



# Ainbonne, Vahoo!



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## **Nashville Cats**





...and a Nashville
Airborne All the Way

Welcome, Y'all.

#### The President's Welcome Letter —



Wambi Cook President 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association



#### 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association

June 1, 2023

Sky Soldiers and Friends of Sky Soldiers,

A warm welcome to our 2023 Annual Reunion.

This is a reunion of firsts. It is the first reunion we've had since COVID-19 and it is our first reunion in which one of our Chapters is not planning and hosting the event. The reason for the change is that our Board of Directors concluded, with such a short post-COVID planning time, it was a bridge too far for a Chapter to plan and resource a successful 2023 Reunion.

So, it was decided by unanimous vote the Association would assume the task of making this event happen. Several sites were proposed and considered. After some debate Nashville, Tennessee, was selected as the venue for this year's Reunion. Nashville has rolled out the red carpet. I hope you will take advantage of the activities we have planned and others, not on our agenda, that you want to explore.

Our Reunion participants constitute over ninety percent of the Sheraton Music City's lodgings. So, you're among friends. The hotel's dedicated staff has assured us that their mission is to meet or exceed our every need. Most of this city's world-renowned attractions are merely minutes away by personal or public transportation.

We are supremely confident the must-see tours we're sponsoring, will spike your interest and provide all the Southern hospitality this city can offer. Don't leave Nashville without tasting and, possibly, taking home some of Nashville's world-renowned hot chicken dishes. Although not on our reunion itinerary, if you find the time, a handful of the South's world class distilleries are located a relatively short drive from the hotel. Lastly, my kudos and well-deserved thank you is extended to every member of the Reunion Committee. Enjoy.

