

INCOMING 1/7 NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



U.S. MARINE CORPS

1st Bn 7th Marines Vietnam Association



10 November 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

For 249 years, Marines have served as our Nation's sentinels of freedom. As we celebrate our Corps' birthday this year, I encourage all Marines to reflect on our legacy forged in blood on battlefields since 1775, and to rededicate ourselves to carrying that legacy untarnished into the future. Collectively, we who wear the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor have an obligation to uphold the ideals of self-discipline, warfighting proficiency, professionalism, and personal conduct that define what it means to be a Marine. I know you are all up to the task.

Twenty years ago this month, Marines fought and won the Second Battle of Fallujah, a brutal, grinding house to house fight, whose victory ultimately paved the way for the stabilization of the Republic of Iraq. Often in Iraq there were no true front lines, and by necessity, Fallujah was a battle in which every Marine fought, demonstrating once again our cornerstone philosophy that Every Marine is a Rifleman.

Our history bears witness to Marines of all stripes picking up their rifles and fighting for Corps and Country when the call came. From Wake Island to the Chosin Reservoir to Khe Sanh to Camp Bastion, every Marine fought. Our future battles will be no different. Our rear areas will be as vulnerable as our front lines and every Marine from our infantry battalions

to our aviation squadrons to our headquarters and support elements will have to stand-to when called.

Preparing for the threats of the future requires the same exceptional standards and ironclad discipline that are the hallmarks of our Corps. Twenty years ago in Fallujah, our predecessors staunchly adhered to these virtues, earned our Nation's trust, and ensured the U.S. Marine Corps would remain the most feared fighting force in the world. It is our sworn duty to uphold those standards and stay true to our Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Though technology and equipment change, the Marine Corps' culture of excellence must not. The road ahead is far from certain, but our ethos will never change — *Every Marine a Rifleman and Everyone Fights*.

As I've said before, it is the honor of my lifetime to be a Marine and serve as your Commandant. I'm proud to stand alongside each of you, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for our Corps. When I travel to visit Marines here at home and deployed around the globe, I find absolute confidence that this generation of Marines has what it takes to uphold our Corps' legacy and prevail in any conflict we face. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eric M. Smith".

General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Happy 249th Birthday



2026 Reunion Information

Where: The Florida Hotel & Conference Center, Orlando, Fla

Room Reservations: 800-588-4656. Guests need to identify themselves as attendee of 1st Bn. 7th Marines Reunion.

Rooms must be guaranteed with a credit card at time of booking. Deposit of one night's room and tax will be charged to the credit card five (5) days prior to arrival. Hotel check in is after 4:00PM.

Address: 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, FL 32809

Dates: 5-7 May 2026

Room Rate: \$135.00 +taxes, room rate is good for 3 days before and After the reunion.

Room Deadline: April 6, 2026.



**Recent reported deaths
among 1/7 Marines.**



NAME	CO	DATE
FULKERSON, JIM	C CO.	09/13/2024
HANNEMAN, TOM	B CO.	08 /17 /2024

**Please remind your family members to notify us of your passing so
that you can be listed in our taps section.**