# **Our Mission:**

Befriend, Honor, and Support Veterans in Hospice Care

# Newsletter: Summer-Fall 2023

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## **Operations Q2 2023**

#### **Community Awareness Building Activities**

- Card of Gratitude: Our visiting volunteers provide Friendship, Honors, and Support. The veteran on his Last Patrol shares stories and memories for what might be the final time. We're asking our fellow Americans to help us say one final time: "THANK YOU for your service". You can help by writing a card to "Dear Veteran" or "Dear Hero". Send your personalized cards to us and we'll get to veterans in hospice care.
- Adopt a Care Facility Program: Are there Senior Care Facilities in your community that house veterans? Probably there are. Veterans receive end-of-life care in facilities in nearly every American community. If you would like to "adopt" a facility near you on our behalf, please reach out to us to learn more how. <u>https://www.veteranlastpatrol.org/how-to-help</u>
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Honor Ride & Car Show (30 Sept): This Ride is a big annual event for us. We visit hundreds of Care Facilities around the country to thank the veteran residents and patients for their service. Know any car or bike club that might join us? Please reach out to us if you know a group that might be interested in sponsoring or helping organize this Ride local to you. See more information in this newsletter.

### Volunteers Status

- Our volunteer team in Seattle, WA, recently operated an information table for us at a local car show to sign-up new volunteers. We are grateful for their efforts.
- Anywhere you live, chances are strong that hospices seek veteran volunteers. We can connect you.
- Volunteers in CT, WI, PA, FL, WA, SC and VA all conducted honor ceremonies for veterans on their Last Patrol during the last quarter. Thank you all!
- One new volunteer customizes wooden plaques for us.
- Visit <u>www.veteranlastpatrol.org</u> to learn how to volunteer.





#### 4th Annual Honor Ride & Car Show (30 Sept)

Calling all Motorcycle and Car Clubs. Join other riders around the country in a "visit" of Nursing Homes & Hospice Facilities in your area. For more information contact us or go to our website <u>https://www.veteranlastpatrol.org/4th-annualride-for-veterans</u>



That final kiss...

Joe kisses his wife at the conclusion of our ceremony. He transitioned to Post Everlasting the next day. Our volunteers conducting Joe's honor ceremony witnessed true love in action.

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### Please take a moment to remember...

# The veterans that completed their Last Patrol since our last Newsletter & now reside at Post Everlasting.

The wife of a veteran who recently completed his Last Patrol, and for whom we did an Honor Ceremony, wrote this:

"We had never seen Louis so moved. It was like his mind really took him back to Korea. What the Last Patrol team did for him was incredible. We will never forget your devotion to a brother."

## More Highlighted Stories



HONOR CEREMONY-RONALD

Ronald served in the Marine Corp in the late 1950s. He is cared for by Wren Hospice. He and his wife have two daughters, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.









HONOR CEREMONY - Calvin, Army

Calvin, an Army WWII veteran, is in hospice care in South Carolina. Born in 1923, he was the youngest of nine children. Last Patrol volunteers rallied recently to honor him. During the war, Calvin served with the 62nd General Hospital in France as a cook. He met and married his wife, Alma Lillian Clarke, in Wales, United Kingdom, before returning to the USA. They were married for 73 years until her death in 2019.





#### HONOR CEREMONY- Ed, Navy

Ed served in the Pacific fleet, assigned to submarines such as the USS Libscomb and Nautilus. Ed also did a tour in the Pentagon, working as an Administrative Assistant. Postmilitary, he worked for the US Postal Service and became a Postmaster. He and his wife Linda raised a wonderful family: 6 children, 10 grandchildren, and 2 great-grands. We conducted an honor ceremony for Ed. He's now in home hospice care.



#### HONOR CEREMONY – James, USMC

James served as a Marine in Vietnam. Today he is in hospice care. He fought near the DMZ. "I stayed in the bush most of the time," he told us. "I consider myself one simple Marine." James left active duty in March 1969 and soon married. He has two children and three grandchildren. In his civilian career he held several management positions and worked as State Senator Research Director.

The Last Patrol, 501-C Non-Profit, Serving Veterans on their "Last Patrol" with Military Brotherhood-Sisterhood