Sincerely,

Wambi Cook, President















#### **Association Reunion Committee**



Cy Bassett John Hardwick

Jackie Bassett Eric Hitchcock

Doris Brazzale Shay Howard

Mack Brooks Kimberly Hubbard

Wambi Cook Frank Marcantonio

Joe Flesch Thomas McMahon

Caleb Geller



#### **Association Officers**

### President Wambi Cook

18458 East Orkney Street Azusa, CA 91702

Mobile: 626-664-0219 Email: wambicook@aol.com

## Secretary Jacky "Shay" Howard

442 Laramie Dr

San Antonio, Texas, 78209 Mobile: 910-723-4585

Email: secretary@skysoldier.net

#### Membership Secretary Dennis Hill

97 Earle Street

Norwood, MA 02062-1504 Phone: 781-769-6062

Email: membership secretary@skysoldier.net

#### President's Liaison-Southern Hemisphere Ray Payne O.A.M.

2 Flemington Street Banora Point NSW 2486

Phone: 011.61.7.5524.7742 (International) Email: raypayne@veteranweb.asn.au

#### Judge Advocate General William Morse

800 High Street Suite 200

Worthington, OH 43085 Phone: 614-436-8010

Email: judge advocate general@skysoldier.net

#### Historian Michael Marsh

6789 West 3rd Avenue Lakewood, CO 80226-1780

Phone: 303-232-3788 Mobile: 303-246-7565

Email: historian@skysoldier.net

#### Vice President Frank Marcantonio

2834 County Rd

Willow Springs, MO 65793 Mobile: 775-762-7832

Email: f marcantonio@yahoo.com

#### Treasurer David Williams

CMR 473 Box 2469 APO AE 09606-0025 Mobile: 910-578-3515

Email: treasurer@skysoldier.net

#### Webmaster Ryan Shipley

5699 Dawes Ave Alexandria, VA 22311

Mobile: N/A

Email: webmaster@skysoldier.net

## Chaplain Ronald Smith

4315 Seabreeze Drive

Jacksonville Beach, FL 33250

Phone: 904-992-0571 Mobile: 904-614-5017

Email: chaplain@skysoldier.net

## Sergeant-at-Arms Joseph Flesch

11730 Hawkes Road Clarksburg, MD 20871 Phone: 301-253-2512

Mobile: 301-266-0216

Email: sergeant at arms@skysoldier.net

## Reunion Treasurer Caleb Geller

1344 Disc Drive #224

Sparks, NV

Phone: 725-264-3566 Email: geller@173.org

## **Association Chapters & Presidents**

Chapter	Location	President
Chapter 1	DC, Maryland, Virginia	Steve Brignoli
Chapter 2	New York, NY	Vic Zlatanovic
Chapter 3	Fort Benning, GA	Freddie C. Odomes
Chapter 4	Philadelphia, {PA	Flint Jackson
Chapter 5	Fort Bragg, NC	Jose V. Bercedoni
Chapter 6	Chicago, IL	Robert Getz
Chapter 7	Florida	William Voss
Chapter 8	Inland NW	Eldon Meade
Chapter 9	New England	Bill Maloney
Chapter 10	Western States, No. California	Andy Martenez
Chapter 11	New South Wales, AU	Bob Cockerill
Chapter 12	Colorado	Tom Waltman
Chapter 13	Texas	Rey Rios
Chapter 14	Southern California	Marc Thurston
Chapter 15	Minneapolis, MN	Carl Andersen
Chapter 16	West WA	Chris Clewell
Chapter 17	Mid-Western States	Bill Terry
Chapter 18	Oklahoma	Tim Austin
Chapter 19	New Zealand	John Deazley
Chapter 20	N/A	N/A
Chapter 21	Gateway Chapter-Central/ Southern Illinois & Missouri	Nathan Whaley
Chapter 22	N/A	N/A
Chapter 23	Queensland, AU	Ray Payne O.A.M.
Chapter 24	Rochester, MN	Sam Maslowski
Chapter 25	Phoenix, AZ	Bryan Bowley
Chapter 26	N/A	N/A
Chapter 27	Southern States, AU	A.B. Garcia
Chapter 28	San Diego	David Wilbur
Chapter 29	Nevada	Terry Parker
Chapter 30	South Carolina	Hilario Velasquez
Chapter 173 So. Hemisphere	Europe: Italy, Germany President's Liaison-Australia & New Zealand	Daniel Galvin Ray Payne O.A.M

## **Previous Brigade Reunions** ———



Year	Location	Year	Location
2023	Nashville, Tennessee	2005	Sydney, Australia
2022	Scottsdale, Arizona	2004	Daytona Beach, Florida
2021	Not Held	2003	Reno, Nevada
2020	Not Held	2002	Chicago, Illinois
2019	Charleston, South Carolina	2001	Fort Worth, Texas
2018	Alexandria, Virginia	2000	Rochester, Minnesota
2017	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	1999	Fayetteville, North Carolina
2016	Columbus, Georgia	1998	Boston, Massachusetts
2015	San Diego, California	1997	Tucson, Arizona
2014	Fayetteville, North Carolina	1996	Anaheim, California
2013	Las Vegas, Nevada	1995	Rochester, Minnesota
2012	Lexington, Kentucky	1994	Sacramento, California
2011	San Antonio, Texas	1993	San Antonio, Texas
2010	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina	1992	Chicago, Illinois
2009	Daytona Beach, Florida	1991	NSW, Australia
2008	Alaska Cruise	1990	Washington, DC
2007	Rochester, Minnesota	1989	Lake Tahoe, California
2006	Fayetteville, North Carolina	1988	Chicago, Illinois



#### **Reunion Guest Speaker**



Colonel (Retired) William B. Oslund
Former Executive Officer, US Special Operations Command
(USSOCOM) at U.S. Army

Colonel Ostlund enlisted into the Army in 1983. He served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers and was stationed at Hunter Army Airfield, GA. He transitioned to the Nebraska National Guard's Long Range Surveillance Detachment and simultaneously enrolled into ROTC at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Bill was commissioned as an Infantry Distinguished Military Graduate and re-entered the active Army in 1990. He served in multiple units as a Company grade officer, including the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault). He was then assigned to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. Bill commanded B Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry (Mechanized), in the Republic of Korea. Afterwards, he attended graduate school at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, where he completed his PhD. Afterwards, he was assigned as an Assistant Professor in the United States Military Academy's Department of Social Sciences. Bill was subsequently stationed in Vicenza, Italy, where he served as the Southern European Task Force's Chief of Operations, Operations Officer – 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Airborne), 508<sup>th</sup> Infantry, and Operations Officer, then Deputy Commander, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade.

He then served in the US Strategic Command's Plans and Policy Division as the Chief, European Support Section and Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction Planner. Bill returned to Italy to command 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Airborne), 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Combat Team. While in command, he deployed this unit to Kunar/Nuristan, Afghanistan. His battalion became the most decorated unit in the Global War on Terrorism, earning a Presidential Unit Citation, Valorous Unit Award and over 400 individual valor awards, to include three living Medal of Honor awardees - Sal Giunta, Kyle White, and Ryan Pitts.

Upon his return, Bill served as the Deputy Commander of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment. He deployed to Afghanistan several times. Bill next completed a Senior Service College Fellowship at The Fletcher School prior to commanding the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Light), 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. Bill served as the Executive Officer to the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command then the Director of the Commander's Action Group, U.S. Central Command.

