

# THE LADER

**Official Newsletter of the Professional Loadmaster Association**

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Friendship Through Airlift



**Professional Loadmaster Association**  
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## CABIN REPORT

By Kathy Disney

Hey Loads! Hope this edition of "The Loader" finds you all well and perhaps winding down after a busy summer. For those of you who attended the 2022 Gathering of Loads (GoL) in San Diego, California you are very much aware of the good times had by all! If you were not able to make it, you missed another good one. The Golden West Chapter did a fantastic job with hosting

this year's Gathering! They brought in interesting, informative and inspiring speakers that spoke to ALL Loadmasters. A big THANK YOU to Nicole McBrearty, Marie Gamache, Phil Ensley and others who helped organize the event! And to all those who supported the event with your heritage briefings, all the sponsors, thank you again! Most importantly, to everyone who attended - Thank You for making it another successful event! In addition to the briefings, each GoL we hold a General Membership meeting where we present the status of the organization, continue unfinished business, and discuss the next Gathering location. The unfinished business of developing or updating our mission and vision statements was discussed, but we do need volunteers to help in this area. Angel Sanchez, The Rock Chapter President, announced they would like to host the next Gathering in 2023. A vote of approval was overwhelmingly supportive of the Rock Chapter hosting again. This will be the third time they have hosted a Gathering, and they have always done an awesome job! Thank you, Rock Chapter! As soon as dates are firmed up, we will open registration on our website. We hope to hold it next year to line up with National Elections. Next year, the President and all three Vice President positions are on the ballot. We will also need an elections committee to run this. If interested, please let me know. Again, thank you all for supporting this organization. If you desire to get more involved, please consider running for some of the elected positions, help out with one of the many committees or just continue to attend the Gatherings. It is all necessary and appreciated! I've said this before, in CMSgt Bill Cannon's own words "We are all different from one another but it is important that we are all alike, alike in our need to feel important as part of a Loadmaster team which includes all Loadmasters, past and present." The Gathering of Loads provides the forum for all Loadmasters, past and present, to be part of something important. If you do not agree, I will have to guess you've never attended a Gathering of Loads! The 2022 Gathering definitely represented "Friends Through Airlift". Thanks again Golden West and to everyone who attended and supported this year's Gathering. Load Clear!

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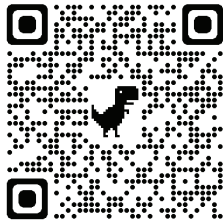
The Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) was formed in the State of Washington as an active membership organization for an exclusive group of professionals recognized as Loadmasters. The PLA is organized and governed by a duly-elected Executive Committee of past and present Loadmasters. In March 1997, the State of Washington issued a Certificate of Incorporation declaring the Professional Loadmaster Association a nonprofit organization. PLA membership is comprised of and limited to current and former military and civilian Loadmasters who have flown as Aircraft Loadmasters performing aircrew duties on transport aircraft. A newsletter titled "The Loader" shall be published three times a year to inform the membership of Loadmaster participation within the airlift community and the association's current & future business activities. The use of "The Loader" newsletter is voluntary. Any comments, views, opinions, or advice expressed in this newsletter are solely the opinions of the individual who expresses them and should not be construed as reflecting the position, views, or policy of the PLA, or its executive members. Neither the PLA nor its current or former agents, members, executive members, employees, officers or representatives shall have any liability or responsibility for any use of or reliance upon any comments, views, opinions or advice expressed in this newsletter or information gained through this newsletter, including but not limited to liability or responsibility for any direct or indirect omission or negligence. Users of this newsletter agree, in advance, to hold harmless and indemnify the PLA and its agents, members, executive members, employees, officers and representatives from and against and with respect to any and all claims, damages, liabilities, losses and expenses, without limitation, arising from or related to any comments, views, opinions or advice expressed in this newsletter or information gained through this newsletter, and agree to the above terms in this paragraph.



**Cover Photograph:** Attendees from the 2022 Gathering of Loads take a group photo outside the Wyndham San Diego Bayside Hotel. Thank you to the amazing Kris Pierce for taking the photo.

### Secretary Report

Chris Cummings, Secretary - It is my favorite time of the year! Although I make chicken instead of turkey, stuffing is my favorite holiday dish. Dad's homemade with tons of different breads including pumpernickel reigns supreme to StoveTop, but I will eat any and all stuffing. Boston Market has a pretty good selection too. This year, I am most thankful for all of the PLA members who logged into the system to make sure their record was up-to-date. If you log in and do a record check, I will invite you over for one of our holiday meals, but you need to bring your favorite stuffing with you. Did you know that the PLA has a website? Available 24/7/365 you can log in and verify that your record is accurate. This will ensure that you are receiving all email and snail mail that we are sending. To do this, simply scan the QR code or go to this website: <https://pla.wildapricot.org/Sys/Profile>



Unable to login? Send me an email at [cchris1686@gmail.com](mailto:cchris1686@gmail.com) or shoot me a text (845) 475-8457 with your name and email address and I'll get you where you need to be. Prefer to fax? Well, give me a call and I'll get you where you need to be too!

PLA Membership - 1052 total members

Since the last edition of "The Loader" we had 150+ of our active members log in! Great job! Now, if you are not one of those 150 members - I simply request that you log into the website to confirm your contact information. It is my intent to have every member take a few minutes to review their membership record. The database logs your last login and last profile update, so please help me get through the list of members without racking up a big long distance phone bill! BONUS - Chapter Secretaries, I want to hear from you! Let's touch base before the next edition of "The Loader." This report will contain membership by Chapter in the future, and I want you to be at the top of that list!

