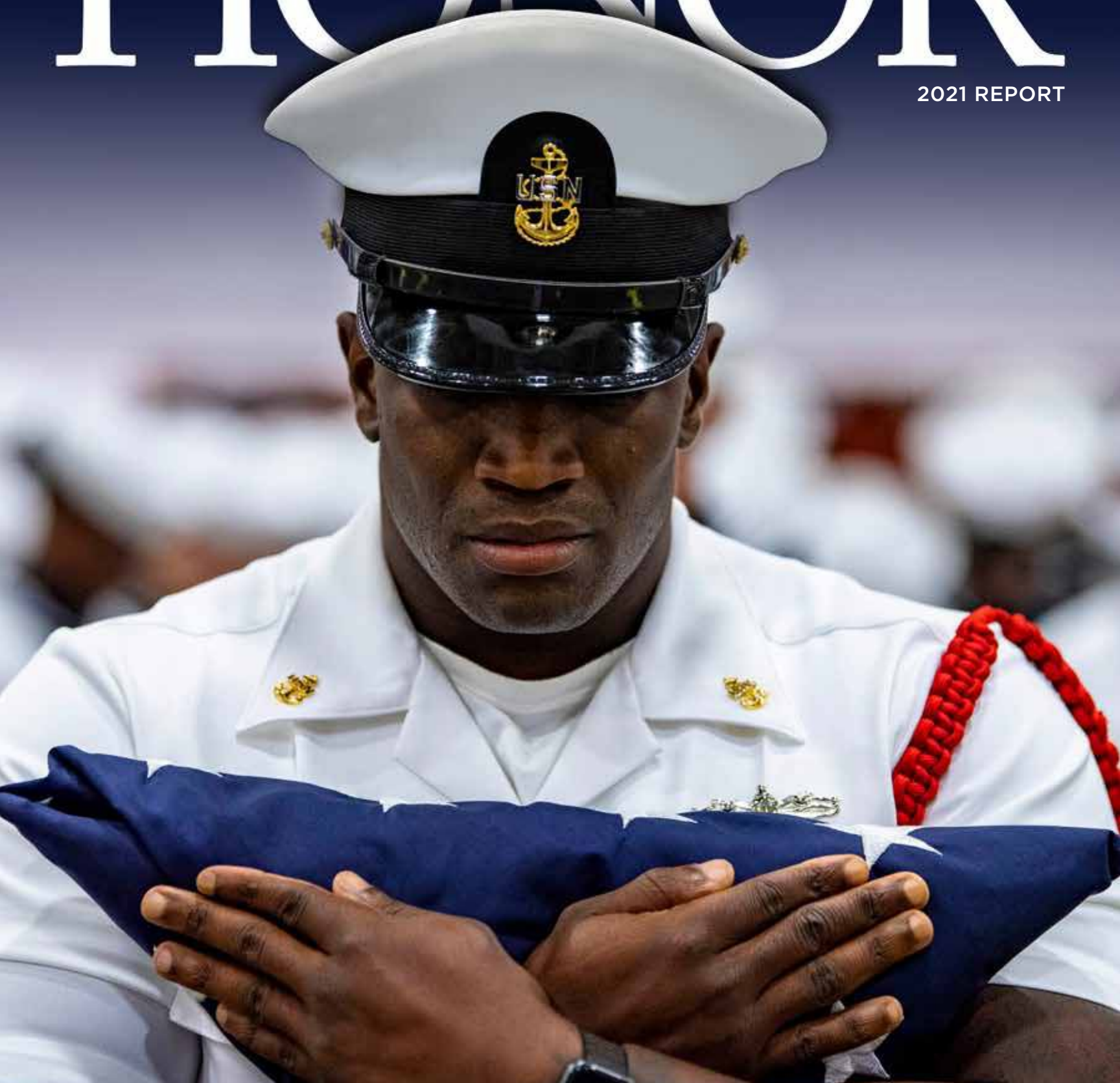


F O L D S ★ O F ★ H O N O R ★ M A G A Z I N E

# HONOR

2021 REPORT



## ★ INSIDE THIS ISSUE ★


THE NOBLE PURPOSE OF AMERICAN DUNES ★ FOLDS' RECIPIENTS SHINE  
PATRIOT GOLF DAYS RENEWS ITS MISSION ★ BOOK EXCERPT: 'FLY INTO THE WIND'

# HONOR THEIR SACRIFICE. EDUCATE THEIR LEGACY.

Our gratitude must go beyond words. Grateful Americans across the country are standing together in inspiring unity to fund educations for the spouses and children of our nation's heroes. Together, we'll ensure their loved ones have the educational opportunities they deserve.

Since our humble beginnings in 2007, we have awarded nearly 35,000 scholarships totaling more than \$160 million in support. With your help, we can continue showing our military families they are not forgotten and strengthen the bridge to equality for all Americans.

THIS IS YOUR CALL TO DUTY.

A photograph of Army Captain William E. Lyles and his son, William. Captain Lyles is seated in a wheelchair on a grassy field, wearing a striped long-sleeved shirt and prosthetic legs. He is smiling and holding his young son, William, who is wearing a baseball cap and a jacket with an American flag design. The background shows a line of trees under a cloudy sky.

Army Captain William E. Lyles and his  
Folds of Honor recipient son, William

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FOLDS *of* HONOR

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# STEWARDSHIP

Folds of Honor pledges to operate in a respectful manner to every partner, donor and family that it supports. The organization is proud to be considered a high-performing nonprofit that has achieved the highest-possible ratings by GuideStar and Charity Navigator.

The Charities Review Council recommends that at least 65 percent of a nonprofit's three-year average annual expenses are used to directly support programming, with an ideal range between 70 percent and 90 percent. Folds of Honor is proud to report a cumulative average ratio of 91 percent of annual expenses supporting our scholarship program.

This average can be derived from pages one and 10 of the Folds of Honor IRS Form 990. Financials were prepared by an independent accountant and reviewed by an audit committee.

In 2021, Folds of Honor awarded approximately \$30 million in educational scholarships to more than 6,000 students. Scholarships are valued at \$5,000 and are awarded to qualifying spouses and children of fallen or disabled U.S. service members. Since its inception in 2007, Folds of Honor has awarded nearly 35,000 total scholarships in all 50 states.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Folds of Honor Foundation as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for those years ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Tulsa, Oklahoma | June 28, 2020 *Eden Bailey LLP*



To reach four stars on Charity Navigator, Folds of Honor exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities. Charity Navigator's rating is based on two distinct components – financial health and accountability/transparency. Charities must excel above industry standards in both areas of evaluation in order to achieve Four-Star status.



To reach the Platinum level on GuideStar, Folds of Honor added extensive information to its nonprofit profile on GuideStar: basic contact and organizational information, in depth financial information, qualitative information about goals, strategies and capabilities, and quantitative information about results and progress toward its mission.



# 35,000

Since 2007, Folds of Honor has awarded nearly 35,000 educational scholarships.

# \$160M

Those 35,000 educational scholarships total more than \$160 million in educational impact.

# 41%

Minority recipients represent 41 percent of all scholarships awarded.

# 91%

Folds of Honor is proud to have a cumulative average ratio of 91 percent of every dollar raised going to our scholarship program.

Folds of Honor recipient  
Victoria Paige attends the  
University of Oklahoma











Folds of Honor recipient Alexis Lyles,  
Oklahoma State University





The family of Marine Corps Maj. Shawn Campbell, who was killed in a helicopter training mission, 2016









Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500, Atlanta









## FROM OUR FOUNDER & CEO

**I**would like to welcome our scholarship recipients and their families, supporters and friends to *Honor*, the magazine for The Folds of Honor.

Presently, we have provided more than 35,000 academic scholarships totaling about \$160 million to deserving and qualified spouses and children of military members who have fallen or been disabled while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Among the students served, 41 percent are minorities. Our educational scholarships support private-school tuition or tutoring in grades K-12, as well as post-secondary tuition (two- or four-year college/university, technical or trade school).

This year on May 2, we opened American Dunes Golf Club in Grand Haven, Mich. American Dunes commemorates the birthplace of Folds of Honor and is the culmination of the work and dreams of so many people. This represents Barbara and Jack Nicklaus believing in our objective and partnering with Folds of Honor, the individuals who stepped up and made financial commitments as well as all of those who understand the importance of what we're doing. Our mission is to provide golf's most patriotic experience, give back to our military families, and inspire our guests to join the Folds of Honor Squadron.

In March, we held our seventh Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 — all with fans in the stands. Over Memorial Day weekend, Folds of Honor conducted our 15th Patriot Golf Days in partnership with the PGA of America. We plan to grow that event even more in the years to come.

In 2020, we were blessed to add several new, dedicated and patriotic sponsors and continued our relationships with old friends. We welcomed new chapters across the country, reaffirming our commitment to keep money raised locally at home. The work and dedication of our nationwide chapters play an integral and significant role in achieving our mission. We are grateful to the staff and volunteers that accomplish so much. We expect to add additional affiliates in the future. My book, "Fly Into The Wind," was published and I remain overwhelmed by the positive response to its life-changing message.

In 2020, we also transitioned to Squadron, a \$13-a-month donation. We are proud to see that the 2020-2021 year set a record for the number of scholarship applications. Even during the darkest days of COVID-19, our mission never waned, and we were rewarded with unparalleled support.

I hope you enjoy *Honor*, and I encourage you to visit our website at [foldsofhonor.org](http://foldsofhonor.org) and follow us on our social channels. You can also follow me on [danrooney.com](http://danrooney.com).

With your help, and the Lord's blessings, the future of Folds of Honor has never been brighter.

Godspeed,

Lt. Col. Dan Rooney  
Founder & CEO, Folds of Honor









## Folds' newest Owasso headquarters will help build a stronger future for military spouses and children

OWASSO, Okla. — Folds of Honor won't move into its new headquarters until 2022, but the organization took an opportunity to celebrate a milestone in its construction.

On June 16, officials from Folds joined with project builders to host a traditional "topping-out" ceremony, marking the installation of the final beam to the building's steel structure.

The facility — three stories and about 30,000 square feet — is being constructed through the generosity of Associated Builders and Contractors of Oklahoma and their contractors, subcontractors and others who have donated their time and labor.

"We're all serving in different ways, and the noble mission that sits here behind me is nothing short of humbling," said Air Force Reserve Lt. Col. Dan Rooney, founder of the Folds of Honor, standing in front of the facility.

"I'm not going to come up with the right words to say, *Thank you*," Rooney said. "But what I can promise you on behalf of Folds of Honor is this building is going to put us in a fight that we will not stop until we take care of every family."

Folds of Honor provides educational scholarships to spouses and children of fallen and disabled military veterans. This fall, it will disperse about \$30 million in scholarship funds.

The building, expected to open in the spring, is located at The Patriot Golf Club near Folds' original headquarters in Owasso. That original facility also was built by ABC. But in the decade since, the organization has grown to 30



**Lt. Col. Dan Rooney and his wife, Jacqy, affix their names to a steel beam that will become part of the new Folds of Honor headquarters on the drive into The Patriot Golf Club in Owasso, Okla.**

**"... This building is going to put us in a fight that we will not stop until we take care of every family."**

**Lt. Col. Dan Rooney,**  
Founder & CEO

staff members and has been forced to rent office space.

"Absolutely no scholarship funds were used to build this new home, due to some of the greatest patriots that I've ever encountered," Rooney said.

John Smaligo, president and CEO of ABC, a group that represents merit-shop construction and construction-related firms, thanked ABC's board of directors.

"The group of leaders that we had 12 years ago stepped forward at a time when Folds of Honor was brand new," Smaligo said. "When it came time more recently to expand and build the magnificent facility you see behind us, that group stepped forward once again and said, *Absolutely. We want to take this on.*"

"Without them, I don't know where this project would be right now."

As part of the ceremony, the final beam was raised into place with an evergreen tree and an American flag attached. The tree

symbolizes a safe and successful construction, and offers good wishes for the construction workers and all who will occupy the building.

Folds of Honor offers two kinds of scholarship programs: one for students in grades K-12 and the other for those pursuing post-secondary education. By this fall, nearly 35,000 scholarships will have been awarded to students in all 50

states, at a cost of about \$160 million.

Rooney said: "This fall, we'll send about 6,300 families to school. That's \$30 million out the door. But we'll also have thousands of unfunded qualified requests."

"This building is a force multiplier that's going to help us chip away at that each and every day."



**John Smaligo**





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## Folds launches its first virtual chapter

No2go.org recently launched as the first virtual chapter for Folds of Honor.

