

# WVI Newsletter

## September 2021



### All Female Honor Flight:

The Villages (Florida) has a wait list of 580 male veterans for an Honor Flight plus women veterans. Therefore; it was decided to raise funds for an extra flight for the women veterans. The Tri-County Women Veterans, Villages for Veterans and Villages Honor Flight raised \$100,000 to transport 65 women veterans and 65 guardians to Washington DC. It took 53 fundraising events over nine months to meet their goal. The Honor Flight is scheduled for May, 2022.

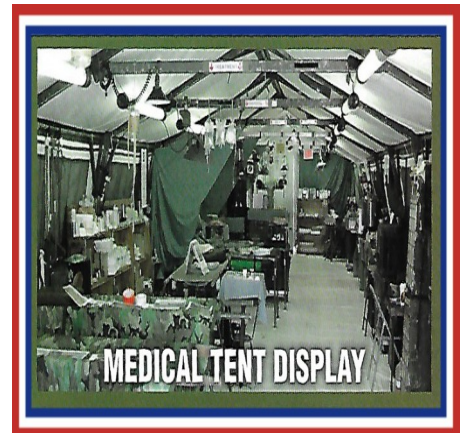
Information: Department of Veteran Affairs Center for Women Veterans July, 2021

### MAPS Air Museum:

The museum is located at 2260 International Parkway, North Canton, Ohio and is well worth the 2 hour 30 minute drive. Visitors can sit in the gondola of a Goodyear Blimp or the cockpit of a Russian MiG. There are 45 aircraft available, from the 1908 Martin Glider to the modern F-14 Tomcat to examine. Plus there are over 60 displays covering the Civil War through the Gulf War that highlights heroes who made aviation history. From the Red Baron to Rosie the Riveter, from the Tuskegee Airman to the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASPS) the museum provides an introduction to the men and women who made history. For those that served in a Field Evacuation Hospital there is a medical tent display that will bring back memories of caring for the injured. There is a fully stocked gift shop for the shoppers in the group. Stop in and say hello to the ladies that staff the library and check out the wealth of historical military information on the shelves.

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 9:00am – 4:30pm and Sunday 11:30am – 4:00pm. Admission: \$8.00 veterans. Additional information: [www.mapsairmuseum.org](http://www.mapsairmuseum.org)

Information & Photo: MAPS Air Museum brochure



### Desert Storm 30 year Anniversary:

A number of our WVI members were assigned to the 350<sup>th</sup> Evacuation Hospital, Detachment #1 Toledo, Ohio when they were activated for Desert Shield. The 350<sup>th</sup> Evacuation Hospital traveled to the King Khalid Military City where they set up a 400-bed hospital. The hospital was located 70 miles from Kuwait in support of the ground troops.

Members of the 350<sup>th</sup> gathered June 26 at Don Juan's to renew old friendships and to mark the 30 year anniversary of Desert Storm. The event was also a fundraiser for the National Desert Storm War Memorial which will be located in Washington DC at the Memorial Mall. Picture provided by C. Nagy



**\*9/11 Remembrance Shadow Relay:**

“This year marks the 20th anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11. Since that day, 174 women have been killed in combat zones defending freedom around the globe. Our Memorial (Military Women’s Memorial) will pay tribute to these women and honor those killed on that day with 174 mile "Remembrance Relays" from 5-11 Sept. Specialist Julie Hickey, USAR is one of those women and she was from Galloway, Ohio.

The idea is to set up "shadow relays", teams of 12 who collectively complete 174 miles over the week...that's about 2.1 miles/person/day...and the miles can be completed any way you want: walk, run, bike, treadmill. Miles are recorded and sent to our Memorial.

You can register your group by going to the "Calendar" section on our Memorial website. And, for those of you who aren't in Ohio, there is a map with the names of all of the women who we are especially honoring. You can walk in memory of a specific servicewoman or all our fallen heroes. If you as an individual or your group decides to participate, please let me know. Maybe we can get an Ohio team of 12 members!

There will be a live relay from Shanksville, PA to our Memorial during that week and the final leg, from the USAF Memorial to our Memorial will be open to those who would like to preregister and walk. As always, donations are welcome and sponsors are needed.”

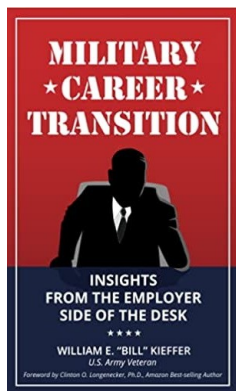
Submitted by: Judy Peterson COL, USAF (Ret.) Ohio Ambassador Military Women’s Memorial

**Military Career Transition:**

William “Bill” Kieffer (US Army Veteran) is the author of a book titled “Military Career Transition” that became available on Amazon July 8, 2021. Amazon writes “This book is an invaluable collection of over 150 insights, observations, recurring topics of discussion, and points of concern, gathered from numerous conversations, engagements, and interactions with transitioning service members, veterans, employers and many others. It offers “intelligence preparation of the career battlefield” to help service members and veterans prepare for the big, scary, unknown, civilian work world they are entering. If you want to learn about successfully closing the culture gap that stands between the military and the civilian work world, and make the most of your career transition and post-military career, this book is for you. “

[https://www.amazon.com/Military-Career-Transition-Insights-Employer/dp/1737371405/ref=tmm\\_pap\\_swatch\\_0?\\_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=](https://www.amazon.com/Military-Career-Transition-Insights-Employer/dp/1737371405/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=)

Photo’s provided by: Amazon



Bill Kieffer

**Martha J. Williams (Army):**

Due to limitations in work opportunities for women, Martha made the decision to join the Women's Army Corps (WAC's) in 1957. This began a 22 year career of service in the Army with postings throughout the US., Germany and Japan.

Martha first trained as a Cryptologist and in Telecommunications. She later became an Administrative Specialist in Germany and on Governor's Island, NY. While at the Pentagon she worked in communications and public relations where she coordinated funerals for prestigious military and government officials (IE. Dwight D. Eisenhower) and became a military liaison to Congress. At Fort Sam Houston she served as a company commander responsible for a unit of rather troubled and quite challenging enlistees. During her last tour of foreign duty to Camp Zama, Japan in 1976 Martha worked as an administrator for a unit of Medical Addition Specialists. Martha retired from the Army in 1979 due to injuries sustained in a bombing incident while on an earlier highly classified mission outside the country.

Martha received many commendations, awards and metals: the Army Commendation with Fourth Oak Cluster, Good Conduct Metal (Seventh Award), the National Defense Metal and a Marksmanship Badge (M1).

In 1992 she moved into the Armed Forces Retirement Home (Washington, DC) where she was very active as a volunteer, participated in many activities and lead a women veteran's group. She was asked to serve as a representative to the US Congress for her fellow Soldiers' Home colleagues and was recognized by the President of the Untied States for her volunteerism.

Martha moved to Temperance, MI in 2016 to be near family in Ohio and Michigan. At the age of 87, Martha passed away at the Merit House Nursing Home in Toledo, Ohio on May 8, 2021

To read more about Martha's life and many adventures Google "Martha J. Williams Obituary". WVI would like to thank Martha's family for introducing us to Martha and her distinguished military career.

Information & photo: Martha J. Williams obituary



**Martha J. Williams**

**November 12-May 8, 2021**