

# MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



## VETERANS DAY 2023



ST. RITA HIGH SCHOOL CHAPEL  
NOVEMBER 11, 2023

## WELCOME FROM THE MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Certain people react well in life-threatening situations, and our Military Veterans and our First Responders tend to be those kinds of people. When everyone else is running away from danger, they run into it.

The Mendel Alumni Association salutes all Military Veterans, in particular Mendel Alumni who have served so gallantly. Today, we especially remember and honor the fifteen Mendel Monarchs who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

Thank you for your service. You are the real heroes who protect our world and make it a better place, and we all owe you a huge debt of gratitude.

*"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."* – John F. Kennedy



## MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Chairman Bill Kushner ('71)

President Tom Gavin ('67)

Vice President Kelvin Lovely ('78)

Treasurer Pat Regan ('68)

Secretary Mike Dreznes ('68)

John Knoebel ('75)

Ron Dubin ('63) US ARMY

John Fanning ('68) US ARMY

Bob Fioretti ('71)

Mike Foley ('71)

Billy Hilbring ('81)

David Ireland ('78)

Bill Duffy ('64) US NAVY

Nolan Lane ('86)

Derek Lott ('84)

Curtis Rempson ('83)

Eric Rouse ('75)

John Franklin ('77)

Andy Youpel ('66) US NAVY

Dennis Heitzmann ('64) US ARMY

Gene Rouse ('72)

Craig Larson ('68)

David Milton ('78)

John Mikenis ('73)

Rich Zarr ('71)

John Wilson ('72)

## VETERANS DAY MASS CELEBRATION

### PRESENTATION OF COLORS

CELEBRANT: BISHOP DAN TURLEY O.S.A. ('60)

READINGS: KELVIN LOVELY ('78) VICE PRESIDENT

GOSPEL & HOMILY: BISHOP DAN TURLEY

### PETITIONS

MARTY GAINER ('70) US ARMY &

DAVID IRELAND ('78) MENDEL B.O.D.

## VETERANS BLESSING



## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

### MIKE DREZNES ('68) WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

#### *MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL FIGHT SONG*

*Go, You Men of Mendel, we've got to reach our goal.*

*We'll fight, fight fight until the battle is won.*

*We'll show them who's the winner 'cause we've only begun.*

*So Go, You Men of Mendel, and you'll come out in victory.*

*Our Colors Blue and White, will guide us day and night.*

*Loyal, we will always be!*

*Fight, Fight, Fight for the cause Blue and White,*

*Fight, Fight, Fight for Mendel!*

### MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

TOM GAVIN ('67) WELCOME FROM THE MENDEL

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### RECOGNITION OF MENDEL VETERANS KILLED IN ACTION

PRESENTED BY ANDY YOUPEL ('66) US NAVY

CPT EDWIN HEISSE ('57) US ARMY VIETNAM

2LT WILLIAM F. OTTO ('59) US ARMY VIETNAM

MAJ JEFFREY LEMON ('61) USAF VIETNAM

LT RONALD J. JANOUSEK ('62) USMC VIETNAM

WILLIAM SCHOLTEN ('62) USAF VIETNAM

SP4 WILLIAM C GEIS ('64) US ARMY VIETNAM

LCpl WILLIAM J. OSKILANEC ('64) USMC VIETNAM

PFC ALAN BUTKUS ('65) US ARMY VIETNAM

PFC CRAIG M. CLANCY ('65) USMC VIETNAM

PFC JACK DALTON ('65) US ARMY VIETNAM

LCpl ROBERT MILLER ('65) USMC VIETNAM

PFC JERRY FLEMING ('66) US ARMY VIETNAM

PFC JAMES LAWLOR ('66) US ARMY VIETNAM

PFC FRANCIS SCHWARTZ ('66) US ARMY VIETNAM

PFC ROBERT HOJNACKI ('69) US ARMY VIETNAM

TERRY GAINER ('65) ADDRESS TO VETERANS

RECOGNITION OF ALL SERVICES BRANCHES BY  
PLAYING THEIR ANTHEMS

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

TAPS

DISMISSAL PROCESSION

GO TO LUNCH WITH A CLASSMATE!

