



Memorial Service

September 15, 2018

The United States Naval Academy Chapel

— THE —
CONGRESSIONAL
MEDAL *of* HONOR SOCIETY
CONVENTION

— // —
ANNAPOLIS ★ MARYLAND

“ETERNAL FATHER STRONG TO SAVE” (2 verses)

The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus

FIRST VERSE:

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep,
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

MARINE VERSE:

Eternal Father, grant, we pray,
To all Marines, both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength and skill
Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore
From every peril to the Corps.

Program

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY CHAPEL ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND



PRELUDE

Organist - Monte Maxwell

WELCOME

Drew Dix, President
Congressional Medal of Honor Society

OPENING PRAYER

LCDR Timothy J. Miller, CHC, USN

“GRACE”

The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus

SCRIPTURE READING

Hershel Williams, Congressional Medal of Honor Society

REFLECTIONS ON DEPARTED MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HOMILY

Gary Beikirch, Chaplain, Congressional Medal of Honor Society

ROLL CALL OF REMEMBRANCE

Drew Dix

21 GUN SALUTE

Navy Ceremonial Guard - Navy Firing Party

TAPS

United States Naval Academy Band Bugler

BENEDICTION AND CLOSING PRAYER

Gary Beikirch

“REQUIEM”

The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus

CLOSING REMARKS

Drew Dix

“ETERNAL FATHER STRONG TO SAVE”

The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus
(lyrics can be found on the inside front cover)

In Memoriam

(as of September 7, 2018)



GARLIN M. CONNER

U.S. Army
World War II
November 5, 1998

JOHN A. CHAPMAN

U.S. Air Force
War on Terror (Afghanistan)
March 4, 2002

THOMAS J. HUDNER, JR.

U.S. Navy
Korean War
November 13, 2017

WESLEY L. FOX

U.S. Marine Corps
Vietnam War
November 24, 2017

Citation



GARLIN M. CONNER

June 2, 1919 – November 5, 1998

First Lieutenant

U.S. Army

Houssen, France, 24 January 1945

On the morning of January 24, 1945, near the town of Houssen, France, German forces ferociously counterattacked the front left flank of the 7th Infantry Regiment with 600 infantry troops, six Mark VI tanks, and tank destroyers. Lieutenant Conner, having recently returned to his unit after recovering from a wound received in an earlier battle, was working as the Intelligence Officer in the 3d Battalion Command Post at the time of the attack. Understanding the devastating effect that the advancing enemy armor could have on the Battalion, Lieutenant Conner immediately volunteered to run straight into the heart of the enemy assault to get to a position from which he could direct friendly artillery on the advancing enemy forces. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Conner maneuvered 400 yards through enemy artillery fire that destroyed trees in his path and rained shrapnel all around him, while unrolling telephone wire needed to communicate with the Battalion command post. Upon reaching the Battalion's front line, he continued to move forward under the enemy assault to a position 30 yards in front of the defending United States forces, where he plunged into a shallow ditch that provided minimal protection from the advancing enemy's heavy machine gun and small arms fire. With rounds impacting all around him, Lieutenant Conner calmly directed multiple fire missions, adjusting round after round of artillery from his prone position, until the enemy was forced to halt its advance and seek cover behind a nearby dike. For three hours, Lieutenant Conner remained in this compromised position, enduring the repeated onslaught of German infantry which, at one point, advanced to within five yards of his position. As German infantry regrouped and began to mass in an overwhelming assault, Lieutenant Conner ordered friendly artillery to concentrate directly on his own position, having resolved to die if necessary to destroy the enemy advance. Ignoring the friendly artillery shells blanketing his position and exploding mere feet from him, Lieutenant Conner continued to direct artillery fire on the enemy assault swarming around him until the German attack was finally broken. By his heroism and disregard for his own life, Lieutenant Conner stopped the enemy advance. The artillery he expertly directed, while under constant enemy fire, killed approximately fifty German soldiers and wounded an estimated one hundred more, preventing what would have undoubtedly been heavy friendly casualties. His actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 3d Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

Citation



JOHN A. CHAPMAN

July 14, 1965 – March 4, 2002

Technical Sergeant

U.S. Air Force

Takur Ghar, Afghanistan, 4 March 2002

Technical Sergeant John A. Chapman distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism as an Air Force Special Tactics Combat Controller, attached to a Navy Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL) Team conducting reconnaissance operations in Takur Ghar, Afghanistan, on March 4, 2002. During insertion, the team's helicopter was ambushed causing a teammate to fall into an entrenched group of enemy combatants below. Sergeant Chapman and the team voluntarily reinserted onto the snow-capped mountain, into the heart of a known enemy stronghold to rescue one of their own. Without regard for his own safety, Sergeant Chapman immediately engaged, moving in the direction of the closest enemy position despite coming under heavy fire from multiple directions. He fearlessly charged an enemy bunker, up a steep incline in thigh-deep snow and into hostile fire, directly engaging the enemy. Upon reaching the bunker, Sergeant Chapman assaulted and cleared the position, killing all enemy occupants. With complete disregard for his own life, Sergeant Chapman deliberately moved from cover only 12 meters from the enemy, and exposed himself once again to attack a second bunker, from which an emplaced machine gun was firing on his team. During this assault from an exposed position directly in the line of intense fire, Sergeant Chapman was struck and injured by enemy fire. Despite severe, mortal wounds, he continued to fight relentlessly, sustaining a violent engagement with multiple enemy personnel before making the ultimate sacrifice. By his heroic actions and extraordinary valor, sacrificing his life for the lives of his teammates, Technical Sergeant Chapman upheld the highest traditions of military service and reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

Citation



THOMAS J. HUDNER, JR.

