



The Sentinel

The Newsletter of the Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, Inc.
Issue 30 – July 2026



Chairman's Message

Things continue to go very well at our wonderful memorial. We have passed the 1,000 visitors mark a month ahead of where we were last year! We are closing in on our 3,000th overall visitor since our grand opening. Support from the community continues to be strong. Visitors come from far and wide, including a couple from Nottingham, England!

We have had a good last three months to be sure. We had a day in the gardens supported financially by Duke Energy, with labor provided by Sebring High and Hardee County High AFJROTC students, the local Civil Air Patrol group, and the Young Americans for Freedom Club. Some of their parents helped too. This effort helped recover from the damage of the severe freezing weather experienced earlier. Thanks to all for their help.

By the way, though it is a while until October, our reservation form for the 2nd Annual Gala is included on the last page. We hope you will attend!

Finally, I want to highlight the importance of our nation's 250th anniversary. And what a wonderful nation we have. Happy Birthday, America!!!

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely, Mike Borders, Chairman



**This newsletter is published quarterly:
Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct**



Calendar of Events

On-going:

Open 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Tuesday—Saturday

TBD

8:00 AM

Second Annual Golf Tournament

22 October 2026

5:30 PM

Second Annual Gala Dinner
(reservation form below)

19 December 2026

10:00 AM

Wreaths Across America Ceremony



Funding Status

Please support us with your donation. See the "How You Can Help" section on pages 10-11 for more info. As a non-profit, we rely on your donations to keep the doors open, and they are greatly appreciated.



Our crew at the Sebring Soda Fest in early April. We were right on the Circle and were able to talk to a bunch of folks about our memorial.



Peter Kappesser of Elite Plumbing presents Vice Chairman Raymond McIntyre with a \$550 donation. Mr. Kappesser is the great-grandson of Medal of Honor recipient Private Peter Kappesser of New York.



Have you ever noticed the size of the oak tree in front of the Visitors Center? It is REALLY BIG!!

The photos below are from our "Garden Day." We had great support from Sebring and Hardee County High School AFJROTC, the Civil Air Patrol, the Young Americans for Freedom, and their parents. In the last of these is Tiffany Dale (center) of Duke Energy. Duke provided a grant to pay for the garden work following the recent freezing weather. Pictured with her from left to right are Don and Judy Laycock, Debbe and Kevin Roberts, and Mike Borders



We were pleased to have a visit from several residents of Vivo Health Care of Sebring. Our facility is fully ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant. We love having group visits!



Our Mission

To honor and preserve the legacy of Florida Medal of Honor recipients through education, leadership, and inspiring displays, ensuring their courage and sacrifice are never forgotten.

Our Vision

To inspire all generations to embody the six character traits of Medal of Honor recipients, fostering a deeper appreciation and commitment to the values of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism.

Our Goals

- Maintain the Memorial and Visitors Center
- Provide educational outreach to K-12 school systems

What We Do

Honor Florida's Heroes

Preserve the memories of the 24 Floridians who have been awarded the MOH and inspire others to build on their legacies.



Inspire Our Community

Encourage our community, young and old, to embody the ideals of the MOH (sacrifice, commitment, courage, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism).

Educate and Inform

Work with K-12 schools to promote the virtues, behaviors, and choices of everyday heroes as exemplified by the MOH awardees through thought-provoking curriculum and active learning activities.



How You Can Help

Additional funds and help are needed for, operating costs and maintenance of this unique and special facility.

Volunteer

- Be a museum docent
- Assist with the K-12 educational outreach program.

Donations

Tax-deductible donations accepted:

- Online – <https://tinyurl.com/233kmcfe>
- Phone – text "FLMOHM" to 44321
- Mail – See page 11

Sponsorship Levels

- **Platinum** \$50,000 and up
- **Gold** \$25,000 – \$49,999.99
- **Silver** \$10,000 – \$24,999.99
- **Bronze** \$5,000 – \$9,999.99
- **Brass** \$1,000 – \$4,999.99
- **Founding Member** \$100 – \$999.99

Our Newest Members:

- David G. Finley (Life)

Sponsor News

- **Elite Plumbing: Founding Sponsor**
- **Frank Youngman: Founding Sponsor**



Thank You!

How To Become a Member

Please consider becoming a member of the Florida Medal of Honor Memorial. Members are invited to special previews and member-only activities and are kept informed of special events via a newsletter, social media, and the website. There are three different membership levels: Annual, Five-Year, and Life. An application form is provided on the next-to-last page.

How to Become a Sponsor

As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit/ non-profit, we rely on donations and fundraising. Our staff is all volunteer. We have a full range of expenses. Donations may be tax-deductible. Go to the "How You Can Help" section on the previous page to see how to donate or sponsor our organization and use the contact information on the last page.