In February 2019, Bill retired as the Director, Department of Military Instruction at the United States Military Academy – West Point – and has been deemed a Distinguished Member of the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment and the 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment. In January 2019, Bill transitioned to Manager for Security Operations Readiness, Global Security. In 2022, he established Tri-Lux Effects Based Outcomes. Bill is married and has three sons

#### **Reunion Hotels**



Reunion Hotel Sheraton Music City; 777 McGavock Pike Nashville, TN 37214



Overflow Hotel
Hyatt house Nashville Airport; 14 Century Blvd, Nashville, TN 37214



Overflow Hotel
Cambria Nashville Airport; 44 Rachel Blvd, Nashville, TN. 37214

#### **Schedule of Events**

#### Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Time	Event	Venue/Remarks	Color Code
0630 - 0830	Continental Breakfast	Hermitage Foyer	
0800 - 2200	Hospitality Suite Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
0900 - 1600	Reunion Registration	Hermitage Foyer	
1800 - 1900	Welcome Reception	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	

#### Thursday, 1 June 2023

Time	Event	Venue/Remarks	Color Code
0630 - 0830	Continental Breakfast	Hermitage Foyer	
0800 - 2200	Hospitality Suite Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
0800	Golf Tournament	18 Springhouse Ln, Nashville, TN	
0900 - 1600	Registration	Hermitage Foyer	
0900 - 1900	Vendors Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
1000 - 1600	6-Hour City Tour [Hall of Fame + Studio B]	\$160 Per Person	
1400 - 1700	Highlight of the City Music Tour	\$50 Per Person	
1700 - 2000	4 <sup>th</sup> Battalion: Cocktail Hour - Dinner	Hermitage D	

#### Friday, 2 June 2023

Time	Event	Venue/Remarks	Color Code
0630 - 0830	Continental Breakfast	Hermitage Foyer	
0900 - 1400	Registration	Hermitage Foyer	
0800 - 2200	Hospitality Suite Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
0900 - 1900	Vendors	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
1000 - 1200	Caregiver Support Workshop	Belmont Room	
1615 - 2130	Grand Ole Opry Tour	Off-Site	
1700 - 1900	Dinner: Santa Fe Cattle Company	Off-Site	
1900 - 2130	Grand Ole Opry Show	\$135 Per Person	

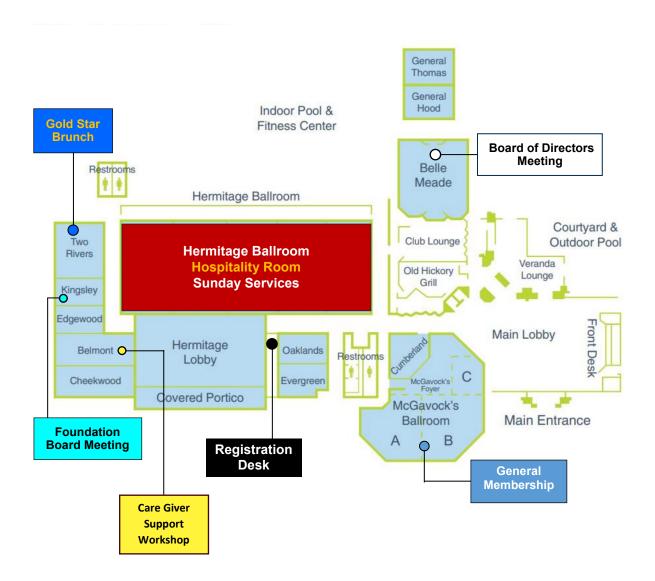
#### Saturday, 3 June 2023

Time	Event	Venue/Remarks	Color Code
0630 - 0830	Continental Breakfast	Hermitage Foyer	
0800 - 1159	Hospitality Suite Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	
0800 - 1159	Vendors Available	Hermitage Ballroom	
0830 - 1000	Board of Directors Meeting	Bell Meade	
0900 - 1300	Registration	Hermitage Foyer	
1000 - 1200	General Membership Meeting	McGavock Ballroom	
1200 - 1400	Gold Star Family Brunch	Two Rivers	
1500 - 1600	Sky Soldier Foundation Board Meeting	Kingley Room	
1800 - 1830	Banquet Cocktail Hour	Hermitage Ballroom	
1830 - 2030	Banquet Activities	Hermitage Ballroom	
2030 - 2200	Hospitality Room Available	Hermitage Ballroom/Foyer	

#### Sunday, 4 June 2030

0900 - 1030	Memorial Service	Hermitage Ballroom Foyer	
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## **Sheraton Music City Hotel Floor Plan**

