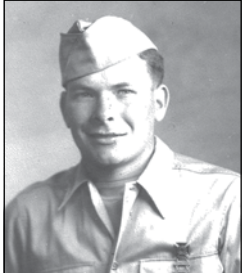
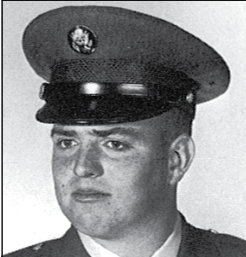
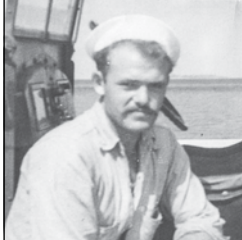
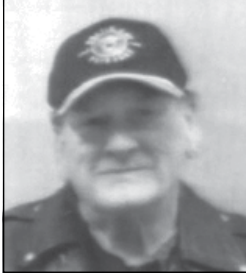
UNDERSHERIFF BRIAN ROCKETT (ABE 2nd Class, U.S. Navy)
SERGEANT DAVID STEFANINI (Senior Airman, U.S. Air Force)
DEPUTY JESSE FLEM (Specialist, U.S. Army)
DEPUTY BRIEN GIBSON (Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army)
DEPUTY DEAN ROCKETT (MP Sergeant, U.S. Army/OR Army National Guard)
DETECTIVE KYLE COZAD (Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps)
ANIMAL CONTROL DEPUTY AMANDA COCHRAN-GREEN (Sergeant, U.S. Army)
RESERVE DEPUTY ROBERT STEWART (Storekeeper, U.S. Navy)



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MOTORS**



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Jackson "Jack" Newton  U.S. NAVY 1942-1945	T/5 Richard O. Nichols  U.S. ARMY 1943-1945 South Pacific	William Nix  U.S. NAVY Chief Petty Officer 1968-1974, 1988-2004 U.S. ARMY Sgt. First Class 1974-1988, 2005	Sergeant Will Nunn  U.S. ARMY 1968-1970 981 MP Co. K9 Pleilru, Viet Nam	Steven Nybroten  U.S. ARMY 1969-1972 Vietnam, Bronze Star	Staff Sergeant Delbert G. Oades  U.S. ARMY 03/23/1945-12/3/1946
Sgt. Clifford O'Dell, Jr.  U.S. MARINES 1967-1969 Vietnam Service Medal, Com- bat Action, Vietnam - BtryA, 1st Bn, 12th Marines	Staff Sergeant Jeffrey S. Ogno  U.S. ARMY 1968-1970 Air Medic, Vietnam 3 Purple Hearts	Lieutenant Melvin E. Olmstead  U.S. ARMY 1942-1945 Philippines	Army Specialist 4 Melvin John Olmstead  U.S. ARMY 1966-1968 Vietnam	Seaman First Class Sam Olmstead  U.S. Navy 1950-1954 Korean War, stationed in Japan, Philippines and Aleutian Islands	Corpsman Terry R. Ohlhauser  U.S. NAVY 1965-1969 Served with the Marines in Hue, Tet Offensive
Gary L. Olson  U.S. ARMY 1968-1970 Germany/ Trk. Dr Hvy	Sergeant Wayne Olson  U.S. MARINES 1955	Corporal Ken Omeg  U.S. AIR FORCE 1942-1945	E-5 William (Bill) Otto  U.S. NAVY 1955-1970	SOG 2 George R Overman  U.S. NAVY 1946-1954 Korean War	MoMM 3C Charles Arthur Pake  U.S. NAVY 1943-1946
First Lt. Angela Palmer  ARMY RESERVE 2005-Present Operation Enduring Freedom	Bob Palmer  U.S. AIRFORCE	Staff Sergeant E6 Robert J. Paul  U.S. ARMY RESERVES Deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan Killed in action Sept. 8, 2006 in Kabul, Afghanistan	Commander William Paulsen  U.S. NAVY 1959-1981 Vietnam	Al Peck  U.S. AIR FORCE	Arnold Pendell  U.S. ARMY
PFC Dick Pentecost  U.S. ARMY 1942-1946	Corporal Bill Perkins  U.S. ARMY Infantry - Korea 1955-1957	Private First Class Maddison D. Peterson  U.S. MARINE CORPS 2007-2008 Presidential Security Forces, Washington, D.C.	Chief Electrician Edward Pfenning  MERCHANT MARINE 1943-1945 WWII, decoy ships hit by Kamikaze	E-6 Staff Sergeant Fred Allen Phipps  U.S. ARMY 1966-1971 Vietnam	3rd Class Petty Officer Jim Phipps  U.S. NAVY 1965-1969 Vietnam
Private B.H. "Pick" Pickens  U.S. ARMY 1942-45 Chemical warfare dept. caring for dogs used to protect areas	In Memory of Sgt. Adam Plumondore  U.S. ARMY Killed in action 02/16/05 - Iraq 1st Battalion 24th Infantry	PFC Marvin Polehn  U.S. ARMY 1953-1956 Active duty Korea, 1953-1955	PFC Charles W. Powell  U.S. ARMY, 332nd Engineers 1942-1945 WWII - Allied invasion of Normandy, Omaha Beach	Ronald Powell  U.S. AIR FORCE 1963-1979 Special Forces Search & Rescue	Corporal Gabriel A. Prado  U.S. MARINES 2002-2006 - Iraq War 1st Battalion, 4th Marines Alpha Co. Raiders

