

National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona

MEMORIAL DAY



May 30, 2022 8:00AM

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



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NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF ARIZONA

In 1926, Mr. Ivan Williams a long-time member of the American Legion contacted U.S. Senator Henry F. Ashurst about another National Veterans' Cemetery in Arizona. In the following years hundreds of veterans joined in the effort to accomplish this task, but their efforts were in vain due to the fact that the National Cemetery in Prescott was still open for burials.

In 1970 Department Commanders of the three major Veterans Service Organizations, with full support of their predecessors and membership, pledged to establish a State Veterans Cemetery with the ultimate goal of becoming a National Cemetery.

A corporation was formed to acquire land for this purpose and Phoenix attorney, Anthony O. Jones was named the corporation attorney responsible for drafting the petition and guiding it through proper channels. Land Commissioner, Andrew L. Bettwy was diligent in working with the corporation leaders and a section of land was eventually located in Phoenix at Cave Creek and Pinnacle Peak Roads that was deemed acceptable on a lease fee basis.

The commanders presented the information to their organizations and requested approval for and obligation of the organizations to pay lease fees on the full section of land while seeking a governing authority.

State Law was passed in 1976 and signed by Governor Raul Castro authorizing development of up to six hundred forty acres for a Veterans Cemetery with \$50,000 being appropriated. Seventeen acres of the leased land was conveyed to the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) with twelve and a half acres to be developed initially.

The Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery was dedicated December 9, 1978, with first burials occurring on March 14, 1979. A total of \$291,700 was received from the U. S. Veterans' Administration Federal-State Matching Funds Grant Program for construction improvements. The State Legislature created the Arizona Veterans' Service Commission (AVSC) in 1982 and operation of the cemetery was transferred to AVSC from DES.

In 1985, an additional two hundred twelve acres were conveyed to the AVSC bringing the cemetery acreage to two hundred twenty-five acres. In 1988 the legislature appropriated \$300,000 for capital improvements. Additional improvements were authorized and completed through donated funds of many veterans, fraternal and other service organizations.

The cemetery with burial space available for 200,000 graves was transferred to the Veterans Administration on April 1, 1989. The three Department Commanders were: Disabled American Veterans Commander George E. Egel; Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander Charles "Chuck" G. Hastings, and American Legion Commander James J. Murphy.



THE ARMY SONG

Over hill, over dale, we have hit the dusty trail
 And the Army goes rolling along.
 In and out, hear them shout
 Counter march and right about
 And the Army goes rolling along.
 Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey! The Army's on the way
 Sound off your numbers loud and strong.
 For where e'er you go, you will always know
 That the Army goes rolling along;



SEMPER PARATUS (Always Ready) [Coast Guard]

We're always ready for the call,
 We place our trust in thee.
 Through howling gale and shot and shell,
 To win our victory. "Semper Paratus" is our guide,
 Our pledge, our motto too,
 We're "Always Ready" do or die! HEY!
 Coast Guard we fight for you!



THE MARINES' HYMN

From the halls of Montezuma

To the shores of Tripoli
 We fight our country's battles
 In the air, on land and sea;
 First to fight for right and freedom
 And to keep our honor clean
 We are proud to claim the title
 Of United States Marine.



THE AIR FORCE HYMN

Off we go into the wild blue yonder
 Climbing high into the sun;
 Here they come,
 Zooming to meet our thunder
 At 'em boys, give 'er the gun.
 Down we dive,
 Spouting our flame from under
 Off with one hell of a roar!
 We live in fame, or go down in flame,
Hey! Nothing can stop the U.S. Air Force



ANCHORS AWEIGH

Anchors Aweigh my boys,
 Anchors Away
 Farewell to college joys,
 We sail at break of day ay, ay, ay!
 Through our last night on shore,
 Drink through the foam,
 Until we meet once more
 Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.



HEAVE HO! My Lads, Heave Ho! Merchant Marines

Heave Ho! My lads, heave ho!
 It's a long, long way to go,
 It's a long, long pull with our hatches full
 Braving the wind, braving the sea,
 Fighting the treacherous foe,
 Heave Ho! My lads, heave ho!
 Let the sea roll high or low,
 We can cross any ocean
 Sail any river, give us the goods and we'll deliver
 Damn the submarine! We're the men of
 The Merchant Marine!



