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Veterans Day Parade





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ORIGINS OF VETERANS DAY

World War I, also known as “The Great War,” was fought from 1914 to 1918. During this conflict, Great Britain, France, Russia, Belgium, Italy, Japan, the United States and other countries, which formed the “Allies,” defeated the so-called “Central Powers,” which included Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. On the “eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month” of 1918, German leaders signed an armistice, or a temporary ending to hostilities, with the Allied powers. On that date, November 11, celebrations were held in New York City, Paris, London and in other cities around the globe. The following year, President Woodrow Wilson declared November 11 as “Armistice Day,” a day to observe the ending of World War I.

On June 4, 1926, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution asking President Calvin Coolidge to call upon officials to “display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.” Twelve years later, on May 13, 1938, Congress passed an Act making the 11th of November Armistice Day, a federal holiday.

Initially, Armistice Day was to be a day to honor veterans of World War I. But following the tremendous calls to arms and human sacrifice during World War II and the Korean conflict, veterans groups urged Congress to consider a day to celebrate U.S. veterans of all wars. On June 1, 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower signed a bill changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

Difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day

Veterans Day in the United States is a day to honor all Americans who have served in the U.S. military, both during wartime and in peacetime. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring Americans who have died serving the nation, especially those who died in battle or from wounds received during armed conflicts. On Veterans Day, Americans thank the living veterans for their service to the country and recognize that all who have served the country, not just those who have died, have made sacrifices and done their duty.



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Warriors at Amazon is proud to return to the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade for our 2nd year in a row! Our Mission is to provide our members a professional network and means in which to organize community outreach programs, and aid Veterans during their transition into Amazon's workforce.

Warriors would like to thank all Veterans, past and present, for their selfless service.



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**Honoring America's
VETERANS**

Honoring America's Veterans needs volunteers year-round in these areas

- Public Relations (including news media support)
- Digital Marketing (website and social media)
- Event Management (Honor Our Heroes, Essay Program, and more)
- Sponsorship Outreach and Engagement

Contact Paula via email at paula@pedene.com or phone 480-772-2934.

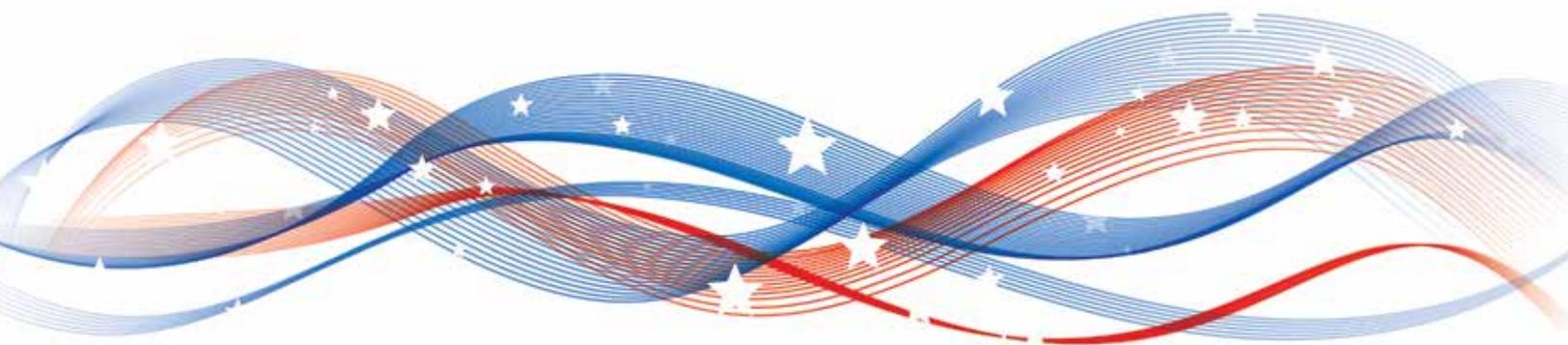


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WORLD WAR II VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Sam Weinstein

U.S. Army

Samuel Weinstein's courage and resolve epitomize America's Greatest Generation.

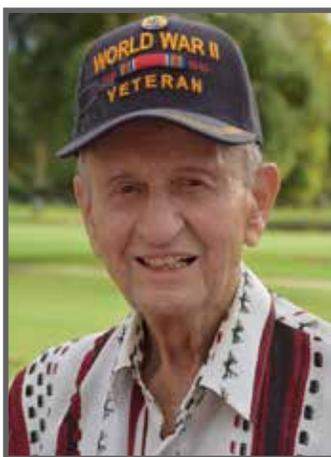
He enlisted in the Army in 1943 at age 19, one of nine children raised during the depths of the Depression. He wanted to be a paratrooper but was denied because the gear he had to carry weighed more than his wiry 119-pound frame.

Instead, he became a rifleman and saw combat in France as a member of Company E of the 103rd Infantry Division. It didn't take long for Weinstein to distinguish himself.

On Jan. 4, 1945, near Behren, France, heavy fire forced his patrol to withdraw. Weinstein, by that time a sergeant, dragged a wounded soldier to cover, where he administered first aid. He carried him over 200 yards of exposed terrain through small arms fire to safety.

Weinstein placed the injured soldier on a passing tank and directed it to an aid station. He then returned to the fight. Months of combat ensued, and on patrol near Offuviller, France, Weinstein was shot in the mouth by a German sniper.

He dropped his rifle and ran across the road. Remembering what he had learned in basic training to "keep your piece with you at all times," he ran across the road, retrieved his rifle, and again found cover.



By this time his tongue was swelling, and he could not breathe. The medics got him to an aid station, performed a tracheotomy, and saved his life. Weinstein had a trachea tube for roughly six months. He was hospitalized in Europe and the U.S. He lost several teeth from the sniper's bullet, and his wounds required reconstructive surgery.

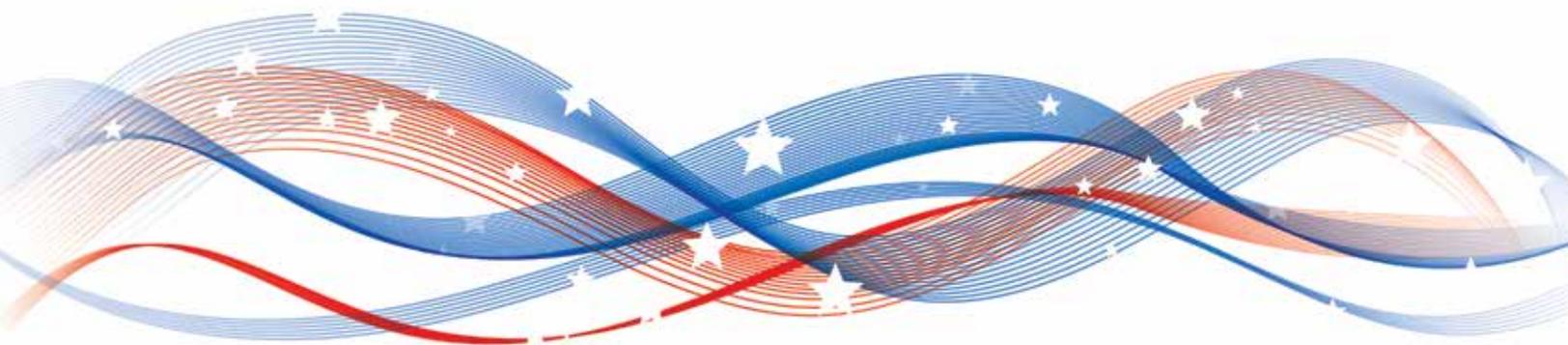
"My father is a true patriot and loves his country," said his daughter and nominator, Lori Bruggeman. "Family is the most important thing to him. He grew up during the Depression and learned great work ethic and passed that on to his children."

After recovering from his wounds, Weinstein became a sheet metal worker and spent about 40 years in the heating and air conditioning business. He is a survivor of lung and prostate cancer and at age 98, recently recovered from a fractured pelvis and hip replacement.

Although he continues to battle lung cancer, Weinstein lives independently. He has high praise for the VA Hospital for taking care of him not just after World War II but throughout the years.

"If I had to sum up my father in a few words ... he is a survivor and my hero," Bruggeman said. ■





KOREAN WAR VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Lew Bradley

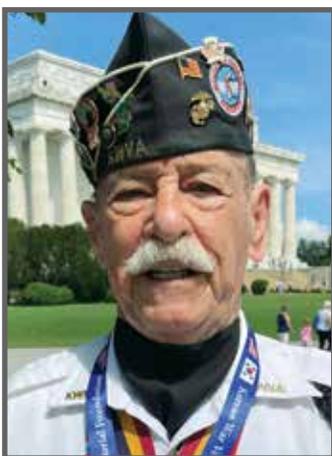
U.S. Marine Corps

Lew Bradley literally put his life on the line to save downed pilots in the Korean War.

His job as a rescue crew chief with the First Marine Air Wing was to jump or rappel from a helicopter and extract servicemen stranded behind enemy lines. He often ran through bullets or dove into freezing ocean waters to rescue the pilots.

This was the early 1950s; helicopters were primitive and did not have sophisticated safety gear—not even flotation vests. He had only two ropes to hoist the pilot and had to stay on the ground or in the water until they were on board. At times, Bradley said, those missions left him only a few minutes from hypothermia and death.