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BTFN
Harvey Prouty



U.S. NAVY
1952-1955
Korean War - U.S.S. Essex CVA9

Electrician's Mate 2nd Class
Gayl Rakestraw



U.S. NAVY
1943-1946
Numerous medals & awards

Hosp. Corpsman 3rd Class
Glenn R. Ramsey



U.S. NAVY & MARINES
1956-1960
Camp Pendleton, 29 Palms,
Port Hueneme

E-5
Darren Rank



SEAMAN
U.S. NAVY
Aug. 7, 2002—current

CW3 Stan Redmond
Major Erin Stewart



U.S. ARMY Deployed - Africa
U.S. ARMY Retired

LT CDR
Wallace M. Regets



U.S. NAVY
1941-1961
Served on the U.S.S. St. Louis, U.S.S. LSM 460 during WWII

1st Sergeant
William (Bill) Reiman



U.S. ARMY
1942-1945, WWII
Battle of Leyte, Philippines
Okinawa, 531st Frwd Artillery

Jess Ben Remington



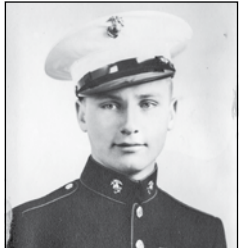
U.S. MARINE CORPS
Recipient of Purple Heart
Iwo Jima WWII

Staff Sergeant
Michial Renault



U.S. ARMY
1987-2009
907th ENG DET Firefighters
Operation Desert Storm
Operation Enduring Freedom

Gene L. Reynolds



U.S. MARINE CORPS
WWII - Pacific

Master Sergeant
Darrell Richardson



U.S. ARMY
1943-1945
Purple Heart recipient

Floyd Richardson



U.S. NAVY
1943-1945

E5
Michael Richardson



U.S. ARMY
1969-1973

Specialist
Matthew W. Riggs



U.S. ARMY
2011 to present
Afghanistan

1st Lieutenant
Dayna M. Riise



ARMY ENGINEERS
2011 to present
Ft. Shafter, Honolulu, HI,
U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters

SFC E7
John A. Ringlbauer



U.S. ARMY 1970-74
Oregon National Guard
1986-2009 (Retired)
Vietnam

Corporal E-4
William F. Ringlbauer



U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
1941-1945
North Africa World War II