### “The Loader” Editor

For those who didn't hear, my name is Marie Gamache and I am the new editor of “The Loader.” Bill Weeper has done an amazing job over that last 10 years and has been vital to this organization. He has left me some big shoes to fill, and I am ready for it. A little about me for those who don't

know me, I have been a lifetime member of the PLA since 2005 when I was a baby Load in the 7th Airlift Squadron at McChord AFB. I have been a Loadmaster for 19 years and am currently enjoying my assignment with the 370 Flight Test Squadron at Edwards AFB CA. Being a Loadmaster has been a great adventure for me and I truly believe in strong community ties, and we are better together. I am excited to take over the position, but I need help from all of you to do it. Presidents are key - I need you to communicate with your chapters to see what our members are doing. I want to hear the road stories as well as the achievements of our Loads outside of the Air Force. I can't make this happen without you guys! If anyone has any great stories or suggestions for “The Loader” please feel free to reach out to me at [marieanngamache@gmail.com](mailto:marieanngamache@gmail.com) or (509) 496-8627.



Marie Gamache

### Treasurer Report

Chris Dockery, Treasurer - As of November 1, 2022, the Professional Loadmaster Association has a total of \$2,047.80 in checking, and \$28,777.82 in savings. Total Assets \$30,825.62.

### PLA Merchandise

Kent Brown, Liberty Chapter Treasurer - The Liberty Chapter is offering the 911 20th Anniversary Coin. They are a whopping 2.5 in. in each direction. Lots of intricate detail. Only \$15 each plus shipping. Shipping is \$3.00 to \$8.45. I can fit 10 in a small priority box for \$8.45 shipping, that includes insurance. Contact me at [plaloadmaster@comcast.net](mailto:plaloadmaster@comcast.net).



PLA Clothing - PLA clothing merchandise can still be purchased at: [https://plaload.qbstores.com/all\\_products.html?OC=SF7606](https://plaload.qbstores.com/all_products.html?OC=SF7606)

### Arizona (Rescue West)

Dillon Howell, Arizona Rescue West Chapter President - Greetings! Since the PLA Gathering of Loads convention the squadron has been growing with new Loadmasters. We have been unable to have a PLA meeting, but we do have it planned as the entire council is finally back in the squadron. During that meeting we plan on bringing all the Loadmasters together so that we can talk about the importance of PLA and educate them. For this issue, I would like to highlight our Treasurer Jon. He has been gracious enough while on R&R to answer my questions. Name: Jon-Christian Ringenoldus (Johnny Ringo). Rank: TSgt, Born April 2, 1983 in Normal, IL, then moved to Mesa, AZ. After working in IT for 5 years, I joined the Air Force on May 25, 2005 as a 4T071, Medical Lab Tech at 21y/o. Went to Sheppard AFB, TX for 13 months of tech school. Stationed at Hill AFB, Utah (2006-2010), Kunsan AB, ROK (2010-2011), RAF Lakenheath, UK (2011-2014), Whiteman AFB, MO (2014-2018), Kirtland AFB, NM (2018-2021). Did that for 15 years and then retrained in 2020 to Loadmaster getting stationed at D-M (2021-present). I have been deployed twice as a medic to Iraq (2009) and Afghanistan (2012) and once as a Load to Africa (2022). My favorite part about being a rescue Load, is that we get to help people out when they are having their absolute worst day and make sure they get brought home safely to their families. Another favorite is working with all the various assets that go into rescuing those people. I also really enjoy the team atmosphere and how even though everyone has their own specific skill set, we combine all of them to get the job done safely and rely heavily on each other to do so. As much as I loved being a medic, I have wanted to be a Loadmaster since I decided to join the Air Force, and finally got the opportunity to do so, and never second-guessed that decision. Additional info, I'm married with 3 kids and they are all very supportive of my career and understand what it is we do and why we do it. These things we do, that others may Live.



Photo: Jon-Christian Ringenoldus

### Bill Cannon Chapter

Ron Pierce, Interim Bill Cannon Chapter President - Holiday greetings from Bill Cannon Chapter. Thanks to Nicole and Marie along with all the others who assisted with this year's Gathering of Loads (GoL) in San Diego. Glad to report we had a successful meeting following the outstanding GoL. We discussed a brief recap of the presentations from the gathering. Meetings are back, second Saturday of the month, Habanero Grill, Golf Course JBLM-McChord at 1000. Breakfast at 0900 for those who want to eat prior. Below are photo's of the new C-17A building being constructed on JBLM-Lewis for the Army and others to practice loading. The old one did not have correct angles for the ramp toes and ramp. Looks like they have addressed this to allow for more realistic ramp contact. JBLM also has a C-5A, C-141B and C-130H for training. The last three do not see much action although the base maintains them. Any questions about meetings and other events please contact me at [rpierce@bohsolutions.com](mailto:rpierce@bohsolutions.com).



Loading Trainer Buildings at JBLM-Lewis, Photo by Ron Pierce

### Gulf Coast Commandos

These last few months have been light on meetings for the Gulf Coast Commandos, but we did have 5 of our members attend the Gathering of Loads (GoL) convention in San Diego. It was the first GoL that any of us have been to and it did not disappoint. We all had a great time sharing stories and our experiences along with meeting new Loadmasters from all across the organization. We are looking forward to the next Gathering and bringing more of our chapter with us to enjoy the camaraderie and festivities. We are working to get back on our monthly meeting/lunch schedule starting this month. Our monthly meeting will be at 1300 on October 21 over at Props in Niceville, FL. The focus for this month is to get every chapter member to bring a fellow Loadmaster who is not a member and help grow our chapter and the organization. Additionally, we are looking at planning a fun chapter event sometime in November (and more regularly). If anyone is in the Florida Panhandle, or



knows a Loadmaster in the area and is interested in joining our chapter please send us an email at [gulfcoastpla@gmail.com](mailto:gulfcoastpla@gmail.com)