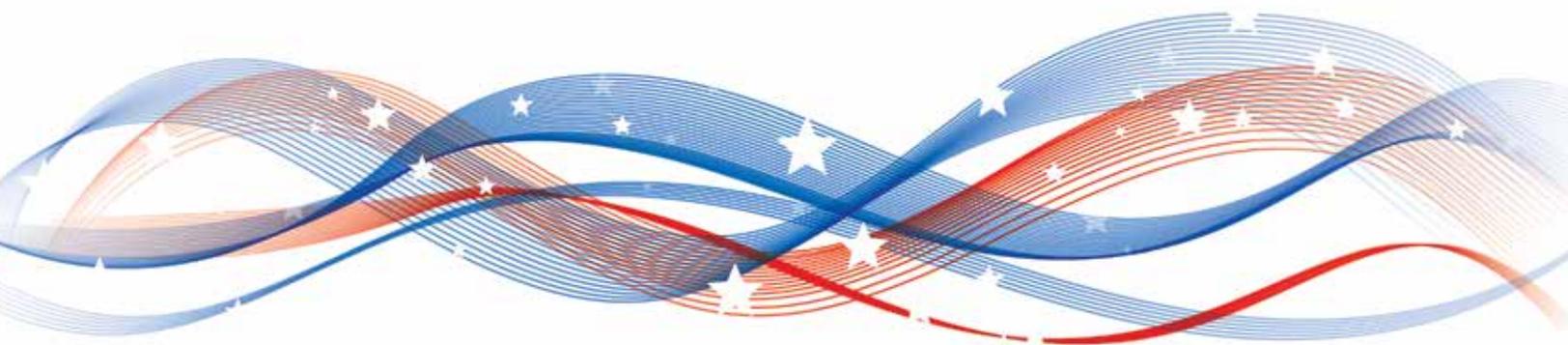
Bradley was required to spend nine months in Korea, but he extended his commitment there beyond the end of the war. After his military service, he became a field service engineer working with many kinds of aircraft. In 1981, he assisted at the Korean Air Lines Pilot Training Center on Jeju Island.



Bradley said the sacrifices made by those who served in the war were well worth it. The Korean people are the most appreciative and thankful people he has met, he said, and it has been great to see South Korea rise and flourish as a free and democratic nation. That success, he added, is in sharp contrast to North Korea, which is still oppressed by communist tyranny.

Bradley is very proud to have served in the Korean War and continues to do all he can to ensure the Korean War and its veterans are never forgotten.

He has served in several officer positions with the Arizona State Korean War Veterans Association, including chapter commander and sergeant at arms. He also serves in other veteran and service organizations, including the Marine Corps League, Unified Arizona Veterans, and Kiwanis Club. ■



VIETNAM WAR VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Ed McCourt

U.S. Marine Corps

While most teens hoped to qualify for a driver's license, Edward Francis McCourt earned the title U.S. Marine.

Determined to leave the tough streets of Chicago and a rocky family life, McCourt fudged his baptismal records in 1952 and enlisted in the Marine Corps. At age 16, he finished boot camp and was promoted to private first class.

Unfortunately, his ruse was discovered. Too young to serve, he received a discharge under honorable conditions. One year later – at the age of 17 and with his mother's permission – he legally returned to the Corps and was able to retain his PFC rank.

Thus resumed a remarkable career. Serving first as an infantryman and later in reconnaissance, McCourt spent the next 11 years serving at seven different duty stations. In 1965, as a staff sergeant, McCourt transferred to the Second Battalion, Third Marine Regiment, as part of expanded operations around DaNang, South Vietnam, to counter the North Vietnamese Army and Vietcong.

It was in combat, guiding troops through jungles, swamps, and rice paddies, where McCourt's leadership skills shined. On July 14, 1966, McCourt was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant. Two hours later, he



was awarded a field commission to second lieutenant -- a rare "Mustang" promotion.

He returned to the U.S. that same year but soon requested orders to return to Southeast Asia. Within three weeks of that request, he led troops again in Vietnam's Northern I Corps.

"He was an incredible leader of men," said nominator Donna Daly. "His troops trusted him and were inspired by his dedication to his duty and his ability to rally his troops.

They went into battle confident that he would help them accomplish the task, but also keeping in mind that they all wanted to return home."

McCourt earned the nickname "Machete Eddie" during his two tours of duty in Vietnam. He was awarded the Silver Star and the Vietnam Republic Cross of Gallantry with Palm (the equivalent of the Silver Star).

McCourt retired from active duty in 1973 as a captain. He then spent 25 years in law enforcement and high-risk security, retiring in 1997. He's 86 years old and lives in Florence, Arizona, with his wife, Sue.

McCourt and his Vietnam service are prominently featured in the book "Ride the Thunder" by former Marine infantry officer Rich Botkin. ■



COLD WAR VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Tom Tostenson

U.S. Navy

Tom Tostenson has spent a lifetime bringing spiritual comfort to those in need.

Tostenson served as a chaplain in the Navy from 1985 to 1998. He was deployed to Kuwait during the Gulf War, attached to Eighth Tank Battalion Second Marine Division, and served in Saudi Arabia for Desert Shield.

He was chaplain of the Test Pilot School at Naval Air Station Patuxent River from 1991 to 1994 and on board the guided missile cruiser USS HUE CITY (CG-66) from 1994 to 1995. While assigned to Hue City, Tostenson was the director of several award-winning community service projects.

Tostenson achieved the rank of lieutenant in the Navy and his years of military service set a course for his life. He segued into hospital chaplaincy, continuing ministering to patients and staff at several facilities. In addition, he holds the rank of major in the Civil Air Patrol as a volunteer chaplain for the Falcon Field Squadron.

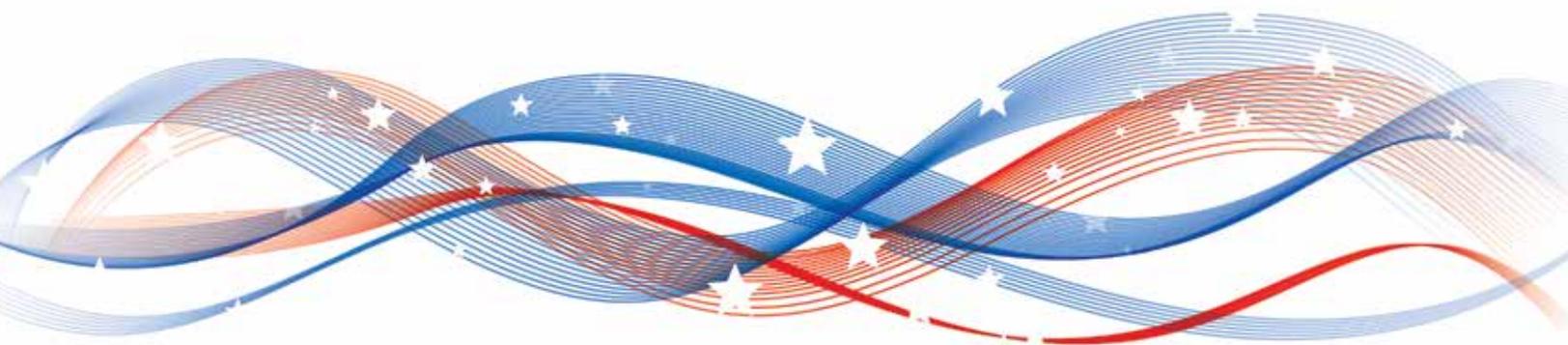


Tostenson also spent many years with Dignity Health, including time as market director for the Nevada service area. When allowed to retire from chaplaincy, he chose instead to assume a hospital contract to cover for a chaplain who was recalled to active military duty and deployed. That eight-month contract turned into a six-year job with the Banner Health system, filling in for other chaplains wherever and whenever needed.

His strong spiritual beliefs have led him to become a member of a local congregation, where he serves as treasurer and recently as a deacon, both in volunteer positions.

“I believe that he loves the chaplaincy and his service in military and paramilitary organizations so much that he is unlikely to ever fully retire,” said nominator Martha Bauder.

Today, Tostenson currently serves as the Wing Chaplain for the Arizona Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (US Air Force Auxiliary). ■



DESERT STORM VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Michael Quezada

U.S. Air Force

A fierce warrior with a relentless pursuit of perfection. That's how one friend describes Air Force veteran Michael Quezada. As an enlisted aircraft communications/navigation technician, Quezada deployed to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Spain to support missions during Operation Desert Storm.

His commitment and attention to detail contributed to a 100 percent success rate for more than 100 KC-135A and KC-135R combat missions. Those outstanding results earned him and his comrades a Galant Unit Citation.

Quezada spent 30 years in the Air Force, not just working on aircraft communication and navigation systems but as a leader. As a first sergeant, he supervised more than 300 airmen and women.

He served worldwide and supported many types of missions, including in support of Air Force One. After he retired, Quezada found a place to serve again as a unit deployment manager for the 55th Rescue Squadron based at Davis Monthan Air Force Base in

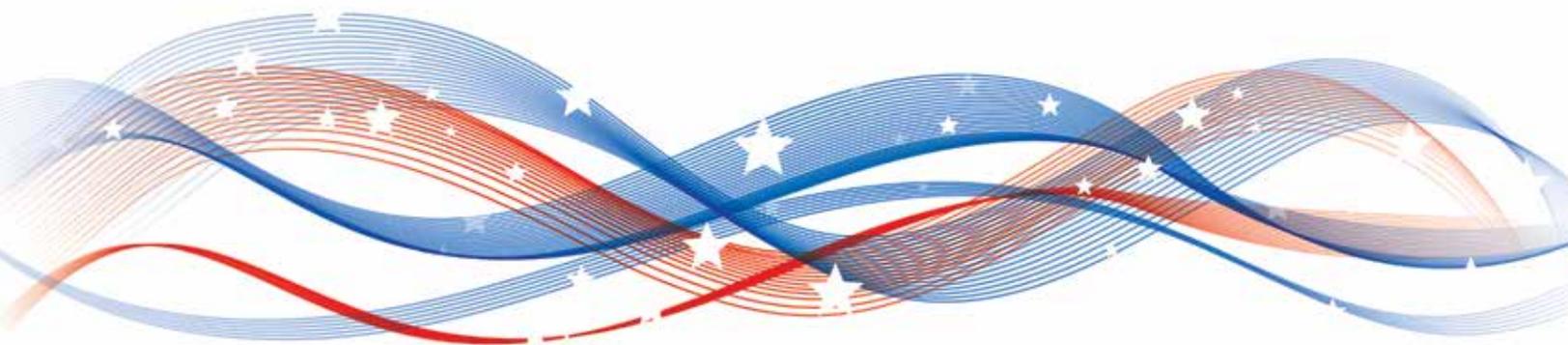


Tucson. For more than 12 years, he helped deploy the 55th in support of operations worldwide, including Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Inherent Resolve. He also worked to support our astronauts as part of an on-site alert rescue team during rocket launches at Cape Canaveral.