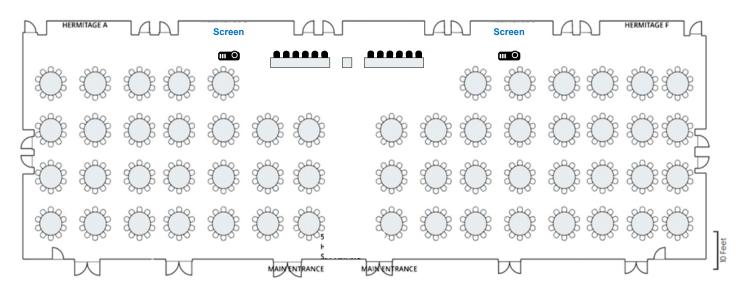


Sheraton Music City Hotel **Lobby Level** 

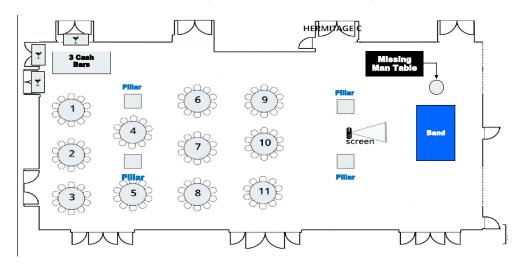
Sites Color-keyed to Schedule of Events Schedule

#### **Banquet Floor Plan**

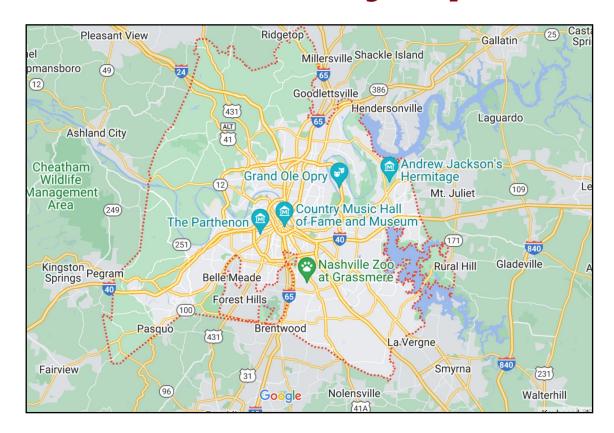
#### **Hermitage Ball Room**



#### **Hermitage Ball Room Foyer**



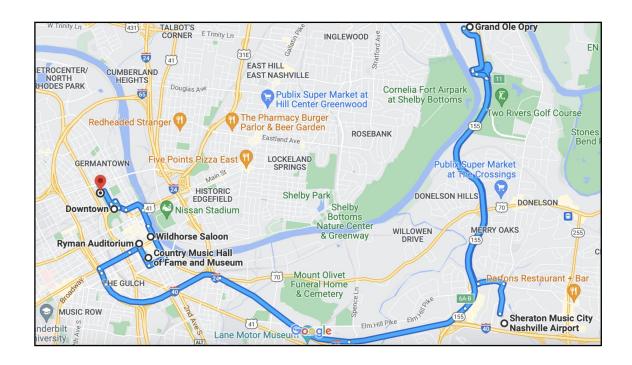
## **Nashville City Map**



#### **Off-Site Locations**

Date	Time	Off-Site Event
Thu, 1 Jun	1000 - 1600	6-Hour City Tour [Hall of Fame + Studio B]
Thu, 1 Jun	1400 - 1700	Highlight of the City Music Tour
Fri, 2 Jun	1615 - 2130	Grand Ole Opry Tour
Fri, 2 Jun	1700 - 1900	Dinner: Santa Fe Cattle Company
Fri, 2 Jun	1900 - 2130	Grand Ole Opry Show

## **Nashville City Tour**



## **Some Nashville Highlights**





**Gaylord Springs Golf Links Country Music Hall of Fame** 



**Santa Fe Cattle Company** 



**Grand Ole Opry** 

## 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade History

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade was constituted in 1917 as an infantry brigade and deployed to France in 1918 as part of the 87<sup>th</sup> Division. Returning to the United States the brigade was demobilized in 1919.

87<sup>th</sup> Redesignated as the Reconnaissance Troop, fought in three European campaigns. Although not part of the Brigade in World War II, the history of the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment is significant to the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, comprising half of its current fighting strength. The 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment was formed in 1941 at Ft Bragg. They jumped into New Guinea, in September 1943 as part of the first successful airborne combat jump in the Pacific Theater. On 16 February 1945 they jumped onto the island of Corregidor where they earned the Presidential Unit Citation.

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade was activated on Okinawa in 1963 as the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade (Sep). The unit earned the nickname "Tien Bien" or "Sky Soldiers," from the Nationalist Chinese paratroopers.

In 1965, the Brigade became the first major unit of the United States Army to serve in Vietnam. They conducted the only combat parachute jump of the war in February 1967. During more than six years of continuous combat, the brigade earned 14 campaign streamers and four unit citations. Sky Soldiers serving in Vietnam earned 13 Medals of Honor. The brigade was inactivated in 1972.

Reactivated in June 2000, the brigade conducted numerous deployments across Europe. On 26 March 2003, the 173<sup>rd</sup> added to its distinguished history when nearly 1,000 Sky Soldiers parachuted into Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I. During the operation one Sky Soldier was awarded the Silver Star.