Board of Directors & Other Volunteers

Chairman: Michael R. Borders

Vice Chairman: C. Raymond McIntyre

Junior Vice Chairman: Byron Oakley

Treasurer: Richard Karkowski

Education: Erik Christensen

Construction Project Mgr.: Donald Laycock

Secretary/Asst. Const. Project Mgr.: Judy Laycock

Marketing: Moddie Desselle & Heather Oakley

IT: Shawn Nickel

Chaplain: Denise Williams

Master Gardeners: Mark and Marie Milia

Legal Advisor: John McClure

CPA: Mark Cox



The Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, Inc. is an incorporated Florida non-profit organization. We are non-partisan, apolitical, and a 501(c)(3), charitable, non-profit, tax-exempt organization. The FLMOHM is a 501(c)(3) / IRS EIN# 45-3798922 / State of Florida Corporation N16000001848 / My Florida Market Place 85-8017597686C-0 / vendor # F45398922001/ D-U-N-S Number 05-868-9165 / FL Tax Exempt #Registration #: CH56194 "A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 1.800.435.7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.



Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, Inc.

Website: www.flmohm.org

Mail: 442 S. Eucalyptus St., Sebring, Florida 33870

Telephone: 863.451.5862

Email: FLMOHM@gmail.org

Facebook: FLMOHMemorial

X: FLMOHM

Alwyn Crendall Cashe

Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army
Oviedo, FL

Citation

Sergeant First Class Alwyn C. Cashe distinguished himself by acts of gallantry above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Platoon Sergeant with Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division in Salah Ad Din Province, Iraq, on October 17th, 2005. While on a nighttime mounted patrol near an enemy-laden village, the Bradley Fighting Vehicle, which Sergeant First Class Cashe was commanding, was attacked by enemy small-arms fire and an improvised explosive device, which disabled the vehicle and engulfed it in flames. After extracting himself from the vehicle, Sergeant First Class Cashe set about extracting the driver, who was trapped in the vehicle. After opening the driver's hatch, Sergeant First Class Cashe and a fellow soldier extracted the driver, who was engulfed in the flames. During the course of extinguishing the flames on the driver and extracting him from the vehicle, Sergeant First Class Cashe's fuel-soaked uniform, ignited and caused severe burns to his body. Ignoring his painful

wounds, Sergeant First Class Cashe then moved to the rear of the vehicle to continue in aiding his fellow soldiers who were trapped in the troop compartment. At this time, the enemy noted his movements and began to direct their fire on his position. When another element of the company engaged the enemy, Sergeant First Class Cashe seized the opportunity and moved into the open troop door and aided four of his soldiers in escaping the burning vehicle. Having extracted the four soldiers, Sergeant First Class Cashe noticed two other soldiers had not been accounted for and again he entered the [vehicle] to retrieve them. At this time, reinforcements arrived to further suppress the enemy and establish a Casualty Collection Point. Despite the severe second-and third-degree burns covering the majority of his body, Sergeant First Class Cashe persevered through the pain to encourage his fellow soldiers and ensure they received needed medical care. When medical evacuation helicopters began to arrive, Sergeant First Class Cashe selflessly refused evacuation until all of the other wounded soldiers were evacuated first. Sergeant First Class Cashe's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty were keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



Conflict: **War on Terrorism (Iraq)**

Location of Action: **Salah Ad Bin Province, Iraq**

Date of Action: **October 17, 2005**

MOH Awarded Posthumously: **December 16, 2021**



Florida Medal of Honor Memorial (FLMOHM) Membership Application

Members are invited to special previews, member-only activities, and are kept informed of special events via a newsletter, social media, and the website.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Last, First, MI) (dd-mm-yyyy)

Address: _____
Street

City State Zip Code

Telephone No.: _____

E-Mail: _____

Military Branch (If applicable) _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Present/Former Occupation: _____

Types of membership:

- ☐ Annual (\$25)
- ☐ Five-Year (\$100)
- ☐ Life (\$250)

Return this completed form with enclosed dues to any docent at the FLMOHM Visitors Center or mail it to: Florida Medal of Honor Memorial, 442 S. Eucalyptus St., Sebring, FL 33870. Questions: call 863.451.5862 or email FLMOHM@gmail.org.



(FLMOHM Use Only): Member No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____

2nd Annual Gala



The Florida Medal of Honor Memorial invites you to attend
5:30 PM, Thursday, October 22nd, 2026, at Island View of Sun N' Lake.

Program

No-host cocktails & Social

Toasts

Dinner

Dress code is dark suit,
black tie, dress uniform,
evening wear appropriate for
the occasion

Menu

Mixed Green Salad

Warm Rolls

Maple Glazed Pork Loin

or

Herb Roasted Chicken

or

North Atlantic Salmon

Key Lime Pie

Coffee or Tea

R.S.V.P. by 28 September 2026 (sooner is better)

Please Reserve _____ seats for the Gala

A check for \$_____ is enclosed @ \$100.00 per person
Mail check payable to FLMOHM, 442 S. Eucalyptus St., Sebring, FL 33870

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____

Name: _____ Pork _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____