In his personal time, Quezada also gave back. He has taught martial arts and self-defense classes for women and youth and firearm safety instruction. He has volunteered to aid families of deployed members with car maintenance, home repairs, and even keeping their spirits up when family members are away.

"Michael is a fierce warrior, a tenacious father, and an extraordinary friend," said nominator John Spiekermeier. "Michael has taught me the meaning of selflessness -- to always serve those who need it before you serve your own interests, to have unbreakable integrity, and to exceed the success of what you think is possible." ■





OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

George Poppe

U.S. Air Force

George Poppe is a 23-year U.S. Air Force veteran who distinguished himself during wartime and later life as a role model and caregiver.

Over his career, George deployed seven times, including three deployments to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

In his first two deployments to Afghanistan, George deployed as a first sergeant, serving as a principal advisor to six commanding officers and over 1,000 personnel.

During his last deployment to Afghanistan, he led his 14 personnel in aircraft weapons system maintenance supporting a fleet of 18 F-16 fighter aircraft. His leadership result in a 100 percent aircraft weapons release rate that directly supported American troops under fire.

He took a larger leadership role during his second tour of duty, working to support the mental and emotional well-being of his troops, who were deployed away from their families.

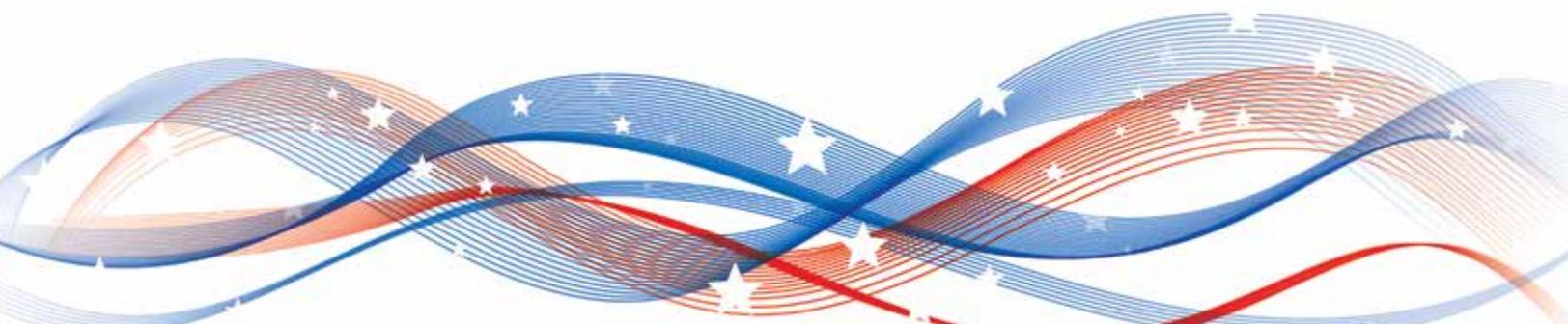


“I had the lucky fortune of serving with George in the twilight of his career,” said nominator John Spiekermeier. “He was able to show me that there are many ways to inspire and lead those whom we served with. From his rousing speeches to exceedingly positive attitude, even when times were difficult, he always bought encouragement when we needed it most.”

Since his retirement from active duty, he has served as a civilian, helping to deploy the pararescue men and women of the 48th Rescue Squadron at Davis–Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson. He continues to dedicate his work life to supporting our men and women in uniform.

Poppe faced another difficult challenge two years ago when a car accident fractured his brother’s family. He assumed the role of father to his nephew and raised him as his own, instilling the values and skills he learned as an enlisted airman.

“Poppe is the embodiment of the U.S. Air Force core values,” said Spiekermeier. “His integrity is unapparelled. His service to others could never be stopped. And he is truly excellent in all he does.” ■



OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM VETERAN GRAND MARSHAL

Jonathon Rosenberg

U.S. Marine Corps

Jonathon Rosenberg is a decorated Marine Corps veteran who participated in some of the most intense combat faced by American troops in the 21st Century.

Rosenberg spent 22 years in the Marine Corps and completed multiple combat deployments as a Force Recon Marine and Marine Scout Sniper supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He was personally decorated on four separate occasions for valor in combat, including the Bronze Star Medal with Combat V. He fought intense battles in Fallujah, Iraq, and Sangin, Afghanistan.

In preparation for combat operations, Rosenberg completed and later instructed at some of the most grueling schools in the Department of Defense. These included Amphibious Reconnaissance School; the Scout Sniper Basic Course, where he was a high shooter; I MEF Urban & Aerial Sniper Course, Military Freefall Jumpmaster Course; and Marine Combatant Dive School. Additional assignments included the Pentagon and two years as the



Senior Enlisted Advisor at a Reconnaissance Training Company.

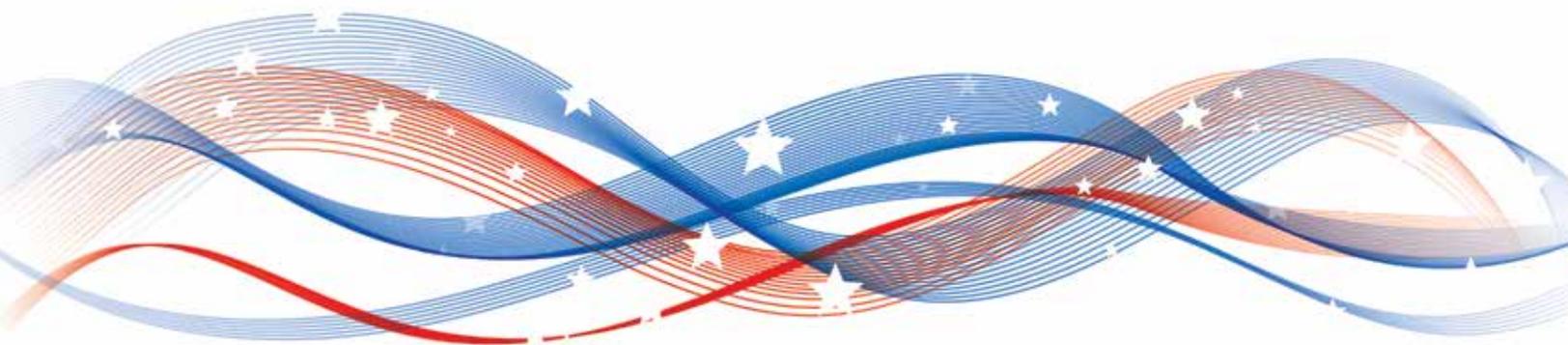
Rosenberg is a role model in both the civilian and veteran communities, including his current place of employment, Amazon. He was the founder and president of the Warriors at Amazon, PHX5 Chapter, which was named one of Amazon's most outstanding veteran chapters for 2021.

Rosenberg has led and supported multiple efforts in the greater Phoenix area to support veterans, including cemetery clean-ups, charity events, and Amazon's participation in the 2021 Phoenix Veterans Day Parade.

While on active duty, Rosenberg completed his undergraduate studies at Liberty University (4.0 GPA) and Master of Arts in Global Security at Arizona State University.

Rosenberg is happily married to his wife, Marlene; they have two children, Harlow (9) and Maddox (7).

"Jonathon is a true Patriot and one of our best and brightest," said nominator Marlene Correa. ■



BUSINESS COMMUNITY GRAND MARSHAL

William Hap Carty

U.S. Army
U-Haul Corporation

Those who knew U.S. Army veteran William E. “Hap” Carty consider themselves lucky.

But you didn’t have to know the longtime Tempe resident to recognize his impact as an industry pioneer. He endorsed the Valley as a destination for business, believed in hiring veterans, and helped construct the world’s most recognizable do-it-yourself moving company, headquartered in Phoenix.

His nickname Hap, came about because he was a happy child. While on leave from the Army in 1945, he returned home to Ridgefield, WA. His sister and brother-in-law asked him to help with their new business venture. Their concept involved manufacturing trailers that families could rent for one-way moves. The company was to be called U-Haul®.

Carty helped build the first ten trailers on the family ranch. He joined the company full-time in 1946 following his discharge after World War II and, in doing so, became the first employee of U-Haul. Over the next 43 years, his influence shaped the growth of one of the country’s greatest entrepreneurial veteran success stories.

“U-Haul would not exist today but for Hap,” noted Joe Shoen, U-Haul CEO and son of the company’s late founders, L.S. “Sam” and Anna Mary Carty Shoen.

Sam Shoen, like his brother-in-law, was a proud veteran, having served in the Navy.



Carty was instrumental in opening the U-Haul Technical Center in 1970 in Tempe – three years after U-Haul headquarters relocated from Portland to Phoenix. At the time,

Tempe was mostly an undeveloped desert. The Tech Center signaled business expansion for the Valley, and it was the only research and development facility of its kind in the world. Carty ran the facility. During his career, he also served as Board Chairman of U-Haul International and President of U-Haul.

“One of the reasons I’ve had good luck in management is that I always hire good people,” Hap Carty once noted. “I get them strong in the areas I’m weak in, and we work together.”

Hap Carty passed away in June 2022 at age 95. He called Tempe his home, spending half of his life in the East Valley. His legacy endures through his practices: hiring good people and working together. At U-Haul, that means recruiting veterans, knowing their value, and providing veterans a preference in the hiring process. This initiative has repeatedly earned U-Haul recognition as a top U.S. veteran-friendly employer. Find careers at UhaulJobs.com.

U-Haul dedicates its participation in the 2022 Phoenix Veterans Day Parade to veteran William E. Carty celebrating his life. Thank you, Hap. ■

VETERANS COMMUNITY GRAND MARSHAL

David Carrasco

Vietnam Veteran, U.S. Air Force
Founder, POW/MIA/KIA Honor Guard

David Carrasco says he chose to enlist in the Air Force because his future as a teenager looked grim, and the Air Force gave him security and the chance for a brighter future.

Upon enlistment, he was assigned as a Security Policeman, safeguarding B-47s and then B-52s. Other duties included the safeguarding of nuclear weapons. As time progressed, he was assigned to Law Enforcement and spent one year in Investigations. In the latter part of 1966, he was assigned to a K-9 Unit, and in December of that same year, he went to Vietnam.