In 2005, the 173rd deployed to Afghanistan along the contentious Pakistan border in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) VI. Five Sky





Soldiers were awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in battle.

Upon returning to Italy in 2006, the brigade transformed into the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Combat Team. In the spring of 2007, the 173rd ABN executed an extended deployment to eastern Afghanistan in support of OEF VIII where Soldiers exhibited incredible bravery earning one Medal of Honor, one Distinguished Service Cross, and 32 Silver Stars.

In 2009, the brigade returned to Afghanistan for a third time in support of Operation Enduring Freedom X continuing its proud tradition of selfless service, while executing a difficult build mission south of Kabul.

In 2012, the brigade returned to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom XIII returning to Logar and Wardak Provinces where they executed the difficult task of reducing the footprint of the Brigade while continuing to train their Afghan counterparts.

Upon returning to Italy in 2013, the Brigade was redesignated as the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade. Today, Sky Soldiers continue the distinction of honored service dating back to World War I and proudly represent the Airborne fighting spirit wherever they serve.





#### **National Memorial Foundation**



173rd Airborne Brigade National Memorial

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Memorial Foundation was incorporated in the State of Georgia on 7 July 2006. Its mission statement was to build and provide perpetual care for the 173rd Airborne Brigade National Memorial.

Since the mid-1980s, Sky Soldiers had dreamed of building a world class Memorial on United States soil that would commemorate the service and sacrifices of the 173rd Airborne Brigade's Vietnam deployment during which nearly 1,800 assigned and attached services members were taken from us. Some unit memorials and headstones were built at locations around the United States, including a small Memorial located at Fort Campbell, Kentucky where the Brigade was deactivated in 1972, but Sky Soldiers wanted more.

It was not until July 2004 that the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association leadership commissioned a committee to investigate the feasibility of building a memorial. In January 2005 the Association approved a resolution authorizing the committee to develop a detailed proposal for the project. In 2006, the 173rd Airborne Association membership approved the formation of an independent Foundation to design and build a memorial.

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade National Memorial Foundation, Incorporated, is a non-profit Corporation whose purpose is "... to perpetuate the legacy of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade by constructing and maintaining a 173rd Airborne Brigade National Memorial at the National Infantry Museum Campus near Fort Benning, Georgia."

The Foundation's Board of Directors is composed of members who are citizens and/or legal residents of the United States of America. The majority of the Board must be active members of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association. Currently, the Board of Directors is composed of seven members elected to staggered three year terms of office. The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Foundation has no members outside the Board of Directors, and all are volunteers who receive no reimbursement for their service.

In less than four years from incorporation, the Memorial Foundation designed and built the Memorial that stands in the place of honor at the head of the National Infantry Museum's "Walk of Honor." Ground breaking took place on 11 July 2008 and the Memorial was dedicated in the presence of more than 600 Sky Soldiers and friends on 1 June 2010. Funds to construct the Memorial were provided by individuals, veterans and civic organizations, and corporate sponsors.

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade National Memorial Foundation Board of Directors is a virtual corporation without a central office. It may be reached by communications through the U.S. Postal Service addressed to the Foundation at 124 Tugboat Lane, Summerville SC 29486 or via email addressed Secretary@173dairbornememorial.org

## **Sky Soldiers Foundation**



#### **Sky Soldiers Donations**

The "Sky Soldiers Foundation" is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Donations and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. We rely on the generosity of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association members, small businesses and corporations, and the public to help us carry out our mission and to meet the needs of Sky Soldiers, Veterans and on-active duty.

The "Sky Soldiers Foundation" is 100% supported by volunteers and each contribution you make is fully directed to support our services and programs in accordance with your gift designation.

By the way, if you wish to make recurring payments on a monthly basis, you may do so when making your donations by clicking on the box "Make This Recurring (Monthly)". We invite you to explore the highlights of the ways that your gift may be put to work through the "Herd Foundation" by clicking on of the programs listed below:

#### https://skysoldiersfoundation.org/Donation-Options

General Assistance Fund
Wounded Sky Soldier Fund
Scholarship Fund
Assistance Fund
Veteran Sky Soldier Assistance Fund

For the convenience of Sky Soldiers Foundation donors and supporters, all donations can be made online or through Mail-in-Form.

For more information on CFC, please visit Combined Federal Campaign at Sky Soldiers Foundation.

















## **Gold Star Program**



## The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Association Official Gold Star Program



#### **Mission Statement**

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Association Gold Star Program is a private 501(c)(19) nonprofit military organization created to provide honor, remembrance, emotional, peer, and resource support for 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Gold Star Families. We will host a gathering of Gold Star Family Members at every National Association Reunion, to ensure the sacrifices made by fallen Sky Soldiers will **never be forgotten**, to provide increased public awareness of the **Gold Star** and **Next of Kin Pin**, and the sacrifice required to wear one.

