



"In Service To Veterans, Their Families and Community"

June 2026

Presidents Notes

President Painter Dickson Lester will be in Kenya this month and will miss the June meeting.



Kenya Connection Kids, Inc.
A Christian ministry dedicated to being the light in the darkness to the orphaned and destitute children in Kenya.
www.kenyaconnectionkids.org



Students Will Experience

- Interactive Field Games
- Bible Stories
- Worship Songs
- Creative Crafts
- Team Challenges
- Sponsor Photos & Videos Creations

MISSION COUNTDOWN:

21 DAYS REMAINING

The Mars Hill Mission Team is entering the final prep phase before launch to Kenya – and excitement levels are HIGH! Supplies are being packed, plans are being finalized, and hearts are ready for another unforgettable adventure with The Kenya Connection Kids ministry in Chuka.

This year's VBS

BIG QUEST "GOD'S PROMISES"

One epic day.

8 action-packed hours.

250+ children.

Multiple regions unlocked:

Chuka • Nairobi • Tharaka • Kirubia • Chera

Sick Call/Prayer List

Roy Lantz, Dave and Gail Hambrick, Harold Holingshed, John Dudley, Gene Tatum, Al Heflin

If you have suggestions for future Speakers or pictures to show, please pass that info along to Bill McRae, 770-843-3973 or wmcrae@mindspring.com

Upcoming Events

July 2 – Service for Walt Molyneux

Details on Page 3/

July 4 – Marietta Parade

June 18. Monthly Meeting

September 26 – Chapter Picnic

October 22 – We Care Fair

Membership

2025 DUES, \$30.00, ASSOCIATE AND ANNUAL MEMBERS.

Charles Langston

charleslangston46@gmail.com

Director – Membership

GVVA Mourns the Loss of Past President Walt Molyneaux and Life Member Bill Craig.

Walter Baldwin Molyneaux Jr.



By Dave Hambrick
Past Vice President, GVVA
Foundation
Past Vice President, GVVA (State)
Past President, GVVA Chapter 1
Past Chapter Color Guard Commander

Obituary

With sadness, we share the passing of Walter "Walt" Baldwin Molyneaux Jr. of Rydal, Georgia. He was born on October 5, 1944, in Endicott, New York., and passed away on June 3, 2026, at the age of 81. He served on our Chapter's Honor Guard and as the Chapter's President in 2013 and early 2014 until his health condition prevented such activities.



Walt was a Navy veteran serving on active duty from January 1965 until January 1969 as an

Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class. He was a Vietnam War veteran and served three (3) lengthy deployments ('67 - '68 and '70) in the western Pacific on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga (CVA14 Attack Carrier), with Task Force 77, helping maintain aircraft, especially the A4 Skyhawk, A7 Corsair II, A6 Intruder and the EA-6B Prowler used during that segment of the Vietnam War.



Walt's service-connected medals and ribbons include the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 3 battle stars, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device.

He also received a Certificate of Honor for serving in the Vietnam War from Georgia Governor Nathan Deal and Georgia Commissioner of Veterans Service Mike Roby on Vietnam Veterans Day March 30th, 2015.

Walt loved his family and friends and was deeply loved in return by many. His door was always open to anyone that

needed a place to stay or a helping hand. His memory will live on in the hearts of friends and family as a lasting reminder of the love, kindness, connections and experiences he brought to the world.



Walter Baldwin Molyneaux, Jr. was a very good man and will be deeply missed.

A memorial service will be held **on Thursday, July 2nd 2026 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Woodstock Funeral Home, Inc. (8855 Main St, Woodstock, GA 30188).**

The Memorial Service will be followed by Walt's internment in the Georgia National Cemetery, 1080 Scott Hudgens Drive, Canton, GA 30114 at 12:30, 2 July, 2026 and all attendees are asked to be in line at the GNC provided pavilion by 12:00 sharp.

GVVA Memorial Wreath, Patriot Riders, full military honors and police escorts will be provided.