During his time in Vietnam, he lost his best friend, and sadly an Army Military Policeman passed on as he held his hand, and he never knew his name. For many years he found it hard to deal with those losses in life and with people. In 2005 he joined the American Legion and volunteered on their Color Guard unit. Their duties included the rendering of full military honors, and they also gave support to other veteran organizations.

Touched by this experience, he formed a Color Guard group of veterans attending many veteran functions. In September of 2008, they became an official veteran's service organization. We were known as the POW/MIA/KIA Honor Guard, which stands for Prisoners of War, Missing in Action, and Killed In Action.



"At that time, we had no flags or dress uniform but wore camouflage clothing. Because of my personal experiences in Vietnam, I wanted to support the families who lost a loved one and the difficulty they sometimes face in never having closure with the loss of that loved one," he said.

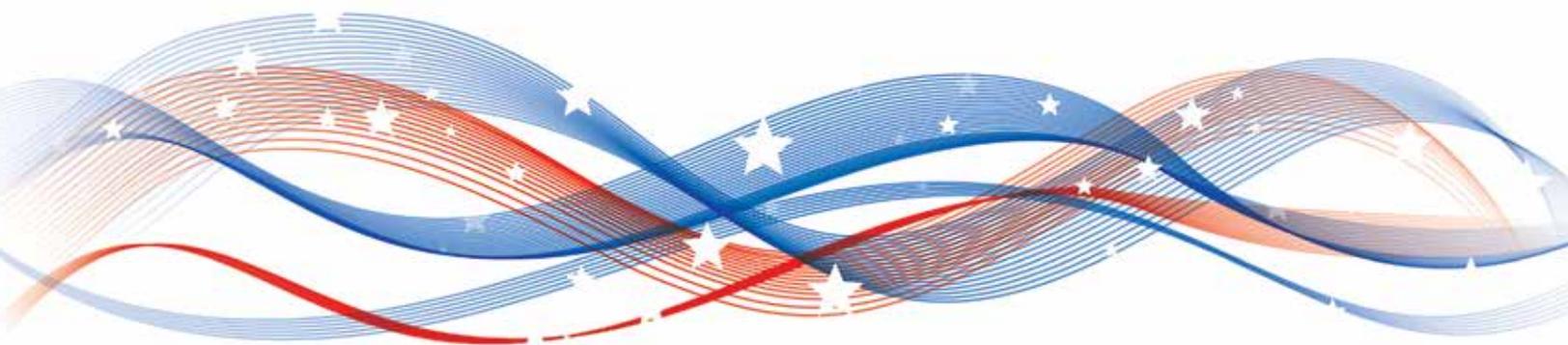
For the past 17 years, their Honor Guard has rendered full military Honors at funerals and is part of many events and activities, including an award-winning Honor Guard entry in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade.

Carrasco was awarded the Bronze Star for ignoring orders to stay clear of an area and instead going into harm's way to ensure that each Sentry Dog Team was safe. No Sentry Dog team was injured, and he could account for all team members.

He adds, "There is an old military saying: I left Vietnam, but Vietnam never left me. To me, that is so very true. The loss of my best friend and the unknown MP is always with me. For me to stand in a formation and to render military honors for those who have gone before me is an honor, and I feel it is my duty and responsibility to do so."

David Carrasco's service to numerous military, veteran, and nonprofit organizations earn him this unique distinction as a Veterans Community Grand Marshal. ■

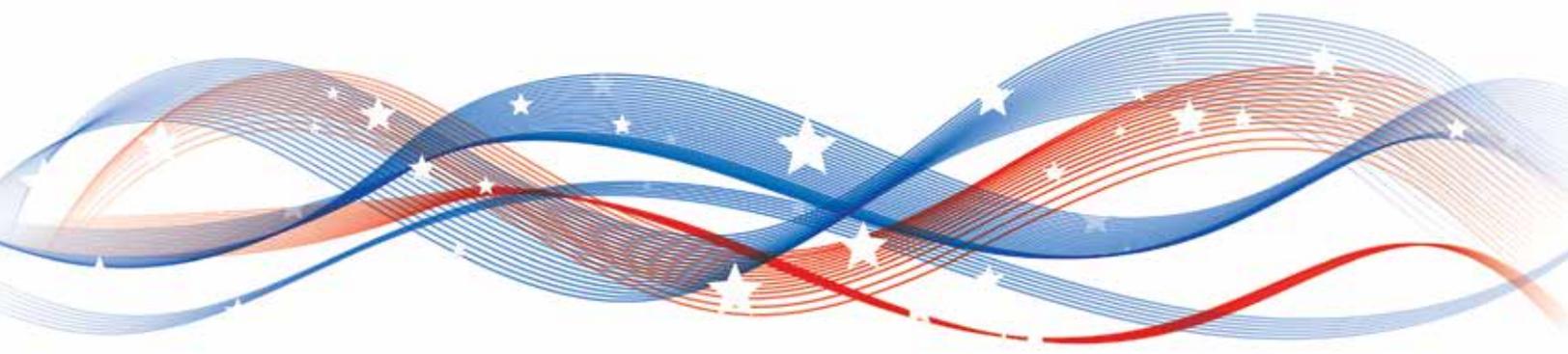




PARADE ENTRIES

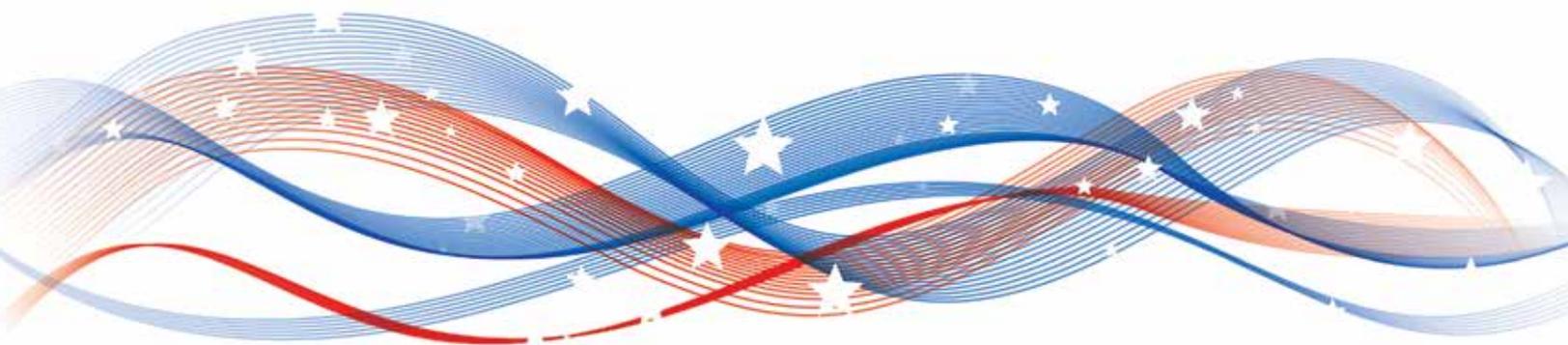
Phoenix Veterans Day Parade

- 0. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of Arizona** carry flags and programs down the route as part of their community service. We thank you, Scouts.
- 1. Hero's Flag** Team Red, White, and Blue carry the 20 x 30 foot Hero's Flag in the parade. To learn more about Team RWB, visit them online at TeamRWB.org
- 2. 108 U.S. Army National Guard Band** is proud to be a part of this year's parade and salutes our nation's veterans.
- 3. TriWest Healthcare Alliance** – Celebrating the Honor, Service, and Dedication of our nation's veterans Phoenix-based TriWest Healthcare Alliance is honored to be a Medal of Honor Sponsor for the parade again this year. This year's entry pays tribute to the honor, service & dedication of our nation's Veterans, whom TriWest is proud to support as a V.A. Community Care Network contractor. TriWest thanks all Veterans and its Veteran employees for their service today and every day!
- 4. The University of Phoenix** – Veterans Employee Resource Group. UOPX pays tribute to our veterans and their employees who have served. They are proud to serve as a Medal of Honor Sponsor for this year's parade.
- 5. The Sun City Poms** love honoring all veterans by marching in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade! They range in age from 55-89. They regularly appear on T.V. and in newspapers and magazines at the local, national and international levels. These ladies are indeed ambassadors of good health and fitness, and they certainly inspire all ages. Let's hear it for the Sun City Poms!
- 6. United Volunteers Joint Service Command, 92nd**, is a group of volunteers who honor those who served by rendering military funeral honors.
- 7. Parade Dignitaries including Mayor Kate Gallegos – Phoenix ride in Sun Country Model T. Ford cars.** This club preserves the legacy of the car produced from 1908 until 1927. The Sun Country Model T. Car Club has been in every parade since its inception in 1997.
- 8. Phoenix Police Department.** Each day the Phoenix Police Department provides law enforcement and community service in the City, and many of its members are veterans.
- 9. Valley Firefighters Veteran Society** assist veterans in their next fire mission. Valley Firefighters Veteran Society, or FireVet, is a 501c3 nonprofit organization run by local firefighters who help and mentor local veterans in achieving their career goals in the fire service. Follow us on Instagram at @firevets.
- 10. The Veterans Grand Marshals of the Parade** include U.S. Army veteran Sam Weinstein, World War II; U.S. Marine Corps veteran Lew Bradley, Korean War; U.S. Army veteran Ed McCourt, Vietnam War; U.S. Navy veteran Tom Tostenson, Cold War; U.S. Air Force veteran Michael Quezada, Gulf War; U.S. Marine Corps veteran Jonathon Rosenberg, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and U.S. Air Force veteran George Poppe, Operation Enduring Freedom.
- 11. Veteran Community Grand Marshal**, U.S. Air Force veterans David Carrasco, started the POW/MIA/KIA Honor Guard in 2008. Their group provides full military honors at memorials and events. Riding with them are Pearl Harbor Veteran Jack Holder and fellow World War II veteran Frank Sacco.
- 12. Business Community Grand Marshal** U-Haul International, in honor of Employee Hap Carty. The U-Haul International entry features U-Haul Team members walking alongside eight U-Haul trucks wrapped with Commemorative Graphics representing each military branch. U-Haul will also be honoring U.S. Army veteran William "Hap" Carty, the Company's first employee who passed away on June 24, 2022.
- 13. Maricopa County Attorney's Office** is honored to be part of the annual Phoenix Veterans Day Parade to support Arizona veterans and pay tribute to their service to our country. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office is committed to keeping families safe. Learn more at www.maricopacountyattorney.org.
- 14. Bank of America** – Honoring Our Veterans, a Silver Star Sponsor. Bank of America honors the courage, strength, and sacrifice of our nation's service members and veterans. For over 100 years, Bank of America has supported the nation's military, including hiring more than 10,000 veterans over the past few years.
- 15. Essay Winners of the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade.** These essay winners earned their spots today in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade by writing compelling stories. The winners are Grade 9, Ryann Terrell of Basha High School; Grade 10, Ian Hartman of Perry High School; Grade 11, Iain Lamphier of Brophy College Prep; and Grade 12, Daniel Castaneda of Coronado High School.

