

250 YEARS OF THE MARINE CORPS



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Minnesota Marines Recognized as Marine Corps Celebrates 250 Years of Service

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation spotlights Minnesota veterans and urges Minnesotans to share stories of local heroes through “Marine Community Submissions”

TRIANGLE, Va. (June 10, 2025) – The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) today celebrates Minnesota Marines as part of the organization’s yearlong *Marines Across America* program marking 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. Minnesota’s notable Marines include one of the flag raisers at Iwo Jima, a celebrated actor, and other Marines who contributed to their community.

"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 Minnesota Marines have made to our nation. It’s an opportunity for all residents of Minnesota 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 Minnesota ties include:

- [Charles W. Lindberg](#), Edina, Minnesota: A decorated World War II veteran who received the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his valor as a flamethrower operator on Iwo Jima, Lindberg was among the Marines who raised the first American flag atop Mount Suribachi on February 23, 1945, an event captured in Joe Rosenthal’s iconic photograph which gave the inspiration for the design of the National Museum of the Marine Corps. After the war, he dedicated his life to sharing his experiences with students across the country, preserving the legacy of his fellow Marines until his passing in 2007.

- [Mike Farrell](#), St. Paul, Minnesota: an acclaimed actor best known for his role as Captain B.J. Hunnicutt on the television series M*A*S*H*, Farrell has used his platform to advocate for human rights and veteran causes throughout his career.
- [Daniel Crawford](#), Austin, Minnesota: Crawford walked from Austin, Minnesota to Austin, Texas in 2024 to raise awareness for veteran recovery and mental health support, promoting the mission of the nonprofit 23rd Veteran.
- [Charles Hawkins Sr.](#), Coon Rapids, Minnesota: The state junior vice commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota, Hawkins works to uphold veterans' rights and strengthen the VFW's mission across the state.
- [Andrew McCormack](#), Detroit Lakes, Minnesota: With a service record of 18 years in the Marine Corps, decorated veteran McCormack is currently the department commander for the Marine Corps League of Minnesota, McCormack has also served as Owner and Chief Instructor at the firearm academy Precision Firearms Training since 2002.

“The list of notable Marines from Minnesota 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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