

Attention VMFA-531 Marines! Reunion Update! 8-22-2026

The 531 Gray Ghost Squadron invites you to our annual reunion, held with the Marine Fighter Foray 2026 in Dallas, Texas, from October 14–18, 2026.

Registration is now open on the Marine Fighter Foray website, where you can find links to the *Events*, *Schedule*, *Registration*, and Hyatt Regency reservations. All reunion and Fighter Foray activities will take place at the Hyatt Regency Dallas, so book early to secure the event hotel rate.

The reunion will feature a full lineup of events, including a Wednesday golf tournament, a tour of the Medal of Honor Museum, a wine tasting at Red Dirt Cellars, an F-35 flight simulator, a presentation on Marine aviation and combat operations, a Double-A bourbon tasting, a tour of the Lockheed Martin F-35 assembly plant, the Friday Squadron Dinner, and the closing Saturday Fighter Foray Banquet. When registering for the Friday *Squadron Dinner*, please be sure to check the *VMFA-531* box. We encourage you to register with the MFF 2026 soon, as all offsite tours have limited seating and are approaching capacity.

On Wednesday, October 14, at 6:30 p.m., the 531 Gray Ghost Squadron will host a private dinner at *Steakyard*, featuring open-flame Brazilian BBQ. After dinner, we will hold our “Second Chance Scholarship” Auction. Start looking through your closet, attic, garage, and mancave for Grey Ghost or Marine Corps memorabilia you are willing to donate for a great cause. This year, seven of our children and grandchildren received scholarships totaling \$14,500 from the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and the Second Chance Scholarship. Bring your cash—competitive bidding on memorabilia has topped \$300 in the past, and it promises to be a fun evening. Dinner is \$40 per person, including tax and tip; a cash bar will be available. We are also offering everyone a VMFA-531 Challenge coin for a \$20 donation to the Second Chance Scholarship fund.

Great news—we’re bringing back squadron shirts after several years! You can pre-order one of three VMFA-531 styles and pick it up at the reunion. See the shirt photos below for pricing, sizes, and material details. Home shipping will also be available after the reunion.

If you plan to attend the Steakyard dinner, donate for a Challenge Coin , or purchase VMFA-531 shirts, please contact our reunion coordinator, Rusty Smith, at rustysmith1521@gmail.com to arrange payment through our organization. These items are separate from MFF 2026 registration.

MFF 2026 now has more than 260 registered members. VMFA-531 currently has 31 attendees, and we are still working toward our goal of 50 Gray Ghosts so we can make a strong showing in the Marine fighter community. Spouses and family members are welcome, and you do not need to be an active 531 Gray Ghost Squadron member to attend.

We are only weeks out, so please make your hotel reservation as soon as possible; rooms at the Hyatt Regency are expected to fill. The Hyatt offers a 72-hour cancellation policy before check-in. For updates throughout the summer, follow our Facebook pages and website. If you have questions or comments, post them below or email Rusty Smith at rustysmith1521@gmail.com

We look forward to reconnecting with longtime squadron mates and welcoming new ones. We hope to see you in Dallas for MFF 2026!

Semper Fi!

Use the following links for MFF 2026, event registration, Hyatt Regency discounted rooms, and the 531 Gray Ghost Squadron website: <https://www.marinefighterforay.com/> <https://www.events.af-reg.com/e/MarineFighterForay26> <https://www.hyatt.com/events/en-US/group-booking/DFWRD/G-MAFF> <https://531grayghostsquadron.org/>