July 4th Parade Information

The Let Freedom Ring parade application has been reviewed and accepted into the parade. Final instructions and your parade number will be sent to you two weeks prior to the event. A few reminders:

This year's 4th of July celebration of will be held on **Saturday, JULY 4TH, 2026.**

Marietta City Schools will provide shuttle service back to the church so plan to have parade participants picked up there, as the end of the route will be very crowded and non-parade vehicles are prohibited.

Arrive on time in the parade staging area with your parade number. (Staging will begin at 8:00 a.m.) Remember there will be 1000 other people just as lost as you. **Entries arriving past 9:15 a.m. will not be permitted into the staging area.**

Come to the Square following the parade for more activities.

Have water available to all parade participants.

The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. at the Roswell Street Baptist Church - rain or shine.

Plan on being there around 8 AM

Member Participation Wanted.

Submit an article for the Sitrep. We want to hear from you. Send it to: Gvva1sitrep@gmail.com

June Guest Speaker

Speaker for this month will be Don Long. His presentation will be a discussion of and explanation why **"It's Not About the Uniform"**. He's President of the East Cobb Business Association, and he speaks to a lot of groups, so it should be interesting.



Don Edward Long

Born and raised in the small western North Carolina town of Bessemer City, Don Long began his work history at the age of sixteen as a dye-house worker in a textile factory in the neighboring city of Gastonia. It was there that Don first learned of his unique ability to quickly adapt to challenges in the workplace in order to become more knowledgeable of a broad range of work functions in the plant and seeing how those activities impacted operations.

Always seeking new challenges and wanting more opportunities than a small textile town had to offer, Don enlisted in the United States Air Force at 17. It was during this time in service that he would go on to discover and develop his innate leadership abilities. He graduated in the top ten percent of his class at the 22nd Air Force Non-commissioned Officers Leadership School and his outstanding accomplishments while in service garnered him two Air Force Achievement Medals and an Air Force Commendation Medal.

After ten years of military service, Don would go on to spend the next thirty-eight years adding to his extensive operational and leadership experience fulfilling roles in training, planning, inventory management, customer service, and logistics. He also continued his educational pursuits, receiving an Associates Degree from Miami-Dade College and a Bachelor's Degree from Kennesaw State University with Honors.

As has been the main theme throughout his life, Don has continued to strive towards new

challenges and is driven by the desire to seek out the best in life whether it is in professional or personal endeavors. He is the Founder & President of LONG INSIGHTS, LLC and has authored a book titled "From the Inside Out, Plotting the Course of Our Personal & Professional Life" His most gratifying satisfaction comes from knowing that he has been able to make a difference either through improvement in the workplace or in creating positive motivational change in the lives of people.

GVVA LOGO ON SHIRT
Bring your shirt.. One Logo
embroidered for free. Rest are \$10

Memorial Day 2026



Patrick Ultsch and Bob Griggs Presented the GVVA Wreath



Nice Crowd with the GVVA Wreath in the Background

William "Bill" S. Craig

By Dave Hambrick
Past Chapter President

Our Chapter lost a life member on May 26th - **William "Bill" S. Craig** and he was quickly laid to rest at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton on June 5th, with full military honors. Bill was a unique individual with a varied background. Though he was a GVVA member, he also was a Semper Fi/Rally Point **Knight of the Round Table**.



While being an active member within our chapter, he had also served as the **Commandant of Marine Corps League Detachment 647** where he was heavily involved with many civic activities, like Toys for Tots, and so many others.



He was the inspiration and driving force in getting the Marine Corps League Detachment 647 rechartered and renamed from the **Greater Atlanta Detachment** to the **Lance Corporal Skip Wells Detachment 647** honoring a fallen Marine from a terrorist attack at the Navy/Marine Corps

Training Center in Chattanooga. He was a leader from the front, rather than from the sidelines or the rear.



