

Celebrating our Veterans

We're honored to employ more than 480 veterans throughout our organization. It was a rewarding experience to fill our feed this past week sharing some of their stories. Thank you to all who have served, while we particularly honor you during this Veterans Day season, we remember and are grateful for your sacrifice always as we know it affords us the freedoms that we hold so dear.

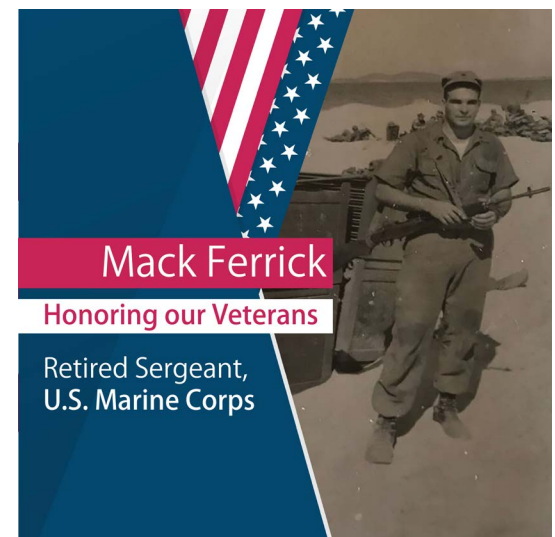
Mack Ferrick, President Emeritus Announcing the arrival of baby girl Ferrick

Our Marine Infantry Raider Company, known as Suicide Charley Company, landed in Vietnam with 204 Marines in May of 1965. By December we were down to 169 Marines due to wounded or killed. My platoon was set up on ambush in late December; during the night I relieved my radio operator so he could get some rest. All of our incoming messages were coded. I received a coded message at about midnight on the 26th of December. I proceed to decode the message: 'Congrats to Sgt Ferrick, baby daughter, baby and mother are well.'

Bringing together a lost Company

The second memorable moment was not until 1995. By March of 1966 our Company was down to 142 men. We were sent on a mission to go in and retake four villages that were being controlled by the North Vietnamese Regular Army Company of 200. As it turned out, it was a 400 strong Battalion of NVR. We did retake the villages but lost several marines; 18 killed and 49 wounded – I was among the wounded. With so many losses, what was left of Charley Company was put in reserve until it was able to get replacements. Those of us that were evacuated went to many different locations, so to hospital ships, some to Okinawa or the Philippines and eventually Military hospitals in the United States. We pretty much lost contact with the original Marines of Charley Company. In 1995, I received a phone call from my old Company Commander that I had not spoken to in 29 years. He said, "Sarge, you are requested by the Marine Corps to be in Washington DC to attend a presentation of the 'Medal of Honor' being presented to your platoon medic Robert Ingram, by President Clinton." It turned out that due to the loss of most of the Company's document in Vietnam, several citations were lost and never got processed until nearly 30 years later.

That event brought back together 38 Marines of the original Charley Company. To this day, even though there are only 24 of us left, we are a very close group. We try to meet up at least once per year; but talk on the phone at least every couple of weeks.





Brett Coffman, Security Analyst

Unexpected revelry

CGS Information Security Analyst, Brett Coffman, served in the U.S. Army for 23 years retiring as Chief Warrant Officer 3. Brett's favorite memory was a bit of unexpected revelry on the way to his 3rd Afghanistan deployment. Their C-5 transport unexpectedly needed repair stranding the crew in Rota, Spain for two weeks during carnival. Needless to say, the unplanned R&R was a bright moment on the way to a challenging mission!

Gregory Nelson, Procurement Manager

Building a strong team

Gregory Nelson, Wolf Creek Federal Services Procurement Manager, served in the U.S. Air Force retiring as Master Sergeant. He recalls a 1997 deployment during Operation Southern Watch in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He was leading a crew of six Contingency Contracting Officers, each on their first deployment, to support the 4409th Expeditionary Wing. The mission was no small order requiring support for over 3000 purchasing, construction and service requirements from the 4409th along with any requirements from the other military branches in the region. Gregory remembers many long days and nights reviewing requirements and guiding his team, mentoring them to self-reliance in their decision-making abilities. The time he spent with his team not only helped them meet the Wing's goals, but created a lasting comradery with his crew. Gregory received an Outstanding Accommodation Medal for his support on that deployment.



Jade Rose, Security Administrator

The moment of truth

Jade Rose is a Security Administrator for Chugach Intelligence Solutions. Today though, we're honoring her for her service in the U.S. Navy retiring as an E0-3 Seaman. Jade's favorite memory goes back to her bootcamp days, particularly during battle stations, the last and final test before becoming an official sailor. She shared, "we are put through life and death scenarios where we must use our skills that we had learned while also testing our teamwork and communication...all after being up for nearly 24 hours without sleep." She continued, "When you arrive at bootcamp you're given a baseball cap that states 'RECRUIT', once you pass all the tests you're given a cap that states 'NAVY' signifying you are now part of the

fleet. I remember feeling beaten up and exhausted but extremely proud at the end of battle stations. Saying the Sailor's Creed as an actual sailor is something I will never forget!"

Jeff Maquindang, Logistics Supervisor

A mission making history

Wolf Creek Federal Services Transportation and Logistics Supervisor, Jeff Maquindang, is a retired Master Sergeant for the U.S. Air Force. Jeff's favorite memory was during a deployment in Iraq. His crew was responsible for offloading and delivering election ballots for the people of Iraq to help establish their new democratic government. It was a historical and truly memorable experience.