The website, founded by Ginger Bell, who co-produced the 2020 documentary "Films for Good" and featured the Folds of Honor, launched at the EPM Broker Success Summit event in Atlanta. EPM, an Atlanta-based mortgage broker, kicked off the launch with a donation of \$40,000 to Folds of Honor.

The chapter is the first of its kind for Folds of Honor. Through the "Films for Good" documentary, Bell learned about the impactful stories of families that have been affected by having a loved one injured or killed while serving in the military. This inspired her to start a

virtual chapter for Folds of Honor dedicated specifically to the housing industry. Last year, Folds of Honor was able to provide educational scholarships to more than 4,500 family members of wounded and fallen troops. However, in that same year, the foundation had to decline more than 3,000 applicants.

"Our goal is to turn the 3,000 'No's' that Folds of Honor was not able to fulfill into 'Go's' and provide additional funding and awareness to this incredible organization," Bell said. "That's why our motto is



'No2Go' and why we started the foundation, No2Go Foundation, dedicated to raising funds and awareness for the Folds of Honor educational scholarship program." EPM is the first organization to join the No2Go Foundation as a founding lender.

"I had the honor of watching the Folds of Honor documentary and am inspired by Folds' mission and commitment to the families of our heroes," EPM CEO Eddy Perez said. "EPM is a people company that values education, and I am excited for the company to participate in a program that allows individuals to

continue to learn, grow and succeed. It just makes sense to give back to our veteran families, especially those who have given the ultimate sacrifice."

Nick Nichols, a retired Air Force colonel and the Folds of Honor's executive vice president of operations and relationships, said: "We are beyond excited to partner with No2Go and are so thankful for their incredible life-changing support. Together we can ensure that no military family is left behind on the field of battle. The gift of education provides generational change and is a lasting bridge to equality, especially for the 41 percent of our recipients who are diverse. We salute you!"

## Newest chapter addition: Welcome, South Dakota!

The Folds of Honor has added its first chapter in South Dakota.

The South Dakota chapter, based in Sioux Falls, has been gaining recognition and donations. Locally, it has garnered support from surrounding organizations, such as the Hy-Vee/Sanford Legends for Kids, which has donated \$60,000.

"The South Dakota chapter officially launched in September, and it's an honor for us to have the Hy-Vee/Sanford Legends event as one of our largest fundraisers," said Brad Coleman, South Dakota's chapter president and a member of the Folds of Honor's board of directors.

Coleman hopes that the Folds of Honor's South Dakota chapter will continue to grow and be recognized.

"South Dakota can look to our Minnesota neighbor, as the state has a great Folds of Honor chapter," he said. "Minnesota has raised over \$2 million since its inception. The South Dakota chapter has goals to do the same. During the last five years, five scholarships have gone to families of fallen South Dakota servicemen. Recipients receive up to \$5,000 a year based on need.

"Folds of Honor South Dakota is excited to help all of its local military families in need. Education levels the playing field, and with education you can do anything you can dream."

**Folds of Honor South Dakota is excited to help all of its local military families in need. Education levels the playing field, and with education you can do anything you can dream."**

**Brad Coleman,**  
President, South Dakota chapter

To view a map of our chapters,  
please turn to pages 68-69.



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DISCLAIMER: \*CASE = 24 PACK CASE EQUIVALENT. DONATION DEFINED AS \$1 FROM EACH BUDWEISER COMMEMORATIVE LIMITED EDITION MILITARY PACK (12 OZ. CANS) CASE EQUIVALENT SOLD FROM 10/1/21 - 11/15/21, UP TO \$25,000.



## NCAA honors Rooney with Silver Anniversary Award

Lt. Col. Dan Rooney, the founder of Folds of Honor and a former college golfer at the University of Kansas, received the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award earlier this year.

The award annually recognizes distinguished individuals on the 25th anniversary of the conclusion of their collegiate careers. The honorees were selected by the NCAA Honors Committee, composed of representatives of NCAA member schools, conferences and distinguished citizens, including past awardees. Rooney was one of seven award recipients this year.

"We are so proud of former Kansas student-athlete Lieutenant Colonel Dan Rooney for being honored with the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award," said Jeff Long, former athletic director at Kansas. "Through Folds of Honor, he has changed the lives of so many servicemen and -women who have endured tragic circumstances. Lieutenant Colonel Rooney's philanthropy and service is a shining example of how former student-athletes can and do make our world a better place. Congratulations, Lieutenant Colonel Rooney. You inspire us all."

Rooney was recognized during a virtual awards show on Jan. 13.

The other 2021 recipients were Shareef Abdur-Rahim (California); Adam J. Burgasser (University of California, San Diego); Michelle M. Marciniak (Tennessee); Fernando Palomo (Texas A&M); Amy E. Reinhard (Harvard); and Michelle Cusimano Vachris (Virginia).



**By this fall, Folds of Honor will have provided nearly 35,000 scholarships totaling \$160 million to families.**

Rooney, a letter winner at Kansas in 1995 and 1996, had an accomplished on-course career. He won the 1995 Kansas Invitational and took sixth place at the 1996 NCAA Central Regional. He helped

the Jayhawks finish second at the Big Eight Championships in 1995 and finish fifth at the 1996 NCAA Division I Men's Golf Championships.

He played professionally briefly after college, while also enrolling in flight school. He eventually served his country on three combat tours to Iraq. During his time serving, Rooney founded Folds of Honor.

By this fall, Folds of Honor will have provided nearly 35,000 scholarships totaling \$160 million to families. Rooney's organization handed out its first Folds of Honor scholarship in 2007. He serves as the founder and chief executive officer.

For his efforts starting such an impactful organization, Rooney has won the PGA of America's Patriot Award, and he also was named a "Person of the Year" in 2008 by "ABC World News Tonight." Rooney was awarded Fox Nation's Ultimate Patriot

Award in 2019.

Rooney is a two-time recipient of the Top Gun award and a recipient of the Spirit of Attack Award as a top graduate of F-16 training. The White House presented Rooney with the President's Volunteer Service Award. The Air National Guard awarded him its Distinguished Service Medal and Directors Service Award.

The Air Force bestowed Rooney with the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Medal, Anti-Terrorism Medal, Combat Readiness Medal and Air Expeditionary Medal. He also received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

"I'm thankful for the incredible impact the University of Kansas and the KU golf team has had on my life," Rooney told *Tulsa World*. "I am very blessed to be able to pay forward the gift of an education."



# PATRIOTISM WITH A PURPOSE



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**FOLDS of HONOR**

Volition America stands proudly with Folds of Honor by donating a percentage of proceeds to empower the families of our nation's fallen heroes through educational scholarships. With this direct contribution, Volition America helps ensure no family is left behind.



## University of Memphis accepts Folds of Honor scholarship as payment in full for higher-education tuition

The University of Memphis will accept the Folds of Honor scholarship, a \$5,000 annual award, as payment in full for tuition, the Tennessee school announced. The Folds of Honor scholarship supports higher education for spouses and children of America's fallen and disabled service members. Memphis is the first university to partner with Folds of Honor.

The announcement reaffirms the UofM's commitment to educational scholarships for the families of military members who have been killed or severely disabled in action.

"Freedom is not free," said Lt. Col. Dan Rooney, the founder of Folds of Honor. Rooney was inspired to act on behalf of military families when, after his second tour of duty, he was on a commercial flight to Grand Rapids, Mich., carrying the remains of Army Cpl. Brock Bucklin, who was

killed in Iraq. Brock's twin brother, Brad, was on that flight, bringing his brother home one final time. Looking out his window, Rooney saw Bucklin's family, which included Bucklin's 4-year-old son, Jacob, waiting outside on the tarmac.

"I witnessed the other side of war that day," Rooney said. "In the U.S., there are 1.5 million dependents of service members who have been killed or disabled. Nine out of 10 of those don't get educational assistance. We want to make sure we don't leave their families behind on the field of honor."

M. David Rudd, the University of Memphis' president, said of the initiative: "I couldn't be prouder of our community. My hope is that universities across the country will step forward and do the very same thing."

Twenty-seven Memphis

students have benefited from the Folds of Honor Scholarship, and six more recently were awarded the scholarship. By this fall, the Folds of Honor Foundation will have awarded nearly 35,000 scholarships representing \$160 million in educational benefits.

To make these educational opportunities possible, the university needs the help of donors to cover the \$5,000 cost difference between the scholarship award and tuition. Each gift can go a long way toward helping students whose families have made tremendous sacrifices for our country to pursue their dreams of obtaining a college degree.

Donations to the University of Memphis' Folds of Honor project scholarship fund can be made at the UM Foundation website at [www.memphis.edu/development](http://www.memphis.edu/development).

**“My hope is that universities across the country will step forward and do the very same thing.”**

**M. David Rudd,**  
UofM president







Left to right: Charlotte Mayor Vi Alexander Lyles, Brianna Williams, Jayden Williams, Clemson Williams and Jose Armario, Bojangles CEO

## Bojangles' Big Bo Box thanks our heroes during Military Appreciation Month

In honor of National Military Appreciation Month in May, the restaurant chain Bojangles introduced a camo-themed Big Bo Box in partnership with Folds of Honor.

Throughout its 44-year history, Bojangles has demonstrated a commitment to the communities it serves through ongoing support to charitable, nonprofit and community organizations. In addition to the many community activities supported by local franchisees, the Charlotte, N.C.-based company focuses its efforts on two community-relations pillars: literacy and military appreciation.

"One of our pillars at Bojangles is a commitment to give back to our military community, and we know this is very important to our fans as well, so we're thrilled to partner with Folds of Honor," said Ken Reynolds, Bojangles' director of corporate and community affairs. "This promotion gives everyone the opportunity to thank our heroes by enjoying delicious, family-style meals that help our military families."

With every camo-themed box sold, Bojangles committed to donate \$1 to Folds of Honor, up to \$750,000.

"These military families deserve and need our help," said Folds of Honor founder and CEO Lt. Col. Dan Rooney. "I'm grateful to our friends at Bojangles for this innovative idea and for their support and commitment. They understand the needs of these qualified students."

## Red Gold shows support at Indianapolis 500 practice

Red Gold, a tomato-processing company in Elwood, Ind., teamed with Folds of Honor and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 20 as drivers practiced for the 105th Indianapolis 500. Networking, fundraising and support events were held throughout May to enhance the Folds of Honor experience at Indy's "Practice Day" and further the organization's mission: Honor their sacrifice. Educate their legacy.

"We at Red Gold believe this is a perfect way to bring two great organizations together for an important cause, with the best fans at 'the greatest spectacle in racing,'" said Colt Reichart, Red Gold's director of marketing and a member of the company's fourth generation of family ownership. "The Folds of Honor Foundation is doing terrific work helping military families, and we ask that you stand with us in support."

Red Gold's "Ketchup with a Cause" campaign provided more than \$100,000 to the foundation in its first eight months.





## Patriot All-America event showcases college standouts

Featuring golf's stars of tomorrow, the Patriot All-America Invitational at Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park, Ariz., is regarded as one of the nation's top amateur events, attracting PING All-Americans from the three NCAA divisions, the NAIA and NJCAA, plus

from universities outside of the U.S.

To honor fallen or severely wounded troops during the event, the Patriot All-America and PING, the Phoenix-based equipment manufacturer, provide each competitor with a golf bag emblazoned with the name

and branch of service of a fallen or injured military member whom they were to represent. Participants also received a card with the military member's story so that they could be familiar with their representative. At the conclusion of the tournament, the golf bags are shipped to players' schools and auctioned, with all proceeds benefiting the Folds of Honor Foundation.

The Arizona Golf Association, Phoenix's JDM Partners and the Golf Coaches Association of America team with the Folds of Honor Foundation to host the Patriot All-America tournament each year at Wigwam Resort.



**2020 winner Graysen Huff**

The 2020 Patriot All-America presented by Valley Toyota Dealers was won by Auburn's Graysen Huff. This year's tournament, scheduled for Dec. 29-31, will add a female division.



**Lt. Col. Dan Rooney addresses players at the 2020 Patriot All-America.**

## Celebrating the life of our friend Roger Buford (1947-2021)



**Roger Buford**

We remember Roger Buford, our friend and Folds of Honor Kansas City chapter board member. Buford's invincible spirit continues to surround us, as we celebrate not only his life but also his legacy.

Buford, a proud Vietnam veteran of the Army's 1st Air Cavalry Brigade,

was instrumental in his involvement with Folds of Honor. He served on the board of the Kansas City chapter and helped foster a significant impact for future generations.

"Roger inspired others to make a difference and left an amazing legacy through his work," said Lt. Col. Dan Rooney, founder of the Folds of Honor. "He was a true blessing to others and had a rare gift to connect with people and make them feel good about themselves and life."