RANDY HEARD DIRECTOR NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF ARIZONA PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Randy Heard was named Director of the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona (NMCA), located in Phoenix, Arizona, effective February 28, 2021. As Director, he is responsible for the oversight of all burial, maintenance, and administrative operations at the cemetery. Additionally, Mr. Heard is also the Director overseeing operations for Prescott National Cemetery, located in Prescott, Arizona.

Prior to this assignment, Mr. Heard was the Director of Bakersfield National Cemetery in Arvin, California from May 2019. Mr. Heard began his career with the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) in February 2009 at Riverside National Cemetery as a Cemetery Caretaker. He was promoted to Cemetery Caretaker Leader in May 2010, and again to Cemetery Caretaker Supervisor in September 2010. In addition, he joined the Organizational, Assessment and Improvement (OAI) Program in 2018 and is an active member. Prior to joining NCA, Mr. Heard retired after serving more than 20 years in the United States Navy. He is an OEF/OIF Veteran who served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. His primary job was as an Aircraft Director/Aircraft Handler. He also performed as an Aircraft Rescue, Firefighting and Salvage Specialist, and Law Enforcement Specialist. He served during multiple deployments and launched and recovered aircraft on board USS Okinawa (LPH3), USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN71), USS John C. Stennis (CVN74), and USS Nimitz (CVN68). He is qualified as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist and Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist. He was selected multiple times as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter on the Aircraft Carrier USS Nimitz (CVN68) and won the Air Department Senior Sailor of the Year during the same tour of duty. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business with a concentration in Management from the University of Phoenix.

Judge of the Veteran's Court



Rick Romley served four elected terms as the Maricopa County Attorney [1989-2004] and was appointed as interim Maricopa County Attorney in 2010. He has testified before the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives on the issues of violent crime, terrorism, drug trafficking, youth violence, public corruption and victims' rights. For these efforts, Rick has been the recipient of over 100 awards. Since leaving office, Rick started his own firm. Clientele have included former Secretary for Veterans Affairs, James Nicholson, who asked Rick to come to Washington D.C. and be his Personal Advisor to oversee the data loss of personal information for over twenty-six million veterans and to enhance the VA's security protocols and infrastructure.

Rick and his wife, Carol, live in Scottsdale, Arizona. Rick joined the United States Marine Corps as a youth and served as a combat infantry squad leader in Vietnam until wounded in 1969. Rick received numerous commendations, including the Purple Heart. In 2001, Rick received two additional National Awards for his service in defense of our country: Life's Presidential Unsung Hero Award and America's Outstanding Disabled American Veteran of the Year. Mr. Romley was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2007.

Speaker Susan Kee



Susan Kee was born in Seoul, South Korea. Her family immigrated to Southern California in 1975. Before coming to the America, Susan's grandparents fled North Korea due to atrocities committed by communist dictator, Kim Il Sung. Her father enlisted with the Republic of Korea's Army when the Korean War broke out and fought alongside American soldiers during that conflict.

Susan came to recognize that she owed a tremendous debt of gratitude to the American heroes who came and sacrificed so much in order to give her the life of freedom that she enjoys to this day. Susan has devoted her life to making known the history of the Korean War and honoring all who served during the War. It has become Susan's passion to learn their stories and make them known, so that the Korean War will no longer be forgotten. Susan is recognized as one of this nation's most passionate advocates of Korean War veterans and Gold Star families. By way of example, in 2014, at the request of the Korean Consulate in Los Angeles, she organized an event to honor Arizona's Korean War veterans to have the Ambassador for Peace Medal presented to them by the South Korean government. Susan started a public Facebook page where she posts stories of Korean War veterans, fallen heroes, and the history of the Korean War to express her gratitude and to educate people about the Korean War. **Here's the link to Susan's Facebook page Honoring Korean War Veterans: <https://www.facebook.com/susankeewriter/>**

Memorial Day Program

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”
CW3 Steve Brining, vocalist

