



September, 2020

Chapter Mission Statement: *To stimulate patriotism in our community and serve those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any of the seven uniformed services, as well as their surviving spouses. The Ozark Empire Military Officers Association of America (OEMOAA) is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).*

A Word from the Chapter President

This newsletter is a bit more lengthy, as we have much to cover. It's been a while since we have been together, and we've not sent out any communications over the Summer months. So, buckle up, and here we go!

This has been a very challenging year for each of us, our families, friends and our MOAA Chapter. COVID-19 has caused many changes in our habits, lifestyles and social gatherings. Unfortunately, we have not had a dinner meeting since February, but hopefully, we are in a leveling off stage that will lead to a return to normalcy. We want to encourage all that feel comfortable in coming out, to do so. We need to get back together, and get our chapter functioning again. Guidelines for our scheduled September meeting may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our own Bill Pickett has stayed in close contact with Twin Oaks and they have been able to open up to outside catering with some guidelines. For the time being, they will be serving sit-down dinners and attendees must wear a mask while in the building, and not seated at your table. You may see Bill's Newsletter input for all the information on menu, costs, reservations and precautions. Our speaker will be our own Greg McManus who will speak on his Adventures in Flying. Should be good!

Next, we are in need of nominees for the office of President, as well as 1st and 2nd Vice President for the 2021-2022 period. The future of the Chapter depends on filling these positions so that our Chapter will continue the over 50-year history of supporting MOAA and the rights and interests of all former service members. The Chapter has made great progress in the past few years with membership, a 5 Star Newsletter and a great new website. In addition, we support ROTC programs at 3 area colleges and JROTC at 12 area high schools. Please consider supporting the Chapter by accepting a leadership position. It is a very rewarding experience. If you are interested in serving and would like to discuss the positions and time commitment contact me at 520-820-7339 or Steve Vanderhoof, the Nominations Chair, at 660-886-0205.

Next, we want to make special mention of one of our members, Frank Bridges, who with his wife, Shirley, will be observing their 60th wedding anniversary on September 2. This is an outstanding accomplishment, and we know that this did not come easily. Our congratulations to Frank and Shirley!

Additionally, we continue to support our chapter's chosen charity, Honor Flight of the Ozarks. They opted to cancel all flights for 2020, but look forward to resuming operations in May 2021. Stay tuned for dates, and more details!

The Board and I sincerely hope that COVID has not touched you or your family members and that all of us will remain safe and healthy. Please let us know if you know of anyone who may be in need of assistance or even a visit.

Chuck Guy, OEMOAA Chapter President

The Ozark Empire News is published by the Ozark Empire Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.

National MOAA Charity Update

By Mike Randerson

Members are encouraged to donate to the MOAA Scholarship Fund. Their interest-free loan and grant program provides interest-free loans and grants to students (under age 24) who are children of former, currently serving, or retired commissioned or warrant officers (Regular, Reserve, or Guard) and to children of currently serving or retired enlisted military personnel (Regular, Reserve, or Guard), for up to five years of undergraduate education at an accredited two or four-year college or university of their choice. In addition to online giving at the website below, donations can also be mailed to PO BOX 1824, Merrifield, VA 22116-9917.

Another opportunity is to donate to the MOAA Foundation. The MOAA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation, builds upon the important work of the Scholarship Fund. It was created to help military families meet the unique, lifelong career development challenges they face from the moment they enter the military, through a subsequent civilian career and ultimately through full retirement. They provide help in four critical areas of need: Career Transition, Professional Education Outreach, Military Spouse Professional Development, and Community Outreach. The MOAA Foundation annually touches the lives of over 100,000 military and veteran family members in these areas of proven MOAA professional expertise. The Foundation is supported through donations by MOAA members and members of the public who share their commitment to Never Stop Serving. In addition to online giving at the website below, donations can also be mailed to PO BOX 1555, Merrifield, VA 22116-9942.

A critical need right now, is to donate to The MOAA Foundation's COVID-19 Relief Fund. To meet the current and emerging needs of this community, and to get ahead of the demand, MOAA has established the COVID-19 Relief Fund. As the nation endures the effects of the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), The MOAA Foundation is focused on providing enhanced levels of support and services to those currently serving, veterans, and their families. NOTE: When accessing the website below, select either "The MOAA Foundation" or "both the MOAA Scholarship Fund and The MOAA Foundation" from the list of donation options and you'll be offered the opportunity to direct all or a portion of your donation to the COVID-19 Relief Fund.