Since 2013, Buford championed fundraising events for Folds of Honor, including Patriot Day at Indian Hills Country Club and La Quinta Country Club in La Quinta, Calif., an event now known as Roger

**"Roger was a leader who never asked of anyone what he himself was not prepared to do."**

**Larry Pfeiffer,**  
President,  
Kansas City chapter

Buford Patriot Day. IHCC and the community at La Quinta, which includes many Kansas Citians, have raised more than \$2 million for the foundation, providing educational scholarships for spouses and children of America's fallen and disabled military service members.

"Roger was a leader who never asked of anyone what he himself was not prepared to do," said Larry Pfeiffer, president of the Folds' Kansas City chapter. "The Kansas City chapter of the Folds of Honor was blessed to have him as 'our champion' for these last eight years, and the educational legacy that he leaves with the young lives he changed will live on."



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# STUNNING SALUTE





# American Dunes, a Jack Nicklaus design along Lake Michigan, creates a distinct experience for golfers committed to a higher purpose

By Jeff Babineau

American Dunes' postcard-like par-4 seventh hole, with the par-3 12th off in the distance.







**T**he shingle on the clubhouse that sits not far off the sandy shores of Lake Michigan now reads American Dunes, and Lt. Col. Dan Rooney has many fond memories here. His father, John Rooney, a former geography professor at Oklahoma State University, purchased the course that sits in this summer retreat in 1998, when it was known as Grand Haven Golf Club.

The family jokingly called the old clubhouse “The Laundromat.” The course was tree-lined and tight. Bumper pool, some called it, but the original W. Bruce Matthews layout was good enough to crack *Golf Digest*’s esteemed list of top-100 courses in the 1990s. As of just a few years ago, though, Grand Haven was weary, its race run, like so many good venues of our past. The easiest and most lucrative exit plan was to carve up the land and sell it to a developer. Dan Rooney had one last Hail Mary of an idea. As founder and CEO of the Folds of Honor, he produces many. He wished to preserve what was the birthplace of his beloved Folds, and infuse it with higher purpose.

On the brink of desperation, Rooney scheduled an early 2018 meeting with Jack Nicklaus — yes, *that* Jack Nicklaus — at The Bear’s Club in Jupiter, Fla. The two had developed a relationship through the Folds, and Rooney, low on options, summoned the courage to ask his boyhood hero a transcendent question: *Sir, could*

*you help me out here?*

“I knew I wasn’t going to say no,” Nicklaus said. “He was going to give me a big three-hour schpiel, and I said, ‘You don’t need to do that. We just need to know what you want to do, and we’ll go do it.’ I was very honored that he asked me to be part of it.”

So, Nicklaus, nearing 80 at the time (he turns 82 in January), waived his \$3 million design fee and got to work. He and his crew took out more than 1,000 trees, leaving only those on the property’s perimeter, and unearthed the rugged dunesland that was waiting to be discovered. “When we got here,” Nicklaus said, as if relaying a secret, “we were blown away by how good a piece of property it was.”

American Dunes is its new name, and the golf course and surrounds were built with heartfelt meaning. Every penny of profit will benefit Folds of Honor families that have lost loved ones or had loved ones severely injured while in service to their country. It was at Grand Haven in 2007 that the very first Folds fundraiser was held, raising about \$8,700, the sum donated to offset the future college costs of young Jacob Bucklin (now Green), whose father, Army Cpl. Brock Bucklin, had been killed in Iraq.

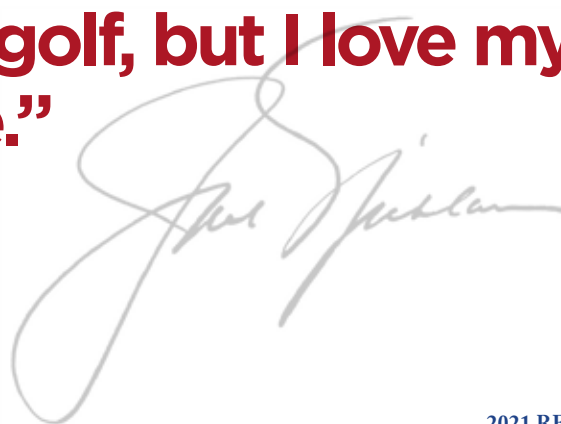
Rooney, a PGA professional and Air Force F-16 fighter pilot who already had flown two tours in Iraq, was on the commercial flight to Grand Haven in May 2006 that brought Bucklin’s body home to Michigan one last time. He cried

as he saw young Jacob, then 4, standing on a rainy tarmac with his family, waiting for the casket to be lowered from the cargo hold. Rooney had not seen this side of war. He knew this little boy would never fish with his dad, or throw a baseball with him. Passengers on the flight had been asked to stay seated while the casket was lowered; roughly half the passengers, with no connections to make, stood up and walked out. Angered, and saddened, Rooney vowed to do something — anything — to remove some of the Bucklins’ great pain.

Some 15 years later, the Folds of Honor — named for the 13 folds that get a flag to its triangular shape — has reached 35,000 scholarships. Roughly 6,350 more scholarships will be awarded this fall, pushing the mission’s fundraising total past \$160 million.

American Dunes offers a dramatic setting which any golfer would savor, but it represents much more than a round of golf. It is a complete patriotic experience. Golfers are asked to show up an hour before their tee times and do not reach the front door to the pro shop without walking through an elaborate walkway through 8-foot walls where the story of the Folds is told. There are plaques that honor military members and families who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. One walks through the bronze-plated boot imprints of the fallen. It is an emotional, goosebump-filled experience, the start to a fulfilling day’s journey.

**“I love the game of golf, but I love my country even more.”**





The course itself, which opened in May, has received excellent reviews. It's fun, and very playable, and still plenty challenging, especially from 7,213 yards when those chilly winds off Lake Michigan to the west roll in. Both nines ease a player in before the fireworks start to crackle. On the first nine, the walk to the par-3 fourth tee opens up a sprawling vista showing off pretty much the rest of the golf course. Equally stirring is the heart-pumping rush one gets after cresting the hill following a blind tee shot at the par-4 11th. Rooney likes to call that one of the course's "moments."

"It's a spiritual, emotional moment where you see six different holes from that point, all traversing through the dunes," Rooney said. "I think there are moments out here that take your breath away. The place plays with such an awesome cadence, from long to short, big greens to small greens. It's so memorable."

The compelling finishing holes at American Dunes capture the variety



### THE PATRIOT BEAR

Our logo is a proud presentation of who we are, what we stand for and where we are going. The Golden Bear is filled with the stars and stripes. Each hole at American Dunes will celebrate a Folds of Honor recipient and one of Mr. Nicklaus' 18 major championships.

A logo to be proud of  
for a place like no other.

that lies in the challenge. The par-4 16th hole – 502 yards from the Jet tees, and 449 from the Valor tees – is rated the toughest hole on the course, a longish brute with sandy dunes lining its right side. The 17th hole (384 yards from the Valor tees) has the flexibility to transition into an exciting, drivable par 4, this one protected by dunes along the left, and played to a challenging green complex. The 18th hole has a little bit of rewind to the old Grand Haven days, a tight par 5 with a risk/reward approach to a green guarded by water along the right. Across the pond, between the ninth and 10th fairways nearby, a massive flagpole stands watch, as Old Glory flies majestically each day, and is lowered each evening 30 minutes after sunset.

"I want people here to play, have fun, [and] say, I had a great day, but I also contributed to a great cause," Nicklaus said. "That's sort of what this golf course is. I think it's going to serve its purpose."

**The dramatic par-3 fourth (forefront) with the brawny par-4 fifth awaiting in the background.**







**Southeastern Grocers stands with Folds of Honor  
and is proud to have donated more than \$4.1 million  
to support our military heroes since 2018.**











The par-4 16th hole plays at 502 yards from the back (Jet) tees.





The par-5 sixth hole at American Dunes presents a stout challenge.

American Dunes has so many distinct touches and features beyond its educational and emotional entrance. Each hole features a plaque depicting one of Nicklaus' record 18 major victories along with a second plaque telling the story of a fallen hero whose family has been assisted through a Folds scholarship. Each day at 1300 hours (1 p.m.), a bell tolls 13 times, with everyone and everything stopping on the course to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy each day. Timewise, the 2½-minute window seems to be 10 times that. It's quite powerful.

Fighter pilots love speed, right? Each red, white or blue golf cart has padded custom seats, sporty mag wheels and built-in JBL speakers. Inside the clubhouse, in the military-themed CAVU Squadron Bar — CAVU is a pilot's term representing Ceiling and Visibility Unlimited, or a clear blue-sky day — ice-cold Budweiser flows through the shell of an actual A9 ballistic missile. Affixed over the bar area are two replica F-4 Phantom IIs that represent Pardo's Push, an historic aviation maneuver from the Vietnam War. A visitor to American Dunes will

not need reminding where he or she is, and of the grander purpose behind it all.

The Camp, a two-story, 16-room overnight facility complete with its own basement Bunker Bar, pool tables and giant-screen televisions, will open in 2022. There is plenty of quality golf to be played across the western coast of Michigan, but nothing will match the thought-provoking experience that American Dunes offers.

"We hope when you leave here, you're compelled to make a donation with your time or your talents to be a [Folds] Squadron member, and that you take this mission forward," Rooney said. "We have not completed our mission if they leave here and they don't know really why they came.

"This will take its place as a truly unique golf experience, where you shed a tear, have a lot of laughs ... but understand that less than 1 percent of this country has the uniform on today, and if called upon, they're willing to give their lives for the freedoms you just enjoyed out here playing a round of golf at American Dunes."

Dan Rooney and his parents

look around at the re-energized, repurposed American Dunes, and there are moments when they cannot believe the jolting makeover. The journey to this point never was easy, and often challenging financially. A mission, Rooney might say, flown into the wind. Many patriots made significant contributions to bring American Dunes to life. For Rooney, making this story all the more dream-like is that his boyhood hero, Jack Nicklaus, rode in to help make Rooney's ambitious vision a reality.

"I have learned this lesson: Everything has to kind of fall apart for Him to rebuild it. That can be emotionally exhausting," said Rooney, who unapologetically lists his priorities as God, country, family and golf. "It's a human story that we see written over and over. From the darkest of places come the brightest of lights."

Rooney's plan is that American Dunes can increase exposure for the Folds, and can help educate spouses and children of our military's fallen for generations. That is a tall ray of light that is shining ever so brightly. 🏌️









FOLDS of HONOR

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The families whom we serve are at the core of the Folds of Honor mission. Each scholarship recipient has a different story, and each story is a constant reminder that freedom isn't free. Folds of Honor is proud to give back to the families of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Here are just a few of their stories.

Sisters Kara Lyn and Meghan Kay Phipps, with their mother, Andrea, visit the Arlington National Cemetery gravesite of Lt. Cmdr. Michael Phipps, a Navy surgeon who died in 2004. Kara Lyn and Meghan Kay attended High Point University.









## ADDISON HOUSTON

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP



Addison Houston, a multiyear higher-education scholarship recipient, is studying industrial design at the University of Houston, with a minor in energy and sustainability. He wants to create renewable energy and seeks to cure many medical ailments. He has an entrepreneur's mind and an inventor's heart. Houston is highly disciplined and dedicated to his studies. His future goals include solving problems such as climate change, education disparities, and wealth inequalities. Addison is a self-described leader. He enjoys following the NFL's Washington Football Team and is dedicated to his faith.

Alex J. Houston III enlisted in the Army in 1992 and proudly served his country for more than 22 years, rising to the rank of major. After graduating from Wayland Baptist University with a bachelor's degree in 2003, he deployed to Iraq in 2004. During a mission on the tour of duty, he was critically wounded, losing his left arm from the elbow down. For his bravery in Iraq, Houston was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Purple Heart. Despite the challenges associated with his injury, Houston went on to earn a master's degree in 2014, also from Wayland Baptist. A loving father and husband, he enjoys being involved in the lives of his wife and six children.

**Addison's future goals include solving problems such as climate change, education disparities, and wealth inequalities.**





## NICOLE MAIDA

UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP



A fun and energetic person, Nicole Maida is pursuing a bachelor's degree in kinesiology at the University of Central Oklahoma. She values friendships and family greatly. Maida enjoys taking pictures, playing golf and doing various activities with her sorority sisters. Seeing both of her parents in uniform serving our nation has instilled a sense of patriotism and devotion to country. Her goal is to become a physical therapist and help others through their struggles. Maida said that receiving the Folds of Honor Scholarship has been a blessing and allows her to seek new opportunities to help strengthen our nation.