SP4 E-4
William F. Ringlbauer, Jr



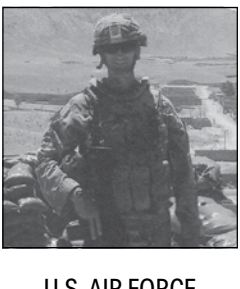
U.S. ARMY TRANS.
1966-1969
Vietnam

Les Roberts



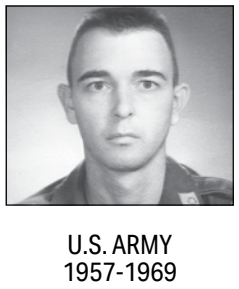
U.S. ARMY
1942-1945
European Theatre

Lieutenant Colonel
Troy A. Roberts



U.S. AIR FORCE
1992 - present
Afghanistan

Major
Grant C. Robbins



U.S. ARMY
1957-1969
14th QM Br. Babenhausen - Germany
Long Binh, US Army Support
Command - Saigon, Vietnam

Specialist
Michael O. Robbins



U.S. ARMY AIRBORNE
Kosovo 1999
We Miss You Mike!

Dental Tech 2nd Class
Robert Clark Robins



U.S. NAVY
1958-1962

Private
Billy Robinson



U.S. ARMY
1946-1947, WWII
Aircraft Artillery

ABE 2nd Class (E-5)
Brian Rockett



U.S. NAVY
1987-1991
USS America (CV-66) Aviation
Division, Operation Desert
Shield, Operation Desert Storm

Signalman 1st Class
William 'Bill' Rooper



U.S. NAVY
1942-1945, WWII
South Pacific

A/1c
Marvin O. Ross



U.S. AIR FORCE
Nov. 1954-July 1959

Tony Rowland



U.S. ARMY
1971-1974
8th Div. Baumholder,
Germany

Corporal
Wayne Ryan



U.S. MARINES
1942-1945
1st Marine Division

Colonel
William T. Ryan



COMBAT INFANTRY
Transportation 1942-1970
WWII - Vietnam - Korea
Recipient of Purple Heart



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Dr. Daniel Gabriel served
26 years in the Air Force and
achieved the rank of colonel.



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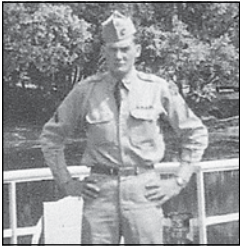
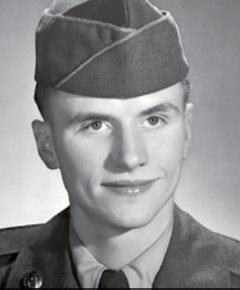



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Staff Sgt./Chief Master Sgt. Truman Sinclair  ARMY AIR CORPS U.S. AIR FORCE WWII 1943-1945 U.S. A.F. 1945-1983	2nd Class Art Smith  U.S. NAVY 1952-1966	Lance Corporal David Michael Smith  U.S. MARINE CORPS 1968-1971 Vietnam	Airman 2nd Class Donald Smith  U.S. AIR FORCE 1955-1959	1st Lieutenant Eugene Charles Smith  U.S. ARMY WWII Korea 1950-1954	Specialist 4 Jerry Ivan Smith  U.S. ARMY 1958-1960
Senior Airman Joshua Smith  U.S. AIR FORCE 2007-2010 Tinker Air Force Base Oklahoma City	Staff Sergeant Myrle E. Smith  U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS 1941-1945, WWII Air Mechanic	Russell A. Smith  U.S. ARMY Korean War 1953-1955 Okinawa 1954-1955	BT3 Randy Sohler  U.S. NAVY USS Badger - FF1071	Richard "Dick" Sohler  U.S. NAVY 1967-1970 16 months in Vietnam Combat Action Ribbon	Petty Officer 1st Class Michael S. Spencer  U.S. COAST GUARD 1992-present Aviation Survival, USCG Distinguished Flying Cross

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David Staehnke



U.S. AIR FORCE
1960-1964

Senior Airman (E4)
David Stefanini



U.S. AIR FORCE
1999-2003
10th SFS United States
Air Force Academy,
Operation Enduring Freedom

