REMINDER
The holidays are approaching shortly; please think about sending in your 2019 membership check. It would be a big help to receive the checks before the first of the year, in this way we don’t have to send out reminder cards.

No application is necessary if you are already a member. Please provide your name and address on the check.

Contact your Congressional Reps through the U.S. Capital Switchboard - 1-202-224-3121 or House Cloak Room at 1-202-225-7350 (R) and 1-202-225-7330 (D)

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On August 2, 2018, I was paid a most welcome visit by members of the Department of Defense -- Mrs. Hattie Johnson, Marine Corps Casualty Officer, Mr. Bill Woodier, DPAA Korean War Analyst, and Mr. Lee Tucker, DPAA Public Affairs Officer. Mr. Kelly McKeague, the Director of DPAA, was scheduled to come, but he was called away at the last minute for a press conference at the Pentagon on the 55 boxes of remains that had been repatriated from North Korea. The visit was very informative and I was brought up to date on my brother’s case. My doubts were finally put to rest about his loss. The overwhelming evidence is that my brother was never sent to the Russian GuLag, as was reported in the early 1990’s by Russian sources, but rather, Philip, was killed in combat in South Korea on the hill called Vegas (previously called Bronco). Mr. Woodier explained to me that he and his team had interviewed the men who actually served in combat with Philip and saw what happened to my brother that terrible day. My brother was killed by an enemy hand grenade. The men who witnessed the explosion reported that Philip did not survive. I cannot thank Mr. Woodier enough for all the work that he and his team have done to determine the fate of Philip and the other Marines who served with him.

If Tears Could Build A Stairway, And Memories A Lane, I'd Walk Right Up To Heaven And Bring You Home Again.
**CHIT CHAT NEWS by Irene Mandra**

**Plan of the Appreciation Event for the Korean War Veterans**

Annual Event in honor of the Korean War Veterans & their family members

1. **Purpose**
   
   To express our deepest gratitude for the noble sacrifice and heroic dedication made by the Korean War Veterans who protected the freedom in the Republic of Korea, and to strengthen the friendship and alliance between the United States of America and the Republic of Korea, and to promote and inspire our children to have the historical consciousness, security awareness and patriotism by inviting the Korean War Veterans & their family members to the Republic of Korea and hosting a special commemorative event with the highest honor and VIP treatment.

2. **Event Promoter**

   A. **Host**: Sae Eden Presbyterian Church (Senior Pastor, Rev. & Dr. So, Kang Suk)
   
   B. **Sponsorship**
      
      MPVA (Ministry of Patriots & Veterans Affairs)
      
      KVA (Korean Veterans Association)
      

3. **Guests to be invited**

   A. **From the participated Nation in the Korean War**
      
      a. Main guests—the Korean War Veterans & their family members
      
      b. Chief of Mission Ambassador and Military Attache in ROK

   B. **From the Republic of Korea**
      
      a. 300 Korean Veterans of the Korean War
      
      b. Minister of MPVA
      
      c. Governor of Kyeonggido Province
      
      d. Congressmen elected from the district of YongIn city
      
      e. Chairman of KVA
      
      f. President, Association of the Men of Merits
      
      g. Mayor, YongIn city
      
      h. Generals & Admirals on service or retired
      
      i. Pastors & Elders of the Christian Church
      
      j. About 5,000 congregations of Church

4. **Proposed Itinerary for the period of the event**: 5 days 6 nights in June or July

   A. **First Day**—Arrival at ICN, Check-in hotel, Welcome Dinner
   
   B. **Second through fifth day**
      
      Wreath Laying Ceremony at National Cemetery
      
      Visit 8th US Army Corps and Pan Moon Jeom in Joint Security Area
Visit ROK Army Special Warfare Command & Review Honor Guard
Visit Naval 2nd Fleet & Marine Corps Command & Review Honor Guard
Tour ROK War Memorial & Museum Complex
Visit SamSung Electronics Company
Sightseeing & Shopping, Farewell Dinner
C. Last Day---Departure for home

5. Accommodations: five stars hotel class, two persons per one room base

6. Support & Assistances
   A. Round flight fee (economy class only), accommodations, food, transportation, sightseeing and all other official costs are free by Sae Eden Church's expenses
   B. 20 young guides, members of Sae Eden Church who are able to speak American will be ready for the close assistances to help whatever guests want just like a family member of the guest.

