

THE WARRIORS MEDAL OF VALOR OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN NATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

The Warriors Medal of Valor from the Native American Nations was created and crafted by a Native American Chief who served in Vietnam. The medal may be awarded to any deserving Vietnam Veteran and is not limited to Native Americans. Our ability and opportunity to award the Warriors Medal of Valor has been approved by a local Tribal Council and made possible by Life Member #127 Alvin Matthews, who was the first Chairman of the VSPA Committee for the selection and presentation of the Warriors Medal of Valor. MSgt. Matthews was the first VSPA member to receive the Warriors Medal of Valor for his service in Vietnam. He received his medal from a tribal Chief while attending a Cherokee Powwow in 2005. He subsequently worked to make it possible for the VSPA to present the medal. Alvin and his daughter, Janet Matthews, made all of the arrangements to present the Warriors Medal of Valor at our reunions in 2006 and 2007. They personally financed the awards for our members. The presentation is a very moving experience and an honor for all recipients. MSgt. Matthews passed away in 2008. Members of the VSPA contributed funds in his name to ensure that the Warriors Medal would continue to be funded and awarded to deserving members of the VSPA. His daughter Janet continues to honor her father as the Co-Chair of the VSPA Committee for the selection and presentation of the Warriors Medal of Valor.

2026

2025

**PATSY PEROTTO
LARRY BREAZEALE
JERRY HAUPT
J. O. MILLER
JOHNNY ZOLONDZ (POSTHUMOUS)
WILLIE SQUIRES**

2024

**JAIME LLERAS
SAMUEL "MARTY" MARTINEZ
MARK D. BUCKBERRY
LONNIE D. BEESON
KEN SMERECKI
JOHN W. PROBST**

2023

**RICHARD A. GANO
ROBERT M. WEDDING
CHARLES W. BLOOD
SAMUEL J. WILLIAMS JR.
ELIA "LEE" CHAMBERS
FRANK M. CROWDER, JR.**

2022

**WENDELL WALLACE
ROBERT CURNICK
FRANK YBARBO
DONALD BISHOP
KEITH YOUNG
GENERAL RONALD FOGLEMAN**

2021/2020 COMBINED DUE TO COVID-19 CANCELLATION OF THE 2020 REUNION

**LARRY DEE FLEMING
JEFFREY L. KERKHOFF
JAMES J. STASTNY
MICHAEL K. REGAN
PAUL SHAVE
BILL HARRIS
JIM LEBOWITZ
MICHAEL KENNEDY
MARTIN STRONES
ROBERT DEKE DECUBELLIS**

2020

**RAY POSS, UNITED STATES NAVY VETERAN OF THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS ON
THE USS HORNET– INSTRUCTOR PILOT FOR MILITARY PILOTS.**

**JERRY POSS, VSPA ASSOCIATE MEMBER, U.S. ARMY VIETNAM VETERAN WITH
AGENT ORANGE COMPLICATIONS**

2019

**MIKE BUFFINGTON
JON HEMP
LARRY POSS
ERIC JOHNSON
RAYMOND E. “RAY” SILHAVY**

2018

**BRIGADIER GENERAL (RETIRED) RICHARD A. COLEMAN
ALLEN K. WORKMAN (Posthumous)
HOWARD YATES
BRIAN LAMASNEY, MASTER SGT. (RETIRED)
RICHARD PARSONS, CMSGT, 820TH BASE DEFENSE GROUP**

2017

**ARTHUR J. RODGERS, JR.
COL. (RET) BERNIE DENISIO - FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION
COL MEL GROVER - FOR VALOR IN ACTION
JAMES T. (TERRY) STRICKLAND (Posthumous)
WILLIAM SOLESKI
JON HAYES
LYLE BRAKOB**

2016

**STEPHEN L. CURRY
TONY MORRIS
STEVE HALL
TERRY HALL
BILL MARSHALL**

2015

**JOHN PAUL COAKLEY
JOHN WEBSTER
DON GRAHAM
JERRY A. DISHMAN
RICHARD BALL**

2014

**BUD OWENS
DAVE PIERSON
RICHARD GARCIA
VAN DIGBY
ROBERT THRONEBURG**

2013

**BEN BARTO (Posthumous)
LEW GOLDBERG
PATRICK DUNNE
STEVE SHELT
HECTOR RAMOS**

2012

**MASTER CHIEF JAMES WINDHAM
MAJOR CHRISTOPHER "KIT" JOHNSON
EDWIN JACK SMITH**

**ALEXANDER LIVERANO
PHIL CARROLL**

2011

**DAVID SUMMERFIELD (Posthumous)
JOHN HOMA
KEN NEAL
ERNIE CHILDERS
KELLY BATEMAN**

2010

**THOMAS TESSIER
RAY RASH
RANDY “RAMPS” STUTLER
GARY JONES
JERRY NELSON**

2009

**WILLIAM “PETE” PIAZZA
JAMES RANDALL
AL HANDY**

2008

**ROBERT FRINK
WILLIAM CUMMINGS
THOMAS TESSIER (see 2010 above for presentation)
LUTHER YOUNG
RICHARD HOLSTEIN**

2007

**GREGORY CAIN
MILLARD LEHMAN (Posthumous)
JACK ROBERTS
JOHN RISSE
PETE VILLARREAL**

2006

**KENT MILLER
JACKIE KAYS
DON POSS
STEVE GATTIS**

2005

**ALVIN MATTHEWS, OUR FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE WARRIOR'S MEDAL OF
VALOR**