#### History, Reunion 2023, Reconnecting, and Planning for 2023 and Beyond

The vision and initiative to form the Association Gold Star Family members came from the late General John R. Deane, Jr. and Colonel Robert Sigholtz. It was implement by Judy C. Campbell, Gold Star Sister of Specialist 4 Keith Allen Campbell [DSC, BSM, with "V," the Purple Heart medal, and the Combat Medic Badge]. Specialist Campbell was Killed in Action (KIA) Vietnam 02/08/1967). Ms. Campbell was the first Association Gold Star Committee Chairman. The program was led by the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association for a few years. Debora Yashinski with the support of her husband, James, Gold Star Parents of SGT Michael Emerson Yashinski [Bronze Star Medal, KIA Iraq 12/24/2003] assumed the Chair position and developed a database of Gold Star Family Members. That database was used by the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Memorial Foundation to reach out to Gold Star Family members. Under Eric Hitchcock's leadership of the then173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association Foundation, Doris Brazzale-Hovis Chaired the Gold Star Family Program for over six years. She has been its organizer and champion over the past six years with the support of her two talented and dedicated daughters. The program has been active for nearly 20 years.

Judy's, Deborah's, and Doris's dedication, personal touch, and sensitivity to Gold Star Family members has continually improved the quality of reunions and facilitated mutual support among those attending. At reunions, the Association has hosted luncheons or dinners, where Sky Soldiers who served with their loved one joined the event. Each reunion has been memorable for all participants and a significant contributor to the healing of Gold Star Family members and the Sky Soldiers who served with their loved one.

It has been a monumental task to update and reconnect with all the Gold Star Family members in our database. To accomplish that task, would require the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association, its Chapters, and members, to reach out and locate those Gold Star Family members.

The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association 2023 reunion registration has begun and we encourage all Association Chapters and members to reach out to Gold Star Family members in their area and invite them to attend. The 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Association offers a lifetime honorary membership for the Association Gold Star Family members (parents, siblings, children, and grandchildren) upon Association Gold Star Program confirmation.

We invite Gold Star Sky Soldiers, their Gold Star spouses, and Gold Star children, who lost a loved one serving with other units of the U.S. Armed Forces, to join the Sky Soldier Gold Star Family and attend its events.

Let us not leave any Sky Soldier Gold Star Family member to wonder if anyone cares about their loss and pain. Join the team to let them know that the sacrifice of their loved one will never be forgotten and neither will they. To volunteer please contact Eric Hitchcock at <a href="mailto:eric@blastincorporated.com">eric@blastincorporated.com</a> or by phone 713-545-3974



## **Caregiver Support Workshop**







Marc Thurston
Accredited Veterans Service Officer
President, Chapter 14, Southern California

#### **Workshop Topics**

Friday, 2 June 2023 10:00 AM - 12 Noon; Belmont Room

- The Veterans Affairs Caregiver Assistance Program
- The Pact Act
- Family caregivers of eligible of veterans
- Eligibility for the Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregiver Program
- Eligibility for the family caregiver
- Eligibility requirements for the veteran
- What is a personal caregiver?
- How many caregivers can the eligible veteran support?
- How do I apply?
- Congressional Budget Deficit

## **Missing Man Table and Honors**

As you entered the room, you may have noticed a special table; it is reserved to honor our missing men.

The empty chair represent Americans who were or are missing from each of the services – Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard – and civilians, all with us in spirit.

Some here were very young, or not yet born, when the Vietnam War began; however, all Americans should never forget the brave men and women who answered our Nation's call and served the cause of freedom in a special way.

Let me explain the meaning of this table, and then join me for a moment of silent prayer.

The table is round – to show our everlasting concern. The cloth is white – symbolizing the purity of their motives when answering the call to serve.

The single red rose reminds us of the lives of these Americans and their loved ones and friends who keep the faith, while seeking answers. The yellow ribbon symbolizes our continuing uncertainty, the hope for their return, and our determination to account for them.

A slice of lemon reminds us of their bitter fate, captured and missing in a foreign land.

A pinch of salt symbolizes the tears of our missing and their families - who long for answers after decades of uncertainty.



The lighted candle reflects our hope for their return – alive or dead.

The Bible represents the strength gained through faith, to sustain us and those lost from our country, founded as one Nation under God.

The glass is inverted – symbolizing their inability to share a toast.

The chairs are empty – they are missing.....

(moment of silence)

Let us now raise our water glasses in a toast to honor America's POW/MIAs, to the success of our efforts to account for them, and to the safety of all now serving our Nation!

#### **Brigade Medal of Honor Recipients**









**PVT Lloyd McCarter** 



SGT Larry S. Pierce



PFC Milton L. Olive III



SP6 Lawrence Joel



SP4 Alfred V. Rascon



SSG Charles B. Morris



SP4 Don L. Michael



PFC John A. Barnes III



MAJ Charles J. Watters



PFC Carlos J. Lozada



SSG Laszlo Rabe



CPL Terry T. Kawamura



SP4 Michael R. Blanchfield



SSG Glenn H. English Jr.



