

The AC-119 Gunship Association

⚡⚡ August 11, 2024 AC-119 Gunship FLASH ⚡⚡

AC-119 Gunship Association's 24th Reunion September 11-15, 2024 - Colorado Springs, CO

HOT!!! The deadline for registering online closed August 12th & you cannot register online now! BUT, you can still register – you'll just have to fill-in a paper registration form at <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/docs/503/event/0/0/550-1710352764-5972-document.pdf>, then mail the completed form with your check to AFR at the address on the form. And, if you want to go on the Friday Air Force Academy & AC-130J Ghost rider Tour, it is handled separately from the rest of the AFR Registration Form. To register, use this link: <https://www.ac119gunships.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-Colo-Tour-Reg-Form.pdf>. Cost is \$39 per person & includes buses from the hotel to the AF Academy. This Tour will focus on the SEA Pavilion featuring the AC-119 Memorial Plaque we dedicated last year. **NOTE:** the Ghost rider part of this tour is dependent on the uncertainties faced by Air Force Special Operations Command every day. Finally, if you're sitting on the fence about attending, the list of your friends who WILL be there are listed at the end of this Flash. Would you like to SEE them again? If Yes, REGISTER!!!

Updated Info on the Air Force Academy & AC-130J Tour

Your Board of Directors is still working through some unexpected situations, trying to resolve issues to make for a smooth running tour day. First, we were surprised that no restaurant nearby is available to quickly provide lunch to 80+ people. Then, looking at the AFA facilities, all the "on-site" locations providing lunch services were already booked solid. Therefore, we will provide a \$15 "box" lunch from Chick-Fil-A, at the comfortable AFA Family Campgrounds. Lots of tables under cover & clean restrooms are available. The box contains a chicken sandwich, waffle fries, & a cookie. Soft drinks & water are available. A vegi box will be available for those who registered for vegi meals. Second, the Academy is undergoing a huge building project next to the SEA Pavilion. The parking lot is excavated, & the walking path to the Pavilion is closed. Yes, there is access to the Pavilion, but it may involve a short staircase through the adjacent Academy of Graduates building or a walk down a driveway to get past the pathway closure. Lastly, with global tensions getting hotter, the 16th SOS may not be able to send an AC-130J Ghost rider to Colorado Springs. This will be addressed before the tour &, if necessary, the schedule will be adjusted.

Handicap accessibility on train

The Royal Gorge Railroad has informed us our group is in Coach class. There is a lift to help those in a wheelchair get onto the Coach class car. In each car there is 1 wheelchair designated area. They have reserved one for Dale. In the Deluxe car there is a bathroom with handicap accessibility including grab bars. Because you may not be able to get a wheelchair through the graveled parking lot, they have a golf cart for the disabled. Wheelchairs can also be placed on the golf cart.

Agent Orange Update

At Agent Orange Awareness Day August 10, 2024, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund brought light to the continuing dark toll of the war by placing thousands of orange candles at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The Vietnam War may be over, but the battle continues for many Vietnam veterans. Nearly 3 million service members served in Vietnam & most returned home. But since then, thousands of Vietnam veterans have fought illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure. This deadly toxin has impacted the lives of thousands of veterans & their families but is largely unknown to most Americans. If someone you

know has lost their battle to Agent Orange, learn how to honor them at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund [In Memory Program](#). Information provided by Steve "Col Mac" Mac Isaac, AC-119 Gunship Association's Awards & Decorations Coordinator.

Shadow & Stinger T-Shirts, Hoodies, Water Bottles & Stickers

Laura Rudolph-Kreiter wanted to honor her Stinger Pilot Dad, Frank Rudolph & did so by designing a Shadow & Stinger T-Shirt. After mentioning this on our Facebook page several folks inquired "How can I get one"? Laura was awed at the response. She then expanded her inventory to include short & long sleeve Ts, & hoodies (all in several colors), water bottles & stickers. The shirts & hoodies are available with your choice of *Proud Daughter*, *Son*, *Granddaughter*, *Grandson*, *Wife*, or *Friend of a Vietnam Veteran* emblazoned on it! Purchases can be made on her web site store [Loving Moments / Printify Pop-Up](#) where you can view all items, make a selection, pay for it, & have it mailed to you! These are great & help us immensely with our Association's Mission to "put the AC-119 back into history & honor Vietnam Vets".



Who is Coming to Colorado Springs Reunion

Updated August 10, 2024

Stan & Cindy Baker, Larry & Debbie Barbee, Dean & Chris Barnard, Jack & Carolyn Bastin with friends Linda McCain & Evelyn Algood, Paul & Teri Beagley, Jim Boyd. Tom Brander, Windell & Bernadette Bunton, Craig Corbett, Van Criswell & guest, Chuck Daldry, Dennis Davis & Laura Reynolds, Roy Davis & Paula Pascoe, Roy Dowdy (AFSOC Historian), Mike & Andrea Drzyzga, Bob & Janet Dydo, Jim & Christina Farrell, LeRoy & Rose Frahm, Lloyd & M.E. Froelich, Ron & Patty Gilbert, Janis Goryl, Richard Hall, Bob Hamorsky & Jennifer Fusilli, Barry & Bernice Harmer with son Shawn & daughter-in-law Kim, Jerry & Ellen Hester, Clement & Suzanne Hill, Ron & Carol Hinton, Gary Hitzemann, Baby Huey Hunter & Ruth Chapman, Dan & Susan Jensen, Mike Krauss, Wayne & Lynette Laessig, Ralph & Joyce Lefarth, Bob & daughter Brooks Lyall, Steve & Nancy Mac Isaac & son John Paul, Dan & Arlene Mages, Dale & Jeanette Martin, Jerry & Karen McDonald, Steve & Vivian Meleen, Larry Mersek & Susie Ryslinge, Larry Middleton, Eddie & Del Mims, Jim & Karen Montgomery with brother-in-law & sister-in-law Bruce & Marlene Artis, Harold Morgan with son Keith, John Morgan & Leysia Gartley, John & Harolyn Morrow, Tom Novak, Rod Olson with daughter Cyndi & granddaughter Freya Hathaway, Bill & Karen Petrie, Roger Points, Joaquin & Sally Ramirez, Jim & Jackie Ray, Howard Reid, Mike Ryan, Bob Safreno & Sandy Paxton, Terry & Theresa Sarul, John Schumann, Larry Shaw, Gus Sininger, Jerry & Diane Snyder, Terry Stokka, Jerry & Kathy Stout, Larry & Kathy Swanson, Dan Thompson & Linda Lucke, Wilma Tyler with daughter Cheree & son-in-law Steve Bachmann & daughter Tammy Kelly, Loren Van Duyn with sons Adam & Nathan, Chuck Williams with son Charlie, Scott Williams, Doug Wohlgamuth, Bill & Paula Zito