About 10 years ago he and his family moved from the Marietta surrounding area to Ballground, Georgia and became very involved with the Marine Corps League Detachment 1280 covering much of North Georgia. He was well known and highly thought of, they referred to him as their mentor.

Even with being actively involved with the GVVA and the Marine Corps League, he was also active with the Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association.

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April of last year he joined many other veterans on the Roswell Honor Flight to

Washington, D.C. He called it a "Crown Jewel", a once in a lifetime event.



William S. Craig Obituary

William Scott Craig, age 79 of Ball Ground, Georgia passed away Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at home. Bill was born on September 27, 1946, in Edenton, NC to Robert Jenkins Craig Sr and Carolyn Morgan Craig.

Bill was a graduate from John A. Holmes High School. Bill then went on to serve in the United States Marine Corps from June 22, 1965, until April 18, 1969, serving in Vietnam from July 1966 until August 1967. He was a **Sergeant, 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines** and later in the **2nd Battalion, 4th Marines**, widely known as the "**Magnificent Bastards**".

Many years later he would meet up with his old company commander in Vietnam from that Battalion, Captain James Livingston, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for

battles throughout their experiences and over the years was promoted to Major General.



After Bill left active duty with the Marines, he joined the Atlanta Police Department in November 1971 and in 1975 he left and joined Fulton County in 1975 and retired on March 5, 1996. After Atlanta, Bill joined Forsyth County Sheriff's Office from 1998 until 2000.



And moreover, after serving with the Sheriff's Office, Bill formed a Private Detective Agency in October 2001, the CCIFI. And, unbeknownst to many, he actively served as a Consultant to the National Center for Mission and Exploited Children and was known to have helped in finding missing children, as well as catching some bad guys. Bill was very active in the community and served as Commandant with the Skip Wells Detachment of the Marine Corps

League and served the MCL Detachment 1280 until his death. He was a very dedicated Marine all of his life.

Survivors include: Wife, Susan Craig of Ball Ground; son, William Scott Craig II of Flowery Branch; son and daughter-in-law, Kenny and Alicia Hughes of Ball Ground; daughter and son-in-law, Lyric and Eric Schwadron of McDonough; grandchildren, Brady Schwadron (Ashlynn), Clara Schwadron, Savannah Hughes, Daniel Seth Schwadron, and Reagan Hughes; nephew, Mike and Karen Craig of Canton; sister-in-law, Kathy Cowan of Ball Ground; cousins, DeAnne and Mike Warren, Linda and Ricky Letchworth, and Bruce and Vicki Morgan; close friends Kent and Susy Shelton; and many friends and other family also survive.



GVVA CHAPTER 1 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 5/21/2026

By Dave Hambrick
Past GVVA Chapter President



From my perspective, this monthly meeting had two key features.

The first was the keynote speaker - USAF Colonel (Ret.) Clarence (Clyde) Romero, Jr. He had presented to an awe-inspired group with his insightful details a time or two before on similar subjects, many that had recently been released from the Pentagon that most of us did not know about. It can best be described as eye-opening or jaw-dropping - this topic was **The Ho Chi Minh Trail.**





And the second was the 13-fold U. S. Flag presentation by our Honor Guard.



John Saari, Director of Communications, acted as Honor Guard Commander and Commentator. Prior to him reading the symbolism of each of the folds, Honor Guard Lee Johnson, serving as the anchor, assisted by Honor Guardsmen John Bevich and Harold Hollingshed began the flag folding process. As each fold was in progress John Saari read the significance of the fold.



Each of the 13 folds of the U.S. flag carries symbolic meaning, honoring life, faith, country, and the sacrifices of those who served.

The ceremonial folding of the U.S. flag is a deeply symbolic tradition, often performed at military funerals, patriotic events, and Flag Day observances. While the meanings of the folds are not officially codified by the U.S. government, they have become widely recognized and respected as part of American heritage and military tradition.

