Our Mission:

Befriend, Honor, and Support Veterans in Hospice Care

Newsletter: Spring-Summer 2023

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Operations Q1 2023

Community Awareness Building Activities

- Adopt a Care Facility Program: This new program we have is attracting attention. It's the easiest way for new volunteers to learn about and befriend veterans on their Last Patrol. Contact us if you would like to learn more. See also another copy of the insert with this Newsletter.
- 2nd Annual Veteran's Last Patrol Dinner: Only days away... on <u>April 13th</u> in Greer, SC. If you are anywhere near – or know someone who is -- our national non-profit's South Carolina headquarters, please join us for this important fundraising event. (Flyer is posted again to the right.)
- 4th Annual Honor Ride & Car Show: We've started promoting this year's event, planned for Sept 30th. Groups around the country will be visiting Care Facilities with their cars and bikes. Know a group that might be interest in sponsoring or organizing this event, please reach out.
- May 11-13th National Vietnam Veterans Celebration. Many veterans in hospice now are Vietnam veterans. We will have an information booth at this national event in Washington, DC. Reach out to us for more information.

Volunteers Status

- Hospices around the country seeking new veteran volunteers reach out to us weekly. Wherever you may live, if you feel a calling to help veterans on their Last Patrol, contact us.
- If you've volunteered with us in the past but because of COVID or other local issues need a restart, please reach out.
- Currently around the country we have approximately 500 volunteers visiting veterans in 29 states. Consider joining us.
- Visit <u>www.veteranlastpatrol.org</u> to learn how to volunteer.





2ND ANNUAL VETERAN'S LAST PATROL DINNER THURSDAY - APRIL 13, 2023 6-8PM



CANNON CENTER - CITY HALL | GREER, SC Please join us for a Dinner & Silent Auction Honoring America's Veterans.

Our mission is providing Friendship, Honor, and Support for veterans on their Last Patrol. You can help us support these special veterans and celebrate their service by attending our 2nd Annual Veteran's Last Patrol Dinner. Sponsorships are available and the dinner will include a Silent Auction.

Special Guest Speaker: MG (ret.) James Livingston, USMC, Medal of Honor recipient





Visiting veterans in end-of-life care is such a rewarding experience for the patients and our volunteers.

That's why our mission is perfect for veterans and other patriots who want to serve those who served US."

Please take a moment to remember...

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

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

"He was very near death when your volunteers visited but I know God let him hear and see the blessings your team brought. This meant so much to our family. We are proud of his service. Say thank you to everyone."

More Highlighted Stories



HONOR CEREMONY-KEN

"He had a calling to serve." Ken is an Air Force veteran on his last patrol. We honored him on the edge of life's midnight. A dozen Last Patrol volunteers attended the ceremony. Later in life, Ken dedicated himself to children with special needs.



"We came to honor you, Sir."

Last Patrol volunteers in Washington state honored Donnie, a WWII veteran in hospice care. At 18, in 1944, he joined the Army Air Corp and was trained as a ball gunner on B-17 bombers. He would fly on 25 bombing missions with the 388th Bomb Group against Nazi Germany. The B-17s flew during daylight for more precise targeting. They would fly at 20-25,000 feet to make it harder on the enemy fighters. The bomber crew members had to wear oxygen masks and the temperature was usually 20-50 degrees below zero, so their flight suits were like electric blankets to prevent frostbite.



HONOR CEREMONY- Rudy, USMC

"We salute your service, Marine!". Rudy is a veteran in hospice care in Columbia, SC. Family, friends, and Last Patrol volunteers gathered to honor him in his home. MSA hospice, who is caring for him, joined us. Rudy was born in Philadelphia in 1939. He enlisted in 1956 at the age of 18 to serve his country. Following military service, he worked in the Philadelphia Navy Shipyard while attending college. He is married and has 3 children, 14 grands and great-grands.



HONOR CEREMONY – Jimmy, U.S. Army

"Jimmy, you make us proud." Last Patrol volunteers rallied in Anderson, SC, to honor Jimmy Utley, a veteran in hospice care. Jimmy was stationed in Germany during the Cold War. After service, Jimmy used his military experience to get a job in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). He worked at many airports around the country, taking his family with him. Our honor ceremony showed Jimmy and his family that we respect and honor his military service and that our country owes him everlasting gratitude.