



**Chaplain Report October 2024
October is Education Month.**

Greetings Members,

As I am writing this, I am reflecting on the devastating events that will forever be remembered in our history as a country 23 years ago. From the lyrics of Alan Jackson's famous song, "Where were you when the world stopped turning?"

Everyone has some way that 9/11 impacted their lives. Where were you? What did you do? Reflect on yours. For me, fortunately is another normal 9/11 at work. I have worked every single 9/11 since then. Part of my career field. Some have been good; some have been bad. Some I can't talk about. But I have always taken time to reflect and remember at some quiet point in my day. NEVER FORGET 9/11/2001; When the world stopped turning.

These last two days have been a whirlwind of emotions.

Yesterday, we had the honor of the American Legion Family to honor, remember and celebrate the life of one of our very own, Past Department President Josephine Herrera, aka "Josie".

Josie was Department President from 2015-2016, from Tony F. Soza-Ray Martinez Unit 41 in Phoenix, AZ. Josie was an Arizona native and dedicated her life to helping veterans in her community. Her and her siblings grew up together off 9th Ave, not too far from the Post and were fixtures there growing up helping veterans.

Yes, there was lots of tears, and lots of acclamations of joy. Josie would have preferred the acclamations of joy, over the tears. Like her granddaughter Lexi stated, "Grandma finally beat this, and she is upstairs, ringing that bell."

It was an honor to know her, and for her to be a part of my life and journey. The memories I have of her, and her smile and kindness will never weather.

If you knew Josie, please take the time to reflect on your experiences you had with her too.

Please keep the following in your hearts and prayers in this time of need: The family of Linda Hatleli-Short, and Unit 35 Family.

Please pray in your own way: Heavenly Father, thank you for unity, for victory, and for helping me serve in a way that not only honors You, but also honors the sacrifices made by so many who have given their lives for the greater good of our nation. United We Stand. Amen.

If you know of someone who could benefit from a card or phone call, please let me know:
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