August 31, 1924 – November 13, 2017

Lieutenant, Junior Grade

U.S. Navy

Chosen Reservoir area of Korea, 4 December 1950

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a pilot in Fighter Squadron 32, while attempting to rescue a squadron mate whose plane struck by antiaircraft fire and trailing smoke, was forced down behind enemy lines. Quickly maneuvering to circle the downed pilot and protect him from enemy troops infesting the area, Lt. (J.G.) Hudner risked his life to save the injured flier who was trapped alive in the burning wreckage. Fully aware of the extreme danger in landing on the rough mountainous terrain and the scant hope of escape or survival in subzero temperature, he put his plane down skillfully in a deliberate wheels-up landing in the presence of enemy troops. With his bare hands, he packed the fuselage with snow to keep the flames away from the pilot and struggled to pull him free. Unsuccessful in this, he returned to his crashed aircraft and radioed other airborne planes, requesting that a helicopter be dispatched with an ax and fire extinguisher. He then remained on the spot despite the continuing danger from enemy action and, with the assistance of the rescue pilot, renewed a desperate but unavailing battle against time, cold, and flames. Lt. (J.G.) Hudner's exceptionally valiant action and selfless devotion to a shipmate sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Citation



WESLEY L. FOX

September 30, 1931 – November 24, 2017

1st Lieutenant

U.S. Marine Corps

Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, 22 February 1969

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as commanding officer of Company A, in action against the enemy in the northern A Shau Valley, Capt. (then 1st Lt.) Fox's company came under intense fire from a large, well-concealed enemy force. Capt. Fox maneuvered to a position from which he could assess the situation and confer with his platoon leaders. As they departed to execute the plan he had devised, the enemy attacked and Capt. Fox was wounded along with all of the other members of the command group, except the executive officer. Capt. Fox continued to direct the activity of his company. Advancing through heavy enemy fire, he personally neutralized 1 enemy position and calmly ordered an assault against the hostile emplacements. He then moved through the hazardous area coordinating aircraft support with the activities of his men. When his executive officer was mortally wounded, Capt. Fox reorganized the company and directed the fire of his men as they hurled grenades against the enemy and drove the hostile forces into retreat. Wounded again in the final assault, Capt. Fox refused medical attention, established a defensive posture, and supervised the preparation of casualties for medical evacuation. His indomitable courage, inspiring initiative, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of grave personal danger inspired his marines to such aggressive action that they overcame all enemy resistance and destroyed a large bunker complex. Capt. Fox's heroic actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Marine Corps, and uphold the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

GARLIN M. CONNER



JOHN A. CHAPMAN



THOMAS J. HUDNER, JR.



WESLEY L. FOX



About the Chapel

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The United States Naval Academy Chapel stands as a beacon calling midshipmen, alumni, faculty and staff to a point of deeper faith. To many, it is considered The Chapel of the Navy.

The Chapel was designed by Ernest Flagg as the focal point in his master plan for a rebuilt academy, and the cornerstone was laid by Admiral Dewey on June 3, 1904. The Chapel's rotunda is surrounded by a collection of stained glass windows designed by Tiffany and Company and the Gotham Manufacturing Company. Notably, the window above the altar was donated by the Naval Academy Class of 1869.

Originally in the form of a Greek cross with four equal transepts and a seating capacity of 1200, an expansion of the Chapel was completed in 1940 to accommodate an increase in the student body when chapel attendance was still mandatory. This expansion transformed the sanctuary's shape into that of a Roman or Latin cross, and expanded the seating capacity to about 2500.

Today, a candle at pew 51 in the nave stands where the Chapel doors originally hung. That candle, which is lit for every event and religious service, stands in honor of all American Prisoners of War and Missing in Action. That pew will remain empty until all POWs and MIAs come home.

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS BURIED AT THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY CEMETERY



- Thomas Jones (USN, Civil War): Lot 1531
- Robert Summers (USN, Civil War): Lot 590 (buried as Sommers)
- Thomas C. Cooney (USN, Spanish-American War): Lot 1111
- Daniel Montague (USN, Spanish-American War): Lot 600
- Frederick V. McNair, Jr. (USN, Mexican Campaign): Lot 779
- Richard Wainwright, Jr. (USN, Mexican Campaign): Lot 23B
- William P. Upshur (USMC, Haitian Campaign, 1915): Lot 440
- Eugene B. Fluckey (USN, WWII): Columbarium, Lot 41-1-A
- Isaac C. Kidd (USN, WWII): Lot 566 (“In Memory Of” marker)
- Bruce McCandless (USN, WWII), USNA Class of 1945: Lot 1179
- Richard M. McCool, Jr. (USN, WWII), USNA Class of 1945:
Columbarium, Section 41-4-G
- James B. Stockdale (USN, Vietnam War), USNA Class of 1947: Lot 307