7. For Inquiries:
   Call ---Elder Kim, Chong Dae at 82-10-6274-9626
   Pastor Brian Cho, Bum Chul at 82-10-2191-2272
   Email---Elder Kim <kct0803@hanmail.net or kct0803@naver.com>
   Cho Bum Chul <i@BrianCho.com or i@ChoBumChul.com>
I send greetings to all those participating in the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Program to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

Since America’s earliest days, brave men and women have borne the incredible burden of protecting our freedom at home and abroad to preserve our way of life with unwavering devotion and quiet courage for more than two centuries. The Korean War veterans remind us of the true meaning of patriotism.

Sixty-eight years after free nations banded together and free peoples refused to yield, we pause to reflect on a conflict that defined a generation and determined the fate of a country. Today, South Korea is a vibrant democracy and home to one of the world’s most dynamic economies, and South Koreans live in freedom. This is the proud legacy of the brave patriots of the Korean War.

Just as selflessness and sacrifice define our troops in uniform, ensuring our veterans receive the care and support they earned must define who we are as Americans. By lifting up our veterans and our military families, organizations like yours help uphold our sacred obligation to our heroes and reflect the spirit of a grateful Nation. On behalf of the American people, I thank SaeEden Church of South Korea and Rev. Dr. So, KangSuk for annually hosting the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Program for 12 years in a row.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I salute our veterans of the Korean War and all who have worn the uniforms of our Armed Forces. Thank you for stepping forward when others step back. Thank you for placing yourself between us and danger. Thank you for your incredible selflessness and remarkable sacrifice. May God bless you and your loved ones, and may God bless the United States of America and Korea.

Sincerely yours,

Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
God & 3 Mistakes

What God did at Pearl Harbor that day is interesting and I never knew this little bit of history. Tour boats ferry people out to the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii every thirty minutes. We just missed a ferry and had to wait thirty minutes. I went into a small gift shop to kill time. In the gift shop, I purchased a small book entitled, “Reflections on Pearl Harbor” by Admiral Chester Nimitz. Sunday, December 7th, 1941--Admiral Chester Nimitz was attending a concert in Washington, DC. He was paged and told there was a phone call for him. When he answered the phone, it was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on the phone. He told Admiral Nimitz that he (Nimitz) would now be the Commander of the Pacific Fleet. Admiral Nimitz flew to Hawaii to assume command of the Pacific Fleet. He landed at Pearl Harbor on Christmas Eve, 1941. There was such a spirit of despair, dejection and defeat--you would have thought the Japanese had already won the war. On Christmas Day, 1941, Adm. Nimitz was given a boat tour of the destruction wrought on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. Big sunken battleships and navy vessels cluttered the waters everywhere you looked. As the tour boat returned to dock, the young helmsman of the boat asked, “Well Admiral, what do you think after seeing all this destruction?” Admiral Nimitz’s reply shocked everyone within the sound of his voice. Admiral Nimitz said, “The Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could ever make, or God was taking care of America. Which do you think it was?” Shocked and surprised, the young helmsman asked, “What do mean by saying the Japanese made the three biggest mistakes an attack force ever made? Nimitz explained:

MISTAKE NUMBER ONE: The Japanese attacked on Sunday morning. Nine out of every ten crewmen of those ships were ashore on leave. If those same ships had been lured to sea and been sunk--we would have lost 38,000 men instead of 3,800.

MISTAKE NUMBER TWO: When the Japanese saw all those battleships lined in a row, they got so carried away sinking those battleships, they never once bombed our dry docks opposite those ships. If they had destroyed our dry docks, we would have had to tow every one of those ships to America to be repaired. As it is now, the ships are in shallow water and can be raised. One tug can pull them over to the dry docks, and we can have them repaired and at sea by the time we could have towed them to America. And I already have crews ashore anxious to man those ships.