Both of her parents served, including her mother, Leah Maida, who retired from the Navy as a senior chief petty officer with more than 20 years of service. Maida initially worked

as a communication operator and later as a senior chief information systems technician, and her first assignment was Naval Communications Station Thurso, Scotland, where she worked in the message center. After her tour ended in Scotland, she volunteered for flight duty and became a naval aircrewman. Maida has earned personal awards that include the Navy Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal and numerous other awards. Said her daughter, Nicole: "She is the source of my inspiration. After retiring from the U.S. Navy, my mother worked as a contractor, supporting the Navy by writing curriculum and computer-based training courses. She is officially retired now and volunteers with Girl Scouts and volunteers at our church."

**Nicole wants to become a physical therapist and help others through their struggles.**





## COURTNEY LEE-MAGEE

BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE (MOBILE, ALA.)  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP



Courtney Lee-Magee is from Mississippi and attends Bishop State Community College in Mobile, Ala., where she is a sophomore, majoring in nursing. She strives to be a role model in her community and inspire the lives of others. Lee is working as a licensed practical nurse in geriatrics. When she completes her degree and becomes a registered nurse, Lee-Magee would like to work as a civilian nurse for the military, at a clinic or hospital on base. As a military widow, she would consider it to be an honor to become a caretaker for the heroic men and women who fight to defend our freedom.

On Oct. 26, 2005, Anthony Magee made the decision to fight for our

freedom by joining the Army. Magee rose to the rank of sergeant and served as a supply specialist assigned to Company A, 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Benning, Ga. While deployed in Iraq, Magee was wounded on April 24, 2010, at Contingency Operating Base Kalsu in Iskandariyah when enemy forces attacked his unit with indirect fire. He died three days later from his wounds at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Sergeant Magee was one of those people to whom others were attracted because of his contagious smile and attitude to live every day to the fullest.

**As a military widow, Courtney would consider it an honor to be a caretaker for the heroic men and women who fight to defend our freedom.**



## RECIPIENT FAMILY ESSAYS

# Words of gratitude and thanks from our recipient families

“ I can reach for a better future because the Folds of Honor is standing with me. This year, the Folds of Honor scholarship has made it possible for me to continue getting a 4.0 GPA in my junior year at Clarksville (Tenn.) Academy. I have also been selected for the West Point Academy Summer Leaders Experience program.

I am an Air Force Academy candidate, as well as a West Point candidate this year, and I attribute this success to the Folds of Honor scholarship program. Thank you to all the donors for believing in me (the daughter of a combat-disabled veteran), and for making my dream for a brighter future possible.”

Christina V. Webber,  
three-year FOH Children's Fund recipient, Clarksville, Tenn.

“ I endeavor to use my experiences as a military child, my studies in psychology and my future career to be a steadying force for troubled veterans — to positively impact those who valiantly fought for freedom. My sincere thanks to Folds of Honor for remembering the heavy costs paid by many military families in this great country of ours. Many thanks to everything that you do. I hope that one day I can have the same impact that Folds of Honor has had on so many lives.”



Christopher Cruz Jr., four-year FOH Higher Education scholarship recipient, 2021 Duke University graduate (with dual majors in psychology and theater studies), and son of Navy Cmdr. (retired) Christopher A. Cruz Sr.





## CIDNEY METTS

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY,  
BALTIMORE  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP



Cidney Metts, a multiyear Folds of Honor scholarship recipient, is a junior at Morgan State University in Baltimore. With her outgoing personality and desire to care for others, Metts is pursuing a path in social work. Losing her father as a young girl has affected her life tremendously, she said. “While I will never know how it would feel to have my father in my life as an adult, I know that he loved me and wanted the best for me, and that’s what I plan to do for myself.” Metts hopes to apply for the master’s program and specialize in

forensic social work.

James Metts, a private first class in the Army, served as a light-weapons infantryman. After basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, he was deployed in 1972 to Vietnam. Upon being honorably discharged and returning to the United States, Metts struggled. While studying to obtain a master’s degree in social work, Metts began helping others who were dealing with addiction. He died two months before his daughter’s sixth birthday. He was an honorable man, father, and husband who sought to improve the lives of others.

**With her outgoing personality and desire to care for others, Cidney is pursuing a path in social work.**





# WEATHERMAN PROUDLY SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

For the last four years, Weatherman has created a limited edition Folds of Honor Umbrella. For each one sold, we donate \$5 to the foundation.

To date, Weatherman has raised over \$225,000 for the foundation. We look forward to donating even more with your continued support of our latest design launching on July 4th, 2021.

To learn more and shop the current collection, visit us at [WeathermanUmbrella.com](https://WeathermanUmbrella.com).



2018



2019



2020



REVEALED  
JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

2021





## VICTOR ROSALES

HACIENDA HEIGHTS, CALIF.  
CHILDREN'S FUND  
SCHOLARSHIP



Victor Rosales, who was born in Germany, recently graduated from high school in Hacienda Heights, Calif. With interests in art and theater, Victor wants to pursue a career in the film industry. Learning challenges have not stopped Victor from striving to do his best in school. His favorite hobbies are hunting and running. "My family is very special because it's different than the average American family," Victor said. "I've got one hero father in heaven and a hero mother who is very strong. She works very hard to provide me what I need while teaching me values and love for our country. My mother has taught me to have an immense respect to our military and to understand the greater good. Since she is a veteran herself,

she tried to teach me things that my father would have, such as camping the military way." Army Staff Sgt. Victor Rosales and his wife, Army Sgt. Sandra Rosales, both served in Iraq while relatives cared for their infant son, Victor. Born in Mexico City, Staff Sgt. Rosales moved to California as a boy and performed Mexican dances at local events. He joined the Army in 1995 and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Vilseck, Germany. While deployed to Iraq, SSG Rosales was killed April 13, 2004, by an explosion near his escort vehicle. He was known as a tough infantryman with a twinkle in his eyes, and he was warm and professional with other soldiers.

**With interests in art and theater, Victor wants to pursue a career in the film industry.**





# The Most Heroic Round You'll Ever Play.

Making a difference in the lives of our nation's military heroes and families could not be easier or more fun. Simply play a round of golf, remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and donate.

**Memorial Day Weekend**

[PATRIOTGOLFDAYS.COM](http://PATRIOTGOLFDAYS.COM)



FOLDS of HONOR







## LAUREN PHONGPHACHONE

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP



**L**auren Phongphachone, of King of Prussia, Pa., studies media arts at Temple University in Philadelphia. She recently finished her third year as a coxswain on Temple's rowing team. The sport has taught her how to balance her academics, athletics and social life. She plans to travel abroad and, upon graduation, become an editor at a television station. Phongphachone enjoys a wide range of interests as a musician, playing the clarinet, oboe, guitar, piano and drums.

Alex Phongphachone joined the Army on the day after he graduated

from high school in 1990. He honorably served his country for more than 10 years, attaining the rank of sergeant. Phongphachone was deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and sustained injuries from an improvised explosive device in 2003. He lived with his parents and faced the struggles that come with being a full-time single father to two children while recovering from a traumatic brain injury. He has dedicated his life to supporting and caring for his family.

**Lauren plans to travel abroad and, upon graduation, become an editor at a television station.**





# WE SALUTE YOU



FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF FOLDS OF HONOR



# Honor Their Sacrifice. Educate Their Legacy.

We are proud to have Folds of Honor scholarship recipients pursuing their education at the following institutions:

Abilene Christian University  
Adelphi University  
Adrian College  
Agnes College  
Agnes Scott College  
Alabama A&M University  
Alaska Pacific University  
Albany State University  
Albright College  
Alcorn State University  
Alfred State College  
Allegheny College  
Alma College  
Amarillo College  
American Military University  
American Public University System  
American University  
Anderson University  
Angelo State University  
Anna Maria College  
Anne Arundel Community College  
Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
Appalachian State University  
Arizona State University  
Arizona State University-West Campus  
Arkansas State University  
Arkansas State University - Jonesboro  
Arkansas State University -Beebe  
Arkansas Tech University  
Arkansas Welding Academy Inc  
Art Institute Of Atlanta  
Asbury University  
Assumption College  
Atlantic University College  
Auburn University  
Auburn University At Montgomery  
Augusta University  
Augustana University  
Auguste Escoffier School Of Culinary Arts  
Austin Community College  
Austin Peay State University  
Aveda Institute  
Azusa Pacific University  
Baldwin Wallace University  
Ball State University  
Barton College

Baylor University  
Belhaven University  
Bellarmine University  
Belmont Abbey College  
Belmont University  
Bemidji State University  
Benedictine College  
Berklee College Of Music  
Bethany Global University  
Bethel University  
Birmingham Southern College  
Blinn College  
Bloomsburg University  
Bluefield State College  
Bob Jones University  
Boise State University  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Bowling Green State University  
Brevard College  
Bridgerland Technical College  
Bridgewater State University  
Brigham Young University  
Brigham Young University - Idaho  
Broward College  
Brown University  
Buena Vista University  
Buffalo State College  
Butler University  
Caldwell University  
Calhoun Community College  
California Baptist University  
California Institute Of Technology  
California Lutheran University  
California Maritime Academy  
California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo  
California State University Channel Islands  
California State University Chico  
California State University Fullerton  
California State University Northridge  
California State University Of San Marcos  
California State University Sacramento  
California State University Stanislaus  
California State University, Long Beach  
California University Of Pennsylvania  
Calvin University

Cameron University  
Campbell University  
Campbellsville University  
Canisius College  
Capella University  
Capital University  
Capitol Technology University  
Carleton College  
Carrington College  
Carroll University  
Carson Newman University  
Carteret Community College  
Carthage College  
Case Western Reserve University  
Casper College  
Catawba College  
Catholic University Of America  
Cedarville University  
Central Arizona College  
Central Methodist University  
Central Michigan University  
Central Texas College  
Chamberlain University  
Champlain College  
Chandler Gilbert Community College  
Charleston Southern University  
Chatham University  
Chattahoochee Valley Community College  
Chattahoochee Technical College  
Chestnut Hill College  
Christendom College  
Christopher Newport University  
Clarion University  
Clark Atlanta University  
Clarkson University  
Clayton State University  
Clemson University  
Cleveland State University  
Coastal Alabama Community College  
Coastal Carolina Community College  
Coastal Carolina University  
Cochise College  
Coconino Community College  
Coe College  
College Of Charleston  
College Of Coastal Georgia





Folds of Honor Recipients:  
Ryan Parisotto, Madison Parisotto, Tanner Huckaby, Christian Wong, and Lauren Wong

College Of Saint Mary	Earlham College	Florida National University
College Of Southern Nevada	East Carolina University	Florida Southern College
College Of The Albermarle	East Coast Polytechnic Institute	Florida State College At Jacksonville
College Of Western Idaho	East Georgia State College	Florida State University
College Of William & Mary	East Stroudsburg University	Fordham University
Colorado Christian University	East Tennessee State University	Fort Hays State University
Colorado Mesa University	Eastern Illinois University	Fort Lewis College
Colorado Northwestern Community College	Eastern Kentucky University	Fort Valley State University
Colorado School Of Mines	Eastern Michigan University	Franciscan Missionaries Of Our Lady University
Colorado State University	Eastern New Mexico University	Franciscan University Of Steubenville
Colorado State University - Pueblo	Eastern Oklahoma State College	Franklin And Marshall College
Colorado Technical University	Eastern Oregon University	Franklin University
Colorado University	Eastern Washington University	Freed Hardeman University
Columbia State Community College	Edinboro University	Frostburg State University
Columbia University	El Camino Community College	Full Sail University
Columbus State Community College	El Paso Community College	Furman University
Columbus State University	Elizabethtown Community And Technical College	Galen College Of Nursing
Concord University	Elon University	Gannon University
Concordia University Nebraska	Embry Riddle Aeronautical University - Daytona Beach	Gardner-Webb University
Concordia University Wisconsin	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Prescott	Geneva College
Connors State College	Emmanuel College	George Fox University
Corban University	Emory & Henry College	George Mason University
Cornell University	Emory University	Georgetown University
Cornerstone University	Eureka College	Georgia Gwinnett College
Cossatot Community College - University Of Arkansas	Evangel University	Georgia Institute Of Technology
Costal Carolina Community College	Evans Hairstyling College	Georgia Military College
Covenant College	Evergreen State College	Georgia Southern University
Cox College	Evergreen Valley College	Georgia Southwestern State University
Creighton University	Fairfield University	Georgia State University
Crown College	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Germanna Community College
Culver Stockton College	Fairmont State University	Glendale Community College
Cumberland University	Faith Baptist Bible College And Theological Seminary	Gonzaga University
Curry College	Fashion Institute Of Technology	Governors State University
Cybertex Institute Of Technology	Faulkner University	Grace College And Theological Seminary
Dallas Baptist University	Fayetteville State University	Grand Canyon University
Dartmouth College	Fayetteville Technical Community College	Grand Valley State University
Davidson College	Ferris State University	Grantham University
Daytona State College	Fisk University	Great Basin College
DePaul University	Flagler College	Grossmont College
DeSales University	Flint Hills Technical College	Grove City College
Dillard University	Florida A&M University	Gulf Coast State College
District Of Columbia	Florida Atlantic University	Gustavus Adolphus College
Doane University	Florida Barber Academy	Hagerstown Community College
Dona Ana Community College	Florida Gulf Coast University	Hallmark University
Drury University	Florida Institute Of Technology	Hampton University
Duke University	Florida International University	Hardin Simmons University



