

# Anaheim 13<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit Adoption Committee Newsletter August 2020





It is with a heavy heart that we remember the ultimate sacrifice made by Corporal Jonathan Currier, a member of the 13th MEU, on August 9, 2018. At just 21 years old, he went overboard in the Sulu Sea off the Philippine coast during their 2018 deployment. Despite an exhaustive search that lasted five days and covered more than 13,000 nautical miles, with search aircraft flying 110 sorties and a combined 300 flight hours, his body was not recovered and he was pronounced deceased on August 17, 2018. May he continue to Rest in Peace and may his loved ones be comforted as they celebrate his life at this second anniversary of his death.



The call from the 13th MEU Chaplain came in a few weeks ago for much needed items for our deployed 13th MEU Marines. Please contact us at 714-637-5575 if you can donate items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, soap, razors, etc. Monetary donations are also welcome to help with shipping costs.

As a result of having to cancel the Semper 5K, our biggest fundraiser, the Committee has had to make very difficult decisions about cutting programs in support of our 13th MEU families. We are so grateful to those who have made donations recently which is helping us to continue supporting our young military families. If you would like to help our 13th MEU families during this especially difficult time, your support would be truly appreciated. There are several ways that you can make a donation. You can mail or drop off (see below), you can call to arrange for a pick up, you can make a donation through <a href="PayPal">PayPal</a> or you can make your donation with a credit or debit card via a <a href="Square Donation">Square Donation</a>. Our families are grateful for your support as they are dealing with not just the pandemic but deployment as well. Please note that donations should not be mailed or taken to City Hall as it is still closed to the public. Thank you !!!!

Your tax deductible donation (as allowed by law) for any of our events can be mailed to us: **Anaheim 13th MEU Adoption Committee**, 154 Jerrilee Lane, Anaheim, CA 92807. Donations can also be dropped off at City Hall, 7th Floor or to arrange for a pickup, please call 714-637-5575. If you prefer, you can send a check made payable to the Committee.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Committee Meetings**

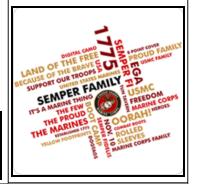
Via Conference Call Until Further Notice 10:00am

> August 19, 2020 September 16, 2020 October 21, 2020 November 18, 2020

No Meeting in December







## 13th MEU 2020 Deployment

























# **Stay Connected**

Adoption Committee Website: anaheim13thmeu.org
Facebook: facebook.com/13thMEU
Semper 5K Website: semper5k.org

Semper 5K Facebook: facebook.com/Semper5k

# Special Thanks to Our Sponsors!!



Mr. Jerry Zomorodian of All American Petroleum Corp.







### **Get Involved**

### Write

If you would like to send a letter or card of support to a member of the 13th MEU, please send it to:

"Any Marine" c/o CMDR Spivey SPMAGTF 20.2 CR CE Unit 89035 Box 160 FPO AP 96610-3500

### Donate

The Anaheim 13th MEU Adoption Committee is a volunteer based, citizen-run 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. We rely solely on corporate and individual donations in our support of the Marines, Sailors and families of the 13th MEU.

**Donate through PayPal** - Charity ID #80-0153575

#### Friends of the Committee

Albertsons - St College & South Anaheim Discovery Christian **S**chool Anaheim Hills Rotary Club Circle C Storage, Orange Disneyland Resort Dwight Reilly Enterey Life Sciences **C**onsulting Hunsaker & Associates Jeanne Spence Andy Kennedy, CPA ~ Tellone Financial Kiwanis Club of Greater **A**naheim Knights of Columbus, Council #9195 Lillian Treiberg Meghan Shigo Orange Lutheran High School Lancer Baseball Orange Republican Women **F**ederated Selman Chevrolet The Rock Community Church, Anaheim Hills VCA Yorba Regional

Animal Hospital Vietnam Veterans of America -Chapter 756 They weren't famous. Eight Marines and one Sailor serving with the 15th MEU died during a training mission in an amphibious assault vehicle (AAV) on July 30th off the coast near Camp Pendleton. While not members of our 13th MEU, the sacrifices made must be recognized and they must be honored - anything less would be shameful. Over the years the 15th MEU has filled in for the 13th MEU at City events when the 13th was deployed. The Committee has given support to this unit when community response has been above and beyond what was needed for our 13th MEU families. Over the last week and a half, we have been overwhelmed with thanksgiving and awe for these nine young men who knew what it meant to serve one's country, something most of us will never know.

Lance Corporal Guillermo S. Perez, 20, of New Braunfels, Texas, a rifleman with Bravo Company, Battalion Landing Team (BLT) I/4, I5th MEU. Pfc. Bryan J. Baltierra, I9, of Corona, California, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. Lance Cpl. Marco A. Barranco, 21, of Montebello, California, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU Pfc. Evan A. Bath, I9, of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. U.S. Navy Hospitalman Christopher Gnem, 22, of Stockton, California, a hospital corpsman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. Pfc. Jack Ryan Ostrovsky, 21, of Bend, Oregon, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. Cpl. Wesley A. Rodd, 23, of Harris, Texas, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. Lance Cpl. Chase D. Sweetwood, I9, of Portland, Oregon, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU. Cpl. Cesar A. Villanueva, 21, of Riverside, California, a rifleman with Bravo Company, BLT I/4, I5th MEU.

No, they weren't famous and their funerals won't be publicized on TV, but their lives were very important. We will be forever grateful for brave men such as these - their sacrifice will never be forgotten. Fair Winds and Following Seas. Rest in Peace, Heroes, Rest in Peace!!!!