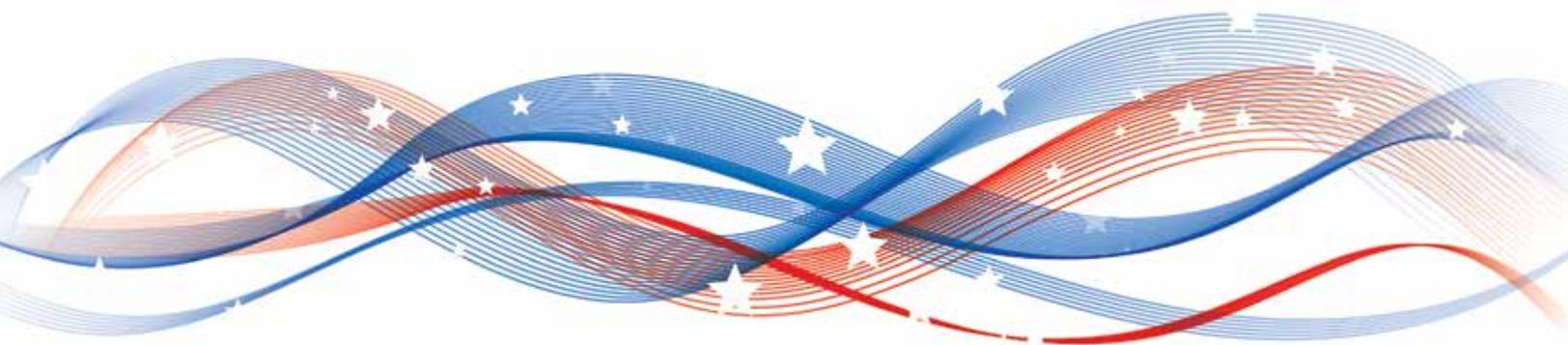


- 16. Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.** His staff joins Sheriff Paul Penzone to share their support for our nation's veterans.
- 17. APS and Palo Verde Generating Station,** a Silver Star Sponsor. APS/Palo Verde takes great pride in honoring Arizona Veterans. Arizona Public Service and the Palo Verde Honor guard represent the many brave individuals who served this nation and continue to serve by providing clean, safe, and reliable energy 24/7 for the greater southwest region.
- 18. Mountain Ridge High School "Pride of the West" Marching Band.** Please welcome, from Glendale, Arizona, the Mountain Ridge High School Pride of the West, under the direction of Aaron Vogel and Ben Lynch!! The Band is led by Sophomore Drum Major Kali Kaiser (CAL-ee KAI-zer), Junior Drum Major Tessa Taylor, and Senior Drum Majors Allyson Ritter and Cooper Taylor.
- 19. The American Legion Pat Tillman Post 117** is dedicated to veterans helping veterans and their families. We schedule our Handicapped equipped van to ensure veterans can get to their appointments or just to the store.
- 20. Tender Little Hearts Equine Assisted Therapy and Services** and their miniature therapy team friends have a unique niche in Equine Assisted Therapy and Activities. Because they are mobile, handlers conveniently transport these qualified miniature therapy horses and donkeys around the Valley to individuals who could not otherwise travel to their location. Please visit their website, www.tenderlittlehearts.org
- 21. The Arizona Cardinals** are honored to be here today with this unique unit to pay tribute to our nation's veterans. Nicole Bidwill leads this group on horseback and is cheering our veterans on with support from Big Red and the cheer squad.
- 22. Your American Red Cross: Serving Our Military, Serving You.** 101-year-old Betty Grenig leads your American Red Cross in today's parade. Betty has volunteered for 84 years worldwide as she moved with her military husband. Volunteers make up 90 percent of the workforce at the Red Cross, and we need you to serve with us. Volunteers are needed in all areas, including disaster, military, and blood services. 1-800-REDCROSS!
- 23. Grand Canyon German Shepherd Dog Club,** this unit is comprised of former military working dogs and others who know the importance of canine support in service and life. These brave canines have saved countless lives thru their dedication, loyalty, and sacrifice in service to the United States Military.
- 24. The 82nd Airborne** stands ready to defend the United States from the enemies acting against liberty and freedom and from totalitarian aggression or acts of terror against our nation. Airborne all the way!
- 25. Jewish War Veterans of the USA** since 1896 Jewish War Veterans Department of the Southwest is proud to support Veterans and Veterans' causes throughout Arizona. JWV of the USA is the oldest continuous Veterans Service Organization in our nation, serving since 1896. They are a Jewish Voice for Veterans and a Veterans Voice for Jews. Visit JWVSW.ORG to find out about our local posts in Arizona.
- 26. We Honor Our Veterans, Infinity Hospice Care.** This hospice service-oriented group honors our veterans with special programs designed to bring them the compassion, dignity, and respect they deserve throughout their lives. Learn more at infinityhospicecare.com.
- 27. Intel Veteran Engagement Group** takes pride in its veteran community and the valuable discipline, commitment, and passion they bring to the workplace. Intel is proud to be here today to honor and recognize our veterans.
- 28. Humana: Honoring and Serving Veterans.** Humana has a long-standing national commitment to serving, keeping, and remaining a lifelong partner in health with America's servicemen, women, and their families. Humana's Veterans Initiative provides careers, entrepreneurship, and well-being.
- 29. The Frank Luke Jr. Military Museum Support Group and the Blue Star Moms of the Southwest Valley** present our military history in the form of historic military vehicles, including those from land, air, and naval history. Please go to our website at Itlukemuseum.org for historic testimonials of various veterans.
- 30. Warriors at Amazon** is proud to return to the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade for our second year in a row! Our mission is to provide our members with a professional network and means to organize community outreach programs and aid veterans during their transition into Amazon's workforce. Warriors would like to thank all veterans, past, and present, for their selfless service.
- 31. The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Arizona Band Flotilla** is under the command of Flotilla Commander Jenne Goode. Their primary mission is to honor veterans from all branches by performing at various military functions, including parades and memorial services for all Veterans, and instilling pride and patriotism in the community. We're always looking for new members!



