

250 YEARS OF THE MARINE CORPS



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The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) Spotlights Maryland During Nationwide Marines Across America Program

MCHF honors the courage and legacy of Maryland Marines in the Corps' 250th year

TRIANGLE, Va. – The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) today celebrates Maryland Marines, as part of the organization's yearlong *Marines Across America* program to mark the Marine Corps' 250th Anniversary. The program highlights Marines who embody the values of honor, courage, and commitment within their communities and showcases the contributions Marines make in their local communities or nationally following their active-duty service.

"Marines have always made their mark on the battlefield, but it's important to remember they've also made their mark in their hometowns and communities," said retired Marine Major General James Lukeman, President and CEO of MCHF. "As we celebrate 250 years of the Marine Corps, we honor the significant contributions that Maryland Marines have made to our nation. It's an opportunity for all residents of Maryland to commemorate this historic milestone and show their appreciation for all Marines who stand ready to protect our nation and continue to put Marine values to work in their communities and professional lives."

Notable Marines with Maryland ties include:

- **[Casey Holiday](#), Aberdeen, Maryland:** U.S. Marine Corps veteran, founded Battle Tested Security in 2016, employing over 500 veterans nationwide and providing security services at major events like NASCAR races and the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, Tennessee.
- **[LtGen Loretta Reynolds \(Ret\)](#), Baltimore, Maryland:** Reynolds led Marines in combat in Afghanistan and later commanded the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, South Carolina. She concluded a distinguished 35-year career as one of the highest-ranking officers in Marine Corps history.
- **[Montel Williams](#), Baltimore, Maryland:** Emmy Award-winning TV host, served 22 years in the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy, retiring as a lieutenant commander.

Williams often used his nationally syndicated show to spotlight organizations supporting service members.

- **Dario DiBattista, Baltimore, Maryland:** Marine Corps veteran, now directs Towson University's Military and Veterans Center and edited "Retire the Colors," an anthology of experiences by veterans who served in Afghanistan and Iraq.
- **John C. Dove, Baltimore, Maryland:** A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, now serves as Commissioner of Maryland's Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, overseeing 21 boards regulating over 255,000 professionals statewide.
- **John DallaTezza, Keymar, Maryland:** Vietnam War veteran, served as an aviation communications technician with the 2nd Marine Air Wing. He has been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars since 1990 and a Life Member since 1999, currently serving as a 3-Year Trustee for the VFW Department of Maryland. John retired in 2015 after 38 years with Northrop Grumman.

"The list of notable Marines from Maryland is impressive and showcases how they used the values and skills they learned in the Marine Corps to become leaders in their communities," said MajGen Lukeman. "Today marks a special opportunity to recognize these extraordinary men and women for their service to our nation as well as their communities."

The *Marines Across America* program continues throughout 2025, leading to the official 250th birthday of the Marine Corps on Nov. 10, which will be marked nationwide with official cake-cutting ceremonies taking place at all 50 state capitals.

Members of the public are encouraged to join the anniversary celebration and *Marines Across America* by sharing stories of Marines they know, both active and retired, who make a difference in their communities and their professional lives. Submissions may be made through the [Marine250.com website](https://Marine250.com) or via social media using the hashtag #MarinesAcrossAmerica.

About the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation:

Dedicated to the preservation and promulgation of Marine Corps history, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation was established in 1979 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation supports the historical programs of the Marine Corps in ways not possible through government funds. The Foundation provides grants and scholarships for research and the renovation, restoration and commissioning of historical Marine Corps artifacts and landmarks. The Foundation secured the necessary funding for the construction of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Heritage Center, located in Triangle, Virginia, and continues to expand programs at the National Museum of the Marine Corps and beyond its walls. For more information, visit MarineHeritage.org.



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