Upper Left: Padres game - (Pictured closest to furthest): Bobby Gallagher, Chris McCoy, DJ Garber, Sean Magestro; Upper Right: USS Midway: (Pictured left to right): Chris McCoy, Sean Magestro, Anthony Zalucki, Bobby Gallagher; Bottom: June meeting - (Pictured left to right): Carmen Bellard, Virgil Poulsen, Todd Salisberry, Chris McCoy, Bruce Eddy, Doug Bailey

### Kings of Rescue

Hey Load! The Kings of Rescue-Southeast Chapter has been busy the past couple of months. From multi agency training in the Keys to Human Space Flight launches performing airborne alert coverage down in Coco Beach, FL. We have many more TDY's coming up that are going to showcase the might and ability of the HC-130J Combat Rescue II whether, from mid air refueling F-35's, to providing Combat Search and Rescue support, to those in deployed locations. While participating in the 15th Air Force Lead Wing initiative under the direction of the 23rd Wing "Agile Flag" exercise, the Kings of Rescue were recalled to perform escort and alert status for Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi during her recent overseas trip. Look out for the mighty "FT" tail flash at the upcoming UGA Football game where we will be doing the opening ceremony fly over! We were able to make it to our very first Gathering of Loads (GoL) convention this year in San Diego and could not believe the turn out and

the amazing support that can be found there. We look forward to the next GoL and hope to bring one of our tails to show off. We recently held a retirement for MSgt Robert Willis, who started out on C-17's then realized he wanted to work while in the Air Force and crossed over to the dark side and became an HC-130J Load. After a few deployments on the HC-130P's he completed the "J" transition and found himself as a school house instructor in Kirtland AFB, NM. He was able to retire out of the same city, base, and squadron as his dad did. Farewell and Load clear!!! There will be an election meeting this December for the following positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Like most squadrons the HC-130J Combat King II community is always looking for Loads that want to push their skills to the next level and provide a little something extra to those that need a helping hand. If interested get in touch with SSgt Jacob Dattage, President of the Kings of Rescue Southeast Chapter. If you would like to have more info and do a full page on the Kings of Rescue or the HC-130J please let me know and I would be extremely happy to do so. There are a lot of folks who don't know our capabilities and have not been on a military aircraft in a long time. V/R Rescue Loadmaster, [rescueloadmaster71@gmail.com](mailto:rescueloadmaster71@gmail.com), (229) 563-1991.

### Michael P. Lutzko Chapter

Bill Castro, Michael P. Lutzko Chapter President - We have bad news. Chief (RET) Juan Lavario passed away on October 4, 2022. As he was the chapter president from 2018 to 2021, when I was elected as president. I attended the Gathering of Loads convention and had a wonderful time meeting old and new Loads. I learned a few new things as changes have occurred since I retired in 2017. Our chapter as of now is having meetings as much as possible the first Thursday of the month at the local VFW. Our chapter is planning on participating in the Veterans Day parade here in Abilene on November 5, 2022 with Loadmasters from the 39 AS and 40 AS from Dyess AFB. You can contact me at [castrobill741@gmail.com](mailto:castrobill741@gmail.com). Have a good day.

### Parker-Aguillon-Payne Chapter

Mark E. Raymond P-A-P Chapter President - We would like to thank Nicole and all the Golden West Chapter members who helped organize and facilitate the 25th Gathering of Loads. Excellent job, great participation, and the presentations were the BEST. I heard nothing but great compliments on the event. Travis Delta Breeze Club continues to be not available for our monthly meetings, as it has in the past years. We have found an extremely popular place to have our meetings in Vacaville, at the Hide-A-Way Grill and Bar. We had another great meeting in October that gave us a chance to enjoy a tasty dinner and to enjoy each other's company. This was the first year we named our Scholarships after names other than the SMSgt Irv Mahler Scholarship. We had some incredibly special and active members of our Chapter who we named our two scholarships after this year: CMSgt JC Wiley and MSgt Mark Belland. In our October Chapter meeting we agreed to continue to use past active members who have passed away for the names

of our yearly scholarships. We have been honored to use Irv's name on our scholarships for the last few years. Our Chapter has awarded and presented \$10,500 worth of scholarships over the years to some incredibly special nominees. All our awardees have continued their education or gone on to graduate and pursued their chosen field. I must always mention our participation in the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life that was again hosted in Vacaville this last June. The location of "Relay" has continued to change due to one concern after another, which has been out of our control. This year the event was held in downtown Vacaville at the river walk. I must "laud and praise" Gabe Escamilla who relentlessly continues to work as our team captain and does an excellent job. The Vacaville "Relay for Life" event for 2023 is already requesting sign ups and donations for next year's event. If you would like to make donations to the Vacaville event, please make them to the Professional Loadmaster Association on the Vacaville Relay for Life web site. Our chapter has raised over \$295,000 in support of the cause. Thanks again to all those who volunteered at this year's NASCAR and NHRA races at Sonoma Raceway. This is the only way we make funds to support our chapter, and the volunteer support is appreciated. As always again, I would like to thank our local members who not only continue to cheerfully participate but understand the challenges we all must go through and the support we always have for each other. We always welcome all Loadmasters from Northern California and Northern Nevada to join our local chapter and are proud of current members who have moved and continue to request they be associated with our chapter. We still have our monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at Hide-A-Way Grill and Bar in Vacaville CA, but any changes to the meetings will be sent out via Email. If you have any question, please contact me at mark.raymond@att.net.

