



# The Silver Caduceus

[www.silvercaduceusassociation.com](http://www.silvercaduceusassociation.com)

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**MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS**  
United States Army

## *“LEST WE FORGET”*

This Memorial Day, we pause to reflect on our soldiers who were placed in harm's way and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I have asked our SCA Chaplain Doug Brandel to provide the membership with a listing of Medical Service Corps Officers we have “lost” since our SCA Reunion in September 2014.

### **MSC Deceased 2014-2015**

<b>Name</b>	<b>NOK</b>	<b>Address</b>
COL Robert A. Mays, Jr.	Brenda Mays	3205 Awn Court Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
COL Roy A. Bryan	COL Roy Bryan Jr.	2525 Sandy Run Court Annapolis, MD 21401
MAJ Gunars Dombrovskis	Waltraud, (Susi)	946 Katherine Drive Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-4970
COL Ernest F. Rezendes	Scott Rezendes, Son	7019 Nicki Street Dallas, TX 75252
COL Arthur E. Britt	Sheridan Britt, Son	112 Arvin Drive San Antonio, TX 78209-6004
LTC Edgar F. Mote	Ellita	8710 Spanish Moss Windcrest, TX 78239-2644
COL Robert W. Thomas	Carol	973 Shadwell Drive Evans, GA 30809-4533
COL Dana S. Slack	Anne Christopher Michael	Unknown

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LTC Stephen R. Speights	Chris, Son	2321 Casa Grande Drive League City, TX 77573-1447
LTC George L. Pierce	COL James Pierce, (Son)	2147 Parkwood Hills Drive NE Rochester, MN 55906
CW4 Fred A. Walker, Jr.	Jane Walker, Wife	5500 E. Peakview Ave, Apt 1128 Centennial, CO 80121-3578
LTC Charles O. House	Richard (son)	8700 Post Oak Lane Apt 112 San Antonio, TX 78217-5164
COL Wayne B. Sorensen	Genie	5912 Aylford Court Austin, TX 78739-1648
LTC Thomas S. (Sam) Luckey	Cheryl Gail	60 Barony Place Circle Columbia, SC 29229-9056
LTC Charles A. (Al) Stewart, Jr.	Rosalyn	1030 Maddux Lane Greensboro, GA 30642-3985
LTC Henry P. (Hank) Capozzi	Ella Partner and former wife	1 Towers Park Lane Apt 1804 San Antonio, TX 78209-6423
LTC John Davis	Joy	2405 Broad Bay Road Virginia Beach, VA 23451
COL Charles Williams	Ocie Fuller Williams	6901 Sydenstricker Road Springfield, VA 22152
COL William B. Urosevich	Patricia	258 James Road Lewisburg, PA 17837
COL Leroy M. Barber, Jr.	Deedie	306 Basinghouse Road Columbia, SC 29212
COL Joseph P. Medrano	Jacqueline (Jacquie) Elledge	8700 Post Oak Lane, Apt 239 San Antonio, TX 78217-5168
COL Sam Taylor Seeley	Margaret, daughter Kathleen, daughter	
LTC (R) Wayne A. St Pierre	Dottie St Pierre, wife	1601 17th Ave S Escanaba, MI 49829

## **The 98th MSC Birthday Celebration - 30 June 2015**

Chuck Adams, SCA Vice-President asks that you save the date and lend a hand with the Celebration!

The Medical Service Corps as we know it was founded on 30 June 1917. In preparation for the 98th Anniversary your Silver Caduceus Association has developed a program to assist in marking the occasion across the country at as many posts, camps and stations as possible. In an effort to assist with defraying the cost of putting on the birthday celebration, the SCA Board has authorized an amount up to \$100 for each location with a total budget not to exceed \$2000 for all locations. The Board asked me to be the point person in this endeavor, and given that challenge I identified one or more current SCA members at each of 30 locations around the country. With the locations identified I sent emails to SCA members around the country on 18 May 2015 asking them to contact their MSC leaders at a specific location nearby. I have received some good and positive responses, specifically from Fort Richardson, AK, Fort Carson, CO, Fort Sill, OK, Fort Jackson, SC, and Fort Sam Houston, TX where COL(R) Johnnie Johnson is spearheading the event. By my count there are an additional 25 major Army Posts where SCA members have yet to answer the mail. I would ask that if you are reading this newsletter and live near an Army installation not named above where there are MSC officers assigned, please give the senior MSC leadership at the Post a call to see what is planned for the 98th MSC Birthday Celebration. We will probably find that at least some, if not many, are planning a celebration but don't know that the Silver Caduceus Association is willing and able to get involved and lend assistance. If you find that a location would like monetary assistance please have them contact me at [drcadams@me.com](mailto:drcadams@me.com).

