

250 YEARS OF THE MARINE CORPS



CONTACT:

Haylee Sigafoose

HSigafoose@SusanDavis.com

202-414-0799

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) Spotlights Washington, D.C. During Nationwide Marines Across America Program

MCHF marks the achievement of Washington, D.C. Marines as part of the Marine Corps' 250th Anniversary Celebration

TRIANGLE, Va. – The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) today celebrates the Marines of the Washington, D.C. region, 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 Marines in our nation's capital have made to our country. It's an opportunity for all residents of the Washington, D.C. region 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 Washington, D.C. ties include:

- [**Carlos Heraud**](#) – A law enforcement leader with over two decades of service at the Metropolitan Police Department, rising from patrol officer to Assistant Chief of the Homeland Security Bureau.
- [**Betty Printz Sims**](#) – A WWII veteran, Printz Sims served as a fixed gunnery instructor and later became a beloved music teacher, creating choirs on each base she lived on. She became the oldest living woman Marine at the age of 104 before she passed in December 2023.
- [**Ely Ross**](#) – An experienced senior executive and attorney, Ross also served as COO of the District of Columbia Public Schools and Mayor Muriel Bowser's Director of the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs.
- [**Tim Chambers**](#) – Known as "The Saluting Marine," Chambers travels to Washington, D.C. each Memorial Day weekend to stand in a single salute during the Rolling Thunder demonstrations, often standing in salute for many hours.

- [Jeffrey Kopp](#) – Currently serving as Commander of the Violent Crimes Suppression Division, Kopp has dedicated over a decade of service to the Metropolitan Police Department.
- [Karis Gutter](#) – A Marine Corps Reserve veteran with extensive experience in public service, including roles at the USDA and on Capitol Hill, serves as Head of Government & Industry Affairs for Corteva Agriscience, Americas.
- [Dr. Shane C. Szarkowski](#) – An expert in energy, security, and state failure, Dr. Szarkowski serves as Editor-in-Chief of Diplomatic Courier and is the Executive Director of World in 2050.
- [Darnel Robinson](#) – Serving the Metropolitan Police Department for over two decades, Robinson is the Assistant Chief of the Technical Services Bureau (TSB), focusing on innovative policing and public safety.

“The list of notable Marines from Washington, D.C. 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 in 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.



MARINEHERITAGE.ORG