Joe Marro, BOS Operations Manager

Growing potential

Joe Marro is our BOS Operations Manager for Defense Base Services, Inc. and Chugach Consolidated Solutions. Today we honor him for his 20-year service in the U.S. Air Force retired as Senior Master Sergeant. Joe shared that one of his responsibilities as a Senior NCO was to identify Junior Officer Corps members with leadership potential and train and develop them. One of the officers he worked with while assigned to the 6th Civil Engineer Squadron at MacDill AFB, Florida was First Lieutenant Dan Fenza who now serves Chugach Alaska Corporation as President and Chief Operating Officer. Joe- it looks like your instincts were on target!

Joe also shared, "I would also like to recognize my father, B.H. Marro (United States Army Air Corps, WWII), and my father-in-law, Jim Roop (United States Army – 2 Combat Tours Vietnam; Helicopter Pilot) – They are my heroes, and I am fortunate to have them both with us."

Patrick Dukart, Information Security Manager

Finding love in Alaska

CGS Information Security Manager, Patrick Dukart, served 6 years in the U.S. Navy as Petty Officer First Class. He fondly remembers his days at sea, particularly taking in the unsurpassed views of sunrises and sunsets or the milky way on a dark night at sea. He also cherishes his time at ports meeting people and learning about their cultures all over the world including Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Japan, Australia, Diego Garcia, South Korea and Canada. But perhaps his favorite and most life changing port was in Alaska where he met his wife of 33 years and where they grew their family of four kids!





Phil Chambers

Honoring our Veterans

Retired Colonel,
U.S. Army

Phil Chambers, Capture Manager

A rich comradery

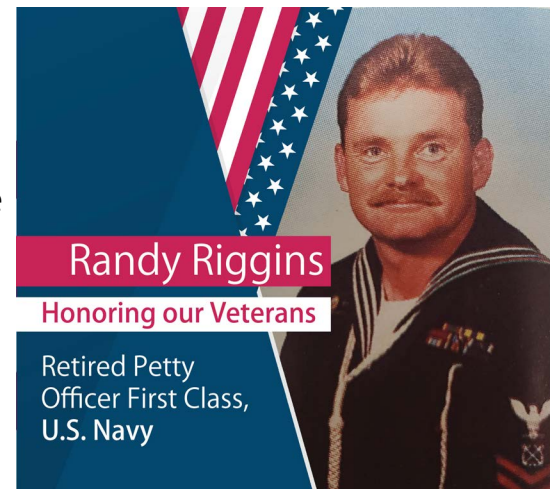
Phil Chambers, CGS Capture Manager, is a retired Colonel for the U.S. Army serving for nearly 30 years, including four years of combat. When asked for his favorite memory he shared, "A hundred memories rush through my head while contemplating this question. But the single, underlying theme in every memory during my service is the comradery of the Soldiers and leaders with whom I served. I have had the great fortune to bear witness to the courage, strength, empathy, humor, and love of each other by our Soldiers under some of the most difficult circumstances. My sense is that this sentiment is widely shared among veterans. For me, this

notion started when I had the privilege to be part of the jump into Normandy, France during the 60th Anniversary of D-day. After the jump, we met with many of the veterans who made the jump in 1944. It was readily apparent from the stories shared by these great veterans that after 60 years, their best memories were about those with whom they served."

Randy Riggins, Supply Clerk

A sense of pride

Wolf Creek Federal Services Supply Clerk, Randy Riggins is a retired Petty Officer First Class, serving for 22 years. Sometimes, a favorite memory is as simple as a feeling of pride – which is the case for Randy. He shared that, "My favorite part of service was having a strong sense of pride knowing that I was serving my country." He added, "It's truly a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience being out at sea and visiting new ports all around the world. That was the most exciting part."



Randy Riggins

Honoring our Veterans

Retired Petty
Officer First Class,
U.S. Navy



Rodney Hunt

Honoring our Veterans

Radioman 2nd
Class Petty Officer
(1970-1975),
U.S. Navy

Rodney Hunt, Business Development/Construction Operations Manager

The call to serve

Rodney Hunt, Business Development/Construction Operations Manager, started his service in the U.S. Navy. After completing his duty, the call to serve remained; he received a commission in the U.S. Air Force retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. His favorite memory was constructing radar towers in the Amazon

Rainforest of Columbia to intercept drug cartel aircrafts with his RED HORSE team. That challenging and meaningful work with his team resulted in comradery and friendships that last to this day.



Rodney Hunt

Honoring our Veterans

Retired Lieutenant
Colonel,
U.S. Air Force

Ryan O'Connor, Subcontract Specialist

Lifelong friendships

CGS Senior Subcontract Specialist, Ryan O'Connor, served in the U.S. Marine Corps closing his military career as Lance Corporal. Sometimes it's not one favorite memory that sticks out – but the millions of small memories that make up the journey. Such is the case for Ryan. He shared, "Really, just making memories with my brothers while stationed in Hawaii and building lifelong friendships with them was the most rewarding part."



Wes Waithe, Deputy Program Director/Logistics Manager

Stationed overseas, exploring new cultures

Wesley Waithe is our Deputy Program Director/Logistics Manager for Wolf Creek Federal Services. He's a retired Senior Master Sergeant for the U.S. Air Force. He shared with us that his favorite part about his service was living overseas, which is where he was stationed for the majority of his 24 years of service. He shared, "It gave me a great appreciation for the freedoms we have here in America and also an acceptance of varying cultures around the world."

William Otter, Center Director

Fulfilling childhood dreams

William Otter is our Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center Director for Chugach Education Services. He's a retired Colonel who served nearly 28 years in the U.S. Air Force. When asked for this favorite memory he shared, "I have a lot a great memories, including fulfilling my childhood dream of becoming a pilot, getting to fly around the world twice and many others." he continued, "But my favorite part of serving the nation was the people I met and served with along the way and the memories we made. I still maintain contact with many of them."