*The Mendel Alumni Association thanks Bishop Dan Turley O.S.A. ('60) for Celebrating the Mass today. The Association also thanks St Rita High School, especially Principal Josh Blaszek and Fr. Tom McCarthy for the use of their beautiful chapel, as well as our Bagpiper Pipe Major Luke McKee of the CPD Pipes and Drums, the wonderful Music provided by Mary Kaye Notter, the Webcaster Team, Miriam and Luis Arredondo, who allowed Mendel Alumni around the world to experience today's Event, the Chicago Police Department Color Guard , our TAPS trumpeter from the St. Rita High School Band, Terry Gainer ('65) for his excellent keynote speech and finally, our Ushers' Team Leader, Jim Chevalier ('66)*



**MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
VETERANS DAY MASS & CEREMONY COMMITTEE**

CHAIRMAN Andy Youpel ('66) US NAVY

Jim Chevalier ('66) US NAVY  
Mike Connolly ('60) US ARMY  
Mike Dreznes ('68)  
John Fanning ('68) US ARMY  
Tom Gavin ('67)

Bill Kushner ('71)  
Terry Gainer ('65) US ARMY  
Kelvin Lovely ('78)  
Pat Regan ('68)  
Marty Gainer ('70) US ARMY



# Mendel Men Veterans

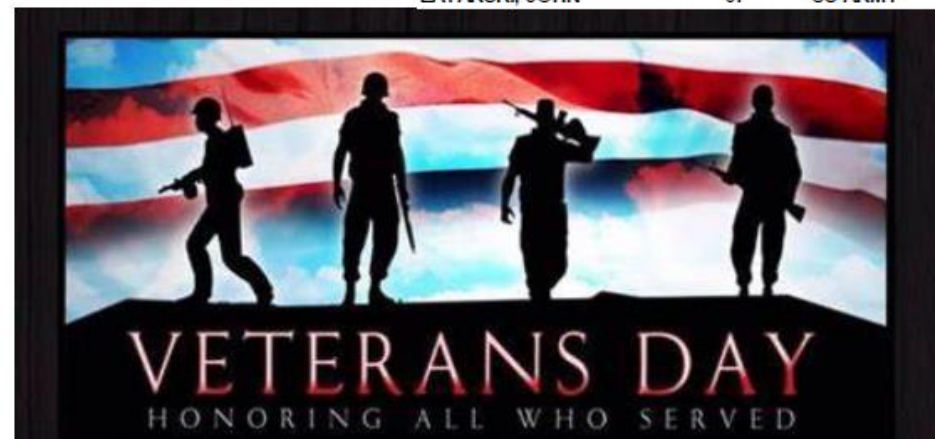
MAHONEY, MICHAEL	64	US NAVY	PRICE, RAY	64	USMC
MAKRIS, KENNETH	64	US NAVY	PUCH, TED	66	US ARMY
MANTHEY, JOHN	62	US ARMY	PURVIS, WILLIAM	71	US ARMY 536th MP CO
MARIANOVICH, PETER J.	56	USMC	QUATTROCKI, JOHN J.	71	USAF
MARSALA, FRANCIS	67	USMC	QUINLAN, PATRICK C.	64	USMC
MARTIN, ANTONIO	83	US ARMY	RANGEL, DENNIS	59	US ARMY
MARTON, BRIAN	62	US ARMY	RATUSZNY, LAWRENCE	64	US NAVY
MASLANKA, BRYAN	66	US ARMY	RATUSZNY, LEONARD	60	US ARMY
MASON, MICHAEL	76	USMC	RECUPIDO, PATRICK F.	65	US NAVY
MAYER, JACK	63	US ARMY	REGAN, TERRENCE D	66	USMC
MAYES, JAMIE	78	USAF	REHER, RAYMOND A.	66	US ARMY
McCANN, BRIAN	65	US ARMY	REILLEY, PATRICK	68	US ARMY
MCGRANE JR., WILLIAM	62	US ARMY	REYNOLDS, WILLIAM	59	USMC
MCGREAL, TOM P	58	US ARMY	ROSSIANO, JAMES (JIM)	68	US ARMY
McHALE, CLEMENT C. OSA	TCH	US NAVY	RUDAK, RANDALL	65	US ARMY
McMAHON, SHAWN J.	81	USAF	RUFF, WILLIAM M.	67	USMC
McMASTER, KEN	70	US ARMY	RUSWICK, GEORGE H.	62	US ARMY