To donate to any of the above go to moaa.org, click on Resources at the top of the page, then click on Ways To Donate on the right side, then click on one of the donate words or type <https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/ways-to-donate/donate-to-help-military-families/>

Defence of Fort McHenry

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

O! say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there —
O! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream —
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O! long may it wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul foot-steps' pollution,
No refuge could save the hireling and slave,
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave;
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

O! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home, and the war's desolation,
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto — "In God is our trust!"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

Legislative Update

John Hathcock, Legislative Chair

1. MOAA “Storming the Hill” conducted “Virtually” - STOP MILITARY MEDICAL CUTS.

Virtual Storming The Hill: We had 80% success rate in the May VSTH with the ten members of the Missouri Congressional Delegation. John Glenn, John Hathcock, and I either had a Zoom meeting (video or audio) or contacted the member through their office staff. Our primary message was for Congress to tell the DoD to stop the consolidation or downsizing of medical treatment facilities and halt the reclassification of 18,000 medical billets in the Army. The COVID19 Pandemic response required an immediate call for the military to augment the civilian medical system. OSD put the pending changes on hold. It also became apparent that the TRICARE and local medical systems could not handle military personnel and their dependents. You add to that the number of military retirees using the Medical Treatment Facilities who would be displaced too. To date the Senate Armed Services Committee has done their mark up and we are awaiting the full Senate vote. The language as currently written does not address this issue at all. In the House we were able to have sections 715 and 716 added to the 2021 NDAA, which included language ensuring DOD delay any action until a thorough analysis of civilian health care quality and capacity is conducted. There was a “Dear Colleague” letter (joint sponsor by Republican and Democrat) circulating highlighting this critical issue as pertains to military readiness and retention. We made sure that the members or their staffs were aware of this letter and asked members to sign on as co-sponsors. Additionally, The Military Coalition (TMC) sent a letter, signed by Lieutenant General Atkins, to the Personnel Subcommittees of the SASC and HASC. The draft HASC language does address the issue! Now we are depending on the joint conference to include this topic in the final FY21 NDAA. To this last point, in the July issue of the MOAA magazine there are “tear out, sign and mail” letters about this issue. You can also go to the MOAA website and under Advocacy do the electronic “Call To Action”.

Lieutenant Colonel Don Wolfinger, USA-Ret.
Legislative Officer, Greater St. Louis Chapter

2. Take Part in MOAA's 2020 Summer Storm

JUNE 3, 2020 — By MOAA Staff

Below, you'll find everything you need to take part in MOAA's 2020 Summer Storm. Please share this page (www.MOAA.org/SummerStorm) and its contents with others interested in joining the effort to preserve access to high quality medical care for military beneficiaries.

To summarize:

- Summer Storm kicks off 6 August and will run through 11 September
- Website: www.MOAA.org/SummerStorm will be up on 6 August
- Involves in-person or virtual visits with Senators... can also be achieved by letters, emails, and phone calls
- **Focus is on the House Language for Sections 715 and 716, halting MTF restructuring and billet reductions – this will all be clearly articulated in a storming factsheet available on our microsite.**

3. Other Areas of MOAA National Legislative Interest:

- Support concurrent receipt for all disabled military retirees. Act now to support concurrent receipt of both military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, regardless of VA disability rating. Support H.R. 5995, the Maj. Richard Star Act, and the companion S. 3393 -- which would provide concurrent receipt for servicemembers unable to complete 20 years of service due to their combat-related injuries. Help ensure these men and women get their full service-earned retirement, as well as their disability compensation from the VA.
- HR 847 – Protecting Gold Star Spouses Act. Through our local efforts, we have obtained congressman Long's agreement to co-sponsor HR 847, Protecting Gold Star Spouses Act. During the government shutdown last year, in addition to the Coast Guard losing continuity of pay and benefits, Gold Star beneficiaries were also affected. We are certainly appreciative of Congressman Long's support and co-sponsorship.