## **SCA Member Writes Book Accepted for Publication**

A charter member of the SCA has written a book that has been accepted for publication by the University of North Texas Press. Jim Van Straten's book entitled, *A Different Face of War: Memories of a Medical Service Corps Officer in Vietnam*, will be published in late October or November. The book appears to be the first ever written and accepted for publication by a Medical Service Corp officer describing the day-to-day activities of MSC officers in a combat environment.

Because of personal circumstances that existed when Van Straten was deployed to Vietnam (a continuing life-threatening illness of an infant son, the youngest of six children all aged ten years and under) he felt the need to write his wife a daily letter. Those letters became her life-line to her husband

during difficult and trying times. Jim wrote 352 letters to his wife Patricia during his deployment and she saved them all. The letters became the primary source for the book, providing accurate sequencing and vivid descriptions of the events that occurred during his deployment. The book should have broad appeal for military individuals and families.

LTG Quinn H. Becker, former U.S. Army Surgeon General and honorary member of the SCA, was asked by the publisher, along with several historians who have published books on the Vietnam War, to read the manuscript and provide a blurb to be used in marketing the book. General Becker wrote as follows:

"Daily letters home are the basis of this important memoir. The author's insight into all that was swirling around him was outstanding. He was on the move all the time, in the air and on the ground, in hostile territory and in the relative sanctuary of the cities. He witnessed what is recorded. If you have any interest in the history of the Vietnam War, the age-old culture, values, and religions of the Vietnamese people, the terrible effects of the war on the civilian population and the challenges of providing medical advisory support—this book is for you. I had one problem with it. I could not lay it down."—LTG Quinn H. Becker, U.S. Army Retired, Former U.S. Army Surgeon General

The book will be easy to identify because Van Straten insisted that the publisher place an image of the MSC silver caduceus on the cover. Jim sought and received permission from the Office of Licensing and Trademarks, Department of Army, to use the image in this manner. Quite a number of MSC officers are mentioned in the book.

In a future edition of the SCA Newsletter, as more information about publication becomes available, we'll provide a description of the book and information regarding where it may be purchased.

### **Captains Career Course Leadership Award**

MG (R) David Rubenstein presented CPT Elizabeth Lazzari with the SCA Leadership Award at the graduation of the Captains Career Course Class 15-052 on 22 May 2015.



## Biography

CPT Elizabeth Lazzari was born in Seal Beach, California on May 12, 1987, to Joe and Margo Lazzari. She grew up alongside two older sisters, Sarah and Ruth, and a little brother, Damien. CPT Liz Lazzari lived next to a naval base but it was West Point that first approached her at a high school volleyball tournament in Maryland.

With no prior exposure to the military, CPT Lazzari made the decision to attend the United States Military Academy. While at the Academy she was a four year starter on the Division I Women's Volleyball team and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Art, Philosophy, and Literature with Honors. Her first assignment kept her at West Point as the Graduate Assistant Coach for the Women's Volleyball Team.

From there she continued on to the Medical Service Corps Officer Basic Course and received her next assignment with 801<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. While a Currahee, she served as a Medical Treatment Platoon Leader, Brigade Medical Supply Officer, Female Engagement Team Member, and Executive Officer.

Her next assignment took her to South Korea, where she took Detachment Command with the 168<sup>th</sup> Multifunctional Medical Battalion. Following Command, she proceeded to the Medical Detachment in Monterey, California

where she became the Executive Officer. Currently she serves as the Executive Assistant to the Medical Command Chief of Staff, Mr. Uldric Fiore.