MISTAKE NUMBER THREE: Every drop of fuel in the Pacific theater of war is in top of the ground storage tanks five miles away over that hill. One attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our fuel supply. That’s why I say the Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could make or, God was taking care of America. I’ve never forgotten what I read in that little book. It is still an inspiration as I reflect upon it. In jest, I might suggest that because Admiral Nimitz was a Texan, born and raised in Fredericksburg, Texas -- he was a born optimist. But any way you look at it--Admiral Nimitz was able to see a silver lining in a situation and circumstance where everyone else saw only despair and defeatism. President Roosevelt had chosen the right man for the right job. We desperately needed a leader that could see silver lining in the midst of the clouds of dejection, despair and defeat.

There is a reason that our national motto is, IN GOD WE TRUST. Why have we forgotten? PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY!

In God we trust!
Please pass this important message to others.
Americans need to stand behind one another!
In Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) accounted for 203 formerly missing persons from past conflicts, the highest yearly total reached by the agency or its predecessor organizations. Also, the agency individually identified the remains of three additional personnel, who were previously accounted for as part of group burials. “Providing the families of the missing those long-sought answers with which they can at least achieve some solace is a profound manifestation of our nation’s steadfast commitment to them and their loved ones. Because it’s a sacred obligation, if not moral imperative, our over 600 military and civilian professionals earnestly contribute their talents, dedication, and passion to the noble mission with which we are entrusted,” said DPAA Director Kelly McKeague.

Broken down by conflict, 10 were accounted for from the Vietnam War, 37 from the Korean War, and 156 were from World War II.

Army Pfc. John A. Taylor was accounted for May 9. In August 1950, Taylor was a member of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division in South Korea. On Aug. 11, his regiment encountered a Korean People’s Army unit near the village of Haman. Taylor’s company was ordered to move southwest, where they were ambushed and forced to disperse. In the days following, the battalions of 24th Infantry Regiment consolidated their positions, reorganized and began accounting for their Soldiers. After several days of checking adjoining units, aid stations and field hospitals, Taylor was reported as killed in action on Aug. 12, 1950, but his remains were not recovered.

Army Master Sgt. Carl H. Lindquist was accounted for June 4. In late November 1950, Lindquist was a member of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. The unit, designated the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), engaged with forces of the Chinese People’s Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in a battle on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Lindquist was reported missing in action during the battle, on Nov. 29, 1950.

Army Pfc. Leo J. Duquette was accounted for on August 8. In July 1950, Duquette was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, engaged in combat operations against North Korean forces near Choch’iwon, South Korea. Duquette could not be accounted-for and was declared missing in action on July 11, 1950.

Army 1st Lt. Herman L. Falk. was accounted for on August 14. In February 1951, Falk was a member of Company B, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, supporting Republic of Korea Army attacks against units of the Chinese People’s Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in an the vicinity of Changbong-ni, South Korea. Falk, and half of his platoon, were reported missing in action on Feb. 12, 1951.

Army Sgt. 1st Class James S. Streetman was accounted for on August 31. In July 1950, Streetman was a member of Company B, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, participating in the defense of the 24th ID’s Kum River Line against the Korean People’s Army (KPA), near the town of Taejon, South Korea. The KPA outmaneuvered and overwhelmed Streetman’s regiment, forcing units into a fighting withdrawal through enemy lines. Streetman was initially reported to have been killed in action on Aug. 14, 1950, however historical records determined he had been killed July 22, 1950.

Army Pfc. Mathis O. Ball, Jr. was accounted for on August 14. In July 1950, Ball was a member of Company M, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, engaged in combat operations against North Korean forces near Choch’iwon, South Korea. Ball could not be accounted-for and was declared missing in action on July 12, 1950.
Army Pfc. George L. Spangenberg was accounted for on August 14. In November 1950, Spangenberg was a member of Company E, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 2, 1950 following a battle in Unsan, North Korea, the days prior. Spangenberg's name was never included on lists of American Soldiers being held as prisoners of war by the Korean People's Army (KPA) or the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF,) and no returned American prisoners of war had any information on his status.