FLY OVER

Primary Trainer Squadron of the Arizona Antique
Airplane Association (actual 1940 WWII trainers)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Rick Romley – Marine Corps –Vietnam Veteran

DIRECTOR'S GREETING

Randy Heard, Director
National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona

POSTING OF THE COLORS

56th Fighter Wing Honor Guard Team

“THE NATIONAL ANTHEM”

108th Army Band
Commanded by CW3 Steve Brining

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Veteran’s Heritage Project Students
Caitlin Campos, Shadow Mountain High
School
Madieson Campos, Shadow Mountain High
School

INVOCATION

Rabbi Irwin Wiener, DD
Deputy National Chaplain
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.

PARADE OF THE COLORS

Armed Forces Color Guards
Veteran Service Organizations
JROTC Unit and Community Groups

PLACING OF THE WREATHS

Veteran Service Organizations
Community Groups

“GOD BLESS THE USA”

Performed by 108th Army Band
CW3 Steve Brining, Vocalist

INTRODUCTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Rick Romley – Marine Corps – Vietnam Veteran

GUEST SPEAKER

Susan Kee
Honoring Korean War Veterans

REMEMBRANCE TABLE

Scottish American Military Society Post 48
ARMED FORCES MEDLEY

108th Army Band
Flags presented by Scottish American Society
Post 48

CLOSING REMARKS

BENEDICTION

Chaplain (Capt) Lauralee Ozzello
161st Air Refueling Wing Chaplain’s Office

RIFLE VOLLEY

AZ Army National Guard Honors Team

TAPS

SGT Monique Grijalva
108th Army Band

DISMISSAL – “Stars & Stripes”
108th Army Band



*Our thoughts and prayers are also with the families of the men and women
who served or are serving in our armed forces*



**The Memorial Day Committee wishes to recognize:
MEDAL of HONOR RECIPIENTS from the State of Arizona**

William Alchesay, Indian Wars*
William Barnes, Indian Wars*
Kern Dunagan, Vietnam War*
Bruce Crandall, Vietnam War
Silvestre Herrera, WWII*
Kelsa, Indian Wars*
Frank Luke, Jr, WWII*
Manuel V. Mendoza, WWII*
John Pruitt, WWI*
Simon Suhler , Indian Wars*
Jay Vargas, Vietnam War

Oscar Austin, Vietnam War*
Blanquet, Indian Wars*
Elsatsoosh, Indian Wars*
Joe Foss, WWII*
Jim, Indian Wars*
Kosoha, Indian Wars*
Machol, Indian Wars*
Nannasaddie, Indian Wars*
Rowdy, Indian Wars*
Max Thompson, WWII*

Nicky Bacon, Vietnam War*
Chiquito, Indian Wars*
Fred Ferguson, Vietnam War
Raymond Harvey, Korean War*
Jose Jimenez, Vietnam War*
Billy Lauffer, Vietnam War*
Isaiah Mays, Indian Wars*
Nantaje (Nantahe), Indian Wars*
Cornelius Smith, Indian Wars*
Leo Thorsness, Vietnam War*

* Indicates deceased

**Special acknowledgment is given to the staff of the
National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona
Randy Heard – Director
Lynnette Parker - Assistant Director**

Christopher S. Anderson
Lee M. Castaneda
Tammy Diaz
Charles W. Holden II
Regina Locke
Heather Miller-Reynolds
Eric V. Russell
Cecelio Suguitan

Leilani Ballard
Michael J. Castillo
Adrian Garcia
Daniel J. Humbles
Dean Martinez
Ryan O'Donnell
Tomasz Sacharzewski
Tanya Tow

Paul Blomkvist
Marco A. Cortez
Ernest G. Hanson, Jr.
Benjamin E. Kelstrup
Ron Mikels
Randall S. Petersen
Arthur L. Schofield
Scott Worden

Jaime Carvajal
Tyler Colly
Charles Hayes
Christopher Linz
Jerald T. Nowdomski
Michael A. Reavis
Tony Shaw
Gregory A. Yazzie

Sincere appreciation to the following Honor Guards and Ritual Teams that insure our veterans receive those honors so richly earned: Luke AFB Honor Guard, Marine Corps Honor Guard, American Legion Ritual Team, Arizona Army National Guard Honor Guard, Naval Reserve Honor Guard, and the National Memorial Cemetery Ladies

The committee wishes to thank the following named individuals for volunteering their time in support of today's program.