Storekeeper (E4)
Bob Stewart



U.S. NAVY
1977-1983
SEABEE Battalion 40
USS Pensacola LDS 38

Captain
Randy Stewart



U.S. ARMY
1969-1978

Spec. 4
Irwin Storer



U.S. ARMY
1967-1969

Lance Corporal
Patrick Stough



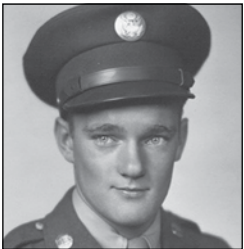
U.S. MARINES
Vietnam War

Private First Class
Edward V. Strandberg



U.S. ARMY
11th Airborne Division
and 82nd Airborne Division
Europe 1944-46

Lieutenant Colonel
John E. Strandberg



U.S. ARMY
1st Cavalry Division and
82nd Airborne Division
Iraq 2004, Afghanistan 2007-08

E4
Mike Sullivan



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1990-98
2-218 Field Artillery

Staff Sgt.
Robert Sutherland



U.S. ARMY 1942 - 1944
KIA in France;
his division was awarded
Presidential Unit Citation

Jesse Sutton



U.S. ARMY
1962-1965

Robert V Sumner



U.S. NAVY
1966-1972,
Vietnam

Chief Electrician Mate
Alvin James Swanstrom



U.S. NAVY
1929-1949
WWII, Pacific Theater,
Career Navy

Lieutenant
PK Swartz, Jr.



U.S. NAVY
1971-1978
USS Hamilton China Sea/South

Seaman First Class
Raymond H. Swift



U.S. NAVY
1943-1946

Ben Synon



U.S. Marines
1944-1946
5th Division

Sergeant
Jared L. Taylor



U.S. ARMY
2001-2013
Served four tours in Iraq

Lt. Colonel
J. Cal Taylor



U.S. AIR FORCE
1963-1989
Navigator, Intelligence Officer

Staff Sgt.
Larry Taylor



U.S. ARMY
1952-1962
Korean War, Paratrooper

Medic Private
Stephanie Taylor



U.S. ARMY
1999-2003
Based in Germany

Pvt.
John B. Thomas



U.S. ARMY 1945
90th Infantry Div.
Prisoner of War

Sergeant
Justin Thomas



U.S. ARMY
2004-2011
Military Police
Operation Iraqi Freedom

SP-5 UICHTAM Germany (Courier)
Dennis R. Thompson



U.S. ARMY
1967-1970

2nd Class Aviation Machinist
Orville Thompson



U.S. NAVY
1942

E4-Link Trainer Operator
Thomas C. Thompson (Tom)



U.S. AIR FORCE
1961-1965

SP4
William F. Trautz



U.S. ARMY 1965-1967
Vietnam Service, HHC 2/327
INF. MTR. PLT, 1st Brigade 101st
(Airborne)

PHMSC
Carole Tuck



U.S. NAVY
1941-1945
WWII

CSKD
Raymond Tuck



U.S. NAVY
1941-1945, WWII
Pearl Harbor survivor

Sergeant
Bill Turner



U.S. ARMY MILITARY
POLICE 1965-1968
Okinawa, Vietnam

Corporal
David L. Tuttle



U.S. ARMY
1952-1954
Korean War, 45th Div., 179th
Reg. Co. "C", Heartbreak Ridge,
Christmas Hill

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U.S. ARMY
1953-1955

Sergeant
Harold Utley



U.S. ARMY
1950-53 Korean War
1st Squad Co. A, 45th Division
Purple Heart

Sergeant
Adam VandenBos



U.S. ARMY
2006-2013
1st Brigade of the 25th Division
1st Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division
Operation Iraqi Freedom - Iraq,
Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan

Chief Electrician
Ken Varner



U.S. NAVY
1942-1945

Benjamin Elbert
Veatch



U.S. MARINES, 1943-1946
Sharpshooter,
Aircraft Mechanic

Seaman
Ron Vergeer



U.S.Coast Guard
1971-1975

Tec Sergeant
Elden Wagenblast



U.S. ARMY
1942-1946

Bosun Mate
Robert "Dewey" Wagenblast



U.S. COAST GUARD
1942-1945

John L.
Walker



U.S. NAVY
1967-1975
Seabees, Vietnam

Sergeant
Charles Edward Wallace



1953-1955
Korean War

2nd Lieutenant
Thomas H. Ward



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NATIONAL GUARD
1935-1945

Lance Corporal
Monte Wasson



U.S. MARINES
Vietnam
1966-1968

Thomas R.
Wasson



U.S. NAVY
Vietnam Mekong Delta 1967
Silver Star, 2 Purple Hearts

Lester
Watrus



U.S. NAVY

MOMM 2C
William Watrus



U.S. NAVY
1943-1946
USS Tutuila (ARG-4)

Joseph
Way



U.S. NAVY

Storekeeper 2nd Class
Melvin Way



U.S. NAVY
1945-1946
WWII Vet

SP4
Terry L. Way



U.S. ARMY
1971-1973

Airman 1st Class
Mark R. Weston



U.S. AIR FORCE
1963-1968
Portland, Tyndall, Panama City
Jet Mechanic, Civil Engineer

Major
William Westover



U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS
1941-1945

TM1/SS
Dan Wheeler



U.S. NAVY
1971-1979

Anne
White



U.S. ARMY
WWII
Registered Nurse

Arthur
White



U.S. ARMY
WWII
Medic

SSGT (Retired)
Patrick Wilbern



ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
2004 - 2014
Operation New Dawn

Cpl
Scott Wilbern



U.S. ARMY
2007-2013
Bravo Company 3-8-1 ICD
Op. Iraqi Freedom, Fort Hood

Seaman
Ross Wilkins



MERCHANT MARINES
1943

Bob
Williams



U.S. NAVY

Sgt First Class
Preston A. Williams



U.S. ARMY
1946-1966

3rd Class Petty Officer
William Wilson



U.S. NAVY
1951-1955, Korean War
Navy Chaplain Asst.

PFC
Robert Winder



U.S. ARMY
1972-1974
Served in Vietnam



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Veterans not pictured: Nick Salovich

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Canadian Overseas
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225th Overseas Battalion
WWI, 1916-1917, age 15

SP-4
Dan Woodrum



U.S. ARMY
Germany, Azores

Mel
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1/205 Anti-Tank
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Cody Yeager



U.S. ARMY
1984-1994
Air Force Reserve 2000-10

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U.S. ARMY
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We dare you to read this letter

NOTE: This letter from a The Dalles navy veteran of World War II was published in The Dalles Daily Chronicle in 1945. It took up an entire page. Below is the original title, editor's note, and text.

ONE OF THE MOST graphic letters to come out of this war recently was received in The Dalles by Mrs. Robert Gales, from her husband Sk./2c Robert Gales, now in service in the South Pacific. He enlisted in the navy in April, 1942, and since completing his preliminary training he has been in service almost continuously in the Pacific battle area.

The letter follows:
March 21, 1945.
Now it can be told — the navy has loosened censor restrictions so that the men involved in certain operations may write of their experiences after a thirty day “security period” has elapsed.

I think you guessed that we were on the Iwo Jima operation and it was the roughest operation in the history of the navy and marines — not to mention my own! We can't tell everything but can tell our own part in the operation.

From the time we left Honolulu, we knew where we were going and that “D” day was planned for February 10th and that “H” hour would be at 0900. Every move we made from that time on was a step closer to the actual invasion. We underwent training, dress rehearsals, mock invasions, general quarters, plane recognition classes and everything else that would help prepare for Iwo. Finally we were fully “combat loaded” and sailed with our section of the “— Task Force.” It turned quite cold on our way up to Iwo Jima — foggy and a chill rain fell most of the time. On the night of February 18th, we neared our objective and by two or three in the morning of the 19th — “D” day—we could hear the big wagons bombarding the islands and see the glare of fires



The Iwo Jima memorial depicting the famous flag raising.