SSG Salvatore A. Giunta



SPC Kyle J. White



SGT Ryan M. Pitts

#### **Gathering of the Herd 2024**



## Y'all Come Now, Hear!!!



Grand Sierra Resort & Casino Reno, NV 89595

**June 3 - 7, 2024** 

https://boo.passkey.com/GO/AIRB











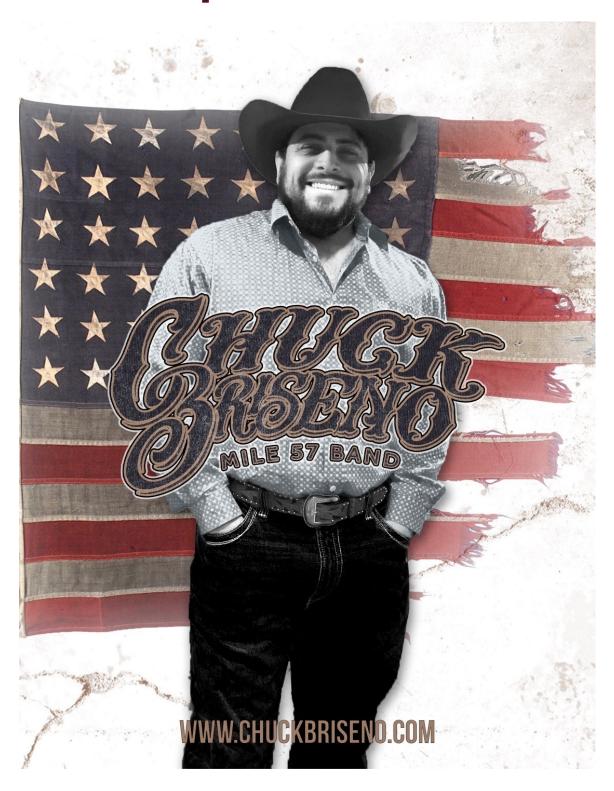
## Ya Gotta Be Crazy!!!



## ...not to enter the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association Raffle!

CLICK HERE; https://go.rallyup.com/173rdabn/t/16f682/Team/Details

#### **Banquet Entertainment**



Chuck Briseno & The Mile 57 Band



#### **Reunion Manifest**



Dennis Adams Michael Adams 🜟 William Akers Frank Akers. Jr. **Bob Allen** John Archuleta Michael Armstrong Thomas G. Arneson II Ted G. Arthurs Robert Aspiras Tim Austin Thomas H. Baird Phillip A. Bartholomew Cy Bassett Otto Bauer **Grover Beard** Gilbert Becerril Scott Beeson Conrad Begaye Robert Belcher Sal Beltran George Bembischew Jose Bercedoni Bill Berry Gerald Berube Kory Bestul Thornell Billingslea James T. Blount Richard Bonet Don Borland **Hoyt Boston** Wayne Bowers Rickey Bowman Orice Brannan

Mason Branstetter

Doris Brazzale 🛨

Harold L. Brent

Vernon Brewer II

Jonathan Brooks

Andrew Brown Theodore Brown Joe E. Brown, Sr. William Buckholz Ernest Burch Patrick Burke Ed Burns Joel G. Burns Mark Busenlehner Darren Byrd Doug Caraway David Carmon **Edwin Carns** Robert Carpenter David Carroll \* John Carter Clifford Casady Gerald T. Cecil Jay Chastain James Chin Charles T. Clutter Ryan Cobin Phil Coleman John W. Collins, Jr. Wambi Cook Garth Cooke Jackie Cooper John Corbett Corky Corcoran Alfred Cortez Matthew Coulter Kenneth Cox Martha Creamer-Donegan Stanley F. Crump Patrick Cubbage Pat Cunningham Javier Curiel John D'Aguanno

Michael Davis Sean Christopher Davis **Terry Davis** Mary Day Jeddah Deloria Jack deRemer David Diazgonzales **Thomas Dimond** William Dixon Carl Dodd David Dougherty Michael Dunn David Eckman Mike Erickson Joe Evans William Evans Jon Farwell Robert Finn Carl Fishburne Joe Flesch James A. Fogarty Victor Fonoimoana **Edward Fruchtenicht Bradley Gantz** William Gallagher Albert C. Galvan John Gauvreau Caleb Geller Mike Glass Matthew Gobble Louis L. Gonzales Gilbert Gonzalez Jose Gonzalez James Gore Robert Gore Rick Grantham Joseph Gray Roscoe Grav



