

REMEMBER HONOR TEACH

WREATHS
across
AMERICA



Jacksonville National Cemetery

WREATHS ACROSS
AMERICA CEREMONY

Saturday, December 13, 2025





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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

REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ TEACH

GUEST SPEAKER

LTC Patrick Heffernan

Commander of 3rd Battalion 20th Special Forces Group Airborne

LTC Patrick Heffernan is the Commander of 3rd Battalion 20th Special Forces Group Airborne. LTC Heffernan served as the Commander of 2nd Battalion 54th SFAB from 01 February 2021 to 09 October 2023 and Commander of TF JAGUAR Honduras, 1st Security Forces Assistance Brigade from March to October 2024. He received his commission at the Officers Candidate School FT Benning GA in 2001 and is a graduate of the Infantry Officers' Basic and Advanced Courses, Special Forces Qualification Course, Survival-Evasion-Resistance and Escape (SERE) level C course, Military Free Fall Parachutist School, Advanced Special Operations Level II Course, Special Forces Advanced Urban Combat Course, Command and General Staff Officers Course, Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management Course, Static Line Jump Master Course.



In his full-time capacity, he is assigned as the Staff Officer in Charge of the 83rd Troop Command, Florida Army National Guard. His previous assignments include XO 53rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, XO 2nd Battalion 54th Security Forces Assistance Battalion, and XO 3rd Battalion 20th Special Forces Group Airborne, and Operations Officer 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group. He served as the Assistant Operations Officer for Special Operations Task Force-East, Bagram Afghanistan from 2010-2011, and as a Platoon Leader in 1st Battalion 124th Infantry North Carolina Army National Guard.

His Command assignments include: 56 months of Command in multiple Operational Detachments Alpha where he deployed to Shindand Afghanistan in 2006, 26 months as Commander, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group, and 13 months as Commander, Training Company, 3rd Battalion, 20th SFG(A).

LTC Heffernan has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Peace War and Defense program and is currently enrolled in the US Army War College. LTC Heffernan's awards include the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal W/ M Device (2nd Award), Special Forces Tab, Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, NATO Non-Article 5 Medal.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA CEREMONY



Schedule of Events

11:15 AM

Music

Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Brass Quintet
Jack Andersen, Alex Cisler, Erik Links, Cohen Oliver, Lily Yarbrough

Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Vocalists
Angel Edward and Daisy Yarbrough

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

Master of Ceremonies
Rich Possert, Jr.

Invocation and Benediction

Minister AJ Pellegrino

The Crossing Church Chaplain
Support Committee at Jacksonville National Cemetery

Posting Of The Colors

Sons of the American Revolution

United States Military

First Coast High School US Navy Jr ROTC

National Anthem

Angel Edward, Daisy Yarbrough

Flyover

Dreamland Squadron

Pledge of Allegiance

Scout Troop 9888 of Amelia Island

Introduction of Guest Speaker

LTC Patrick Heffernan

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Sue Nist

Taps

Jim Steele

Singing of Jacksonville

Angel Edward and Daisy Yarbrough