Harding University  
Harford Community College  
Hastings College  
Hawaii Pacific University  
Healing Hands School Of Holistic Health  
Heartland Baptist Bible College  
Henderson State University  
Hendrix College  
Herkimer Community College  
Herzing University  
High Point University  
Hillsborough Community College  
Hillsdale College  
Hofstra University  
Hollins University  
Holy Cross College  
Holy Names University  
Honolulu Community College  
Hope College  
Hopkinsville Community College  
Howard University  
Huntingdon College  
Huston-Tillotson University  
Icn Business School  
Illinois State University  
Independence University  
Indian River State College  
Indiana Institute Of Technology  
Indiana State University  
Indiana University  
Indiana University - Kokomo  
Indiana University - South Bend  
Indiana University Of Pennsylvania  
Indiana University  
Purdue University Indianapolis  
Indiana Wesleyan University  
Inver Hills Community College  
Iowa State University  
Ithaca College  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Jackson State University  
Jacksonville State University  
Jacksonville University  
James Madison University  
John Brown University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Johnson And Wales University  
Johnson C. Smith University  
Johnson County Community College  
Johnson University  
Kansas City Kansas Community College  
Kansas State University  
Keiser University  
Kennesaw State University  
Kent State University  
Kent State University - Ashtabula  
Kentucky State University  
Keuka College  
Keystone College  
Kilgore College  
Kings College

Kutztown University Of Pennsylvania  
Lafayette College  
Lake Area Tech  
Lake Erie College  
Lake Forest College  
Lake Sumter State College  
Lake Superior State University  
Langston University  
Lansing Community College  
Laramie County Community College  
Las Positas College  
Le Moyne College  
Lee University  
Lenoir Community College  
Lenoir Rhyne University  
Letourneau University  
Liberty University  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Lincoln Memorial University  
Lindenwood University  
Linfield College  
Lipscomb University  
Lock Haven University  
Lone Star College  
Longwood University  
Louisiana State University  
Louisiana State University At Eunice  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University At Chicago  
Loyola University Chicago  
Luther College  
Madonna University  
Magdalen College Of The Liberal Arts  
Maine Maritime Academy  
Malone University  
Manhattan College  
Manhattan School Of Music  
Mankato State University  
Mansfield University  
Maricopa Community College  
Marquette University  
Marshall University  
Martin Methodist College  
Mary Baldwin University  
Maryville College  
Maryville University Of St Louis Mo  
Massachusetts College Of Art And Design  
Massachusetts College Of Pharmacy And Health Science  
Massachusetts Institute Of Technology  
Massbay Community College  
McDaniel College  
McHenry County College  
McMurry University  
McNeese State University  
McPherson College  
Mercer University  
Mercyhurst University  
Meredith College  
Meridian Community College  
Mesa Community College  
Messiah University

Methodist University  
Miad, Milwaukee Institute Of Art And Design  
Miami University Of Ohio  
Michigan State University  
Michigan Technological University  
Mid America Christian University  
Mid-Atlantic Christian University  
Middle Georgia State University  
Middle Tennessee State University  
Middlebury College  
Midwestern State University  
Miles College  
Millersville University  
Millsaps College  
Milwaukee Institute Of Art & Design  
Minnesota State Community And Technical College  
Minnesota State University  
Minnesota State University - Mankato  
Minnesota State University - Moorhead  
Minnesota West Community And Technical College  
Minot State University  
Misericordia University  
Mississippi College  
Mississippi State University  
Missouri Southern State University  
Missouri State University  
Missouri University Of Science And Technology  
Missouri Western State University  
Montana State University  
Montana State University Great Falls  
Montclair State University  
Moraine Valley Community College  
Morehead State University  
Morehouse College  
Moreno Valley College  
Morgan State University  
Morrisville State College  
Motlow State Community College  
Mount Marty University  
Mount San Antonio College  
Mount St. Mary's University  
Mt. San Jacinto Community College  
Murray State University  
Muskegon Community College  
Nashville State Community College  
National University College Online Division  
Naturopathic Institute Of Therapies And Education  
Navarro College  
Nazareth College Of Rochester  
New College Franklin  
New Mexico State University  
New Mexico Tech  
New River Community College  
New York University  
Newberry College  
Nicholls State University  
Norfolk State University  
North Carolina A&T University  
North Carolina Central University  
North Carolina State University  
North Carolina Wesleyan College



North Greenville University	Pennsylvania State University Erie	Salisbury University
North Hennepin Community College	The Behrend College	Salve Regina University
Northcentral Technical College	Pensacola Christian College	Sam Houston State University
Northeast Community College	Pensacola State College	Samford University
Northeast Lakeview College	Pepperdine University	San Antonio College
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M	Peru State College	San Antonio Community College
Northeastern State University	Pfeiffer University	San Diego Mesa College
Northeastern University	Phoenix College	San Diego State University
Northern Arizona University	Piedmont College	San Francisco State University
Northern Illinois University	Pikes Peak Community College	San Joaquin Delta College
Northern Kentucky University	Pima Medical Institute	San Jose State University
Northern Michigan University	Pitt Community College	Santa Fe College
Northern Oklahoma College	Point Loma Nazarene University	Savannah College Of Art And Design
Northern Vermont University-Lyndon	Point Park University	Savannah State University
Northern Virginia Community College	Point University	Seattle Pacific University
Northwest Arkansas Community College	Portland State University	Seattle University
North-West College	Potomac State College Of West Virginia University	Seminole State College
Northwest Florida State College	Prairie State College	Seminole State College Of Florida
Northwest Missouri State University	Prairie View A&M University	Seton Hill University
Northwest University	Presbyterian College	Shenandoah University
Northwest Vista College	Principia College	Shepherd University
Northwest Vista College (Alamo Colleges)	Purdue University	Shippensburg University
Northwestern Michigan College	Purdue University Outside Awards	Shorter University
Northwestern State University	Quinnipiac University	Sinclair Community College
Norwich University	Radford University	Skidmore College
Nova Southeastern University	Reading Hospital School Of Health Sciences	Slippery Rock University
Oakland City University	Red Rocks Community College	South Carolina State University
Oakland University	Regent University	South Dakota School Of Mines And Technology
Oberlin College	Regis College	South Dakota State University
Oglethorpe University	Reinhardt University	South Puget Sound Community College
Ohio University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	South West University
Ohio Wesleyan University	Research College Of Nursing	Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College
Oklahoma Baptist University	Rhodes College	Southeast Community College
Oklahoma Christian University	Richmond, The American International	Southeast Missouri State University
Oklahoma City University	University In London	Southeastern Louisiana University
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	Ringling College Of Art And Design	Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Oklahoma State University	Ripon College	Southeastern University
Oklahoma Wesleyan University	Roane State Community College	Southern Arkansas University
Old Dominion University	Robert Morris University	Southern Illinois University At Carbondale
Olivet Nazarene University	Roberts Wesleyan College	Southern Illinois University At Edwardsville
Oral Roberts University	Rochester Community Technical College	Southern Methodist University
Oswego State University	Rochester Institute Of Technology	Southern Nazarene University
Otterbein University	Rose State College	Southern New Hampshire University
Our Lady Of The Lake University	Rowan College Of South Jersey	Southern University And A&M College
Ozark Technical Community College	Rowan University	Southern Wesleyan University
Ozarka Technical College	Rutgers University	Southwest Baptist University
Ozarks Technical Community College	Sacred Heart University	Southwest Minnesota State University
Pace University	Saginaw Valley State University	Southwestern Assemblies Of God University
Pacific Lutheran University	Saint Augustine's University	Southwestern Christian University
Pacific University	Saint Cloud State University	Southwestern College
Palm Beach Atlantic University	Saint Edward's University	Southwestern Illinois College
Palo Alto College	Saint John's University	Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Paradise Valley Community College	Saint Joseph's University	Southwestern University
Paris Junior College	Saint Louis University	Sowela Technical Community College
Park University	Saint Martin's University	Spelman College
Pasco Hernando State College	Saint Mary Of The Woods College	Springfield College
Peirce College	Saint Mary's College	St. Ambrose University
Pennsylvania College Of Technology	Saint Mary's College Of California	St. Catherine University
Pennsylvania State University	Saint Mary's University Of Minnesota, Winona Campus	St. Mary's Center For Education
Pennsylvania State University - Altoona	Saint Olaf College	St. Mary's University
Pennsylvania State University - Hazleton	Salina Area Technical College	St. Philip's College



St. Bonaventure University  
St. Clair County Community College  
St. Cloud Technical And Community College  
St. Lawrence University  
St. Louis College Of Pharmacy  
St. Louis Community College  
St. Mary's College Of Maryland  
St. Norbert College  
St. Olaf College  
St. Thomas University  
Stanford University  
State University Of New York - Buffalo  
State University Of New York - Cobleskill  
State University Of New York - Plattsburgh  
State University Of New York - Sullivan  
State University Of New York At Geneseo  
State University Of New York At Oswego  
State University Of New York- Potsdam  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Stetson University  
Stevenson University  
Strayer University  
Sullivan University  
Suny Brockport  
Suny Maritime College  
Sweet Briar College  
Syracuse University  
Tallahassee Community College  
Tarleton State University  
Tarrant County College  
Temple University  
Tennessee State University  
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Texas Christian University  
Texas College  
Texas Lutheran University  
Texas Southern University  
Texas State University  
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Texas Tech University Health Sciences  
Center El Paso  
Texas Wesleyan University  
Texas Woman's University  
The Academy Of Pet Careers  
The Catholic University Of America  
The Citadel  
The College Of Idaho  
The College Of Saint Rose  
The Crown College Of The Bible  
The Culinary Institute Of America  
The George Washington University  
The New School  
The Ohio State University  
The University Of Tennessee At Chattanooga  
The University Of The South  
Three Rivers Community College

Tidewater Community College  
Towson University  
Tri-County Technical College  
Trident Technical College  
Trinity Baptist College  
Trinity University  
Troy University  
Troy University - Phenix City Campus  
Truman State University  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
Tulsa Community College  
Tuskegee University  
Tyler Junior College  
Union University  
United States Air Force Academy  
United States Merchant Marine Academy  
United States Naval Academy  
Unity College  
Universal Technical Institute  
Universidad Ana G. Mendez  
Universidad De Puerto Rico  
Universidad Interamericana De Puerto Rico Recinto De Bayamon  
Universidad Interamericana De Puerto Rico- Recinto Metropolitano  
University At Albany  
University Of Advancing Technology  
University Of Akron  
University Of Alabama  
University Of Alabama - Huntsville  
University Of Alabama At Birmingham  
University Of Alaska Anchorage  
University Of Alaska Fairbanks  
University Of Arizona  
University Of Arkansas  
University Of Arkansas At Fort Smith  
University Of Arkansas At Little Rock  
University Of Arkansas At Pine Bluff  
University Of Arkansas At Pulaski Technical College  
University Of Arkansas Community College Morrilton  
University Of California - Davis  
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University Of California Riverside  
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University Of Mary  
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University Of Massachusetts - Amherst  
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University Of New Mexico  
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University Of North Carolina - Wilmington  
University Of North Carolina - Asheville  
University Of North Dakota  
University Of North Florida  
University Of North Georgia  
University Of North Texas  
University Of Northern Colorado  
University Of Northern Iowa  
University Of Notre Dame  
University Of Oklahoma  
University Of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
University Of Oregon  
University Of Pennsylvania  
University Of Phoenix  
University Of Pittsburgh  
University Of Pittsburgh - Bradford  
University Of Pittsburgh - Greensburg  
University Of Puerto Rico Mayaguez  
University Of Puget Sound  
University Of Redlands  
University Of Rhode Island  
University Of Richmond  
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University Of Scranton  
University Of South Alabama  
University Of South Carolina  
University Of South Carolina - Aiken  
University Of South Dakota  
University Of South Florida  
University Of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee  
University Of Southern California  
University Of Southern Indiana  
University Of Southern Maine  
University Of Southern Mississippi  
University Of St. Thomas  
University Of Tampa  
University Of Tennessee  
University Of Tennessee - Martin  
University Of Tennessee Chattanooga  
University Of Texas  
University Of Texas At Arlington  
University Of Texas At Dallas  
University Of Texas At El Paso  
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University Of The Cumberlands  
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University Of Virginia  
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University Of Washington - Tacoma  
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University Of West Florida  
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University Of Wisconsin - La Crosse  
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University Of Wisconsin - Stevens Point  
University Of Wisconsin - Stout  
University Of Wisconsin Milwaukee  
University Of Wisconsin Oshkosh  
University Of Wyoming  
Ursuline College  
Utah State University  
Utah Valley University  
Valdosta State University  
Valencia College  
Valley City State University  
Valley Forge Military College  
Vassar College  
Vincennes University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Military Institute  
Virginia State University  
Virginia Tech  
Virginia Union University  
Viterbo University  
Volunteer State Community College  
Wabash College  
Wake Forest University  
Wake Technical Community College  
Warner University  
Washburn University  
Washington and Lee University  
Washington State University  
Washington University In St Louis  
Wayne County Community College  
Waynesburg University  
Weber State University  
Webster University  
Wellesley College  
Wentworth Institute Of Technology  
Wesleyan College  
West Chester University  
West Texas A&M University  
West Virginia University  
West Virginia University - Parkersburg  
West Virginia University Institute Of Technology  
Western Carolina University  
Western Governors University  
Western Illinois University  
Western Kentucky University  
Western Michigan University  
Western New England University  
Western Oregon University  
Western Washington University  
Westminster College  
Whitworth University  
Wichita State University  
Widener University  
William Woods University  
Williams Baptist University  
Winston Salem State University  
Winthrop University  
Wisconsin Lutheran College

Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Wright State University  
Xavier University Of Louisiana  
Yale University  
York College  
Youngstown State University

**Thank you to the Squadron members  
and supporters whose donations  
provide scholarships and change the  
lives of our military families.**





# RENEWED MISSION

Patriot Golf Days shifts to Memorial Day as Folds of Honor expands its quest to lift survivors of fallen military service members

By Jeff Babineau











Retired Air Force Col. Nick Nichols, who now works for the Folds, plants a flag in honor of his father, Col. James R. Nichols, at the Patriot Cup.

**O**n a gray Memorial Day on the outskirts of Tulsa, on a morning when so many others are making festive cookout plans, Lt. Col. Dan Rooney is doing what he does every day. He is concerned for his families and their futures, and doing his best to make sure that no family in need is left behind.

The annual Patriot Cup at The Patriot Golf Club has become a galvanizing tradition of goodwill that attracts support from around the country, including 15 or so PGA Champions Tour professionals who have stayed in Tulsa after a long week at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. This time, the Patriot Cup is part of something bigger. Patriot Golf Days, a grassroots fundraiser for the Folds of Honor for 15 years, has made the date shift from



Alex McIntosh reads off a roll call of the fallen, a list that includes his son, Army Cpl. Scott A. McIntosh, who was killed in Iraq in 2008.

Labor Day to Memorial Day weekend. PGA REACH, the 501(c)3 charitable foundation of the PGA of America, is partnered alongside the Folds on its new Patriot Golf Days date in May.

On this morning at the The Patriot Golf Club, there is a mix of emotions. It is a celebration for our freedoms balanced against the day's meaningful, more somber moments. Alex McIntosh reads off a roll call of the fallen, and his voice breaks as he reads the name of his son, Army Cpl. Scott A. McIntosh, who was killed in 2008 while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Cpl. McIntosh was 26 years old.

Players are asked to head to their respective holes carrying with them two small American flags to plant on their opening tee. One bears the name of a fallen military member; one bears the name of a Folds of Honor recipient.

"When we are done today," Rooney tells the golfers gathered around him near the club's practice tee, "there will be over 600 flags on this golf course, making The Patriot Golf Club, for today, a memorial, and one of the





A youthfull honor guard takes part in the opening ceremony during the 2021 Patriot Cup.

“How could 1+1=3? That’s essentially what we wanted to do. If we go 50/50 in this thing, how do we turn something that’s a really good thing into a really great thing?”

Seth Waugh,  
CEO, PGA of America

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biggest memorials anywhere in this country. We ask that you plant that flag, say a prayer of thanks for your freedom, and give a prayer to that person who has given their life so that we can pursue our dreams.”

The efforts of Patriot Golf Day — which now has expanded to the plural, Patriot Golf Days — have produced nearly 10,000 scholarships for spouses and children of fallen or wounded military men and women who paid great sacrifices while defending their country. Rooney likes to refer to them as “the 1 percent who keep the other 99 percent of us sleeping beneath a blanket of freedom each night.” His initial ask on that first Patriot Golf Day in 2007 was simple: Rooney asked every golfer playing on Labor Day in 2007 to add a dollar to his or her green fee.

The result has been thousands of scholarships funded to lend a small



**Dan Rooney (center) chats with major champions and Folds of Honor supporters Tom Lehman (left) and Corey Pavin.**

hand to Folds of Honor families, money earmarked with gratitude for up to \$5,000 a year. It helps to undo a very small fraction of the enduring pain that recipient families live through. The PGA, without which PGD never would have flown in 2007, has doubled down on growing fundraising efforts for Folds and for PGA HOPE, two groups serving the needs of veterans and their families through golf.

“Dan and I got together at the PGA Show [in 2019] and said, ‘OK,

how do we reimagine this?’” said Seth Waugh, CEO of the PGA of America. “We’ve played since then, and talked and texted a bunch. We said, ‘How could 1 + 1 = 3?’ That’s essentially what we wanted to do. If we go 50/50 in this thing, how do we turn something that’s a really good thing into a really great thing? And that’s what it’s about.”

Folds was established by Rooney to help spouses and children of fallen military members attend school and get their education, something many might not have the means to do without some assistance. The Folds mantra: Honor their sacrifice by educating their legacy. PGA HOPE introduces golf to veterans with disabilities to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being. The program includes a developmental six-to-eight-week curriculum taught by PGA



On the carts at the Patriot Cup are two flags for groups to plant: one bears the name of a fallen military member, and one the name of a Folds of Honor scholarship recipient.



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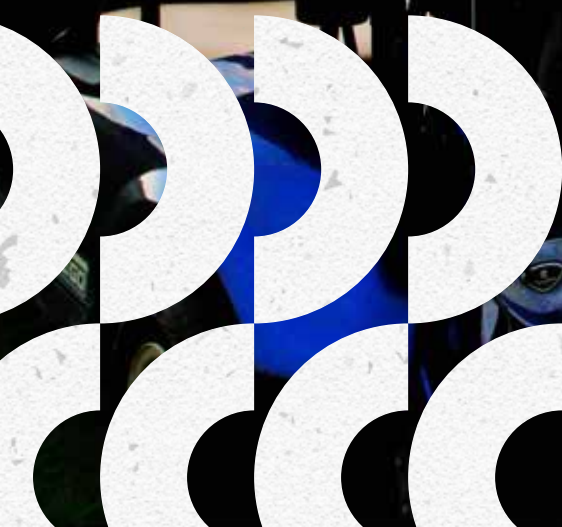


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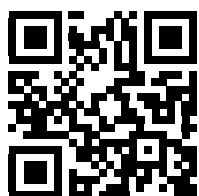


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professionals trained in adaptive golf and military cultural competency. The HOPE program already has impacted thousands of veterans.

“By partnering with the Folds of Honor on Patriot Golf Days over Memorial Day weekend, we are expanding our outreach to the families of those we serve through golf,” said PGA of America President Jim Richerson. “This is a natural extension of our long-standing mission to support our nation’s heroes.”

The PGA’s Waugh says there are many things his organization does that leave him with a good feeling in his heart. PGA HOPE, he says, is the program that leads him to tears. He recalls a day at Congressional, outside our nation’s capital, when the PGA chose a number of veterans who had been through PGA HOPE and anointed them as ambassadors over three days of training.

“You get filled up just being around these people,” Waugh said. “They are so grateful, so thoughtful, so willing to serve. It’s really cool. ... I feel good about a lot of things we do. HOPE is the one that makes me cry. It makes me smile, and makes me cry. In joy.”

It is an emotional experience when the Folds is able to make its calls to recipient families on the magical day that scholarship awards are disbursed.



Country artist Phil Vassar gets Patriot Golf Days weekend rolling with a concert at The Patriot.

That call, for all families, can be life-changing. This autumn, the Folds will send nearly 6,350 spouses and children to school, at a cost of \$30 million. The generosity from donors, and from Folds’ corporate sponsors, and the numbers produced are

nothing short of astounding, given the Folds’ modest roots and start 15 years ago, when Rooney operated from a room above his garage in Broken Arrow, Okla. Today, two terrific golf courses — The Patriot and American Dunes, in Grand Haven, Mich. — help the cause, and ground has been broken in Owasso on a beautiful new headquarters built chiefly through donations. Still, Rooney and the Folds continue to press on, knowing the organization has work to do in getting to where it wants to be.

“On the other side of those [recipient] letters are the letters that we send out to families — thousands of families, who are qualified to receive Folds of Honor scholarships — but we don’t have the funds,” Rooney said.

He pauses and looks out to the golfers who have gathered in Tulsa on this gray Memorial Day, his squadron on this quest. “That’s why we need you in the fight ... to assure that we do not leave any family behind on the field of battle.” 🇺🇸



The 2021 Patriot Cup gets underway with an F-4 flyover across the overcast Tulsa skyline.



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# THE MCINTOSH:

## ONE GOLD STAR FATHER'S TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF HIS SON

**T**he Scott A. McIntosh Memorial Golf Tournament is the longest-running and largest-yielding grassroots Folds of Honor/Patriot Golf Days tournament in the country. Hosted by Gold Star father Alex McIntosh, this event, first played in 2009, has raised more than \$5 million, funding more than 1,000 educational scholarships for Folds of Honor.

The event honors the memory of U.S. Army Cpl. Scott A. McIntosh, who was killed in action along with four other enlisted men on March 10, 2008, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. McIntosh was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Ga. He died of injuries sustained in Baghdad when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device. McIntosh was 26 years old.

"He was a good kid, had a great heart," Alex McIntosh said of his son in a story that ran on ESPN.com in 2016. "Everybody liked Scott. He was one of those people everyone gravitated toward. Nothing ever got him down."

The McIntosh is a two-day event hosted annually in Scott McIntosh's hometown of Houston, at famed Champions Golf Club. In addition to golf, the event features a Patriots Gala dinner and a keynote speaker, oftentimes a Medal of Honor recipient or other high-ranking member of the armed forces.

The McIntosh also features a 21-ball salute and a traditional four-player scramble, live and silent auctions, visits from scholarship recipients and their

families, and a Folds of Honor guest speaker. There is an annual roll call of fallen service members that takes place before the sounding of taps, and flags are placed by friends and family in remembrance next to a memorial that includes troops' boots and dog tags. Each small flag planted includes a yellow ribbon attached with the name of a fallen service member.

"I don't want people to come to the tournament and just play golf and eat a meal and drink beer," McIntosh said. "When they come to this event, from the moment they walk on property, they are bombarded with emotion and patriotism. I want them to have an emotional connection to the whole experience. The tears flow at our event."

There is a dedicated group of proud donors and sponsors who honor the memory of Cpl. McIntosh at this event each year; attendees actually are honoring all men and women in uniform with their presence at Champions. Honor the sacrifice of those who serve, some of whom have paid the ultimate price, by educating their legacy.

The McIntosh stands as the largest annual event for the Folds of Honor's South Texas chapter, helping to propel South Texas to becoming the Folds' second-largest chapter in the country.

"Alex, Gwenna (Scott's mother) and Eric McIntosh (Scott's brother) have turned their tragedy into triumph by honoring their fallen hero through this charitable event," said Diane Nemecek, regional development officer for the Folds' South Texas chapter. "Their dedication to selflessly serving others while paying tribute to their late son is nothing short of remarkable."

Beyond running a highly successful


**“When they come to this event, from the moment they walk on property, they are bombarded with emotion and patriotism.”**

**— Alex McIntosh,  
Gold Star father**

golf event that raises a great amount of money to fund Folds of Honor scholarships each year, Alex McIntosh also gives of his time as a member of the Folds' South Texas chapter's board of directors.