Legislative Update (Cont'd)

4. Missouri State Legislation.

a. 2020 Voting Options (Absentee and Mail-in Ballots)

During the August primary and November general elections in 2020, Missouri voters will be eligible to cast ballots by mail with notarization of the ballot envelope, and voters in at-risk categories for contracting or transmitting COVID-19 are eligible to vote by absentee ballot without obtaining notarization. See [Secretary of State Voting Info](#) A two-page summary of your options is linked on this page, and links to the revised absentee application and mail-in ballot application are also available.

b. SB 631 - This act modifies provisions relating to elections. This act additionally allows any registered voter to cast a mail-in ballot during 2020, provided a voter may still cast an absentee ballot so long as he or she has not already cast a mail-in ballot. Applications for a mail-in ballot may be made in person or by mail any time before the second Wednesday prior to the election. Signed by Governor Parson on June 4.

c. The Military Lending Act Expansion. This issue is being endorsed by MOAA in partnership with "The Military Coalition," Alexandria, VA. This is a separate legislative action from the NDAA and has been determined to be a state level initiative.

In August 2020, voters approved the City of Springfield adopted restrictive regulations for short-term loan establishments, including a permit requirement and registration fee. This is a step in the right direction and should serve as a model for other cities and the state.

d. On July 14, 2020 Governor Parson signed Senate Bill 656, (Modifies several provisions relating to veterans) which goes into effect on August 28, 2020. See full text at: [SB 656](#) Some items included are:

GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MONUMENT (Section 10.237). This act designates the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument at the College of the Ozarks as an official Gold Star Memorial Monument for the state of Missouri.

TEACHER LICENSING FOR MILITARY SPOUSES (Section 168.021)

CENTRAL MISSOURI HONOR FLIGHT SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES (Section 301.3069)

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES (Section 301.3159)

CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS FOR MILITARY MEMBERS (Section 571.104). This act authorizes an active military member of the armed forces to renew his or her permit to carry a concealed weapon by mail. A permit may be picked up in person or sent by certified mail.

e. SB 676 – Exempts income derived from CARES Act from Missouri State tax. This amendment provides that federal income tax credits received under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act shall not be considered when determining the amount of federal income tax liability allowable as a deduction under current law. (Section 143.171), Signed by Governor Parson on July 14

Legislative Update (Cont'd)

5. Missouri State Legislation Initiatives for 2021, 101st General Assembly

We are seeking proposals from our MOAA membership regarding legislation at the state level that you would like to suggest. This year, there were some legislative initiatives proposed, but did not hurdle the legislative process. These are:

- a. University of Missouri School of Law Veterans Clinic. HJR 72 -Directs a percentage of medical marijuana tax revenue to a dedicated fund for University of Missouri School of Law Veterans Clinic.
- b. Veterans Residential Care Vouchers. HB 1485-Authorizes the issuance of residential care vouchers to certain veterans. This bill authorizes any veteran who is approved for admission into the Missouri veterans' home nearest to the veteran's residence but who has not been admitted to a Missouri veterans' home due to a lack of vacancy.

Any proposal you may have, for example- Veterans exemption to personal property or real estate tax. In Texas, a veteran with a disability rating of 70- 100 percent may receive a \$12,000 property tax exemption. Veterans with a full 100% disability rating are fully exempt from property taxes. 50- 69 percent may receive a \$10,000 property tax exemption. 30- 49 percent may receive a \$7,500 property tax exemption. 10- 29 percent may receive a \$5,000 property tax exemption.

Current Missouri Property Tax exemption is limited only to a "Total Service-Connected Disabled POW". Personal Property Tax Credit is limited to 100 percent disabled persons.

Contact Your Senators

TAKE ACTION: [Send a message NOW.](#)

ENGAGE LOCALLY: Find contact information for your representative and senators on MOAA's [Take Action](#) page by typing your ZIP code into the field under "Find your elected officials" (on the right column for desktop users). While you are on the official's page, scroll down to get the address for their closest office – call them and schedule your visit.

MAKE THE CALL: Phone calls from constituents are more memorable for staffers than emails, ensuring that an issue stays closer to the top of their mind when talking to their boss. Here is a suggested message for your lawmaker (call them via MOAA's toll-free Capitol Switchboard: 1-866-272-6622):

"Good morning/afternoon, my name is _____ and I live in _____. I stand with the Military Officers Association of America and urge you to support Sections 715 and 716 in the House-passed defense bill regarding DoD's military treatment facility restructuring and DoD medical billet reductions.

I need Congress to understand my concerns about DoD's ability to successfully transition beneficiaries to the civilian network – and that these concerns have been amplified by the coronavirus pandemic.