Photo courtesy of goodfreephotos.com

and exploding shells in the sky. We were soon within a mile or so of the beach — near enough that we could see the constant criss cross pattern of heavy shells tracing their way to the island. That morning we had breakfast very early — around 0300 and were back at our battle stations — ready for anything that might happen. At 0600 we set up condition “I-A” (that’s battle condition while debarking troops) and awaiting “H” hour. At 0900, or “H” hour, the first wave went ashore and for the next countless hours wave upon wave of landing craft made their way ashore — through the rain and the enemy fire. As long as I live I shall remember this day — I’ll never forget the shape of the island from Mt. Suribacki at the south end to the low cliffs at the north and the long, low “saddle” between. And as long as I remember this scene I shall see it in my minds eye as a calm, rocky island whose sky is always filled with great black puffs of bursting shells — for we

lay off Iwo over ten days and never, at any time, day or night, was there a second of time when there were no explosions to be seen. I’ve seen a little of the rest of this war, but nothing to compare with Iwo Jima. This was even worse than Tarawa!

My condition I, or general quarters (battle station), is now and has been for some time — before Iwo — Gun Captain on a 20mm A. A. gun. I wear headphones and relay orders from main control to my gunner and the loaders. There are four of us on my gun crew. As soon as we secure from Condition I we usually set I-A (one able) then I change to talker on a debarkation net where I again relay orders from the main control to the boat crew and the officers and men who are debarking and heading for the next wave to go ashore. When all of our boats are loaded and away we secure and are free to watch the battle until any more boats might return for more people or bring casualties aboard.

Needless to say, almost all general work ceases during such an operation and we who are free spend all our spare time up on the weather deck watching the island.

We lay so close to shore that we could see the men and boats hit the beach with our naked eye — about like standing on the lawn at the high school and watching people down town or out at the Port of The Dalles dock. Only, of course, we were on the level with the beach. It’s hard to describe watching a battle such as this — from even a short distance everything seemed slow and unreal — the landing craft seemed only to crawl, and the men on the island seemed almost rooted — huge tanks would inch along and suddenly be blown to almost nothing. The Japs were well prepared, almost every yard of Iwo Jima was fortified — pill boxes of reinforced concrete, four feet thick, were all over. There is very little vegetation and from almost the center for the

north end of the island is a series of rocky cliffs — one above the other. In each of these many cliffs were thousands of caves and in every cave were guns and Japs — so well dug in and so well fortified that the most intensive shelling and bombing attacks of history could not dislodge the men or knock out all the enemy fire. That job was left to the men ashore — the poor devils — but they finally did it. I take my hat off to them.

When we first went in it was with a lot of optimism — 72 hours or perhaps 5 days and we figured the island would be ours. How wrong we were! It was D-plus 4 before the volcano — Mt. Suribacki — and the highest point on Iwo — was taken, and it was then we realized that the battle had only started. The first night or so we would pull out to sea in convoy hoping to evade the inevitable air raids. I’ve lost track of the number of times we were called to GQ — always at night — when our own planes were back aboard their

ships. After reaching our battle stations we would hear the same words over and over — “Bogey coming in fast at 180 or 270 or some other point of the compass — 8 miles away — 20 miles away —” and etc. Twenty miles in a medium Jap bomber or fighter is only a matter of minutes, very short ones at that. It’s the seconds that they’re overhead that are long! The next thing we’d see the tracer fire of a ship ahead or behind us or one side reaching up trying to find some Jap and his load of bombs — nothing is more thrilling or more frightening than an air raid at sea! The next thing all our guns would be chattering along with all the ships around us. Noise, smoke, and the smell of cordite — tracer fire from hundreds of guns at the same time and at night is beautiful to watch — almost a solid wall of fire, each tracer a long graceful arc and at the end a vivid burst. Like a hundred Fourth of July’s rolled into one. Only you know damned well it’s no celebration, and you know that the plane overhead has to either be hit or driven away. You know that you’re playing for keeps. I was scared every time and I guess everyone else was, too. But everyone did what had to be done. One night I was called from my I-A debarking net just as we were getting ready to debark a batch of troops. By the time I manned my gun the raid was on. A whole load of bombs fell between our ship and the one off our starboard side — a near miss and no damage — but it was a hell of a thing to see. After the first two days a big full moon was with us every night — moons are pretty but we all hate them during a night raid — utter darkness is our best friend. In the ten days and nights we were at Iwo Jima I think only two nights were without raids — that’s too many. I

See **LETTER**
Page **B12**

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LETTER

Continued from page B11

guess if it weren't for the pounding our planes were giving the Jap mainland we'd have taken a far worse beating by those night raids. Our ship was lucky — no one hurt and no one killed. I hope our luck holds —!