"He is always helping our chapter find new ways to improve and grow," Nemecek said, "and we are so thankful to him for the many ways he and the family give back to others."

Initially, Alex McIntosh feared that others might forget about his son, and would not remember the incredible sacrifice that this family made so that others could live in freedom.

"Everybody knows who he is," Alex said of Scott, "because he's still making a difference, still out there helping the cause. That's what makes this all worth it." 

**Cadet Johnnie Lawson Nemecek, a Folds of Honor scholarship recipient currently attending the United States Air Force Academy, lays a wreath at the headstone of Army Cpl. Scott A. McIntosh.**



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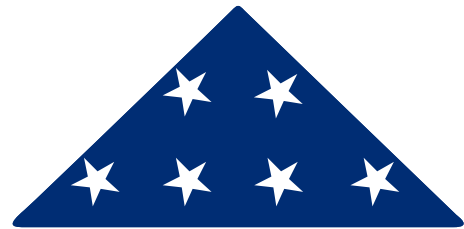
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# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

**F**reedom is not free. The Folds of Honor has helped thousands of spouses and children of fallen and wounded military members in pursuing their educations, with funds earmarked for Children's Fund recipients as well as Higher Education students. Some of these survivors whose families have paid the ultimate price might not otherwise have the means. It all comes down to the generosity of you, our supporters. Here is a look at some of our numbers as we head toward 2022 with a goal of leaving no family behind.









## COLLABORATION ACROSS SPORTS

Golf continues to be a driving source of donations for Folds of Honor. What began as a small golf tournament in Grand Haven, Mich., has now grown to a national movement known as Patriot Golf Days and one of the most important fundraising events for Folds of Honor. Now, thanks to the work of Lt. Col. Dan Rooney and one of the greatest legends of the game, Jack Nicklaus, the golf course that hosted the very first fundraising event, Grand Haven Golf Club, has been transformed into American Dunes Golf Club and will forever stand as a tribute to the men and women of our military.

In addition to golf, countless sports organizations and communities have come together to support the mission and drive a major source of revenue for Folds of Honor. From the PGA Tour to NASCAR to Major League Baseball, committed athletes and celebrities across America have done amazing things to raise money for our military families.





# Celebrating America's brave military service members.



KENDRA SCOTT

Meet Litisha Shelvin,  
Army veteran and mother of  
two Folds of Honor recipients.





## NASCAR

Thanks to its partnership with QuikTrip, Folds of Honor has been the beneficiary of one of NASCAR's biggest events, the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500, since 2015. The popular Atlanta event has driven massive awareness and donations for Folds of Honor, spurring a major increase in scholarship applications year over year.

As a result, the need for donations is greater than ever before. Following through on its commitment to military families, QuikTrip renewed its NASCAR sponsorship this year and will continue to share the naming rights of this event with Folds of Honor through 2022.



Folds recipient Kamille Banks, of Spelman College







## MLB, NBA, NHL

Folds of Honor partners with Budweiser to raise money for scholarships during various MLB, NBA and NHL games. The teams and fans from these leagues contribute to the organization in many ways, including special warmup jersey presentations, check presentations, surprise meet-and-greets for scholarship recipient families, first-pitch activations, donations from beer sales and team store signage.





# CHAPTER GROWTH

Folds of Honor has a growing presence across the country with several new local chapters launched in 2020, bringing our chapter partners to 30. Local chapters have become the lifeblood of Folds of Honor. Not only does each location raise funds and awareness for the mission, but the people of these passionate chapters have also provided support and care to recipient families across the area. They provide a network of support and understanding for scholarship recipients during the most difficult times, which underscores the Folds of Honor mission. Folds of Honor recognizes these local leaders and their respective teams who are responsible for the growth and success of the chapters of the organization, many of whom are scholarship recipients themselves.

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

### KANSAS CITY

*Kelli Campbell-Goodnow*

### ARIZONA

*Rachael Chapman*

### NORTH CAROLINA

*Rick Nechio*

### NORTH TEXAS

*Sarah Duncan  
Meredith Allen*

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

*Julia Silva*

### MINNESOTA

*Anthony Raiola*

### SOUTH TEXAS

*Diane Nemecek*

### TENNESSEE

*Jenner Kreifels*

### OKLAHOMA

*Brandon Baker*

### 1. KANSAS CITY

*Overland Park, KS  
Established 2011  
President Larry Pfeiffer*

### 9. ARIZONA

*Phoenix, AZ  
Established 2015  
President Keith Gapusan*

### 17. PALMETTO STATE

*Greenville, SC  
Established 2018  
President Jeff Morris*

### 25. ST. LOUIS

*St. Louis, MO  
Established 2019  
President Doug Mitchell*

### 2. CHICAGO

*Chicago, IL  
Established 2012  
President Karen Haworth*

### 10. MICHIGAN

*Grand Haven, MI  
Established 2016  
President John Somers*

### 18. CENTRAL OHIO

*Dublin, OH  
Established 2018  
President Scott Alexander*

### 26. W. PENNSYLVANIA

*Pittsburgh, PA  
Established 2019  
President Mike Popella*

### 3. CENTRAL TEXAS

*Austin, TX  
Established 2013  
President Ross Anders*

### 11. TENNESSEE

*Nashville, TN  
Established 2020  
President Christopher King*

### 19. COLORADO PATRIOTS

*Parker, CO  
Established 2016  
President Steve Smith*

### 27. GEORGIA

*Atlanta, GA  
Established 2020  
President Tony Rogers*

### 4. NORTH TEXAS

*Dallas, TX  
Established 2013  
President Mike Beltz*

### 12. OKLAHOMA CITY

*Oklahoma City, OK  
Established 2019  
President Ryan Lewellyn*

### 20. DENVER

*Centennial, CO  
Established 2018  
President Doug Campbell*

### 28. SOUTH DAKOTA

*Sioux Falls, SD  
Established 2020  
President Brad Coleman*

### 5. MINNESOTA

*Wayzata, MN  
Established 2014  
President Perry Schmidt*

### 13. SOUTH TEXAS

*Houston, TX  
Established 2018  
President John Nemecek*

### 21. E. NORTH CAROLINA

*Raleigh, NC  
Established 2018  
President Brian Reddersen*

### 29. AMERICAN INTERIORS

*Toledo, OH  
Established 2020  
President Steve Essig*

### 6. S. CALIFORNIA

*La Quinta, CA  
Established 2015  
President Randall Hunt*

### 14. NEW YORK

*Albany, NY  
Established 2018  
President Tom O'Connor*

### 22. NORTHERN OHIO

*Cleveland, OH  
Established 2019  
President Nick Austin*

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### 16. EASTERN PA-NJ

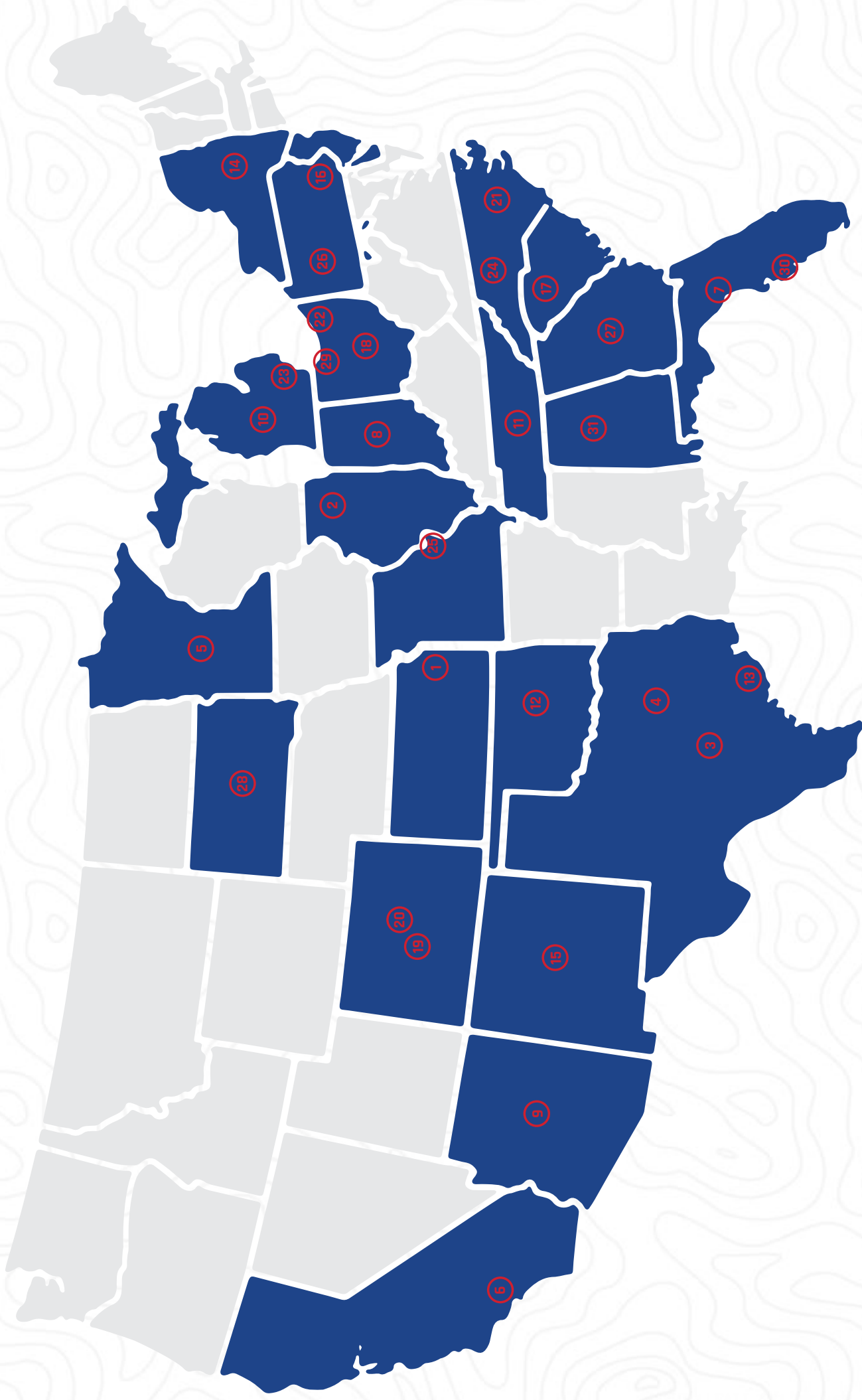
*Lehigh Valley, PA  
Established 2018  
President Beth Simmons*

### 24. WESTERN CAROLINA

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Established 2019  
President David Nein*



# 2021 FOLDS OF HONOR CHAPTER MAP







## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# FOLDS OF & HONOR QUIKTRIP PARTNERSHIP

QuikTrip is passionate about listening to the feedback of our employees and customers. Over the years, our employees have encouraged our company to find ways to provide support to military families.

In 2008, Lieutenant Colonel Dan Rooney educated us on the mission of Folds of Honor and the non-profit organization's obligation to provide educational opportunities and financial assistance to the families of fallen and disabled soldiers. His leadership, passion, and sense of duty was inspirational.

Lieutenant Colonel Dan brought exactly what the men and women of QuikTrip were searching for. Folds of Honor is the perfect fit for QuikTrip's core values. Together, we are committed to honoring the sacrifice of America's heroes by helping equip their loved ones with the support to achieve their academic ambitions and ultimately, their life goals.

As Lieutenant Colonel Dan puts it, we refuse to leave any families behind on the battlefield. QuikTrip's main objective is to introduce Folds of Honor to millions of people worldwide through this great partnership.



FOLDS of HONOR



JOIN OUR MISSION AT **FOH.ORG**



# CORPORATE SUPPORT

Folds of Honor depends on the generous support of corporate partners to fulfill its mission and raise awareness for the organization. Many corporations, events, retailers and foundations have gone above and beyond in support of Folds of Honor. This year, Folds of Honor has the privilege of saying, "thank you" to thousands of partners, big and small, including:







SNACK

**IS IT A  
SNACK?  
IS IT A  
MEAL?  
YES.**



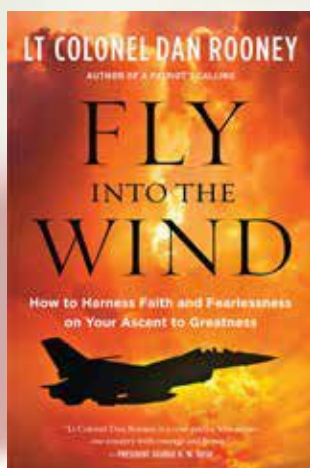






## BOOK EXCERPT

# GO BEFORE YOU'RE READY



### ***Fly Into The Wind***

***How to Harness Faith and Fearlessness on Your Ascent to Greatness*** (HarperCollins Publishers)

Written by Lt. Col. Dan Rooney, author of *A Patriot's Calling*, and founder and CEO, Folds of Honor

To purchase, visit [danrooney.com](http://danrooney.com)

GROWING UP, I WATCHED MY VHS TAPE OF TOP GUN SO MANY TIMES THAT SEVERAL SCENES IN THE MOVIE WERE WORN DOWN AND ALMOST UNVIEWABLE. And since there weren't any fighter jets at the local Stillwater (Okla.) municipal airport, that warped tape served as my primary motivation. Thirteen years and probably a thousand viewings later, I would find myself breathing the beautiful smell of JP-8 jet fuel on one of the best days of my life. My dream of flying solo in the F-16 was finally about to come true. The Undergraduate Pilot Training program had been the most intense challenge of my life up to that point. With Sheppard Air Force Base in our rearview mirror, I soon arrived at Luke, and endured a month of academics and simulators. The next step was getting airborne, in which I had to successfully complete four rides with instructors in the F-16D model, a two-seat variant.