Army Pfc. Kenneth B. Williams was accounted for on August 13. In late November 1950, Williams was a member of Heavy Mortar Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Approximately 2,500 U.S. and 700 South Korean soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was attacked by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces. As the Chinese attacks continued, American forces withdrew south. By December 6, the U.S. Army evacuated approximately 1,500 service members; the remaining soldiers had been either captured, killed or missing in enemy territory. Williams was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after he was last seen near the Chosin Reservoir.

Army Pvt. Charles G. Kaniatobe was accounted for on September 13. In July 1950, Kaniatobe was a member of Company A, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, engaged in combat operations the against North Korean People's Army near Chonui, South Korea. Kaniatobe could not be accounted for and was declared missing in action on July 10, 1950.

Army Master Sgt. Charles H. McDaniel was accounted for on September 12. In November 1950, McDaniel was a medic with the 8th Cavalry Regiment Medical Company, supporting the regiment's 3rd Battalion. The unit was engaged with enemy forces of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF,) southwest of the village of Unsan, and east of Hwaong-ri, North Korea. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 2, 1950, when he could not be accounted for by his unit.

Army Pfc. William H. Jones was accounted for on September 13. In November 1950, Jones was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, engaged in attacks against the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces near Pakchon, North Korea. On Nov. 26, 1950, after his unit made a fighting withdrawal, he could not be accounted for and was reported missing in action.

Army Cpl. Edward M. Jones was accounted for on Sept. 13. In February 1951, Jones was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, supporting Republic of Korea Army attacks against units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in an near Hoengsong, South Korea. On Feb. 12, 1951 Jones was reported missing in action when he could not be accounted for by his unit.

Army Pfc. John W. Martin was accounted for on Sept. 24. In late November 1950, Martin was a member of Medical Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Approximately 2,500 U.S. and 700 South Korean soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was attacked by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces. As the Chinese attacks continued, American forces withdrew south. By December 6, the U.S. Army evacuated approximately 1,500 service members; the remaining soldiers had been either captured, killed or missing in enemy territory. Martin was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, after he was last seen near the Chosin Reservoir.

Army Sgt. 1st Class James L. Boyce was accounted for on Sept. 26. In July 1950, Boyce was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, engaged in combat operations against the North Korean People's Army south of Chonui, South Korea. Boyce could not be accounted for and was declared missing in action on July 11, 1950.
Fulfilling Our Nation’s Promise
Soldier Accounted-For From The Korean War

Sept. 4, 2018

WASHINGTON-- The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, killed during the Korean War, have been identified as those of Army 1st Lt. Herman L. Falk. Falk, 22, of New York, New York, was accounted for on August 14.

In February 1951, Falk was a member of Company B, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, supporting Republic of Korea Army attacks against units of the Chinese People’s Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in the vicinity of Changbong-ni, South Korea. Falk, and half of his platoon, were reported missing in action on Feb. 12, 1951.

Following the war, returning American prisoners of war reported that Falk died in either April or May of 1951, while being held as a prisoner of war at the Suan Bean Camp in North Korea.

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which were later determined to contain the remains of at least 400 U.S. servicemen who died during the war. First Lieutenant Falk’s remains were included in this turnover.

To identify Falk’s remains, scientists from DPAA and the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and Y-chromosome DNA (Y-STR) analysis, dental and anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial and material evidence.

DPAA remains fully prepared to resume recovery operations in the Democratic Republic of Korea, and looks forward to the continued fulfillment of the commitment made by President Trump and Chairman Kim on the return and recovery of U.S. service members in North Korea.

Today, 7,686 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously returned by North Korean officials or recovered from North Korea by American recovery teams. Falk’s name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with the others who are missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

For information on funeral services, contact the Army Service Casualty office at (800) 892-2490.

For additional information on the Defense Department’s mission to account for missing Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil or call (703) 699-1420/1169.
Imagine, you’re 18 years old and a proud American. World War II has been over for five years and you are not sure what you want to do for the rest of your life, so you take a chance, sign up for Active Army Duty to see the world and make up your mind. First stop . . . Japan! Wow, what an experience!