### **The First State Chapter**

Benjamin Fay, First State President - Our attendees who went to the Gathering of Loads (GoL) convention said it was a great experience! Our younger members were amazed and inspired by the Operation Baby Lift speech and the similarities to Operation Allies Refuge did not go unnoticed. The Q&A sessions were especially helpful for both current and retired Loadmasters. The history of the C-17A development was an eye opener for the C-5M Loadmasters who were in attendance, and everybody enjoyed hearing from the Navy Crew Chiefs who operate as Loadmasters. It is a rare occasion to hear from a Loadmaster outside of Air Mobility Command. Some of the attendees asked why we only do these every two years and I explained that despite being eligible for funding as a PTDY, the Gatherings are expensive and complicated to organize so we really want to thank the Golden West Chapter for all of their hard work hosting the GoL this year. The GoL definitely brought some momentum to the interest in our chapter and upcoming elections. One of the most common questions that I get asked is "why should I join the PLA?" To me that is an easy answer; first it is a nationally recognized professional organization that allows you to network

and discuss career options, mission tempo/quality of life between airframes, and possibly different loading techniques or even opinions on pro-gear. These conversations don't occur with your chain of command or stan/eval but with somebody who might be similar to you in age, rank, and family status. Sometimes the best advice for a Staff Sergeant is going to have to come from another Staff Sergeant and the PLA can provide that network. Second, did I mention networking? I know so many ex-Loadmasters in the work force and they are all thriving doing completely different careers. Everybody gets out of the military someday and there are not a lot of jobs that translate directly from being a Loadmaster. If you have a Q-1 on a Form 8, you have just proven that you are trainable, can learn a completely foreign and complicated subject and put that knowledge into execution. Employers look for this skill because it is not readily available in every applicant. I have just retired after doing a little over 30 years in the Air Force and my new job has nothing to do with loading cargo but I did get it from another Loadmaster. Third, come to a meeting and find out what the PLA is about. For the rest of the chapter, the C-5Ms and C-17s have been consistent in their flying schedule which has been great for training. Our Air National Guard C-130H2.5 unit just got back from a 3-week deployment supporting the European Deterrence Initiative augmenting USEUCOM's airlift capacity. A large percentage of the detachment's mission was in support of the effort to arm Ukraine against the Russian invasion. The 166th Airlift Wing's Special Mission Silver Arrow detachment flew 34 sorties totaling 90 hours of flight time and had safely transported 69 tons of cargo and passengers throughout the European Command Area of Responsibility.

### **The Rock Chapter**

We are proud to honor PLA member SMSgt Ronald W. Sharp. <https://www.amvhof.org/profile.php?p=368>, Arkansas Military Hall of Fame Article. SMSgt. Ronald W. Sharp joined the U.S. Air Force in May of 1966. His first duty after basic and Loadmaster Technical Training was Pope AFB, NC flying in the C-130E aircraft. He was reassigned to the 345th Tactical Airlift Squadron at Ching Chuan Kang (CCK) Air Base in Taiwan. He was a member of a Formation Lead Qualified crew and qualified in Low Altitude Parachute Extraction System deliveries, a very dangerous mission. He also qualified in Nuclear Material Airlift and was an Instructor Loadmaster. He flew 409 combat missions in Vietnam while assigned to CCK AB. Sharp also received a Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement while participating in Aerial Flight for missions flown into Ka-Shan Valley, February 4, 1968 to February 6, 1968. His aircraft took several rounds of ground fire each day. Sharp received his second Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism while participating in Aerial Flights on May 1, 1968. He off-loaded mortar shells at KHE-SANH while the aircraft was under intense mortar fire. The mortar fire took out the helicopter next to his aircraft, the last C-130 on the ramp. The Aircraft Commander was leaving before Sharp was complete with his ERO, Sharp continued to push the load until it left the



aircraft, he almost went out the aircraft with the load when the plane lifted off. SMSgt Sharp caught himself on the post of the ramp, hanging on for his life. When the navigator finally came back at 5000 feet to check on him, the ramp and door were still open. The navigator closed the ramp and door and pulled Sharp down from the post he was hanging on to. Ground fire took out the aircraft hydraulic system, and Sharp had to crank down the main landing gear for landing. After CCK AB he was reassigned to the 436th Aerial Port Squadron at Dover AFB, Delaware where he flew in C-133 and C-141 aircraft. Sharp left the military in 1970 for college, returning in 1971 when he was assigned to the 75th Military Airlift Squadron at Travis AFB CA, flying in the C-5 as Initial Cadre for the newly-developed aircraft. SMSgt Sharp once again left the service to become a licensed General Contractor, but soon realized the Air Force was his true calling. He rejoined in June of 1980 and was assigned to his previous unit, the 75th MAS, and later the 60th Airlift Control Element where he performed classified worldwide missions. SMSgt Sharp was reassigned to the 435th Airlift Control Squadron in Rhein Main, Germany where he served as Superintendent from 1990-1991. During this time he deployed in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, serving as Military Airlift Command subject matter expert for planning and loading foreign transport aircraft, supporting U.S. wartime operations. He personally surveyed airfields in Czechoslovakia providing operational flexibility and saving hundreds of flying hours. He also became the Military Airlift command expert on the Russian AN-124 aircraft as he loaded the Dutch Patriot Missile system on four AN-124 aircraft. SMSgt. Sharp organized and hosted the phase II deployment planning conference resulting in the rapid deployment of over 68,000 army personnel from 7 different airfields in Germany. In 1991 Sharp was re-assigned to Little Rock AFB in Arkansas where he served as a Superintendent in the 314th ALCS, the 53 MAS and as Chief Loadmaster of the 314th Airlift Wing. Additionally SMSgt Sharp coordinated with the Family Support center and established an information clearinghouse to ensure the personal needs of the families deployed members were met. When Senior Master Sergeant Sharp retired he had served 29 years, 9 months and 25 days. He had flown more than 7800 hours in service of his nation. He had over 50 combat drop missions and 450 combat missions while in Vietnam. He was the highest Decorated Airman alive in the Air Force. SMSGT Sharp continues to serve the local community as an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Rock Chapter of Professional Loadmaster Association. SMSgt Ronald Wayne Sharp, US Air Force military awards include: Silver Star Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medals with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, S. Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Training Ribbon, Air Force Overseas Longevity Service Award with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters, NCO Professional Military Education

Ribbon with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Vietnam Campaign Service Medal with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters, AF Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), AF Outstanding Unit Award, AF Overseas Short Tour Ribbon and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.