Symbolism of Each Fold

1. **First Fold** - Represents life
2. **Second Fold** - Symbolizes belief in eternal life
3. **Third Fold** - Honors and remembers veterans who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country
4. **Fourth Fold** - Represents the weaker nature of citizens and the trust in God for guidance in peace and war
5. **Fifth Fold** - A tribute to the United States, reflecting loyalty to the country, "right or wrong"
6. **Sixth Fold** - Represents where our hearts lie, pledging allegiance to the flag and the republic it represents
7. **Seventh Fold** - Honors the armed forces, recognizing their role in protecting the nation and its flag
8. **Eighth Fold** - Remembers those who have entered the "valley of the shadow of death" and honors mothers, particularly on Mother's Day
9. **Ninth Fold** - Pays tribute to womanhood, acknowledging their faith, loyalty, and devotion in shaping the nation
10. **Tenth Fold** - Dedicated to the Father,

who provides children to defend the country

11. **Eleventh Fold** - Honors the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, referencing the bottom portion of the seal of Kings David and Solomon
12. **Twelfth Fold** - Represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
13. **Thirteenth Fold** - When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of the national motto, "**In God We Trust**"

Once folded, the flag takes the shape of a triangular "cocked hat," reminiscent of the hats worn by soldiers under General George Washington and sailors under Captain John Paul Jones.

This shape serves as a lasting tribute to those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving the rights, privileges, and freedoms enjoyed today. The 13 folds also symbolically reference the original 13 colonies, connecting the ceremony to the nation's founding.

It was certainly an honor for the GVVA members that were around when the Color Guard was created to see it being performed once again.

A little history. I became a member of the GVVA in April 2012. The following month I was asked by then President Bill Kalish (God rest his soul) if I could take over as the GVVA Chapter Honor Guard Commander and get it formally established, as the Chapter had been trying for some time to do so, but it had not come to fruition.

From the initial conception the Honor Guard was meant to be a flag folding team only and did not provide for a firing team. So, over the course of the following year Honor Guard volunteers were solicited and chosen, uniforms were designed, purchased and distributed, the Sergeant Major of the Georgia National Guard provided training through their Formal Military Funeral Burial Guard unit for our Honor Guard volunteers.

The Chapter Honor Guard consisted of: Dave Hambrick (Honor Guard Commander), Walt Molyneux (soon to be Chapter President), John Bevich, Al Heflin, Gail Evilsizor, Lee Johnson, John Saari, Harold Hollingshed and Bob Humphries (Chapter Vice President - God rest his soul).

The flag-folding ceremony is a meaningful act of respect, patriotism, and remembrance, and a few months after our initial training, in 2014, we were tasked with providing a flag folding ceremony at the loss of one of our GVVA members Jerry Garrett.