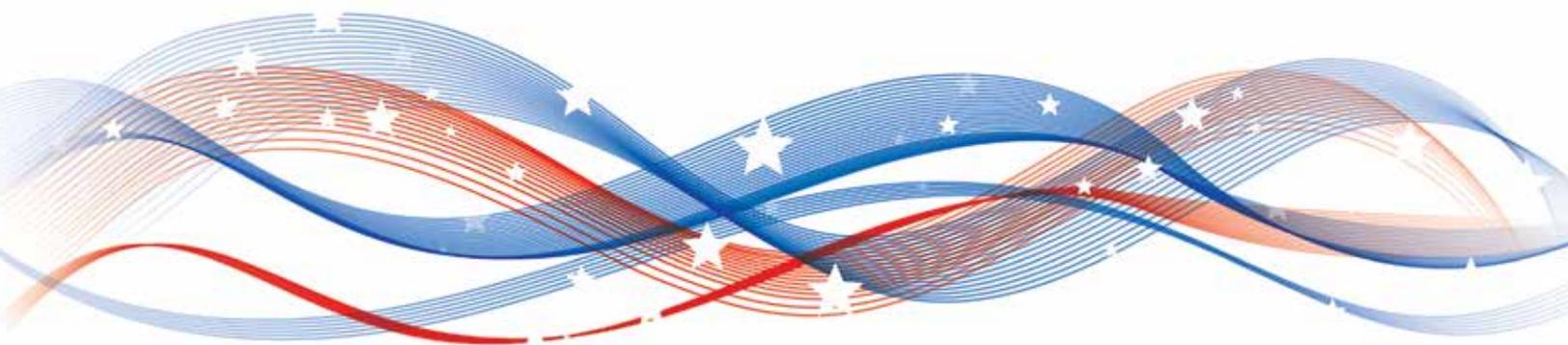


- 32. Honoring America's Veterans Eagle Ballon.** This brand-new eagle balloon is making its debut in the 2022 Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. The eagle symbolizes strength and our nation's emblem, and this great bird's fierce beauty and proud independence aptly symbolize America's strength and freedom.
- 33. American Legion Post 5, Ride with Pride to Honor Arizona Veterans.** These riders and the vehicles you see today are solely to honor those who served. Thank a veteran today, and remember to honor the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.
- 34. Free and Accepted Masons of Arizona.** Since 1867, Freemasonry in Arizona has made good men better. Masons have supported active-duty military personnel, veterans, and first responders since Masonic Brother George Washington served our nation. The Scottish RiteCare for children and Shriners Children's hospitals are just two of many Masonic charities in Arizona. For more information, go to AZMasons.org
- 35. U.S. Marshal's Posse.** Founded in 1789, the U.S. Marshal's service is the nation's oldest law enforcement agency. The U.S. Marshals posse members are community-minded volunteers working to educate our community about U.S. Marshals and to strengthen the bond between law enforcement and the community. They thank MacDonald's Ranch for providing today's horses.
- 36. Phoeniquera Classics and Finest.** Phoeniquera Bomb Club has classic cars ranging from the 1930s thru the 50s. We are proud of helping the community by adopting families during the holidays when club members purchase gifts and food for needy families.
- 37. GoDaddy Veterans.** This military veterans-focused employee engagement group salutes our veterans with this engaging entry featuring a T-55 military tank. Chad Lares, a Desert Storm veteran, owns the Soviet-designed and Czech-built tank and painted it in desert tan in honor of his service.
- 38. Veterans Heritage Project.** Through the Veterans Heritage Project's after-school program, students build character and learn history by interviewing a veteran and preserving the Veteran's service story for the Library of Congress and in the student publication, Since You Asked. Learn more at veteransheritage.org.
- 39. American Service Animal Society's Dogs 4 Vets Program** works with disabled Veterans to help them train their dog to become their service animal. They provide free life-long training, all at no cost to the Veteran. Please check out their website at WWW.dogs4vets.org for more information.
- 40. Arizona Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association & Antique Tractor Club** keeps America's early farming history alive.
- 41. Arizona Nurse Honor Guard** honors nurses at the time of their visitation or memorial service, with a reading of a Nightingale Tribute and releasing them to their final call to duty.
- 42. AZ Chapter 3rd. Marine Division.** From the black sands of Iwo Jima to the jungles of Vietnam and into the deserts of the Persian Gulf, the Third Marine Division has established itself as freedom's guardian. Those participating in today's parade represent Marines from Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraqi Freedom, and peacetime Marines.
- 43. Marine Corps League Ira Hayes Detachment.** Commandant Alfred Quintana Jr. and the League join together in camaraderie and fellowship to preserve the traditions and promote the interest of the United States Marines. Commitment, Courage, and Honor. Marines are proud of all branches of service. Marines and Associates are based at American Legion Post 41 in Phoenix.
- 44. Carl's Jr. of Arizona.** Carl's Jr. has been a longtime parade supporter. The actual "Carl Junior," founder Carl Karcher, was a Business Community Grand Marshal near the parade's inception nearly two decades ago. Carl's Jr. thanks our country's heroes, our Veterans, for their bravery and service.
- 45. Arizona Twirling Athletes Show Corps.** It wouldn't be a parade in Phoenix without the spirited twirlers of the Arizona Twirling Athletes, who are joining us for the 11th year under the dedicated leadership of Becky Hewitt, who has coached many twirlers to national fame. They are celebrating Veteran's Day with their patriotic uniforms and batons.
- 46. Basha High School Air Force JROTC.** Air Force JROTC develops citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. There are more than 125,000 high school cadets in 870 units worldwide. Though military service is not a requirement for graduating cadets, many will continue to serve in our nation's Armed Forces.
- 47. AZ Semper Fi Vets.** This veterans service organization is open to all Marines, retired or still on active duty, and all Fleet Marine Force Corpsmen.
- 48. Law Tigers,** these are America's Motorcycle Lawyers, are proud to celebrate our tenth year participating in the Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade. We are committed to the riding community and are dedicated to rider safety, awareness, and education.



- 49. American Legion Post #65** – Dedicating this year’s float to the all-black Women of 6888 who sorted the mail in World War II.
- 50. Cameo Foundation** – Ms. Senior Arizona Pageant and the WOW Factor Radio’s Danny Davis. Age is not a problem for these ladies; as members of the Cameo Foundation & Ms. Senior Arizona Org., they donate many hours of entertainment in care facilities in Arizona. The Cameo Foundation produces the annual Ms. Senior Arizona Pageant with proceeds to benefit “Victims of Domestic Violence.” With them is a true friend to the parade, radio host Danny Davis of WOW Factor Radio at 94.9 and 95.1.
- 51. Southwest Carpenters Union** is a Meritorious Unit Commendation sponsor and is proud to present this float today in honor of the veterans they serve in Arizona.
- 52. Arizona National Titleholders and Glam Squad.** All of these Arizona state pageant winners went on to win the overall title at their national competition. Emelia Hernandez, Alyssa Hernandez, and Rachael McLaen. They work tirelessly in our community all year to support numerous causes - especially those supporting our veterans. Thank you for your service, veterans!
- 53. South Mountain Academies High School Marching Band.** These performers are from the Academies at South Mountain High School Marching Band under the direction of Roy Aldaba. This entry marks the school’s first marching band in over seven years, and we are proud to be a part of this fantastic parade!
- 54. Employer Support Of The Guard And Reserve (ESGR).** We are volunteers working for ESGR, a Department of Defense office established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in resolving conflicts arising from an employee’s military commitment.
- 55. JPMorgan Chase & Co.** As a Meritorious Unit Commendation Sponsor, Chase is here to say thank you, veterans. Their walkers are joined today by the U.S. Navy Sea Cadet Color Guard.
- 56. National Association of Retired Federal Employees.** NARFE is a national and active federal employee organization that advocates preserving the benefits earned for those who dedicate their lives to federal service.
- 57. The Phoenix VA Health Care System.** The Phoenix VA is part of the Veterans Health Administration and is America’s largest integrated healthcare system, providing care to more than nine million veterans at 1298 facilities, including 171 medical centers.
- 58. USAA’s Veteran Employee Resource Group.** This year USAA celebrates 100 Years of supporting the military community. This float was made by USAA’s veteran employees from USAA’s Phoenix Regional office. We are honored to serve our military community for over 100 years, and we look forward to continuing our mission for the next 100 years. “We Know What It Means to Serve”
- 59. Purple Heart Riders.** These motorcycle riders are combat-wounded veterans and members of the National Association of the Purple Heart. Their mission is to promote patriotism and support veteran causes in their community, and they ride for those who can’t.
- 60. Sgt. Rock Club (Franklin Police & Fire High School).** Franklin police and fire high school’s SGT Rock club focuses on cultivating leadership qualities and military bearing for students within the Phoenix Union high school district.
- 61. Drive Time Military Veterans Employee Engagement Group** is onboard this year as a Meritorious Unit Commendation sponsor. The Phoenix-based company is an online used car retailer and is grateful to have the opportunity to recognize its employees who are military veterans
- 62. Renegade Outpost 15, Society of the Third Infantry Division.** The Third ID is 105 years old and has a distinguished history, having seen battles in WWI, WWII, the Korean War, Cold War, and the Global War on Terror, with 61 members awarded The Medal of Honor. The Society exists to honor fallen Dogface Soldiers, to support division and family members, and to perpetuate a social network of past and present 3rd I.D. soldiers.
- 63. The Filipino American Natural Historical Society** is honoring Asian American Veterans with this float in partnership with the Military Support Foundation. The Bataan Death March is remembered forever in the annals of war history as the courageous suffering and death of American and Filipino soldiers endured together to defend our freedom and liberty. Adopt a soldier’s family for the Holidays. Visit us at Militarysupport.net or text 480-710-1212
- 64. In honor of Jimmie Munoz, deceased U.S. Army Veteran 101st Airborne Division, military vehicle collection.** This 1953 Willys Jeep M38A1 pulls a U.S. Military M274 Truck, a Platform Utility vehicle known as the MULE. Designed to carry equipment and artillery, it will climb a 60% slope, will traverse a 40% hill, carry a 1000 lb load, and operate on/off-road in all-weather conditions
- 65. Thunderbird High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.** The Thunderbird High School NJROTC instills





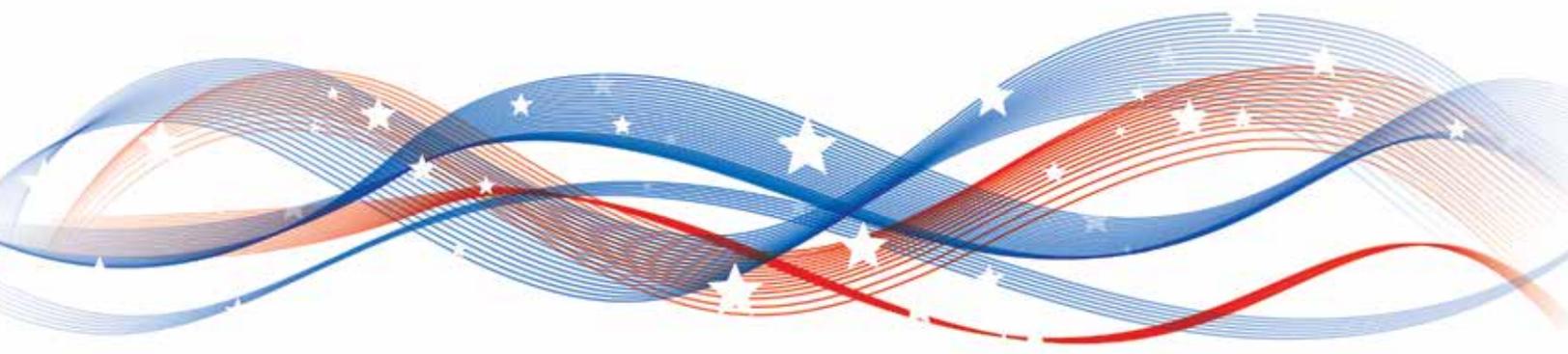
in the cadets the values of citizenship, service to country, and personal responsibility. Supporting these goals, Cadets participate in many competitive teams (such as orienteering, Athletics, and Academics) and conduct thousands of hours of community service. Thunderbird NJROTC was the 2021 State Drill Champions.

- 66. Senior Helpers** is a Meritorious Unit Commendation Sponsor in this year's parade. Their goal is to support seniors and help them with care needs such as errands, light housekeeping, and more. Learn more at seniorhelpers.com.
- 67. American Legion Thunderbird Post 41 Phoenix, Arizona.** Post 41 has welcomed Veterans since 1945, today in their 77th year! Frank Diaz is the Post Commander, Gloria Torres is President of Unit 41 of the Woman's Auxillary, and Henry Villalobos is the Honor/Color Guard Captain! Always In-Service to God and Country!
- 68. Arizona Military Historical Society.** This group is dedicated to honoring and remembering those brave men and women of the WW II generation by preserving their uniforms, vehicles, and weaponry. May their sacrifices at home and abroad never be forgotten!
- 69. Sun Country Corvette Club,** founded in 1985, Sun Country Corvette Club is a social organization of car enthusiasts. This group of Corvettes is driven by military veterans who served during the Vietnam War in different service branches. They are here today to honor and show appreciation and respect for all fellow service members.⁷⁰ Arizona silent wings
Please use the same as last year
- 71. Perch Base of U.S. Submarine Veterans.** Their float holds an exact 1/15 scale model of the nuclear-powered submarine USS Phoenix (SSN-702). The United States Submariners is an organization with just one requirement for membership. Have you ever been: "qualified in submarines?"
- 72. Cactus High School AFJROTC.** The mission of Cactus AFJROTC is to develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. Cadets are not required to join the military, but there are benefits to doing so. Cadets have averaged over 2,300 hours of service to the community for nine straight years.
- 73. Spirit of 76 Plane Balloon.** This balloon commemorates the founding of our nation, symbolizing the spirit of the American Revolution in 1776. From then until now, our military members have been proud to serve.
- 74. U.S. Navy Sea Cadets, Phoenix Division.** This group of cadets is learning what it means to serve in the U.S. Navy.