Photo: SMSgt Ronald W. Sharp

### Troop Carrier Chapter

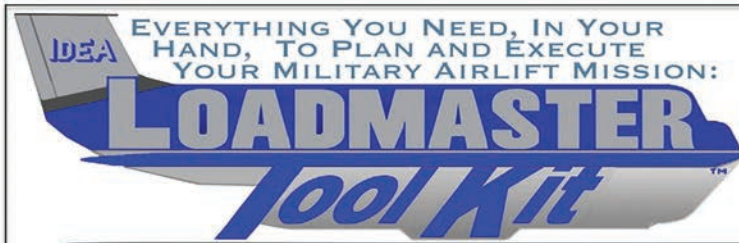
Josh Daigle, Troop Carrier Chapter President - The Troop Carrier Chapter is currently finishing up our exercise season. We just sent 30 members TDY to accomplish some scheduled joint training with our Polish partners. We have a rodeo coming up and I plan to include the winners in the next issue. Fest season is upon us and the beer is flowing! Hope all the other chapters are doing well. Any questions about the chapter can be sent to me at [jdaigle2010@gmail.com](mailto:jdaigle2010@gmail.com). Cheers!

### 57th Alumni Association Loadmasters

Loadmasters at the 57th Alumni Association 2022 Reunion at Colorado Springs CO September 25 - 28, 2022.



L to R: Curt Greca, Grady Woosley, John Burkhart, Larry Giles, Cary Martin, and Bodie Baker



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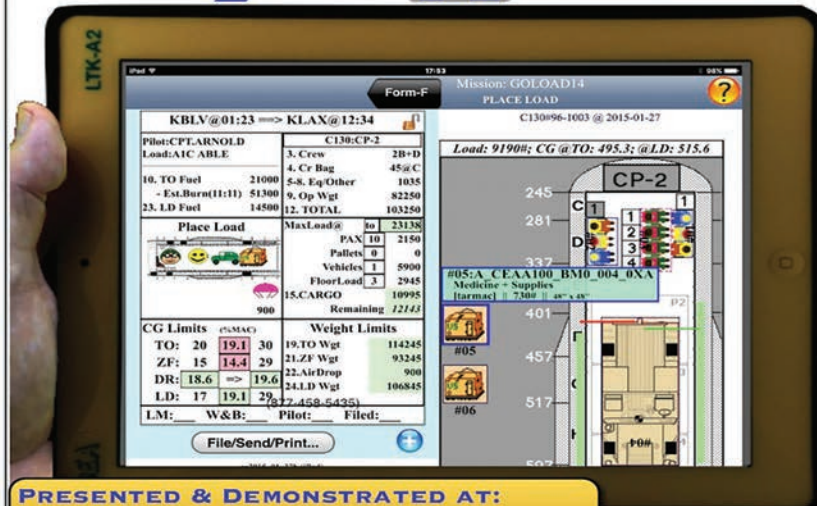
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Scholarship Award**

The Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association (TC/TAA) has graciously agreed to sponsor a Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) Scholarship in Mike Welch's name in perpetuity. The PLA and the scholarship award winners would like to thank TC/TAA for their generous contribution to the scholarship program.





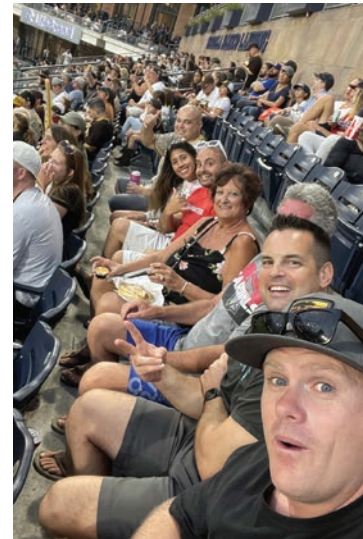
The Golden West Chapter of the Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) hosted the 2022 Gathering of Loads convention at the Wyndham Bayside Hotel, August 22 – 24, 2022.



Ray Snedegar and Carrie "Ngoc nh" Briggs, surviving child, talk about the before and after effects of "Operation Babylift". "She is one of my Angel Daughters" - Ray. A truly inspiring story.



Attendees from the 2022 Gathering of Loads all gathered for another group photo outside Wyndham San Diego Bayside hotel. Thank you to the amazing Kris Pierce for taking the photo.



Attendees enjoying some down time at a Padres game. Thank you Kevin Purdue for coordinating the effort. Photo: MSgt Scott Reddy



LtCol (Ret) Tony Marshall. He was a back seater flying F-4's over North/South Vietnam in 1971/1972 where on July 3, 1972, he became a "guest" at different times in the infamous Hanoi Hilton and the Zoo before being repatriated in 1973 as part of Operation Homecoming. LtCol Marshall flew nearly 270 combat mission with 50 and a half over North Vietnam. A kind and humble human being, and an excellent motivational speaker.