<p>President: Painter Dickson Lester 678-836-4391 pd1721@bellsouth.net Vice President and Morale & Entertainment Ronnie Futral rlf4@bellsouth.net Secretary: Ken Buechel Treasurer: Patrick Ultsch <i>Board of Directors</i> Membership: Charles Langston charleslangston46@gmail.com Operations: Bill McRae 770-843-3973 Communications: John Saari 770-713-4984 sitrep@saarihome.com Webmaster: Paul Quillen Stores: David Thomas davidjthomas01@yahoo.com Fundraising: Ken Buechel kenbchl@gmail.com 404-510-8324 Chaplain: Roy Lantz RoylantzE5@gmail.com Historian: Andy Zimmerman 678-709-4041</p> <p style="text-align: center;">At Large</p> <p>John Bevich tjmb6484@yahoo.com 678-849-3062 Gus Vasquez GJV@ENGINEER.COM Donna Rowe Home: 678-401-4424 Cell: 404-285-3357 Tom Foster 404-906-5266</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Past Presidents</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Dr. Tom Johnson</td><td>Rich Sale</td></tr> <tr><td>Bob Humphries</td><td>Chuck Davis</td></tr> <tr><td>Woody McFarlin</td><td>Terry Cash</td></tr> <tr><td>John McDougal</td><td>Al Rowe</td></tr> <tr><td>Jim Baskin</td><td>Robert Ledee</td></tr> <tr><td>Bill Kalish</td><td>Walt Molyneaux</td></tr> <tr><td>Dave Hambrick</td><td>Al Heflin</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Past Vice President</p> <p>Harold Holingshed haroldshed@att.net 770-926-5603 <i>Standing Committee Chairs</i></p> <p>Chapter Store:</p> <p>Newsletter: John Saari Nominating: Al Heflin Programs: Bill McRae</p>	Dr. Tom Johnson	Rich Sale	Bob Humphries	Chuck Davis	Woody McFarlin	Terry Cash	John McDougal	Al Rowe	Jim Baskin	Robert Ledee	Bill Kalish	Walt Molyneaux	Dave Hambrick	Al Heflin	<p style="text-align: center;">Mission Statement</p> <p>The mission of Chapter 1, GVVA is to provide quality services and support, based upon the concepts of self-esteem and self-improvement, to advocate patriotism, to promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, and to recognize those who served, and honor those who gave their lives in the Vietnam War, and to promote the positive image of the Vietnam Veteran, their dependents and the widows and orphans of deceased Vietnam Veterans throughout the State of Georgia in order to enhance and enrich their lives and the lives of their families. And further, to provide the same service and support to all veterans of all wars and to our communities' first responders</p> <p style="text-align: center;">General Purpose</p> <p>Chapter 1, GVVA will be a community based service organization. It will identify, initiate and expand programs within the limits of manpower and finances. Chapter 1, GVVA will aggressively perform fund raising activities for veterans, their families and community. These services will include, but not limited, transition and homeless assistance, employment services, PTSD and substance abuse, leadership and scholar-ship program and other essential needs of human existence. And further, to provide the same service and support to all veterans of all wars and to our communities' first responders.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GVVA Chapter One Website https://www.GVVA1.org Georgia Dept. of Veterans Sevices Suite 350, 1150 Powder Springs St. Marietta, GA 30064 770-528-3254 http://veterans.ga.gov/marietta. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday VA National Cemetery, Canton, Georgia - arrangements for veterans burial : 1-800-535-1117 VA Assistance & Benefits Info: -800-1MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411) https://www.AmericanDisabledVeterans.com</p> <p>VA Regional Office (claims) 1-800-827-1000 VA Hospital 404-321-6111 VA Center Counseling 404-347-7264 Military Honors Survivor Assistance: Air Force – Dobbins ARB Military Honor Guard 678-655-5272 Casualty Assistance 678-655-6092 Navy / Marines Military Honors 678-655-5092 Casualty Assistance 678-655-5092</p>
Dr. Tom Johnson	Rich Sale															
Bob Humphries	Chuck Davis															
Woody McFarlin	Terry Cash															
John McDougal	Al Rowe															
Jim Baskin	Robert Ledee															
Bill Kalish	Walt Molyneaux															
Dave Hambrick	Al Heflin															

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member: ___ New Life Member ___ Renewal:

Membership in the GVVA is open to all veterans and organizations whose members served in the U.S. Armed Forces during a period of conflict. Associate memberships are available to families of veterans and to the public at large.

Full Name _____ Date ___ / ___ /20 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

E-mail Address (to receive the newsletter): _____

Branch of Service _____ (A Copy of your DD-214 is Required)

Combat Tours _____

Unit(s) _____ Other Veteran's Organization _____

Annual Dues \$30, Associate Members \$30, New Members \$30 Life Membership_0-39 yrs. old- \$260, 40-49 yrs. old-\$220, 50-59 yrs. old-\$180, 60-69 yrs. old-\$140, 70+ yrs. old- \$100

Return to: Georgia Vietnam Veterans Alliance, Chapter One, PO Box 414, Kennesaw, GA 30156

Georgia Vietnam Veterans Alliance
Chapter One
PO Box 414
Kennesaw, GA 30156

“A lot of who we are is where we’ve been”