Days later, you learn that North Korea has invaded South Korea and your upcoming assignment is in Pusan to push back the North Koreans. Fresh off the boat, you immediately hit the battlefields and wind up in Hadong where bodies are dropping everywhere. Your commander tells you to surrender and you drop your weapon. It is July 27, 1950.

Almost immediately, your government lists you as MIA, “Missing in Action” . . . along with 46 others who were also known to be captured, yet labeled MIA. But, you assume that your country knows you are a POW and will be coming to get you very soon. Your captors line you up and start marching you North. The line is as far North as you can see. Fear rushes in.

Months later you are finally in Pyongyang. American Forces were approaching. Three of you are bound together at the East Gate Ferry site along the Taedong River in Pyongyang. The guards beat you up and toss you into the river. You all drown.

Days later, your Comrades recovered your 3 remains and buried them on the west side of the courtyard of the Provincial Government Building. On October 24, 1950, George Gibbs disinterred the bodies and found your ration card in the jacket pocket of one of the remains. The remains were moved to the Military Cemetery in Pyongyang and buried on plot A, Row 1, Grave 9. A report was filed that you died as a POW but your family was never told and you remained just “Missing in Action.”

According to enemy documents that our government claims . . . to this day . . . to be confidential, your name appeared in those documents during the war. Prior to your death, you were photographed by the enemy and you were identified by the “Office of Special Investigation” from those photos as an obvious POW, but your family was never told and you remained “Missing in Action.”

After the war, remains were shipped from North Korea to South Korea and N-17030 was among them. It appears to be the same remains that had your ration card in the shirt pocket. But as of 1955, your remains were reburied as an unknown in the National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii, grave number 333 and you remained “Missing in Action”.

With a budget of $140 million a year, DPAA has been sitting on this compelling information while their laboratory was just 9 miles from your remains . . . for the last 63 years.

In reality, James Elbert Beller, we hope that our government will soon open your file; give your case the attention it so deserves; disinter these remains; identify you; return you to your family . . . and no longer refer to you as just “Missing in Action”!!!
William R. Charette
Hospital Corpsman Third Class, U.S. Navy Medical Corpsman serving with a US Marine Rifle Company

Circumstances of MOH Citation:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against enemy aggressor forces during the early morning hours. Participating in a fierce encounter with a cleverly concealed and well-entrenched enemy force occupying positions on a vital and bitterly contested outpost far in advance of the main line of resistance, HC3c.

Charette repeatedly and unhesitatingly moved about through a murderous barrage of hostile small-arms and mortar fire to render assistance to his wounded comrades. When an enemy grenade landed within a few feet of a marine he was attending, he immediately threw himself upon the stricken man and absorbed the entire concussion of the deadly missile with his body. Although sustaining painful facial wounds, and undergoing shock from the intensity of the blast which ripped the helmet and medical aid kit from his person, HC3c. Charette resourcefully improvised emergency bandages by tearing off part of his clothing, and gallantly continued to administer medical aid to the wounded in his own unit and to those in adjacent platoon areas as well. Observing a seriously wounded comrade whose armored vest had been torn from his body by the blast from an exploding shell, he selflessly removed his own battle vest and placed it upon the helpless man although fully aware of the added jeopardy to himself. Moving to the side of another casualty who was suffering excruciating pain from a serious leg wound, HC3c. Charette stood upright in the trench line and exposed himself to a deadly hail of enemy fire in order to lend more effective aid to the victim and to alleviate his anguish while being removed to a position of safety.

By his indomitable courage and inspiring efforts in behalf of his wounded comrades, HC3c. Charette was directly responsible for saving many lives. His great personal valor reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.
SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICES

Service Casualty Offices serve family members. Each Military Department maintains a service casualty office. The Department of State does the same for civilians. The officials in these offices serve as the primary liaisons for families concerning personnel recovery and accounting. Full-time civilians who have worked this issue for many years and are experienced and knowledgeable help answer family member questions. Military officials also assist to help explain the methods used to account for families' missing loved ones.

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