McNICHOLAS, WALTER F. OSA TCH		US NAVY	RYAN, THOMAS	65	US NAVY
McQUAID, KEVIN JAMES	71	US NAVY	RYAN, VINCENT	58	US ARMY
MEREDITH, ERIC	87	US NAVY	SALVADOR, FREDERICK	61	USAF
MEYERING, WILLIAM A	63	US ARMY	SCHMITT, ROBERT	67	US ARMY
MEYERING, WILLIAM A	62	US NAVY	SCHOLTEN, WILLIAM (BILL)	62	USAF
MILLER, DAVID	66	US NAVY	SCHURMAN, ROBERT J. OSA	TCH	US NAVY
MILLER, RICHARD	60	US ARMY	SCHWAB, THOMAS V	66	US NAVY
MILLER, ROBERT M	65	USMC	SCHWARTZ, FRANCIS	66	US ARMY
MION, RICHARD V.	56	US ARMY	SCHWARZ, ROBERT	60	USMC
MISEK, RONALD	63	US ARMY	SEPUTIS, CHARLES	58	USAF
MORAN, MARK G	63	USMC	SHEILS, JOHN	61	US ARMY
MULAC, ALLEN	57	US ARMY	SHELTON, JAMES R	78	USAF
MULCAHY, ROBERT J	59	USMC	SHEPHERD, BRET D.	84	USAF
MUNDO, JAMES J	67	US ARMY	SHIRLEY, JOHN T. OSA	TCH	USAF
MURRIN, MICHAEL	64	US ARMY	SHUPRYT, JAMES	69	US ARMY
NAKROSHIS, RICK	74	US NAVY	SIDLER, DAVE	62	US ARMY
NASH, TIMOTHY	60	USAF	SILVERWOOD, JAMES	62	USMC
NELLIGAN, JEROME M.	64	US ARMY	SKONY, GREG (SKONIECZNY)	71	US ARMY
NIELSEN, KENNETH	62	US NAVY	SMITH, JOSEPH	66	US ARMY
NOWAK, RICH	68	USMC	SMITH, MICHAEL	59	US ARMY RESERVE
O'CONNOR, EDWARD D.	65	USAF	ST. AUBIN, LEO	62	US NAVY
O'CONNOR, JOHN	64	USMC	STAIB, ROBERT LEE	58	USAF
O'DONNELL, MARK	69	USMC	STARKWEATHER, JAMES	64	USAF
O'HARA, JIM	65	US ARMY	STEGENGA, DALE	62	US ARMY
O'HARE, MARK	72	US NAVY	STERNEMANN, REINHARD J OSA	TCH	USAF
ORMSBY, RICHARD	67	USMC	STETINA, ANTHONY R.	61	US ARMY
OSKILANEC, WILLIAM J	64	USMC	STRONSKI, SIGMUND (JOHN)	66	USMC
OSTAPOWICZ, KENNETH	61	US ARMY	STUMPF, MIKE	67	US ARMY
OSTER, JOSEPH	62	US ARMY	SULLIVAN, JOSEPH	66	USMC
OTTO, WILLIAM F.	59	US ARMY	SWIONTEK, STANLEY	61	USAF
PALA, STANLEY	58	US ARMY	SZABO, STEVEN	61	USMC
PALMER, RONALD	66	US ARMY	TAYLOR, LLOYD	87	US ARMY
PARRISH, JAMES	62	USMC	THURMAN, ROBERT	60	US ARMY
PAUL, RICHARD A.	60	US ARMY	TRAVIS, RUSSELL	75	US ARMY
PAWLAK, JOHN	67	US ARMY	TROPP, RICHARD J	65	USAF
PETERS, BILL	62	US ARMY	TULLY, MATT	64	USMC
PETERSON, ROBERT	60	US ARMY			
PETERSON, RON	65	USMC			
PETRIZZO, RUSS	68	US ARMY			
PICKETT, RICHARD P.	62	USMCR			
PIONTEK, FRANCIS	67	USMC			
PRATSCHER, CHARLES	71	US ARMY			