DoD has repeatedly assured stakeholders all reductions to military medical capacity will be conditions-based, but a pause is not sufficient — we need the reductions halted. The provisions in the NDAA address my concerns – please do all you can to ensure the defense bill is passed with House Sections 715 and 716.

Thank you.

Summer Storm Resources

ISSUE PAPER: [Get the full breakdown](#) on proposed changes to your care. (See Page 4 and 5 of this newsletter)

FAQ: How will two passages in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) help secure earned medical benefits for you and your family, and how can MOAA members (and others) make their voices heard? [We've got the details](#)

LEVERAGE SOCIAL: Share the importance of this issue on social media using #MOAASummerStorm on social media and keep up with (and share) the latest from MOAA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [other social platforms](#). Already on Twitter?

Sign Up for MOAA “Newsletter” and Legislative “Calls to Action”

We encourage all chapter members and spouses to always, please stay alert, and respond to MOAA Calls to Action at least monthly, preferably weekly! Yes, two votes per household are better than 1.

Signing Up for the MOAA “Newsletter” and Legislative “Calls to Action”:

- Newsletter: Sign up for the MOAA Newsletter. <https://www.moaa.org/> Check “News & Info” on Menu, then, on drop-down menu, check “Newsletters”

Or go directly to this link: <https://www.moaa.org/content/tmn/the-moaa-newsletter/>

- Calls to Action: Please stay alert for any “Calls to Action”. <https://www.moaa.org/> Check “Advocacy” on Menu, then, on drop-down menu, check “Legislative Action Center”

Contact your Federal elected officials by using the following link: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/?0>

WHEN COMPLETING “CALLS TO ACTION” PLEASE LOGIN TO THE MOAA WEBSITE, WHICH WILL ALLOW YOU TO ENTER OUR OZARK EMPIRE CHAPTER # IN THE BLOCK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LETTER PRIOR TO SENDING. THE CHAPTER # IS: MO05 (MO is “alpha character” and 05 is “numeric” zero 5).

Phone calls matter; Emails matter; Online petitions matter; In-person meetings, when practical, matter. We want to ensure our elected representatives receive local constituents concerns for maximum national impact. (call them via MOAA’s toll-free Capitol Switchboard: 1-866-272-6622).

Always feel free to contact me if you need any additional specific details or have any questions. Email: john@linegroup.com or Mobile: 417.230.9187 Thank you, John Hathcock

September US Military History

1783 - The Treaty of Paris between the United States and Great Britain officially ends the American Revolutionary War.

1787 - The United States Constitution is signed by 38 of 41 delegates present at the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia

1814 - In a turning point in the War of 1812, the British fail to capture Baltimore. During this battle, Francis Scott Key composes his poem “Defense of Fort McHenry”, which later becomes the US National Anthem

1862 - Confederate General Robert E Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia, and Union General George McClellan’s Army of the Potomac fight to a standstill along a Maryland Creek, on the bloodiest day in American history. Between the two armies, a total of 22,807 casualties. At the end of the day, both armies simply quit fighting along Antietam Creek, due to exhaustion

1917 - the 26th “Yankee” Division (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) becomes the first American division to arrive in Europe during World War I.

1939 - In response to Hitler’s invasion of Poland, Britain and France, both allies of the overrun nation, declare war on Germany.

1942 - President Franklin Roosevelt mandates gasoline rationing

1960 - The USS Enterprise (CVN 65), the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, is launched at Newport News, VA

1963 - 20 Black students entered public schools in Birmingham, Tuskegee, and Mobile, Ala, following a standoff between Federal authorities and Gov. George Wallace

1978 - Camp David Accords, between Egypt’s President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachim Begin. signed at the White House

1984 - Twelve people killed when a suicide car bomber attacks the US Embassy complex in Beirut, Lebanon.



Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins
USAF (Ret)
President and CEO

Congress: Support Critical House NDAA Language Protecting Access to Medical Care for Military Beneficiaries

Background

DoD plans for military treatment facility (MTF) restructuring and medical billet reductions will move hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries out of military hospitals and clinics and into civilian hospitals and medical practices in surrounding communities. DoD recently announced a pause to these efforts, but a delay is not enough to address MOAA's concerns about beneficiary access to care.

Recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report findings, combined with volatility in the civilian health care market caused by COVID-19, necessitate a halt to planned cuts and highlight the need for additional DoD reporting requirements and congressional oversight. We urge you to support Sections 715 and 716 of the House version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to ensure DoD conducts a more accurate and complete evaluation of civilian care availability. Military beneficiaries must not be moved out of MTFs if there is insufficient high-quality health care in surrounding communities.