Day after day the battle went on — men, men and more men were sent ashore — over 40,000 fighting around 20,000 Japs on a little speck of land less than five miles long. The noise was terrific — and incessant — everything from huge battle ships to little L. C. M.'s — throwing everything they had into that rocky patch of land and, overhead, navy carrier based planes by the hundreds strafed, bombed and ricocheted the enemy positions. The shelling was so intense that actually the rocky faces of the cliffs and almost the entire contour of the island would change overnight — a high point here and a cliff face there would suddenly disappear — a tiny hole in the side of a hill would be blown open to expose a huge cavern and then another and another. It seemed impossible for human life to exist, but it did for almost a month. Japs are tough — and they've been taught to fight to the death. Capture is a disgrace for them and very few are ever taken alive. Many times during the time we were there mortar fire from the Jap guns would be turned on the ships — more than once we sightseers would flatten out on the deck,

behind any object we could find, while shell fire fell all around us. It was dangerous to watch the battle from the weather decks but so fascinating that few could resist. Whenever I could bum a pair of glassed I'd glue them to my eyes and never move for hours. It was while I had glasses that I saw one of our planes take a direct hit — it swung around and headed out to sea where it burst into flames. When it was almost directly over our ship and only a few hundred feed high it dived toward our foc'sle —you should have seen us all hit for cover! — and the pilot brought it back under control before it crashed and he maneuvered it away from us and other ships then crashed a few hundred yards away from us in a mass of flame. Whoever the pilot was he did a good job of flying it away from us and crashed it in an open section of that crowded sea! He lost his life but he was careful not to endanger the lives of the rest of us.

“Hitting the beach” was made exceptionally difficult due to rather heavy surf and the unusually abrupt shore, deep water only a few feet out — the LCVP (Landing Craft Vehicles and Personnel) would hit bow on, lower the ramp to unload and then the surf would pound the hell out of the stern — often capsizing and always water logging the boat — many boats were lost. From the beach the men had to dig in almost immediately and then inch their way up the gradual, smooth incline to the ridge

which marked the closes edge of the first airfield, as this was open terrain it was almost impossible to take cover from the raking enemy fire and consequently the loss of life was very great. All along the shore were the remains of wrecked Jap ships both large and small — each of these burnt out masses of steel afforded excellent vantage points for the enemy. We could see our men sneak up on these “forts” and with hand grenades and flame throwers blast them out of commission. It was a rough, hard job, though, and we lost a lot of men in clearing out all those derelicts. Day after day the battle raged on and night after night the air raids hit at us aboard and after a week we had a scant half or less of that five mile long island! The Japs were still fighting back almost as furiously as from the very first — they were still throwing nckack at our planes at our planes and shell fire at our troops. The Japs are particularly adept at Mortar fire — they have a huge 10-inch mortar and it's accuracy was unbelievable. Apparently they had the entire island calibrated down to the very foot and threw their mortar shells accordingly.