After my fourth flight, my IP, call sign "Rock," smiled big and half-jokingly said, "Don't kill yourself" as he signed my grade sheet. He cleared me to go solo in sequence with the syllabus at the F-16 schoolhouse. Getting cleared solo was required to prevent ending up as just another washout. When I stepped out of the crew van at Luke Air Force Base, a.k.a. Fighter Country USA, I couldn't believe this moment had arrived. I approached the jet with more excitement than nervousness. I was confident in my ability, but to be completely honest, I didn't know if I was ready. It didn't matter, because I was going whether I was ready or not. I strapped into the jet and taxied out to the runway. Once cleared for takeoff, I blasted into the CAVU sky and safely flew the F-16 for an hour, even bringing it back for a nice landing. As I climbed down the ladder from my first solo ride, I was changed forever. I didn't fully grasp it in that moment, but I had been given a life-altering gift.



**“ There is no really good way to describe what it is like to fly a fighter jet. Imagine playing football, a musical instrument, and Call of Duty all at the same time, while solving a sudoku puzzle and traveling at supersonic speeds.”**

#### **THE FINAL LOE: GO BEFORE YOU ARE READY**

Go before you are ready is the most powerful LOE, and incorporating this ethos will change you in unimaginable ways. I purposely placed this as the last evolution because it is the trigger to launch you into a life of CAVU. If you want to go big, you must go before you are ready. The great people and moments described in this chapter are connected by their virtues of defiance, and each offers a powerful example of what can happen when you go before you are ready. The stories herein share demonstrations of greatness, strength, and the courage required to jump with both feet and burn the boats because, well, there ain't no going back!

**FIND YOUR INNER MAVERICK** The first time I sat alone in the F-16, I wasn't completely sure I was up to the task of flying solo. But there I was, strapped in a \$30 million jet that had a capability of flying Mach 2.1. Having flown just those four times before and with an instructor, everything I had studied and practiced in preparation for this moment didn't feel like enough. I took a breath, said a quick prayer, reached over with my left hand, and moved the JFS\* to start 2. That's right, no keys required to start the F-16 — just a lot of faith. I understood at that moment that I had to push aside fear and focus on faith. I knew that my instructors believed in me enough to clear me to go solo and that I had been working toward this moment in one way or another my entire life. I sat at the end of the runway for just a few extra seconds, soaking in the moment. Then, I moved the throttle over the detent to full

afterburner. There is no really good way to describe what it is like to fly a fighter jet. Imagine playing football, a musical instrument, and Call of Duty all at the same time, while solving a sudoku puzzle and traveling at supersonic speeds. This crazy concoction comes together and forms a purely euphoric state. Top Gun, Hollywood's best depiction of the fighter pilot's office, isn't even close to the real thing, but in some bizarre way Tom Cruise and I were kindred spirits that day I flew over the Arizona desert. You see, Maverick may be a fictitious movie character, but I can attest to the fact that Tom Cruise is a real-life maverick. Growing up, Tom was a nomad, as his parents were constantly on the move (he attended fifteen different schools by the age of fourteen). Always a spiritual person, Cruise initially wanted to become a priest before discovering acting. His go-before-you're-ready moment occurred at eighteen when he dropped out of school and headed to New York City. Five years later, he was starring in the movie that changed my life.

#### **SHOOT THE MOON**

Great successes often occur before people feel they are truly ready for them. In 1970, a high school dropout in England named Richard Branson started a magazine with one of his buddies, called Student. This independent venture went so well that he soon managed to open a brick-and-mortar record shop with the profits. Fast forward just a couple of years and he pushed his success even further with the creation of his own record label and recording studio that he rented











**The Folds of Honor's very first scholarship recipient: Jacob Green, son of Army Cpl. Brock Bucklin, who was killed while serving in Iraq in 2006.**

out to musicians in the area. The first album the company released went on to sell five million copies—not bad for a kid with no higher education, money, or experience. With a little spending cash in his pocket, Branson, now in his twenties, headed on vacation to the Virgin Islands. He was excited to meet up with a girl, but the flight he was taking was canceled due to mechanical problems (my priest calls this an “O Felix Culpa”—a “happy fault moment of intervention”). While Branson’s previous ventures had been successful, at this time no one had ever heard of him and he wasn’t making loads of money — yet. This did not stop him from taking a big step that he wasn’t ready for. Branson chartered a private jet even though he technically didn’t have the money to pay for it. He made a sign that simply said, “Virgin Air, all seats \$29.00,” and quickly filled up his new rental, made back all of his money, and got to his destination (with a lot of other happy passengers from the canceled flight). Branson would go on to found Virgin Airlines and become

a billionaire several times over. His quest continues to shoot the moon, literally, as the driving force behind Virgin Galactic, which is working with NASA to make civilian spaceflight possible in the very near future. Both Branson and NASA have a long history of “go before you’re ready.” The world knows the story of Apollo 11 and Neil Armstrong setting foot on the moon, but NASA’s defining go-before-you’re-ready moment actually occurred with the launch of Apollo 8, which was scheduled to be the first crewed flight of the Saturn V rocket. However, there was a big problem — Saturn V wasn’t even close to ready. One test of the rocket had gone well, but the most recent test had gone terribly wrong. While NASA worked around the clock to prepare for the launch, they were faced with extreme scrutiny after the recent deaths of Gus Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee (a faulty wire had caused the pure oxygen in the command module to catch fire, killing all three astronauts). Amid congressional hearings and a public outcry to cancel

the space program, George Low, manager of the Apollo program, never flinched. In fact, he made a momentous decision. With Christmas approaching, he reached out to the three astronauts and told them to cancel their holiday plans; they’d be headed to the moon on Apollo 8 to attempt the first lunar orbit. Low compartmentalized the distractions and stayed focused on the task at hand. The lives of the Apollo 8 astronauts and the entire future of NASA depended on whether the Saturn V issues had been fixed. The stakes couldn’t have been any higher, and the decision to launch was made for December 23, 1968. Thanks to some exceptional problem solving by NASA engineers, and by God’s grace, the Saturn V worked. Apollo 8 shot the moon and completed the first lunar orbit, which paved the way for Apollo 11, the first successful moon landing. En route to the moon on Christmas Eve, the astronauts broadcast live to the world’s largest television audience in history and recited chapters 1-10 from the book of Genesis.



## **WILLIAM ANDERS**

We are now approaching lunar sunrise, and for all the people back on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 has a message that we would like to send to you. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

## **JAMES LOVELL**

And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

## **FRANK BORMAN**

And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called the Seas: and God saw that it was good. And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas — and God bless all of you, all of you on the good Earth.

## **PARALYSIS BY ANALYSIS**

While it certainly seems reasonable to get most of your ducks in a row before attempting something big (or dangerous, like flying a jet at the speed of sound), most people tend to overanalyze their given situations. Ready aim . . . aim . . . aim . . . aim. Our unreasonable perception of what “ready” really is prevents us from actually firing. There’s a big difference between being mentally and physically prepared and having it all perfectly analyzed. Perfectionism can be the poison that infects our lives, dreams, and goals, and it can act like a weight that prevents us from taking any action at all. Break free from these insidious

and debilitating mental roadblocks: Vulnerability: It can be frightening to think you might be judged by peers, lose control, or even fail. But if you play it safe, you can neither lose nor win. Exclusion: You might fear that if you don’t perform perfectly, you won’t belong and won’t be accepted by a group. You’ll be left out. Shame: Any flaws or mistakes will result in a feeling of great shame. This might be self-shame, or the shame of your family or colleagues. Confusing perfection and excellence: Hard work, dedication, talent, and practice should result in excellence — not necessarily perfection. Don’t confuse the two.

## **HERE AND GONE**

When Folds of Honor was young and I was working to get corporate sponsors, I thought about how great it would be to have Budweiser on board. After all, it was the beer that Maverick drank in Top Gun. At the time, I was still working out of a tiny room above my garage in Oklahoma and didn’t have an office or a staff. Most glaringly, I was aware that my little operation might not seem very impressive to the folks at a major corporation like Anheuser-Busch. But my faith exceeded my fear. I told myself, so what if I was working in my garage? Our mission was strong, and I knew that we would ultimately be able to help thousands of military families. If I wanted Folds to thrive, I had to find the courage to face the very real possibility of rejection. I jumped on a Southwest flight from Tulsa to St. Louis and drove my rental car to the brewery. I was not prepared for what I witnessed: Suffice it to say that August Busch built a cathedral to beer. My visit that day was a great field trip, but it was clear that the King of Beers was not going to saddle up with Folds of Honor in any significant way. Obviously, that wasn’t the result I had hoped for, but I know our lives are defined every day by what we do when life doesn’t go our way. My passion outweighed any negative feelings I had about being rejected, and I still harbored the belief and conviction that Budweiser was a perfect match for Folds . . . even if we weren’t big enough for them, yet. As Folds continued to grow, I kept making the pilgrimage to the brewery. I flew up every six months for the next three years, but still had little success. Then a tragic moment of synchronicity brought

me back to St. Louis: A young soldier who was killed in Iraq also happened to be the son of the president’s executive administrator, Sue Marler. This occurrence, terrible as it was, eventually led to a meeting with the company’s president, Dave Peacock. I was set to fly up the morning of September 8, but a family emergency forced me to miss the only flight from Tulsa. I called Dave’s office to reschedule, but he was booked for weeks. I knew this was a defining moment, one I’d probably not see again, so I used my personal credit card to charter a plane. With an empty private jet, and the gravity of the situation weighing on me, I called my dad to ride along for the meeting. We flew up and shared the Folds of Honor story. When we finished the meeting, I will never forget what Dave said: “I make it a best practice not to get in the way of God’s will; we will figure out a way to help Folds of Honor.” True to his word, Budweiser stepped up and has since donated over \$17 million in the last eight years. They are indeed “The Great American Lager,” and their donation has fueled the educational dreams of more than 3,400 hundred deserving military families. The bottom line is that we are all here and gone in a short period of time. When you feel called, don’t ignore it. Dreams will die if they are not nurtured. It is incredibly easy to wait for a magical moment of readiness to come before any action is taken. People often use excuses to justify their fear — “I’ll approach that client when my company is more established,” or “Next year I am going to move away from these brutal winters and restart my life in a coastal town.”

## **GODSPEED**

I finish all my emails and letters with the closing “Godspeed.” By definition, it is a blessing for a prosperous journey. NASA bid John Glenn Godspeed before he piloted Friendship 7 and became the first man to orbit the earth. I love the term because it combines purpose (God) with motion (speed). I strive to always live my life with both. Your idea is meaningless if your fears keep you from putting it into motion. My golf coach at Kansas, Ross Randall, gave me some incredible advice: “Try your ass off, but don’t give a damn what happens.” 🏌️





**May 2, 2021**

Course architect Jack Nicklaus  
prepares to hit the official  
opening shot at American Dunes.



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TO SUPPORT  
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**THANK YOU FOR  
STANDING IN THE GAP FOR  
THOSE WHO HAVE  
SACRIFICED SO MUCH**

We at the Folds of Honor want to express our deep gratitude for your faithful participation in Patriot Golf Days. Because of generous Americans like you, we've been able to award over 35,000 scholarships to dependents of fallen or disabled U.S. servicemembers. If you'd like to help more military families pursue their educational dreams, please donate at [foldsofhonor.org](http://foldsofhonor.org). You're truly making a generational difference for the spouses and children of heroes who stand guard over our freedom.

**[WWW.FOLDSOFHONOR.ORG](http://WWW.FOLDSOFHONOR.ORG)**