Day One Mission Debrief



At the 2022 Gathering of Loads convention the following PLA members were officially awarded Loadmaster of the Year awards for 2019, 2020 and 2021:

#### 2019 winners-

SrA Christopher Carmody, 37th AS, Ramstein AB, Germany  
 TSgt Josh Daigle, 37th AS, Ramstein AB, Germany  
 MSgt Paul Garcia, 821st CRG, Travis AFB, CA  
 Mr. Mario E. Berrios, 618th AOC, Scott AFB, IL

#### 2020 winners-

SSgt Logan J. Rackers, 21st AS, Travis AFB, CA  
 TSgt George F. Childres, 40th AS, Dyess AFB, TX  
 MSgt Andre J. Holloway, 37th AS, Ramstein AB, Germany  
 Mr. Christopher L. Dockery, C-130J MATS, Ramstein AB, Germany

#### 2021 winners-

SrA Brandon C. Berry, 16th AS, Charleston AFB, SC  
 TSgt Michael J. DeMik, 714th TS, Little Rock AFB, AR  
 MSgt Christopher D. Fullmer, 16th AS, Charleston AFB, SC  
 Mr. Doug Gardiner, Flight Safety, Altus AFB, OK



PLA Loadmaster of the Year award winners L - R: MSgt Christopher Fullmer (2021), SSgt Josh Daigle (2019), TSgt Michael DeMik (2021), SMSgt Paul Garcia (2019).

### Words from our Hostess

MSgt Nicole McBrearty - Greetings Loads! What a fantastic event you all came out to support. We had a very successful Gathering of the Loads in San Diego, CA thanks to the support of all of you. I want to give a special thanks for some of the people who persevered to make this happen. They are definitely Loads you can depend on, and I am thankful for the opportunity to work with them. SSgt Phillip Ensley, our chapter treasurer not only fulfilled the duties for the Chapter, but I'm sure those of you there saw how he stepped up to help with everything during the event. TSgt Celia Hinzman, without her and TSgt Allison Kidder we would never have had those awesome T shirts to remember the event by. They also had a big part in the hospitality room. SSgt Zackaree

Simanton also was a huge help at the event. He came through for us in so many ways and I'm sure you saw him keeping his post at the table in the hospitably room with Celia. Thank you TSgt Simba Sims for the fantastic job with the slide show. We always enjoy getting to remember those not with us and the fun moments from the past. Last, a huge thank you to MSgt Marie Gamache. She never wavered. She always showed up to meetings even if it was virtually. She never let us give up even when it seemed like it was not going to work out. She really stayed vigilant to the end and right up through the event worked hard to make it a fantastic time for everyone. We are thankful to all the chapters that donated money and that donated time and support. Thank you for that. Thank you to all of you who showed up. Thank you to National for your support always. It was a very long three years with a lot of uncertainty. Such is life. We hope you all had a fantastic time and can't wait to see you in Little Rock! In the meantime, we will finally be having a turnover of our own. Our chapter positions will all be available, and we welcome everyone in the Golden West to show up if they want to jump into being part of this amazing group. The elections will be held December 10, 2022 at 1430. They will be held at the 729th AS Heritage Room, Building 2140, March ARB, CA. If there is any interest we can also set up a static for anyone interested in a C-17 tour prior to the elections. Please contact me or MSgt Marie Gamache and please show up to give your support! It's time for a new chapter in 2023! Best wishes to you all!

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### Serving After Serving....



Chanel Davenport

The following is a conversation between Marie Gamache and Chanel Davenport. Welcome Chanel and thank you for doing this. Lets start with can you tell me a little about your background? Hello all! My name is Chanel Davenport, some may know me as Chanel Sheehan from when I was flying. I was a C-17 Loadmaster out of McChord AFB at the 10th AS while I was in. I served from 2005 to 2011 and met some of my best friends while I was in, including my husband Justin, who is still serving. We are currently at March ARB where he is finishing as an AGR prior to retirement.

What made you join the military? For background context, I come from a large family. I am one of five kids and my dad passed when I was 12 years old. I feel incredibly blessed to have come from a family that is so close, we didn't have a lot, but we were loved and had everything we needed. When I was younger, I had decided I wanted to be a teacher when I grew up, I knew my only options would be to take loans out or find some alternate means to pay for school. I knew I didn't want to get into debt going to college as a normal teacher's salary would have me paying off loans for the rest of my life. With that I started looking at other options. Both my grandpa and uncle, who were big influences in my life in my early years after my father passed, had served in the military and spoke highly of their time and the impact it had on their lives. After looking and researching, it seemed like a no-brainer as they would pay for school while you were in and after you got out you would still have your education benefits. With that and after lots of questions and brainstorming I decided to sign up for the Air Force.

My experience at Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS)... After signing up they sent me to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery to see what I would qualify for. After I took the test, I went into some office where they handed me two binders of books and told me that I could pick any job I wanted in the two books. I was told to look through and pick five jobs. I was so overwhelmed as I had no idea, I would be doing that so I spent about 30 minutes just filing through the book overwhelmed. I

ended up taking a break to use the bathroom and ran into someone from the Navy who was crossing over to the Air Force. I must have looked overwhelmed as she stopped me to see if I was okay. I explained what was going on to her and she told me to stop looking at the book and just flip to the 1A section and fill my list with those jobs. I didn't know at that time that everyone in the Air Force didn't fly, so it was like a revelation to me. I went back and did just that which luckily had Loadmaster listed first. I may be biased but I feel being a Loadmaster is the best job in the military.

