Special thanks:

Tom Hunt,
Director, Ventura County General Services Agency
General Services Agency Staff
Sea Cadet Trident Patrol 65
Scouting America
Katie Phillipson
John Ficken
Lyn Fairly
Heavenly Doves by Pepe Gonzalez
Luna's Party Rentals
Gold Coast Veterans Foundation Staff & Volunteers

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GOLD COAST VETERANS FOUNDATION



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

November 11, 2026

Honoring All Who Have Served

2026 Veteran Honorees

Jim Monahan, U.S. Army. A Ventura native, business owner, former mayor, and founding member of the Gold Coast Veterans Foundation. Drafted into the Army, Jim served in Korea with the 1st Cavalry Division. He helped build this memorial site and the Ventura Veterans Home.

Ray Flores, U.S. Marine Corps. Born and raised in Ventura, Ray enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1951 at age 19. A machine gunner with the 1st Marine Division, he fought on the front lines in Korea, including the Battle of Bunker Hill. Ray is a Purple Heart recipient.

Pete Kimbrell, U.S. Navy. Pete joined the Navy in 1950 and served as a plane captain and aviation electrician on two Korean War deployments aboard the USS VALLEY FORGE and USS BOXER. He went on to a long civil service career at Nellis, Edwards, and ultimately retired from NAS Point Mugu.

Darrell Evans, U.S. Air Force. Darrell enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1947 at age 17, and during his time at boot camp the service officially became the U.S. Air Force. A radio operator and technician, Darrell ran bomb-target operations at Roswell AFB in New Mexico until 1951.

BM1 Garrit Speckhard, U.S. Coast Guard. A fifth-generation service member with 13 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, Garrit is the Operations Petty Officer at Station Channel Islands, where he conducts search and rescue, law enforcement, and drug interdiction.

Garrit accepts the flag on behalf of his grandfather, **John Walsh,** who served from 1951 to 1955 in the Marshall Islands, servicing WB-29 aircraft that sampled atomic clouds.

Welcome

Presentation of Colors & National Anthem
Sea Cadet Trident Patrol 65
Katie Phillipson

Invocation
Chaplain Steve Mounts

Recognition of Dignitaries

Opening Remarks
Ventura County Supervisor Matt LaVere
Ventura County Veteran Services Officer Jim McHugh

California Department of Veterans Affairs Proclamation
Ventura Veterans Home Administrator Ray Sena

Keynote Address
Niel Smith
Board Chair, Gold Coast Veterans Foundation

Veteran Honoree Flag Presentations

Special Recognition

Armed Forces Medley
Army - The Army Goes Rolling Along
Marine Corps - The Marines' Hymn
Navy - Anchors Aweigh
Air Force - The U.S. Air Force (Wild Blue Yonder)
Space Force - Semper Supra
Coast Guard - Semper Paratus

Closing Remarks

Bagpipes
John Ficken

Dove Release