

ROLL CALL

July 2022 Newsletter

NO LUNCHEON IN JULY!

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF HERSCHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS



We are saddened at the loss of Woody on 29 June. We are eternally grateful that we were able to be a part of Woody's Salute just 2 weeks earlier. Woody joined us from his home state and was in great spirits.

Woody was the last surviving WWII recipient of the Medal of Honor at that time. He was awarded the medal for his heroic actions in the Battle of Iwo Jima as a flamethrower. While the iconic flag raising was happening, Woody was busy destroying 7 Japanese pillboxes using only his flamethrower. When asked where bravery comes from, he never felt he could answer the question adequately. He said, "I feel that our upbringing had some influence on our bravery because we were taught in the Depression years, if you didn't have it, you had to make it. The only way you could make it was to work at it. Our upbringing gave us the confidence that developed into bravery".

After retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve, Woody established and served through the Woody Williams Foundation. The Foundation was created to honor Gold Star families by placing monuments in towns large and small around the country. He wanted the families to have a place, near their homes, to serve as a reminder of the sacrifice of these brave men and women. The monuments are a reminder that freedom is not free. It has to be earned by each generation.

Today, of the 16 million men and women who served during WWII, only about 300,000 are still with us. When they are gone, so are the first hand stories. Don't let another day go by without hearing their stories.

UPCOMING LUNCHEON

August 26—Chris Cassidy, CEO MOH Museum/MOH Recipient Maj Gen Pat Brady



Have you driven down Camp Bowie in Fort Worth lately? Notice the banners hanging?

The Freedom Streets Military Banner Initiative (www.FreedomStreets.org) has been launched on historic Camp Bowie Boulevard. This new project of the National Leadership Foundation honors US veterans during the month of July. We are thankful for the sacrifice of these brave men and women!



Don Graves, a long-time Roll Call member, and Roy Davis, a Roll Call Board member, were honored to be part of the initial roll out of banners honoring local military men and women.

History!

July 20, 1944—Plot by senior-level German military officials to kill Hitler fails when bomb planted in a briefcase went off but did not kill him.

July 27, 1953—Armistice is signed formally bringing the fighting of the Korean War to an end.

July 1975—North and South Vietnam are formally unified as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam under hardline communist rule.

August 2, 1964—The USS Maddox is attacked by the North Vietnamese in the Gulf of Tonkin.

August 7, 1942—The 1st Marine Division lands on Guadalcanal. This was the first amphibious assault by the Marines since 1898.

August 8, 1974—Richard Nixon announces his resignation due to the Watergate scandal.

August 15, 1945—The Empire of Japan announces its surrender.

Prepared? Great Information from a Roll Call Veteran!

Spreading this information for those of you that don't have your affairs in order.

- Make sure all bank accounts have direct beneficiaries. The beneficiary need only go to the bank with your death certificate and an ID of their own.
- TOD = Transfer On Death deed if you own a home. Completing this document and filing it with your county saves your heirs THOUSANDS. This document allows you to transfer ownership of your home to your designee. All they need to do is take their ID and your death certificate to the county building and the deed is signed over. Doing this will avoid the home having to go through probate.
- Living Will: Allows one to put in writing exactly what you want done in the event you cannot speak for yourself when it comes to healthcare decisions.
- Durable Power of Attorney: Allows one to designate a person to make legal decisions if one is no longer competent to do so.
- Power of Attorney for Healthcare: This document allows one to designate someone to make healthcare decisions for their person.
- Last Will and Testament: Designates to whom personal belongings will go to.
- Funeral Planning Declaration: allows one to say exactly one's wishes as far as disposition of the body and the services.
- If the above documents are done, you can AVOID probate. If all the above is not done, you have to open an estate account at the bank. All money that doesn't have direct beneficiaries goes into this account. You have to have an attorney to open the estate account. The attorney also has to publicize your passing in the newspaper or post publication at the county courthouse, to allow anyone to make a claim on your property. - It's a complete PAIN.
- Make a list of all banks and account numbers, all investment institutions with account numbers, lists of credit cards, utility accounts, etc. Leave clear instructions as to how and when these things are paid. Make sure heirs knows where life insurance policies are located.
- Make 100% sure SOMEONE knows your Apple ID, bank ID account logins and passwords!
- Make sure you have titles for all vehicles, campers, etc!
- MOST IMPORTANTLY!!!! - Talk with those closest to you and make all your wishes KNOWN. Talk to those whom you've designated, as well as those close to you whom you did not designate. Do this to explain why your decisions were made and to avoid any lingering questions or hurt feelings.

Hope this lights a spark to encourage all your friends and family to take care of these things to make it easier for those we all leave behind!

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