So do we Chanel! What do you miss most about your time as a Loadmaster? Honestly, I'd say just flying. There is something about flying that gets in your blood. There is honestly nothing like it in the work force. Yes, you have long days but the comradery and relationships you build doing that are nothing like things on the outside. I was lucky enough to be part of the airdrop mission on C-17's. I'd say that is the most missed part of the job for me.

I, like many, have struggles with deciding what the next step is. How did you decide what you wanted to do after the military? After I got out of the Air Force, I started working for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), as part of the claim process. I was a rating veterans service representative. This is the person who reviews a case and decides one way or another whether service connection will be approved or denied. If approved then you also assign the evaluation that should be assigned. I really enjoyed what I did, as every day I was making a huge impact on a veteran's life. With this I realized I wanted to have a bigger impact on the veteran community as a whole, and I knew I'd need to go to law school for that. While in law school I worked with a few different firms that did VA disability and realized how big a need there was in this area. I've been doing exclusively veterans law since passing the bar and love that I'm part of making a difference in the lives of veterans as a whole.

Tell me about the services Veterans Advising Veterans offers? I represent Veterans and their family members at the regional office, the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), and the Court of Appeals of Veterans Claims (CAVC). At all of those locations, I help get granted service connection for issues, increases in ratings they are already service-connected for, and survivor benefits. I also have a number of recourses that I share, and help veterans navigate the VA process.

At the 2022 Gathering of Loads convention, you talked about VA math. What is your advice on keeping it simple? Everyone wants to know why VA math is so difficult. The VA does have a chart on their website, that you can follow to figure out your rating. But to keep it simple, if you have two issues rated at 50%, most will think that  $50+50=100$ , but not at the VA. When doing VA math the first issue is always what it's worth, then the next is a percentage of what is left to make a whole number. So for the above problem it would be  $50+ (50\% \text{ of the remaining } 50=25) = 75\%$  which would round up to 80% overall. If you were to add an additional 10% it would still equal an overall 80% based on  $75+ (10\% \text{ of the remaining } 25 = 2.5) = 77.5\%$ , which rounds up to 80%.

As someone who has gone through it, what advise do you have for members getting ready to retire or separate from the military? If you know you are coming close to getting out I'd highly recommend taking advantage of the VA Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Program. You can submit a claim from 90 - 180 days prior to your separation date and they do all the exams while you are still on active duty in the hope to have a decision to you within a few weeks of when you separate. If you miss the BDD window, it's still worth getting your claim in while you are on active duty because the claim itself can be your in-service event. With that, if you are on active duty getting ready to separate, I would recommend taking a few hours and starting from the top of your head going through all body systems and parts and making note of anything you've had issues with, whether you have sought medical treatment or not. For example, did you have any head injury, do you have PTSD/insomnia/anxiety/depression, do you get headaches? If so, write them down, next do you have any ear issues (hearing loss, ringing in the ears, vertigo)? If so write them down. Move to the eyes, and do this till you get to the feet and toes. Spending a few hours doing this can help make sure you don't forget anything and make sure you claim everything you would like from the beginning. If you have any questions or need help, reach out, I'm happy to help anyway I can.

What are your top recommendations for members to make the most of their benefits? Every state has their own benefits that are available to service-connected veterans. With that you will want to look up your state's benefits to see all the benefits available for service-connected veterans. There are also federal benefits that apply no matter what state you are in. The biggest one that I see veterans underutilized is the VA Home loan, where if you are service connected at any level the lender should waive your funding fee, which can be thousands of dollars.

How can we reach you?

Chanel Davenport  
 Veterans Advising Veterans  
 107 W 9th Street, 2nd Floor, PMB#0428  
 Kansas City, MO 64105  
 (816) 287-0424  
 chanel@veteransadvisingveterans.com  
 www.veteransadvisingveterans.com

### Basic Loadmaster Course (BLM)

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, April 13, 2022. SrA Angel Reyes, a student in the Basic Loadmaster Course, prepares to direct cargo into the static C-130 in an exercise at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, on April 13, 2022. The Career Enlisted Aviator Center of Excellence (CoE) is the beginning of Undergraduate Flying Training for all enlisted aviators. The CoE teaches a base level of aviation knowledge in Aircrew Fundamentals on aerodynamics, aircraft systems, safety procedures, publications, physiological responses to altitude and more to Air Force and international students in aviation career fields. Upon completion of Aircrew Fundamentals, Airmen progress to their higher level, specialized

aircrew training. Specialized courses include Boom Operator, Flight Engineer, Aircraft Loadmaster, Airborne Mission Systems Operator, Flight Attendant and Special Missions Aviators courses.



SrA Angel Reyes on static C-130, April 13, 2022 (USAF photo by Miriam Thurber, 37thTW Public Affairs)

### Airmen Train, Deliver Humanitarian Aid to Honduras

U.S. Air Force SSgt Kevin Garcia-Andrade (middle), 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy Loadmaster, marshals a K-loader toward a C-5M at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, August 25, 2022. During the trip, the aircrew also delivered over 90,000 pounds of humanitarian aid to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras.



SSgt Kevin Garcia-Andrade marshals a K-loader to a C-5M. (Photo by SrA Karla Parra, 60th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs)

### LM's Train With North Charleston Police Department

Joint Base Charleston, SC, September 16, 2022. U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 15th and 16th Airlift Squadrons and personnel from the North Charleston Police Department pose for a group photo during a joint training exercise at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, September 16, 2022. The exercise prepared Loadmasters to load larger vehicles onto a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft - a potential wartime scenario. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Christian Silvera)





15th and 16th Airlift Squadron Loadmasters and personnel from the North Charleston Police Department inside a C-17 (Photo by Airman 1st Class Christian Silvera, Joint Base Charleston Public Affairs)

### Falcon Leap Exercise

Texas ANG 181st OS Loadmasters, TSgt Ryan Fenimore and SrA Alex Huff prepare their C-130J aircraft before take off during Falcon Leap Exercise, September 13, 2022 in Eindhoven, Netherlands. Falcon Leap 2022 is a part of the remembrance ceremonies for Operation Market Garden's anniversary and is currently NATO's largest technical airborne exercise.