- 75. Operation Restoring Veteran Hope.** This nonprofit is dedicated to providing individualized and personal support to Veterans who have previously struggled. We want struggling veterans to know they are not alone and instill hope that recovery is possible. Our mission is to inspire Veterans to be hopeful for a better future.
- 76. Catholic Charities - MANA House.** MANA House (Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force) is a unique, holistic transitional housing program that provides safe, secure, temporary group housing and intensive case management. It is intended to improve the lives of veterans living on the streets or in homeless shelters. manahouseaz.org.
- 77. Assyrian American Cultural Organization of Arizona and Assyrian American National Federation.** These nonprofit organizations foster the culture of the indigenous people of Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Turkey. Our goal is to serve the needs of the Assyrian American community in the U.S. We march among our Assyrian American Veterans and salute them for their service.
- 78. U.S. Air Force Auxillary - Civil Air Patrol Squadron 302.** Representing Civil Air Patrol, the U.S. Air Force auxiliary, are cadets from Deer Valley Composite Squadron in Phoenix. C-A-P cadets and senior members are volunteers serving America's communities, saving lives, and shaping futures. Cadets aged 12 to 21 focus on leadership, aerospace education, fitness, and character development. Learn more at gocivilairpatrol.com.
- 79. The Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution.** These are descendants of America's first patriots and veterans who ensured our liberty through honor and sacrifice. These members can prove their ancestry to a soldier or patriot of the American Revolution who gave our Nation liberty for the past 246 years by their sacrifice.
- 80. Sahuaro Miata Club.** This club brings a sense of camaraderie to those who own the Miata, and many are military veterans. We salute our veterans.
- 81. White Mountain Marching Band.** Closing out this year's parade is The White Mountain Marching Band, a conglomerate created by joining many of the bands from the small rural schools of the White Mountains and Mogollon Rim Country, including Blue Ridge, Joseph City, Payson, Show Low, and Snowflake high schools. They have been marching together for this parade since 2005.

Happy Veterans Day, and we are grateful to all our veterans for the Liberty, Honor, and Sacrifice in defending our freedom.





ESSAY WINNER

Ryann Terrell

9th Grade Winner, Basha High School

Teacher: Cliff Stansell



There are few people who represent liberty, honor, and sacrifice. Together these qualities make up some of the most selfless people in this world. We thank our veterans who have been protecting everything our country is and everything we have as Americans. But we can never truly understand what these men and women have done for our country until we understand what the words liberty, honor, and sacrifice mean to them.

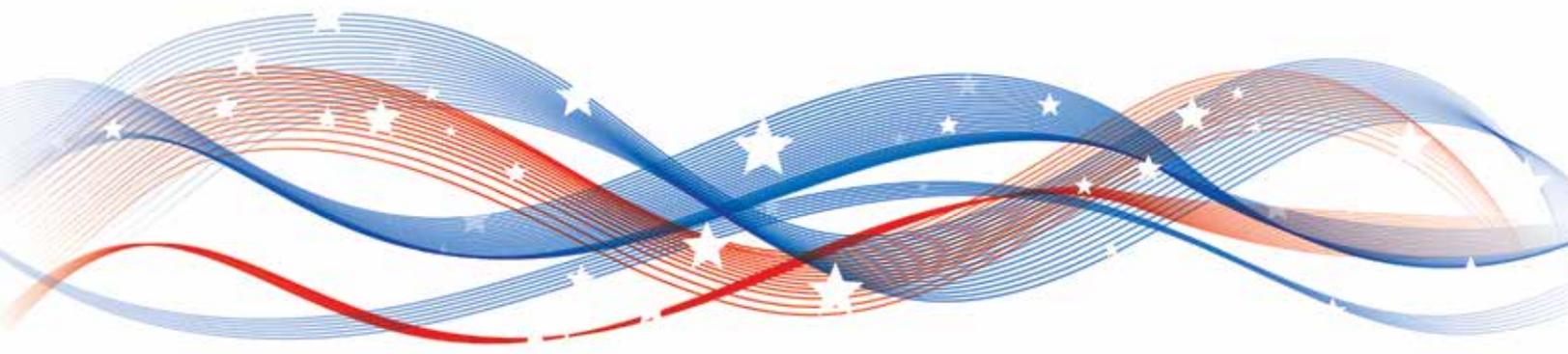
You are standing on the battlefield in Yorktown, Virginia. You turn to either side and see thousands of men wearing blue and red coats. You are holding your Pennsylvania Rifle, which begins to feel heavier as the minutes press on. You've seen your friends and allies wounded in action. Exhausted, you don't think you can press on, but you remember what this is all for. Liberty is the thought of freedom for all. You force yourself to continue, struggling with every step you take. This is what you want for your family, friends, and for yourself. This is what veterans have fought for, for years, "Liberty and justice for all."

Your M10 tank destroyer has been hit by the Germans and bursts into flames. You order your troops to "Fall back!" You continue to push back the Germans by yourself. Surrounded by six tanks projecting bullets on three sides of you, you continue to fight. You're wounded and out of ammunition. Not thinking anything of it, you rush back to your company. Denying any medical treatment, you assemble a very successful counterattack. Later that year, you receive the highest merit a servicemember can receive, the Medal of Honor.

It is December of 1941. Your wife and daughter accompany you on the front porch. You have decided to "join the fight." Holding your bags, you begin to say your goodbyes. Your eyes start to burn when your wife gives you an embrace. You can hardly breathe. She is squeezing you so tight. She kisses you and says, "Write me every day." You look down to see your six-year-old daughter's eyes begin to swell. You pick her up, giving her a squeeze. She says, "Daddy, please don't go. How can I grow up without you?" You must go. This is what you must sacrifice.

When we thank our veterans, we don't thank them for their service. We thank them for being brave enough to display these qualities even when it seems almost impossible. ■





ESSAY WINNER

Ian Hartman

10th Grade Winner, Perry High School

Teacher: Erika Stueber



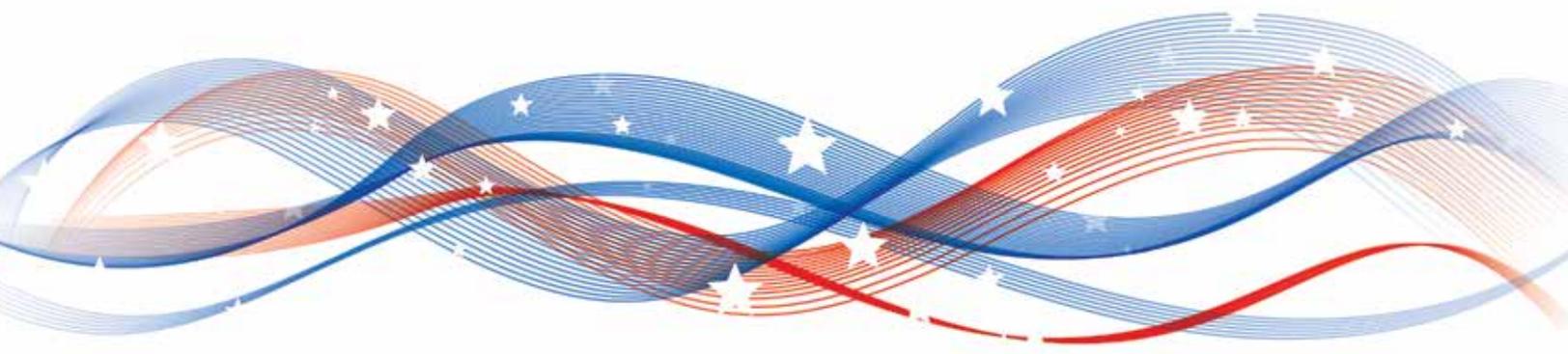
When my dad served in the military, he sacrificed so much for the USA. He served in the United States Marine Corps. His job was to tell people where the best place to drop bombs was. His bravery helped save so many American lives. He said, "The hardest part of my job wasn't doing my job; it was leaving home." He is sacrificing his life for his country.

My grandpa was in the Navy for a long time. He fought in the Vietnam War and was honored for serving the United States of America. My grandfather got leukemia from toxic gasses that were in the air during the war. He is a disabled Veteran, according to the "Veterans Association." My grandfather sacrificed his life to protect the country that he calls home. By sacrificing his life, his life will never be the same. He must get skin grafts every time because he got radiation burns.

What it means to sacrifice yourself is to risk your life for one's benefit. Being in the military is a very big sacrifice and should and will be honored. Those who sacrificed their lives in the military are completely selfless. Veterans show and receive honor all the time but being honored is different from showing honor. When you're a veteran, you show honor to your family, friends, and country by risking your life for them. When veterans get thanked for their service, they feel as if the time that they served was well used.

I asked my dad and grandfather what it feels like to be thanked for their service, and they said, "it feels like my time wasn't wasted while I was deployed."

