A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING

◆

McShan Florist

We are also grateful to the following who helped make this program possible:

◆

Stephanie Martin, Executive Assistant, NAS JRB Fort Worth

Dallas Police Department, Southwest Patrol
Fort Worth Police Mounted
The Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery Staff
TNCF Public Information Center (PIC) Volunteers

◆

Citi Veterans Network of Dallas/Fort Worth, Volunteers
Volunteers who assisted with the Avenue of Flags
AT&T Veterans

◆

Texas Department of Transportation
Dr. Elba Garcia, Dallas County Commissioner District 4 & Staff
Department of Veterans Affairs, Dallas Office of Public Affairs

◆

Reddy Ice of Dallas
CareFlite of Dallas
Mobile Communications America

◆

"Be Happy Chili Cookoff"
A Veteran's Pool Company Mansfield

And we are grateful to YOU for attending

This Program is Produced and Directed by:
Gary Poplin ◆ Bobby Donahoo

Sponsored by:
Texas National Cemetery Foundation, Inc.
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Texas National Cemetery Foundation

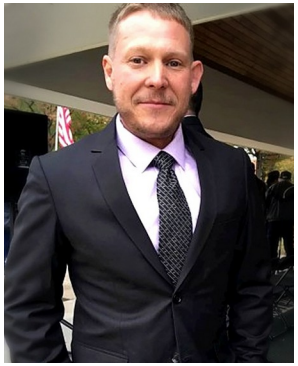
PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
11:00 AM

at

Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery



David Van Meter

Director

Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

David Van Meter was named Director of Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, effective August 2024. He is responsible for all burial, maintenance and administrative operations at the facility, and was recently given responsibility for Houston National Cemetery, where he will split his time.

Prior to this appointment, Mr. Van Meter served as the Cemetery Director at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, and also served as Director of Fort Sill National Cemetery. Before Oklahoma, Mr. Van Meter served as the Assistant Director of Biloxi and Natchez National Cemeteries and as the Foreman at Fort Smith and Little Rock National Cemeteries.

In these capacities, he supervised all aspects of field operations within these cemeteries. Mr. Van Meter served as the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) for Little Rock National Cemetery, with responsibility for $1.2 million in grounds maintenance, irrigation, stone setting and interment contracts. In addition, he was the COR who oversaw the Fort Smith Lodge Renovation Contract and a number of other smaller contracts.

Mr. Van Meter began his career with the National Cemetery Administration as a Cemetery Caretaker at Fort Smith National Cemetery in September 2018. He earned an associate degree from Oklahoma State University and a bachelor's degree from Excelsior College, and is currently pursuing a master's degree from Penn State University.

Mr. Van Meter retired from the US Army as a Master Sergeant (E-8), Senior Infantryman. While serving in the US Army, he deployed on multiple combat tours to Afghanistan, earning the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star Medal, and Army Commendation Medal with Valor device.

Federal law prohibits fundraising on cemetery property. The Avenue of Flags extension has been approved. Please help TNCF comply with this law by contacting us off property for questions regarding Avenue of Flags sponsorships and event financial support. Our e-mail address is:

ops@tncf.org

Volunteers

Volunteers who staff the Public Information Center (PIC) provide assistance and directions to visitors as well as coordinate the flow of services throughout the day. We currently have openings for persons interested in volunteering, with two shifts available: 8 AM to noon or noon to 4 PM. If you might be interested in serving as a volunteer, Mrs. Mickie Prendergast, Scheduler of PIC Volunteers, can be reached at 214.202.1902. Information and applications are also available on our website, www.tncf.org.

About Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

Established in May 2000, encompassing 638 acres, the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery is currently undergoing significant enhancements. These include the addition of 9,000 columbarium niches, 23,000 new gravesites, and a new shelter, facilitated by three separate contracts. Since its opening, the cemetery has honored the service of approximately 93,000 Veterans and eligible dependents, including numerous individuals who served in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Ultimately, this National Cemetery will provide a final resting place for 280,000 eligible Veterans and their families.

About the Foundation

Texas National Cemetery Foundation, Inc. (TNCF), is a 501(c)(3) corporation, whose sole purpose is to provide direct support to the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. It serves in a liaison capacity providing immediate access to military, civilian, and various government organizations and agencies. It is able to bridge funding for non-government-provided amenities enhancing operations at the cemetery. Their special events sponsorships include but are not limited to Memorial Day and Veterans Day events. Their broad-based resources and the vast knowledge their supporters possess are readily available to the cemetery staff. The schedule for the display of the Avenue of Flags can be found on the foundation website calendar.

Message from the Director and Staff

On behalf of the Director and staff, we thank you for joining us in solemn remembrance of our nation's Veterans, particularly those who made the supreme sacrifice. The Dallas-Fort Worth community's unwavering generosity has been instrumental in the flourishing of this sacred place, and we express our profound gratitude to our dedicated volunteers for their tireless service. It is through your commitment, coupled with the vital work of the Texas National Cemetery Foundation, that we are able to provide essential services daily and host significant memorial observances such as this.

As you walk these hallowed grounds today, remember that each headstone and marker represents a profound act of faith – the belief that our lives and liberties are worth defending. We respectfully ask for your continued care and support in maintaining this National Shrine, a constant reminder of their profound dedication to our country.



PROGRAM

Prelude Music.....Various Selections
1st Cavalry Division Band
CPT Curran Schenck, Commander

Call to Order.....Brig. Gen. Patrick X. Mordente
USAF (Ret)
Master of Ceremonies

Invocation.....Lt Col John Rollyson
Air Force Senior Chaplain, NAS JRB Fort Worth

Presentation of Colors.....NAS JRB Fort Worth Color Guard

Pledge of Allegiance.....Midlothian Choir

***The Star-Spangled Banner*.....1st Cavalry Division Band**

Flyover.....457th Fighter Squadron
US Air Force, NAS JRB Fort Worth

Introduction of Distinguished Guests.....Brig Gen Mordente
Master of Ceremonies

***America, My Home*.....Midlothian Choir**

Address.....David Van Meter
Director, Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery

***Music*.....Midlothian Choir**
Matthew Fisk, Director
1st Cavalry Division Band
CPT Curran Schenck, Commanding

Special Recognition.....Kimberly Molder

Music.....1st Cavalry Division Band
Armed Forces Medley

Rifle Salute.....Marine Aircraft Group 41
NAS JRB Fort Worth

Taps.....1st Cavalry Division Band

Benediction.....Lt Col John Rollyson

Postlude Music.....1st Cavalry Division Band

Thank you for attending
Please visit us at www.tncf.org