GAO Reports Military Family Access to Health Care at Risk with MTF Restructuring Plan

The May 2020 GAO report, *Defense Health Care: Additional Information and Monitoring Needed to Better Position DoD for Restructuring Medical Treatment Facilities*, highlights shortfalls in DoD's plan to restructure the direct care system of military hospitals and clinics – shortfalls that put access to care for military families at risk.

- DoD's analysis failed to adequately evaluate availability of high-quality civilian medical care in communities surrounding restructured MTFs. The analysis did not verify the accuracy of the TRICARE provider directory, examine quality of providers, or determine whether providers were accepting new patients.
- DoD's plan for restructuring MTFs does not evaluate the impact on primary care graduate medical education (GME) programs and non-GME training. Training programs conducted within MTFs are critical to the uniformed provider pipeline. GME cuts could negatively impact not only readiness but also beneficiary access to care.
- DoD says it will reverse or slow an MTF transition, if needed, to address any challenges that arise with patients' ability to access health care. However, DoD's plan does not discuss what conditions would warrant these moves, or how the need for such adjustments would be determined.

Impact of COVID-19 on the Civilian Health Care System

DoD's plans for MTF restructuring and medical billet cuts rely on high-quality civilian health care in surrounding communities to absorb the caseload transitioned out of military hospitals and clinics. COVID-19 has caused extreme volatility in both supply and demand for the civilian medical system: While demand for COVID-19 related care surges, patients have deferred many other elective appointments and procedures. From major hospital systems to small provider offices, the civilian medical system faces financial strain and uncertainty. All of these factors, and others not yet realized, make it impossible to accurately assess civilian health care capacity for the foreseeable future.



ACTION NEEDED

Congress, we need your help:

- Support Sections 715 and 716 in the House version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) requiring DoD to conduct additional analysis and mitigation planning on MTF restructuring and billet cuts.
- Ensure military families maintain access to high quality health care and are not sent into civilian health care markets that lack capacity to meet their needs.

MOAA Contact

Karen Ruedtsuell
Director, Health Affairs
(703) 838-8164
karenr@moaa.org



September 2020 OEMOAA MEETING

Twin Oaks, in keeping with Greene County and Springfield mandates, requires us to use a served plated meal menu. When entering the building a face mask must be worn and used within the building and in our room. The exception to mask wearing will be when we are seated at our tables. Tables seating will, as much as possible, be limited to six/table. Normal bar service in the room will be provided and drinks should be brought back to the tables. This requirement means that when we open the meeting members should have their mask on for the pledge, singing, etc. We will have our normal podium/mic and the speakers should be able to maintain a 6 ft. distance and may present without a mask.

Plated Meal Options – All meals will include: a House Salad with table choice of Ranch or Italian Dressing; normal table beverages and rolls. The price, as always, includes the meal gratuity. RSVPs are especially important and must be made to Col Pickett, no later than noon 14 Sept. Payment is at the event by check (payable to OEMOAA) or cash. The bar will operate in our room as usual.

Option 1 – [\$31] Champagne Chicken: Sauteed Chicken Breast smothered in a Champagne Cream Sauce Served with Rice Pilaf, Sauteed Vegetables du Jour

Option 2 – [\$32] Grilled Fillet of Salmon: 6 oz. Grilled Fillet of Atlantic Sal, served on bed of Asian Slaw, finished with Sweet Thai Chili Glaze and Pickled Vegetables

Option 3 – [\$25] Chef's House-Smoked Ribs (1/2 slab): Chef John's Signature Fall -off-the-Bone, Smoked on the Property Pork Ribs, served with Pit Beans and Garlic Parmesan Steak Fries

Chaplain's Corner

By Becky Hutchings

2020 has brought with it some challenging times. Who would have ever thought we could be in the middle of a pandemic that has lasted this long! These circumstances can easily allow us to have doubts about many things, including our faith in God. Depression may even set in.

As I listen to the news and tune into social media, it seems the world is spinning out of control and going crazy! Each day reveals a new set of problems, more extreme than yesterday's. On top of all this craziness we are in the midst of a highly charged political environment.