The worst part of war is the casualty list — starting shortly after “H” hour, boats flying the casualty flag began bringing their loads of tortured humanity to the ships. Men, who a few short hours before were husky laughing boys, but when they were brought back — God! It's then one realizes how unspeakably horrible war

really is — all the glamour and heroics are dwarfed by the sight of a boat full of broken bodies and dazed, shocked minds. These casualties have all received only first aid on the beach and are then rushed out to the ships for real medical attention. A boat pulls alongside rising and falling in the heavy sea. We man our nets and then begins one of the meanest jobs of all — getting seriously wounded men aboard in the shortest possible time and with the least amount of roughness. If possible the whole boat is hooked to the blocks and brought up — this operation in a rough sea is rough and dangerous — if it's too rough a small sling is dropped over and secured to the four handles of a stretcher which is then pulled aboard. At the very best it's damned rough and awfully hard on a man whose guts are held in with a piece of gauze and a strip of tape. Even the trip from the beach to the ship is hard on a man who had just lost an arm or leg of a kid who has to lie on his stomach because he's packed with shrapnel from his ankles to his neck. It's hell to hear a man scream but you know he can't help it because his body is one terrible mass of burns — and the last shot of morphine had worn off and another would probably kill him. It makes you unutterable sad to see a young good looking kid — without a scratch — sitting in a corner with his hands like claws and his face gray as death and his eyes staring — at nothing — and his tortured mind

struggling with the nameless terror he's just left. He just sits there while the other, more urgent, cases are taken away — he sits there and stares and sees nothing and is finally led, or carried, away. You wonder if these shock cases will ever get well — or if the rest of their lives will be an unending series of nightmares — and if they will go on and on seeing that awful burst that killed their buddies within an arms reach of themselves and left them miraculously alive — when they'd rather be dead. Yes, this part of war is by far the worst and is one of our jobs. The ones who come back with only a flesh wound are the “lucky” ones — they were all glad to leave that island and really thought they were “lucky” if all they had was a concussion or perhaps a small caliber bullet through their lung!

Believe me, everyone “turns to” when these casualties are brought back — especially the doctors and pharmacists mates and corpsmen. They, in particular, have a tremendous job — sometimes they have to go for fifty or sixty hours with no sleep — if it weren't for the rest of the crew helping out they'd never make it. It's amazing to see some of the big hulking seamen off the deck force turn nurse. Some kid who's big and tough and proud of it can be as gentle as a woman with the wounded. I guess it takes something like this to bring those hidden qualities out of most of us. After a nightmarish night of receiving casualties and fighting off air raids

and helping clean up the surgery time after time it's pretty tough to see the grey canvas shrouds go over the side — taking those who couldn't be saved to their last resting place. You've helped bring these men aboard and worked like hell to save them and their life or death has become a personal thing. Then those grey bags mean you have failed. I'm glad I'm not a corpsman.

This, my darling, is what I remember of the battle of Iwo Jima. Of course there are many other things — some of which I have already forgotten and others we can't tell.

As I've told you we were almost in at the start of Iwo Jima and stayed there longer than almost any other ship. When we did leave, the island was over two thirds secure and the most terrible part was over. I suppose I look a bit older — most of us do — another wrinkle here and there and there will probably be more before long. The long, long hours of strain, the air attacks, the broken sleep, the constant string of casualties is a bit wearing. During the operation our biggest happiness was when a Jap plane was shot down in flames. That particular happiness was enjoyed a number of times!

When I started this letter I hardly realized how long it would be — you'll probably wear yourself out reading it, but there was so much to tell that I simply couldn't make it any shorter — and you know how I like to chatter.
— *The Dalles Daily Chronicle, April 17, 1945*



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Join us for Veteran's specials all day November 11th. Open at 7am.



OREGON VETERANS' HOME

THE DALLES ★ THE PLACE WHERE HONOR LIVES

700 Veterans Drive, The Dalles | 541-296-7190



One of the things that sets The Dalles Oregon Veterans Home apart from other care communities is the residents.

The Dalles Oregon Veterans Home is nestled on 15 acres in the historic Columbia Gorge with a beautiful panoramic view of the city, the Columbia River, The Dalles Dam, and majestic Mount Hood. Our mission is to provide the state's aged or disabled veterans with rehabilitative, residential, medical care and services in a home-like environment. We acknowledge the sacrifice Oregon veterans have made and recognize them for their noble service to our nation. The Dalles Oregon Veterans Home provides skilled nursing, long-term care, Alzheimer's and dementia-related care, as well as inpatient and outpatient rehabilitative care to veterans, their spouses and parents who have lost a child to war-time service.

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