In all, veterans deserve a lot. Veterans deserve to be honored for their sacrifice to the United States of America. If veterans did not serve in the military, we would not be the independent country that we are today. Veterans deserve to be thanked for what they have done for the United States of America. ■



ESSAY WINNER

Iain Lampier

11th Grade Winner, Brophy College Prep

Teacher: Scott Middlemist



The theme for Honoring America's Veterans Phoenix Veteran's Day Parade for 2022 is Liberty, Honor, and Sacrifice. Reflecting on these three words about the many veterans I have had the true privilege to interact with and learn from led me to conclude that the theme should, perhaps, more accurately read Sacrifice, Honor, and Liberty. Liberty, or

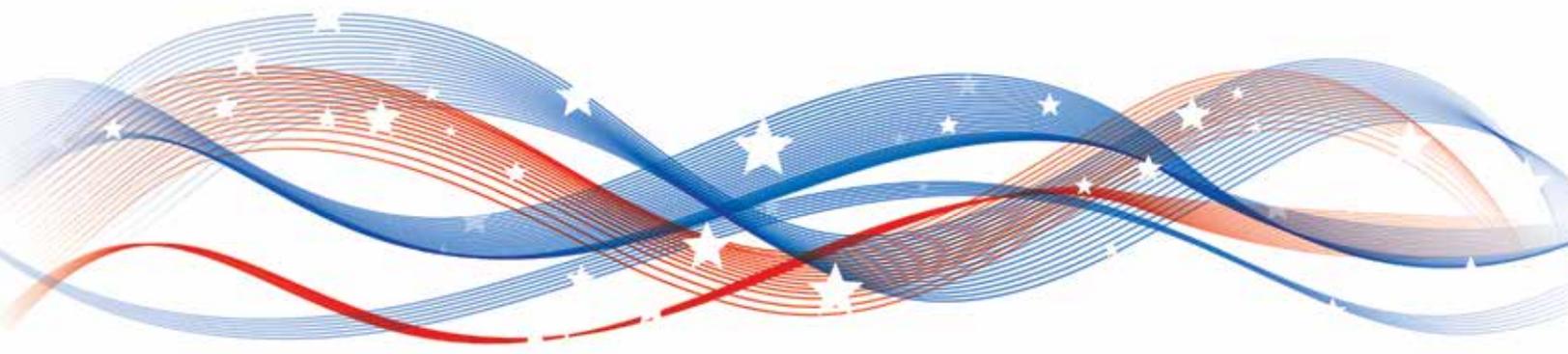
freedom, is something either protected or gained from the sacrifices U.S. military personnel make, or made, in the case of veterans. The privilege of liberty we enjoy as U.S. citizens would not be possible without the brave veterans that have answered the call to service. Liberty is the outcome, the product, of their sacrifice. For this reason, Sacrifice should be the first ideal of the theme.

The sacrifices made by veterans and their families that enable liberties often go unrecognized. There is the ultimate

sacrifice of death in the line of duty, sacrificing personal safety to protect another, sacrificing time with family, and loved ones, the sacrifice of limited personal comfort, and even the sacrifice of silence, as some veterans cannot share their experiences. Secondly, the sacrifices made by the families of military veterans are even more unrecognized and overlooked than those of the veterans themselves. The indirect sacrifice of veterans' families is, I think, key to the third ideal in the 2022 HAV Veteran's Day Parade theme.

Honor. Honor is complicated. Veterans will often state that it was an honor to serve. By this, I think they mean that they hold great esteem or respect military ideals and their mission and have contributed to protecting Liberty. On the other hand, Honor is often confused with respect. Respect is a more fleeting ideal; a person can be respected only until they wrong another. But Honor is more lasting and is gained through sacrifice. This upcoming Veteran's Day, I will think of the sacrifice made by veterans first, and then the honor they have gained because of this sacrifice, followed next by the liberty their sacrifices preserved. ■





ESSAY WINNER

Daniel Castaneda

12th Grade Winner, Coronado High School

Teacher: Dr. Jo Markette



Veterans wear the American flag with honor so that we can hang the flag with pride. The United States can prosper because of heroes. America would not be in this position without a great deal of veteran sacrifice. Many soldiers lost their lives to bring liberty to the United States, and many continue to fight to maintain freedom for the American people.

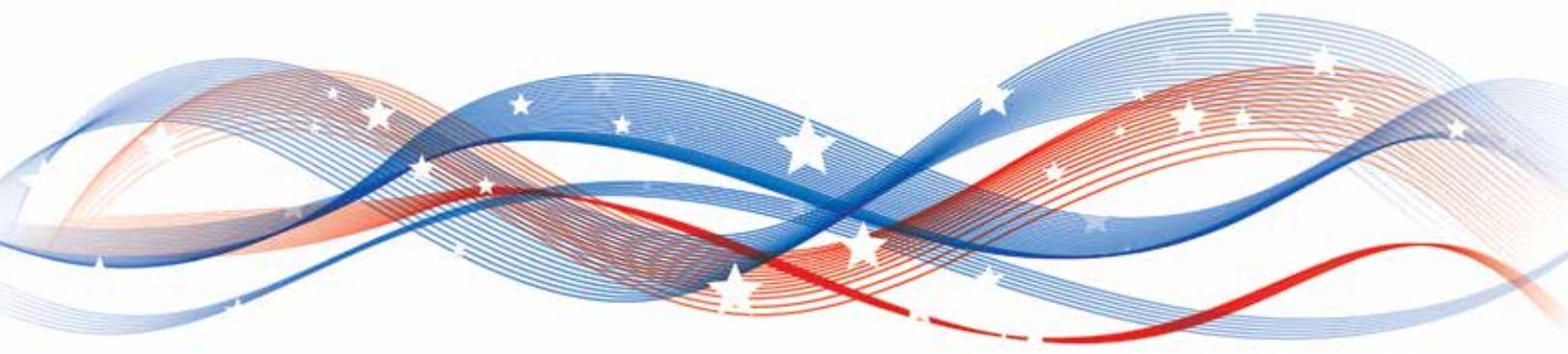
In modern times Americans tend to fail to appreciate veterans; Americans will enjoy the freedom but do not see the determination, honor, and loyalty veterans have for our country.

The veterans have built the foundation for Americans. Their sacrifice protects the Constitution our Founding Fathers forged for our country. Like G.K. Chesterton said: "The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him." The veterans are loyal to America so our American children can grow with endless opportunities and safety. The beloved freedom that America built would not have been possible if it were not for the veterans sacrificing their lives for this country.

Veterans have constructed this foundation by sacrificing their own liberty, their health, and in some cases, their life. In fact, my brother-in-law and my aunt have served in the Marines and Army, respectively. Having members in the family who served in the military has made me appreciate veterans because you see firsthand the hardship the family and the veteran go through. My brother-in-law has shared some stories of the early mornings in hot and muggy South Carolina. He served in the Marines for eight years and is currently serving with the Border Patrol. He has become a role model for me because he went through hardships and sleepless nights for a cause bigger than himself. My aunt immigrated to America at the age of 12; She immediately fell in love with America's values and what we stand for. When she grew up, she decided to join the Army and be part of the same heroes she idolized.

Veterans and the current military keep this country going. Too many Americans have become accustomed to liberty our courageous veterans have won for us. American Veterans earn,

honor and sacrifice for the American Flag on their shoulder so that American citizens can fly the flag with pride, respect, and, most importantly, liberty. ■



THANK YOU!

To the board of Honoring America's Veterans, including President: Brian Ishmael and members Tom Callinan, John Lewandowski, Fernando Monarrez, and Bill Pedene for their tireless support in helping us to honor and recognize our veterans.

To the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Team:

- Staging: Gail Chapman, American Express
- De-Staging: Stuart Burns, Bank of America, and Carter Dowdy, Verra Mobility
- Logistics: Jason Ramsay, Ric Yancy, Shelly Silvey, Arizona Public Service
- Emcees Ilene Thompson, KTAR Radio
- Parade Essays: Tom Callinan (retired)
- Procurement and Bands: Garry and Shelley Cooper
- PR Support, Gordon C. James, GCJPR
- VIP Area: Kristina Moss and Nora Moss, Spectacular Entertainment
- Volunteers: Jim Dorr (retired), Jennifer Clark, the Pulte Group

■ Photography: Bill Pedene and Kevin Chamberlain
Our team works throughout the year to put on this spectacular event. Our purpose is to commemorate, educate and demonstrate to our community the vital role of America's veterans in safeguarding this nation and honoring and recognizing those serving our country through their military service.

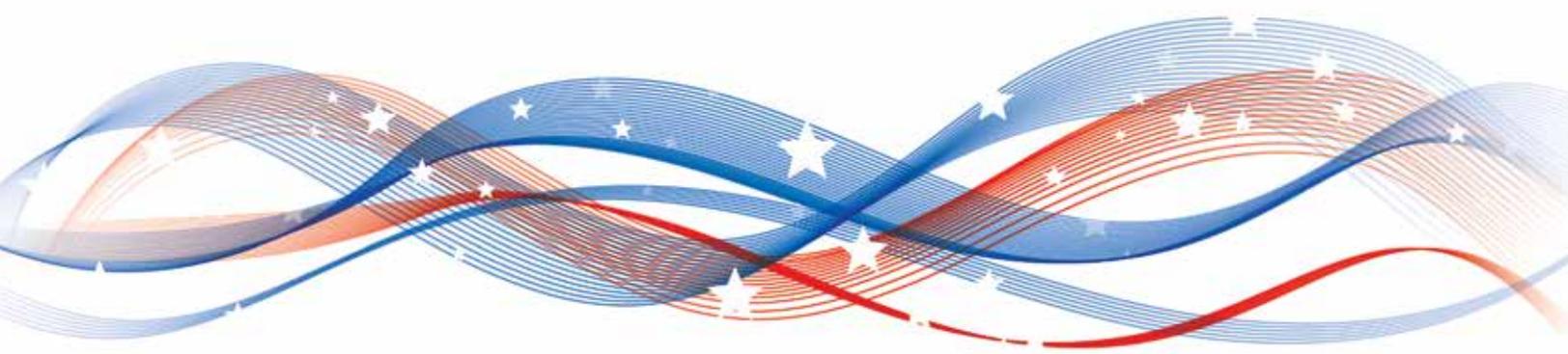
And we'd like to give a shout-out to:

- Our wonderful sponsors who support us
- The parade entries that make the parade come to life.

We thank you for building a patriotic spirit in our community.

Happy Veterans Day!

Paula Pedene, Parade Coordinator



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- Calvin Coolidge

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