Wreath Presentations

Pat Kelly
Mary Williams
Ward Triplett
Nicky Colletti
Brenda Johnson
Cy Barret

General Assistance

Tom Solnit
Henry Brown
Mike Clemenson
Suzette Thomason
John M Jackson
Jackie Barrett



CORPORATE SPONSORS

Special acknowledgement to the following for their support

Maricopa County Sheriff's Posse
Williams Express Printing Company
Disabled American Veteran's Auxiliary, Unit 20
Wells Fargo Bank – Volunteer Committee

National Memorial Cemetery Support Committee of Arizona

Mel Brody
Lynette Parker
Rick Romley

Sue Collier
Paula Pedene
Kathy Upchurch

Randy Heard
Gerald Nowdomski
Sue Wudy

REMEMBERING LONG TIME MEMBER JUDY HATCH

The following groups are participating in the parade of colors and/or presentation of wreaths

Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 1260
American Legion Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arizona
American Legion Honor Society of Women
Legionnaires 20-4
American Legion Christopher J. Lapka Post 105
American Legion Christopher J. Lapka Auxiliary,
Unit 105
American Legion Irving B. Selmer Post 107
American Legion Irving B. Selmer Auxiliary, Unit 107
(Sons of the) American Legion, Detachment of AZ
Arizona's Veterans Hall of Fame Society
Association of the United States Army
Association of the United States Navy
Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Chapter 335
Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Chapter 2251
Blue Star Mothers of the Southwest Valley
Civil Air Patrol Sky Harbor Composite Sqd 301
(AZ Society) Daughters of the American Revolution
State Vice Regent
Daughters of the American Revolution,
Anasazi Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution
Gov. George WP Hunt Chapter
Disabled American Veterans, Dept. of AZ
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, State of AZ
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 20
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Unit 20
Fleet Reserve Branch 163
Fleet Reserve Ladies Auxiliary Unit 163
Valley of the Sun
(American) Gold Star Mothers, West Phoenix
Gold Star Wives of America, Phoenix Chapter
In-Country Vietnam Veterans
Jewish War Veterans, Post 210
Korean War Veterans Department of Arizona
Korean War Veterans Association,
Arden A Rowley Chapter
Korean War Veterans General Brad Smith
Ray Harvey (Congressional Medal of Honor) Ch
Korean Association of Arizona
(3rd) Marine Division of Arizona
Marine Corps League Old Breed Detachment
Chapter 767
Merchant Marines - Desert Mariners
Military Officers Assoc. of America, Superstition
Mountain Chapter
Military Order of the World Wars,
COL Billie L Stephens, Apache Trail Chapter 207
Military Order of the World Wars, Phoenix Chapter
Military Scottish American Military Society
Post 48
Military Women Across the Nation, Salt River
Unit 155
National Cemetery Support Committee
National Memorial Cemetery Ladies NMCA
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Arizona Chapter
(Arizona) Society of the American Revolution
Barry Goldwater Chapter

(United States) Submarine Veterans Perch Base
Submarine Veterans of WWII
Unified Arizona Veterans Association
Veterans Administration Health Care System,
Phoenix
Veterans Administration Regional Office
Veteran's Heritage Project
Veterans Medical Leadership Council
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Arizona
Veterans of Foreign Wars, State of Arizona Auxiliary
Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Bobby Diaz Lopez Post 6310
Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Joseph F Monfort Post 9400
Vietnam Veterans of America, Arizona State Council
(Associates of) Vietnam Veterans of America
State Council
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 432
(Associates of) Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 432
(Vietnamese) 92nd BCT
Vietnam Veterans Volunteer Team/AZ
Women's Army Corps Veterans Association,
Army Women United Chapter 68
Women's Overseas Service League,
Phoenix-Cholla Unit