When it just seems like too much, we can go to the source of strength that is greater than us, our Lord. There is tremendous power in prayer. This is what Charles Spurgeon, one of the greatest ministers of all times, has to say about prayer: "My own soul's conviction is that prayer is the grandest power in the entire universe, that it has a more omnipotent force than electricity, attraction, gravitation, or any other of those other secret forces which men have called by name, but which they do not understand."

Then the Bible tells us in 1 Thessalonians:17-18:

"...pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

You are not alone. We are walking this path together in 2020. If you would like to talk with me or have me pray with you, please give me a call at (417) 839-3059. Leave a message with your phone number and I will get back with you.

As your faces come to mind I pray for you that God will richly bless you. Be encouraged!

Taps



HENRY WILLIAM "HANK" MEYER, JR., son of Henry William and Mildred Virginia Moore Meyer, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 2, 1947, and entered the gates of Heaven, surrounded by his loving family, on July 20, 2020, at the age of seventy- two years.

"Hank", as he was fondly known by his family and friends, graduated from Lebanon High School, Class of 1965, and continued his education at SMS now Missouri State, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in 1970.

On October 2, 1970, he was united in marriage with the love of his life, Sandra Sue Woodall, and together they shared the next forty-nine years of love, adventure and memories, while raising their two children.

Hank entered the United States Army in April, 1970, and served our country proudly until his honorable discharge on May 1, 1997. While serving, he received many decorations, medals, badges and awards, including a Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, National Defense Service Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal, to name only a few. He was proud of his service time and dedicated to the continued success of our country. While in service he once again continued his education and received a Master's Degree from UMR, now S & T, in 1978.

Upon retiring from the United States Army, he then became a stock broker for A.G. Edwards, until 2001. In 2010, he retired as a consultant for the United States Government as a contractor for the Department of Defense. This was a position he truly loved and gained much praise and respect from those with whom he was associated.

When Hank wasn't working, he enjoyed fishing, golfing, tennis, watching St. Louis Cardinals baseball and hunting. He never owned anything but John Deere tractors, was a "Ford" man, and enjoyed driving a Mercedes. He also raised Limousin cattle. However, most important and the most treasured time, was spent with his family.

Hank was a faithful and active member of the Trinity Lutheran Church for many years. He served on several boards and committees, was President of the Congregation and served as Elder. His church and church family were very special to him. He was also a Past President of the Ozark Empire chapter, Military Officers Association of America.

Those surviving include his wife Sandy; a son, Paul Henry Meyer and his wife Dion of Richmond, Virginia; a daughter, Lara Sue Barnhill and her husband Jim of Raleigh, North Carolina; a sister, Louise Gadd and her husband John of Lebanon; one granddaughter, Tiera Johnson; several nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Hank was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

IN LOVING MEMORY

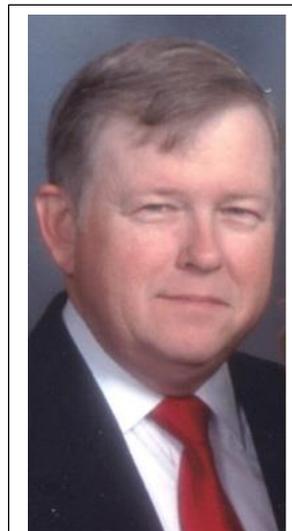
HENRY WILLIAM "HANK" MEYER JR.

BORN

September 2, 1947

PASSED AWAY

July 20, 2020





Shirley Sue Israel

July 31, 1935 – July 24, 2020

Shirley “Sue” Israel went to be with her Lord and Savior on July 24th at The Manor in Elfindale.

Sue was born at home in Springfield, MO on July 31, 1935 to Jim and Sylvia “Sib” Gunter, the youngest of five girls. On October 1, 1955, she was joined in marriage to Glenn A. Israel, and to this union one son and one daughter were born. Sue was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend to all who knew her. Sue lived her life unselfishly, putting others before herself. She was well known as one the of the best cooks ever produced by Missouri, which is known for its fine cooks.

She was often described as the perfect military wife because she could handle any problem dropped in her lap without complaint.

Sue took great pride and joy in her family, and she loved each one unconditionally. She especially loved getting as many of the family members together at the same time as possible and have a “Big Meal”. She also displayed a great sense of humor.

