

INCOMING

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**1ST BN 7TH MARINES
VIETNAM ASSOCIATION**

NOV. 2025



REUNION
ORLANDO, FL
MAY 5-7, 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS



A Message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps

10 November 2025

Two hundred and fifty years ago, before our Nation declared its independence, a small group of men gathered in Philadelphia and formed a Corps of Marines. From that moment, our story has been bound to the story of America itself. A quarter of a millennium later, Marines remain at the center of our Nation's defense. Ready to fight, ready to win, and ready to uphold the trust placed in us since 1775.

Across centuries, Marines have fought on distant shores and in desperate battles, earning a reputation for discipline, toughness, and valor. From the Revolution to the World Wars, from Chapultepec to today's operations across the globe, every generation has proven worthy of the title Marine. They secured liberty, defended allies, and carried forward the promise of a free Nation, and a free world. We are the heirs of that legacy, and we are its stewards.

This anniversary reminds us that our standards are the foundation of our Corps. Honor, Courage, and Commitment are not abstractions, but the code that binds us to one another and to all who went before. Every Marine, in every clime and place, must hold true to these values. The conflicts ahead will demand nothing less.

I could not be prouder of the Marines I see serving today. At home, at sea, and across the globe, you carry forward our proud traditions with skill and ferocity. It is your discipline, initiative, and fighting spirit that anchor our Corps. The battles of the next 250 years will challenge us in new ways, but I have no doubt we will prevail. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. J. [unclear]", is displayed on a white background.

Why we chose Orlando Fl *Again*

We have chosen The Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orland Florida. Our reunions have been held there in the past with great success. Lots to do with Disney World, Mall shopping attached to the Hotel and other area attractions, we are sure you will have a great time. The Florida Hotel has already met and surpassed our needs for the several other reunions that we have enjoyed there, and we look forward to another great gathering.



PLAN YOUR FREE TIME

**We have left you lots of free time during the 2026 reunion. You can use it to either hang out in the hospitality room and visit with your 1/7 friends or explore some of the local attractions or do a bit of both. Remember our group rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days after the actual reunion dates.

We are 15 minutes from Universal Studios, Walt Disney Theme Parks, SeaWorld and a host of premier golf courses.

We are only steps away from the Florida Mall. The Florida Mall offers world class shopping with premier brand retailers like Armani Exchange, Apple, H&M, Michael Kors, Victoria Secret and more.

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center offers a 24-hour Fitness Center.

Enjoy some pool time at the beautiful fresh air pool.

Sleep till noon.

Hotel Information

When: 5-7 May 2026

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center

1500 Sand Lake Rd. Orlando, FL 32809

<http://www.thefloridahotelorlando.com>

RATES: Our group rate is *\$135.00 per night plus tax for a Deluxe Room.

RESERVATION METHOD: Room reservations can be made by calling Reservations at **800-588-4656**.

Guests should identify themselves as **1st Battalion 7th Marines Reunion attendees**.

Individual room reservations may be cancelled without penalty outside of 72 hours prior to arrival. Cancellation within 72 hours of scheduled arrival will result in a 1 night's room and tax charge.

CUT-OFF DATE: The “cut-off date” is 4/6/2026. Reservation requests received after the cut-off date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis.

CHECK-IN: Guests may check in the hotel after 4:00 PM. A valid credit card or cash deposit will be required at check-in. Guests may also be required to present a valid form of identification. Room and tax will be charged fully upon check in. The hotel will charge \$50.00 for early check-ins prior to noon. Early check-ins are based on availability.

CHECK-OUT: is prior to 11:00 AM. There will be no refunds for early checkout. Any requests for late checkout must be made with the front desk on the night prior to check-out and is subject to a late checkout fee. Any late checkout after 11:00 AM will be charged a full night room, unless you receive *prior* approval by the Manager on Duty.