Aaron Davis

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Joshua Green



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Kenneth W Green James M. Grimshaw Trudell Guerue Jose Hector Gutiérrez Juan Guzman Raymond Hamilton Larry Hampton Alfred Hancock Dennis Hanners John Hardwick Mike Hargadon Gerald Hassler Donald Haus, Jr. Joseph Hayden Carlos Hernandez Shawn Higgins Aron Hijar Leo Hill Roger Hill Francis Hinton Eric A. Hitchcock Pete Hoosier Ryker Horn **David Hosford Thomas Hoskey** Kelly Hovis \* Shay Howard William Huffaker Thomas Hummell Ken Husted Mike Ignasiak Kenneth Jackson Bill Jang **Dusty Jarnagin** John Jeakle Jim Jenkins Arlen Johnson Stanley E. Johnson William Johnson Zaccery Johnston

David Jones

Robert Jones Oscar Jordan Dennis Jude Justin Kalenits **David Kanters** Hiram Kaukani John Kennedy Matthew King Dick Kjellsen John Klug John T. Kranchick, Jr. William Krupa Steward Kulp JR Olie Lady Lynn Lail ken Lambertson James Lazo Jeff LeForge Alfio Leone Kenneth J. Lepore Raymond Lester Peyton Ligon Lavina Livingston Gary Llewellyn, Sr. Aaron Locker Jackie Lofton Dean Logan Allan Loh David Loomis Barry Lovett Carl Lowe Deborah Lowther Donald Luce Joe Lucero Joe MacDonald Joseph Mallamaci Dannen D Mannschreck Stephen Manthey **Duane Mantle** Frank Marcantonio Victor Marciano

Jerome Marcum Joe Marquez Jack Martin Samuel W. Maslowski **Andrew Mathews** Reginald Mattingly Herbert L. Mcduffie Bill Mcentire Eddit McLeod Thomas McMahon Jim McSorley Richard Melendez James V. Merchant William Mertens Frank Miceli Michael Michailoff Stephen Miller Sam R. Mingle George Mink **Bob Minton** Joseph Mlinac Loretto Mockabee Jeff Molnar Rob Moore Jonathan Morrow James Muldoon Randy J. Muston Matthew Myer Terry W. Napier David Negri David Nordan Patrick O'Briant Brian O'Leary Patrick M. O'Learv Freddie Odomes Christopher Ogle Fred Ortiz Robert Ortiz William Ostlund Raymond Pachmayr John Page



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Rayburn Paige Jose M. Palacios Robert Palestra Jesus Palomo Richard Parsons Lowell Passons Gerald Patterson Cosmo Pepe **Edward Peters** Alan Phillips Erich Phillips Eddie Powell Joe Prince Gary Prisk Jesse Queck Bryan Quinlan Sonny Quintanilla Jim Quisenberry Harold Ratliff Ashlee Reale Dennis Reichelderfer Richard N. Reynolds Daniel Richardson Clark Ricke Elton Ricker Harold C. Riggs Dirk Ringgenberg Reves Rios Nancy Rish Matt Roberge Sean Roden Sammy Rodriguez John Rolfe Thomas H. Rolfe Charles Rrolon Alan Rosen John Rosenmeier Walter Rosso Richard Rowell Donald Rushford

Andrew Russell

Roy Salazar Ruben Salgado Dan Sampson James Satory Nicholas Sbano Philip Scharf Kain Schilling Mike Schnur John Schulte Vance Shackelford Stanley Sharpe Ronald Shebeck Jr David Shelton Rick Sherwood Tim Shook Roberto Sifuentes Douglas Siler Kyle Silvernale Stephen Simmons Bruce Sims Arvid T. Sivula Hank Smallwood Martin Smeal Calvin Smith Jim Smith Michael Smith Richard Smith William Smith Keith Spangler Jerry Spence David Spivey Tyler Stafford Christine Stegerman 🜟 Michel Stephens

Adams Stevens

Richard Stewart

Walt Stockard

James Swann

Robert W. Taffe

Bo Stuart

**Trudy Surut** 

**Greg Taylor** William Terry Eusebio V. Torres Scott Tuggle Christopher Turk Robert Vajda Jean Valdez Peter Vasquez, Jr. Dennis P. Vincent William Vose Billie Wade Michael R. Wagers Kevin Wagnitz Justin Walker Michael Walker Roger D. Wallace Timothy Walpole Terrence Walsh Thomas A. Waltman Don Walton David A. Watson Ed Weatherman **Christopher Weeks** Scott Werley **David West Ernie Westpheling** John White Christopher Whiten Wayne Wilkerson Jacinta Williams 👷 **Thomas Wintle** Larry Wisneski Ann Wolcott D.J. Wood Vic Wynne Jose Yepez Frank Young Ignacio Zarate



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**Brandon Zettl** 

Ronald Zink

## Farewell, Nashville



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