



December 14, 2024

To All of our Supporters:

On behalf of Wreaths Across America at Jacksonville National Cemetery, we thank you for your unwavering support. Because of your generosity and the generosity of so many others within our community, Wreaths Across America can continue its mission.

Wreaths Across America relies on the financial and in-kind support of donors such as yourself to carry out our goal of laying wreaths on every American veteran's grave at Jacksonville National Cemetery. Everyone plays a part. In many homes across the U.S. every day, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. That is why our mission - to Remember our fallen U.S. veterans, Honor those who serve, and Teach our children the value of freedom, lasts far beyond a single day in December when we coordinate wreath-laying ceremonies. Throughout the year, Wreaths Across America works in a number of ways to show our veterans and their families that we will never forget them.

We would like to extend a special thanks to: Cemetery Director Christopher Morris, and his Staff, for their continued support and willingness to allow us to hold this very special event.

On behalf of our volunteers, military families, and the Wreaths Across America Team at Jacksonville National Cemetery, we applaud your continued efforts and thank you once again for your donation and exceptional consideration.

Respectfully,

Sue Nist
Location Coordinator
Wreaths Across America
at Jacksonville National Cemetery

Maria Hirsch
Co-Location Coordinator
Wreaths Across America
at Jacksonville National Cemetery



Jacksonville National Cemetery

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY

Saturday, December 14, 2024



REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ TEACH

Designed and Printed Courtesy of
Geer Services, Inc.



GUEST SPEAKER

Maj. Gen. Cary J. Cowan Jr.

Commanding General, 200th Military Police Command

Maj. Gen. Cary J. Cowan, Jr. started his military career as an enlisted MP on active duty in 1984. He received his commission in the Military Police Corps through the Georgia State University ROTC program in 1990 and later served as a platoon leader, commander, and operations officer with various military police units in Florida. From 2001 to 2002, he served at Fort Benning, Georgia, in support of military police operations during Operation Noble Eagle followed by a deployment to Kuwait in 2003 with the 317th MP Battalion (CS). Maj. Gen. Cowan remained with the 317th MP Battalion (CS) serving as the Operations Officer and deployed to Iraq in 2009 serving as the Battalion Executive Officer. From 2010 to 2013, he served as the Commander of the 2-100th MP BN followed by the Brigade Operations Officer with the 2nd MP Brigade (TASS). He then served as Chief of Staff for the 102nd Training Division until assuming command of the 11th MP Brigade, where he served from April 2015 until May 2017.



Upon completion of his command assignment, he served as the Chief of Staff of the 86th Training Division followed by Chief of Staff of the 200th MP Command. Maj. Gen. Cowan assumed duties as the Deputy Commanding General- Support, 200th Military Police Command, on May 24, 2019. From May to December of 2021, Maj. Gen. Cowan was mobilized to serve as the Director of Security and Assurance with the joint Department of Defense/Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Countermeasures Acceleration Group. In January of 2022, Maj. Gen. Cowan resumed his duties with the 200th Military Police Command. In August 2022, he assumed command of the 200th Military Police Command.

Included among his awards and decorations are the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (6 OLC), Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

Maj. Gen. Cowan is a graduate of the U. S. Army War College and the Joint Forces Staff College Advanced Joint Professional Military Education program. Maj. Gen. Cowan is the Director of Patrol and Enforcement with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Jacksonville, Florida. He and his wife Tracy have two adult children who also serve as police officers with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY



Schedule of Events

11:15 AM

Music

11:50 AM

Steve Spickelmier Circle Of Excellence Award

*Presented by Pat Welch, Linda Edell, and Glenda Spickelmier
presented to The Dreamland Squadron*

11:55 AM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

*Sue Nist
Location Coordinator
Wreaths Across America at Jacksonville National Cemetery*

12:00 PM

National Moment of Silence for WAA

Posting Of The Colors

*Rich Possert, Jr.
Commander
Veterans Of Foreign Wars Department Florida District 6*

National Anthem

Matt Altman

Flyover by the Dreamland Squadron

Pledge of Allegiance

Helping Hands 4 H Club

Invocation and Benediction

Pastor Chris Hopkins - 9 Thirteen Christian Church

Introduction of Mayor

Rich Possert, Jr.

Mayor Donna Deegan

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Rich Possert, Jr.

Guest Speaker

Major General Cary J. Cowan Jr.

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Sue Nist

Taps

Jim Steele

Benediction

Pastor Hopkins