She was saved and baptized early in life and attended Mt. Comfort Cumberland Presbyterian Church until 1957 when as a young Army wife left Missouri for Germany. Forty years later, she and Glenn returned to Missouri and Sue eagerly returned to Mt. Comfort Bible Church. She loved to tell people about her little country church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters, Ruth Miller, Katy Savage, Faye Gaines and Wilma Kinter. She is survived by her husband of sixty-four years, living in Springfield, her son David Israel living in Los Angeles, CA, her daughter, Nancy Israel, living in Sterling, VA, her grandson Jackson Israel, and his mother Melissa Fruehling, living in Chapel Hill, NC, plus a host of relatives and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family would request that those wishing to make a gift in Sue’s memory consider the Mt. Comfort Bible Church, Missions Program in addition to your own favorite charity.

September 2020 Meeting

DATE 18 September 2020 – 3rd Friday

Location – Twin Oaks Country Club (Oak Room)

PLACE: Twin Oaks Country Club

1020 East Republic Road
Springfield, Missouri 65807

TIME: 1815 – Social Hour (Drinks can be purchased from their bar; for example: house wine \$6/glass; domestic beer \$4; liquor varies.) 50/50 voluntary donations, to support Honor Flight of the Ozarks. Drawing at the close of the Speaker's presentation.

1900 – Dinner/Program

MENU: See details on Page 10

COST: Varies. See Details on Page 10. (includes gratuity)

SPEAKER: Greg McManus, Adventures in Flying

RSVP: By noon, Monday, 14 June 2020
To: LtCol William Pickett, USAF, Retired
417-888-0135 or cathyquilt@earthlink.net

LtCol Pickett will acknowledge ALL reservations received within 24 hrs. If you do NOT receive a confirmation, please contact Bill.

2020 OEMOAA Monthly Schedule

All meetings on 3rd Friday, Twin Oaks Country Club, Oak Room, unless otherwise noted)

Speaker schedule is subject to change

16 October 2020 Speaker: Kristy Frans – Retired Senior Volunteer Program

20 November 2020 Speaker: Mark Fulgham – Self-Defense for Seniors

11 December 2020 (2nd Friday) Christmas Party. Mulligan Room, Twin Oaks Country Club

2021 OEMOAA Meeting Dates:

15 January

19 February

19 March

16 April

21 May

18 June

ELECTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Chuck Guy, COL, USA Retired
520-820-7339 chuckguy0765@gmail.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Jerry Nicholson, LtCol, USMC, Retired
417-315-8193 glnicholson013@yahoo.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Ron McCall, Captain, USAF, Retired
417-840-1657 rnrtaf@gmail.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER: William Pickett, LtCol, USAF, Retired
417-888-0135 cathyquilt@earthlink.net

IMMED PAST PRESIDENT: Phil Samples, Colonel, USAF, Retired
417-742-5125 pls.rxdrr@gmail.com

APPOINTED CHAPTER OFFICERS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ron McCall, Capt, USAF, Retired
417-840-1657 rnrtaf@gmail.com

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: John Hathcock, USA, Retired
417-230-9187 john@linegroup.com

AWARDS COORDINATOR: Phil Samples, Col, SUAF, Retired
417-742-5125 pls.rxdrr@gmail.com

TRUE AMERICAN HERO CHAIR: John Hathcock, COL, USA, Retired
417-230-9187 john@linegroup.com

CHAPLAIN: Becky Hutchings
417-839-3059 byhutchings@gmail.com

SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: Becky Hutchings
417-839-3059 byhutchings@gmail.com

WEBMASTER: Keith Oxby, W/O British Navy

NOMINATIONS CHAIR: Steve Vanderhooft, COL, USA, Retired
660-886-0205 svanderhooft856@att.net

AMBASSADOR: Michael Murphy, COL, USA, Retired
417-883-9474 06mmurphy@gmail.com

AMBASSADOR: David Reed, CDR, USN, Retired
417-840-6600 dreed7272@live.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: (Position Open)

If anyone knows of a person or topic that you would like to see presented at a monthly OEMOAA meeting, that would be of interest to our group, please let LtCol Jerry Nicholson know. He is always looking for good suggestions.

OEMOAA NAME TAGS

Some members and their spouses prefer a solid plastic name badge with a magnetic clasp. The member cost is \$10 per badge, payable in advance. Order forms will be available at the next two meetings. You can also email Bill Pickett (cathyquilt@earthlink.net) anytime and he will send you the form by return email. Please return completed forms to Bill at a meeting with the \$10 per badge fee. Nametags will be ready at the next regular dinner meeting. Yes, the name tags with the pin clasp will continue to be provided at no cost.