Schedule of Events

Tuesday: May 5, 2026

Welcome Aboard

Hospitality & Registration 11:00AM - 11:00PM - Coffee, soft drinks and snacks and will be available. Sandwich wraps will also be available while they last starting at 11:00AM.

Cash bar will be available inside Hospitality room from 6-10:30 PM

Wednesday: May 6, 2026

Hospitality & Registration: 8:00AM – 11:00 PM - Coffee, soft drinks and snacks will be available. Sandwich wraps will also be available while they last starting at 11:00AM.

9:30 AM ALL HANDS MEETING
All members are encouraged to attend.

1:00 – 2:30 PM Ladies Social
All ladies are encouraged to attend.

6:00 – 8:00PM Casual BBQ style Buffet Dinner

Cash bar will be available inside Hospitality room from 6-10:30 PM

Thursday May 7, 2026

Hospitality & Registration: 8:00AM – 11:00 PM - Coffee, soft drinks and snacks will be available. Sandwich wraps will also be available while they last starting at 11:00AM.

9:30 AM-11:00AM Memorial Service
Please do not arrive late. Late arrivals will not be permitted to enter the service.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM No Host Cocktail Hour

6:00 PM – 10:30 PM Evening Banquet

1ST BATTALION 7TH MARINE VIETNAM VETERANS 2026 REUNION REGISTRATION

	ACTIVITY Casual dress for all except coat/tie suggested for banquet	COST PER PERSON	NO. OF PERSONS	TOTAL Cost x No. of Persons
Tuesday May 5, 2026 11:00AM – 11:00PM	Welcome Aboard: Information Center/Hospitality Room at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center opens at 11:00 AM. Coffee, soft drinks & snacks provided. Bring photographs, mementos and souvenirs to display. Registration Fee helps to provide the food and snacks in the hospitality suite, memorial and banquet ceremony expenses plus administration costs. Please wear your nametag, which will be in your reunion packet, to all reunion functions!	Reg. Fee \$25 per adult	_____	\$ _____
Wednesday May 6, 2026 8:00AM – 11:00PM 9:30 AM 1:00PM – 2:30PM 6:00PM-8:00PM	FREE TIME: Please enjoy the hospitality suite. Please feel free to hang out in the hospitality room and enjoy the fellowship of other Marines and Corpsmen or play the tourist and visit some local attractions. All Hands Meeting: All members are encouraged to attend. Ladies Social: fun, games, prizes & snacks. How many ladies will be in your party _____. Free to all ladies. Casual BBQ Dinner	BBQ \$30 per person	_____	\$ _____
Thursday May 7, 2026 8:00AM – 11:00PM 9:30-11AM 5:00 PM - 6:00PM 6:00 PM – 10:30PM	FREE TIME: Please enjoy the hospitality suite. Please feel free to hang out in the hospitality room and enjoy the fellowship of other Marines and Corpsmen or play the tourist and visit some local attractions. Memorial Service No Host Cocktail Hour Evening Banquet	Banquet \$60 per person	_____	\$ _____
	TOTAL			
TOTAL ENCLOSED	Add Totals for Meals & Registration fees. Full refund ONLY if cancelled by April 15, 2026 otherwise we can only refund the money that is returned to us from the suppliers.			Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to **1/7 MARINES** and return with this form by **May 1, 2026**, to Al LaPointe, 106 E Saddle Ln., Havelock, NC 28532. Ph: 252-447-4854, e-mail: aslapointe@ec.rr.com. Your cancelled check is your receipt. We do not accept Credit Cards.

Enclosed is \$ _____ as payment for 2026 Reunion as ordered above.

Name(s) _____
Please **PRINT** and include names of **all** attendees including guests - if child include age.

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Unit in Nam _____ Dates in Nam _____ First Reunion: _____
(e.g., D Co., Corpsman D Co., etc.) yes or no

***Room reservations must be made directly with the Florida Hotel and Conference Center at 800-588-4656. Identify yourself as 1st Bn 7th Marines Reunion attendee.**



REUNION
ORLANDO, FL
MAY 5-7, 2026