



Today we focus on those men and women who served our nation with pride and honor. We also acknowledge those who continue to serve families in need at our Ronald McDonald House!

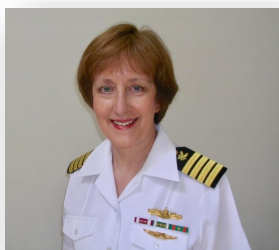
Happy Veterans Day!

We truly appreciate your sacrifice and the positive impact you've made during your career and afterwards, Thank You!

Here are just some of the men and women who have served our country and now volunteer at our House.

Honoring All Who Have Served

Thank You, Veteran's and Active Military!



Judy Miller

Branch of military & years served:
Navy, 27 years. Retired as a Navy Captain (O-6).

What made you want to enlist?
wanted a career that would give me equal pay and career

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

I loved the constant change, adventures, and challenging jobs that allowed me to serve our country. Transferring from Antarctica to Diego Garcia, a tropical island in the Indian Ocean, required a quick adaptation to extremes in climate and mission. My most challenging assignment was a deployment to Kuwait overseeing logistics for the war in Iraq and providing support to the warfighter. But the dedicated people I served with were truly the highlight of my Navy career.

A note from Judy:

My friends used to ask why I stayed in the Navy...my answer was "saluting the flag during the National Anthem was the only reason I needed". I love my country!

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RMHC
of Southern Colorado

Charles Lucht "Chuck"

Branch of military & years served:

United States Army 1968-1972



What made you want to enlist?

Drafted out of high school

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

Eighteen months active duty service in Vietnam.

Chuck is a recipient of the Bronze Star.

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RMHC
of Southern Colorado

Gail Kraus

Branch of military & years served:

United States Air Force



What made you want to enlist?

Family tradition. I was an RN and wanted more experience.

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

Basic training, as an officer it was exciting. I met my husband there, got married. In those years (1962) a female officer couldn't have dependents so when I got pregnant I was discharged. I would do it again. I went on to have a full career in nursing.

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Wayne Nissen



Branch of military & years served:

United States Army, 20 years

What made you want to enlist?

I pretty much always thought I would be a soldier and feel like I pretty much majored in ROTC at Colorado State.

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

We spent three years in France at their Infantry school in Montpellier and at their Parachute school in Pau. We were alone and pretty much went native in our daily living. Very rewarding.

A note from Wayne:

All the services offer many job skills and great camaraderie for those willing to serve.

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Rob Bradeen

Branch of military & years served:

United States Air Force 23 years, 3 months

What made you want to enlist?

Rob attended the US Air Force Academy because he wanted to fly in the US Air Force. He graduated and commissioned in May 1995. He began pilot training March 1996, graduated in March 1997, and continued training in the F-16 from August 1997 to January 1998.

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

So many! - mentoring cadets at USAFA - flying low in the mountains in Alaska while doing close air support (cas) - the excitement of coming home to my family after living apart for a year with them in VA and me in Korea

A note from Rob:

"Once a fighter pilot, always a fighter pilot."
R. Bradeen



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RMHC
of Southern Colorado



Marv Baber

Branch of military & years served:

Chief Master Sergeant (Retired), United States Air Force. Served total of 50 years 1968-2018 (30 years Active Duty, 12 years as Contractor to AF and 8 years Government Service)

What made you want to enlist?

Came in during the Viet Nam War as I was having a hard time trying to go to college and work at the same time. I had been raised as a military dependent and understood military life so understood the transition

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

Helped Prisoners of War (POW's) get through to their families by phone calls when they arrived from Viet Nam and landed at Clark AFB in the Philippines in 1974. Supported communications connectivity to the Gulf War and additional campaigns, as well as Presidential Communications support for 18 years.

A note from Marv:

Best decision I ever made and saw places I had read and heard about and would have never been able to pay for or visit as a civilian, with my wife and son. (Turkey, Philippines, Italy, Germany, England, Other European countries, USA, and Africa)



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RMHC
of Southern Colorado

Deanna Walker



Branch of military & years served:

United States Air Force, 20 years

What made you want to enlist?

Honestly, I was in high school and took the test to see if I could pass it. I did and the rest is history. The best decision I've made.

Describe your most memorable experience while in the military?

I had a lot of memorable experiences. One was while stationed at Elmendorf Alaska. I was a nurse at the hospital. Some helicopter pilots needed to get their training in and asked the medical personal if we want to ride along. It was a CH-47 Chinook. They dropped the back down and I'm sitting with my legs dangling flying around glaciers. Another was while deployed to Guantanamo Bay Cuba doing another helicopter ride on boarder patrol.

A note from Deanna: Once you've been in the military you have family all over the world. The friends that were made. The experience I've had. The memories that will last forever. The places I've seen. The faces of my patients I'll remember forever.