# Mendel Men Veterans



## DECEASED MONARCH

ULRICH, EDWARD	55	US ARMY
VALLORTIGARA, JOHN	65	US ARMY
VAN ETEN, TOM	59	USMC
VAN HAZEBROECK, CONRAD	63	USAF
VAN OOSTERHOUT, JOSEPH	65	US NAVY
VARDA, JAMES	61	US ARMY
VORIS, JAMES P	65	US NAVY
VORIS, WILLIAM	65	US ARMY
WALEGA, RICHARD	66	US ARMY
WALLER, ARTHUR	87	USMC
WALSH, JAMES R.	61	US ARMY
WATKINS, ROBERT	78	USAF
WATSON, GREG	69	US ARMY
WEAVER, SEBASTIAN	79	USMC
WEBER, GEORGE	62	US COAST GUARD
WELSFORD, ROBERT C	68	US ARMY
WILCOXON, DARREL JR	86	USMC
WILKUS, ROBERT	55	US ARMY
WILLIAMS, RICHARD	62	US ARMY
WILSON, DERRICK	80	USAF
WISZNIEWSKI, ROBERT L OSA	TCH	US ARMY
WITHERS, LLOYD	64	US NAVY
WOLF, JOSEPH	55	US NAVY
WOOD, DONALD	63	US NAVY
WOOD, KENNETH	65	USMC
YOUNG FRANCIS W. (FRANK)	63	US NAVY
YOUNG, DARNELL L	78	USAF
YOUNG, KENNETH	60	US NAVY
YOUNGMAN, ROBERT W.	61	AIR NATIONAL GUARD
YOUPEL, ANDREW G.	66	US NAVY
ZACKEY, RALPH L.	70	USMC
ZATARSKI, CASIMIR E.	70	US ARMY
ZATARSKI, JOHN	67	US ARMY



# MEN OF MENDEL KILLED IN VIETNAM WAR



They sent me  
and my friends  
and my generation  
to Vietnam to die  
and some of us did.  
The rest of us have been dying  
in bits and pieces  
since the first day they sent us  
home.

Unknown



	CPT EDWIN HEISSE US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1957 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM APRIL 24, 1971			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	2LT WILLIAM F. OTTO US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1959 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM MAY 11, 1966			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	MAJ JEFFREY LEMON USAF MENDEL CLASS OF 1961 MISSING IN ACTION IN LAOS APRIL 25, 1971			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	1LT RONALD J. JANOUSEK USMC MENDEL CLASS OF 1962 MIA IN VIETNAM AUGUST 9, 1969			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	WILLIAM SCHOLTEN USAF MENDEL CLASS OF 1962 PILOT KILLED TAKING OFF AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN ASIA IN 1970			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	SP4 WILLIAM C. GEIS US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1964 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM JANUARY 28, 1966			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	Lcpl WILLIAM J. OSKILANE USMC MENDEL CLASS OF 1964 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM SEPTEMBER 16, 1968			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC ALAN BUTKUS US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1965 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM APRIL 12, 1968			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC CRAIG M. CLANCY USMC MENDEL CLASS OF 1965 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM JUNE 18, 1969			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC JACK DALTON US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1965 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM NOVEMBER 21, 1966			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	Lcpl ROBERT MILLER USMC MENDEL CLASS OF 1965 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM JUNE 6, 1967			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC JERRY FLEMING US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1966 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM JUNE 18, 1968			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC JAMES LAWLOR US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1966 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM APRIL 25, 1967			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC FRANCIS SCHWARTZ US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1966 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM AUGUST 14, 1968			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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	PFC ROBERT HOJNACKI US ARMY MENDEL CLASS OF 1969 KILLED IN ACTION VIETNAM SEPTEMBER 22, 1971			Vietnam Veterans Memorial
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# PERSONAL MEMORIAL MESSAGES

Thank you for your sacrifice, your bravery,  
and the example you set for all of us. Happy  
Veterans Day! Terry Dubiel ('68) US Army

Beverly Records thanks our Mendel Brothers  
who served & sacrificed so we can enjoy the  
freedoms we so dearly cherish today  
Dreznes Brothers; Jack (66) US ARMY,  
Mike (68) & Randy (71)



"In Memory of All My Mendel Brothers Who  
Have Served This Country to Protect Our  
Freedom" Tom McGreal ('58)

The extended Gainer Family Honors All Mendel Veterans

Especially:

Our Cousin Bobby Miller who attended Mendel for his Freshman  
Year and subsequently joined the U.S. Marine Corps:

Lance Corporal Robert Miller U.S.M.C Killed in Action,  
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1967 Republic of South Vietnam

From:

Jim Gainer: Class of 1959, U.S. Army, Chicago Police Officer

Thomas Gainer: (Deceased) Class of 1959, U.S. Marine Corps

Tim Gainer: Class of 1961, U.S. Army, Chicago Police Officer

Jack Gainer: (Deceased) Class of 1963, Chicago Police Officer

Robert Gainer Class of 1963, U.S. Navy

Terry Gainer: Class of 1965, U.S. Navy, Chicago Police Officer

Don Larisey: Class of 1965, U.S. Navy, Chicago Police Officer

Marty Gainer: Class of 1970, U.S. Army, Chicago Police Officer



# PERSONAL

## MEMORIAL MESSAGES

God Bless Our Vets! Mike Chevalier ('73) Retired Chicago Police Sergeant, Jim Chevalier ('66) US NAVY Vietnam Vet & Retired Oak Forest Police Officer, & Joe Chevalier USMC & Retired Chicago Police Detective

**"Blessings and peace to my fellow Mendel Veterans, First Responders, and Families."  
Ernie (Skip) Dalle Molle ('67)**

On this Veterans Day, let us take a moment to remember and honor the brave men and women who have served our country with unwavering dedication. We offer our heartfelt gratitude for their sacrifices, both seen and unseen. May God's love and grace surround them, providing comfort and strength. May we never forget the price they have paid to safeguard our freedoms. Let us pray for their well-being and extend our support to their families. Today, we honor their courage and selflessness, and may their memory inspire us to strive for a world of peace and unity.

Russ Petrizzo ('68)



## MENDEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

The Mendel Class of 1966 honors our Fallen Classmates and all Veterans and First Responders for their Valor and Sacrifice in service for God and Country.



**LEST WE FORGET!**





**To all those in uniform serving today and to those who have served in the past, we honor you today and every day.**



**19th Ward**  
YOUTH & COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

## The Mendel Class of 1968 honors All Veterans, Especially Our 1968 Monarch Classmates:

TOM CANNON US ARMY	PHIL CARTER US ARMY,
TOM CRONQUISTS US ARMY	JIM DABROWSKI USMC
JOHN FANNING US ARMY	MARK GLIM USAF
RICH KAFFKA US NAVY	TOM KRZECZOWSK US NAVY
JOHN LARSEN US NAVY	JIM MADEL US ARMY
RICH NOWAK USMC	RUSS PETRIZZO US ARMY
PATRICK REILLEY US ARMY	JIM ROSSIANO US ARMY
BOB WELSFORD US ARMY	

For this Veterans Day, take heart in knowing that this country is in your debt, and is thankful for the sacrifices you have made. Putting our country first deserves so much more appreciation than you have received. Words are simply not enough to thank you. Your unimaginable effort will not be forgotten, nor taken for granted.

Pat Regan, Fred Smith, John Bourbon, Mike Dreznes,  
Rich Voltz & John Fanning

A graphic with a background of yellow stars and stripes, reminiscent of the American flag. The text is overlaid on this background.

WE DON'T KNOW THEM ALL  
BUT WE OWE THEM ALL!

**THANK YOU**

# In Honor of All Those Who Have Served



## John Fanning Class of 1968



MENDEL CATHOLIC PREP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Veterans Day Mass & Ceremony St. Rita High School

*Today We Come Together in Faith to Pay Tribute  
to Our Fellow Monarch Brothers...  
To Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice,  
We Pledge to You That You Will Never Be  
Forgotten.*

*We Must Recognize These Military Individuals  
Who Each Day Provide us Protection  
And a Better Life.*

*We Are Thankful For The Special Bond That Each  
of us Enjoys With Our Fellow Classmates as a  
Result of Our Mendel Experience.*

*It Has Been a Privilege and an Honor to Share The  
Friendships of Our Mendel Brothers.*

**GO YOU MEN OF MENDEL!**

*The Gavin Brothers*

*Tom Gavin '67, Glenn Gavin '68 Jack Gavin '74*





11th November  
**VETERANS DAY**

— ★ ★ ★ —  
Honoring All Who Served