TSgt Ryan Fenimore and SrA Alex Huff. Photo by SrA Charissa Menken, 136th Airlift Wing (Texas Air National Guard)

### Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center 23-01

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI, November 1, 2022. 15th Wing provides mobility support during Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center 23-01. U.S. Air Force SSgt Jory Linneman, 535th Airlift Squadron Loadmaster, secures a U.S. Army Humvee belonging to the 25th Infantry Division onto a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, during the Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center 23-01, November 1, 2022. Bilateral and multilateral exercises such as JPMRC 23-01 strengthens relationships and enhance interoperability with allies and partners through shared experiences and realistic training.



SSgt Jory Linneman secures Humvee. (Photo by SrA Zoie Cox 15th Wing Public Affairs)



### 2022/2023 PLA Membership Roster

\*\* Lifetime Membership - Roster current as of November 1, 2022.

Absher, Dean C. **	Anderson, Alfert III
Absher, Patrick T. **	Anderson, Jason **
Adams, Kevin **	Anding, Nicholas E
Akins, Charles E. **	Annas, Robert M. **
Albright, Reynold L. **	Anthony, Chris
Alden, Scott J. II **	Arceo, Frankie D
Alexander, Caleb **	Armstrong, Scott P. **
Alexander, Jayne **	Askew, Wes **
Allard, Henry J.	Aubrey, Arnold L **
Allen, Bill **	Aust, James H. **
Allen, Brayden T	Avery, Aaron **
Allen, John L. **	Avery, Charles J. **
Allison, Larry S. **	Baade, Walter A. **
Andersen, Brian **	Baarda, James J. **

Bailey, Douglas S. **	Bell, Lantz R	Brooks, Kyle C	Capone, Alberto **
Bailey, Kasumi **	Belland, Mark E **	Brown, Anne **	Caponi, Joseph IV **
Bailey, Stu **	Bemis II, Ralph T	Brown, Charlie D. **	Carden, Gregory J
Baird, Jerry L. **	Benavides, Francisco	Brown, Daniel K. **	Carden, James A **
Baitsholts, Trevor **	Bennett, Richard L. **	Brown, Jaron J	Carey, Bryan R. **
Baker, Bodie L. **	Berg, Howard V. **	Brown, Jason D. **	Carey, Hugh F. **
Baker, Christopher M. **	Bernard, Christopher	Brown, Joseph B. **	Cargill, Ronald **
Balan, Michael	Bernard, Roosevelt Jr.	Brown, Kent **	Carman, Joseph D
Ballard, Elisa **	Berner, Gethyn M	Browne, Reggie M **	Carmody, Edward R. **
Bann, Raymond L. **	Berrios, Mario **	Brucker, Brian **	Carpenter, John E
Barb, Alex	Bertino, Kurt **	Brudi, Gary W	Carrion, Thomas Y Sr. **
Bardaro, James D. **	Bertsch, Robert J. **	Brumfield, Shawn E. **	Carroll, William A. **
Barnes, Ted **	Billman, Tim **	Brunkow, Bruce **	Carson, Christopher R. **
Barnes, Thomas	Birchman, David J. **	Bryson, Sterling L. **	Carter, Barry D. **
Barnes, Zach M	Birney, William J	Buckley, Paul W. **	Cary, Sheldon **
Barnett, Ernest W. **	Bitler, Brandon A	Bucy, Dustin **	Caskey, Ferrell M. Jr. **
Barney, Todd L **	Blair, Timothy A **	Buffin, Andrew M	Casper, Joshua
Barrett, Nicholas **	Block, Thomas H. **	Bugar, Paul **	Castanedo, Paul A. **
Barry, Cody A. **	Blum-Schumacher, Kevin R	BULAN, JOEM K	Castro, William C
Bartlemus, Jeffrey D. **	Bond, Wade L. **	Bullock, Walter A. **	Cato, Roger D. **
Bartley, David **	Booker, Frederick Jr. **	Burdette, Jesse L **	Catron, Charles E
Barto, Larry Jr. **	Bostock, William **	Burke, Jeffrey P **	Cawthon, Michael E. **
Barton, Bobby	Boston, Lee	Burkhardt, John R. **	Cawthon, Richard E. **
Barton, Steve **	Botz, Jeff	Burnett, Robert B. **	Chamberlain, Samuel R. Jr. **
Barzee, Matthew G	Bouchard, Michael R. **	Burton, Kyle **	Chandler, Robert D. **
Bass, Richard V. **	Boucher, Justin	Byrd, Melvin **	Chewning, Brian L. **
Bastiansen, Erik **	Brady, William **	Byrns, Walter N. **	Christian, Carson
Battle, Johnnie **	Branski, John L **	Cains, Charles E	Christopher, Lloyd F. **
Baulkman, Joseph Jr. **	Brasch, Eric M. **	Calcaterra, Marc A. **	Clark, Cecil D. **
Beck, Timothy J. **	Brech, Brian A. **	Call, Donald H	Clark, Donnell W
Becker, Charles F. **	Bredwell, Joshua	Callahan, Patrick J **	Clark, Stephen M
Bednarek, Todd M	Bridgeman, Brian K. **	Callahan, Robert **	Clark, Willis **
Beebe, Alan E **	Bridgestock, Alan N	Calloway, Kevin	Claudio, Juan **
Beegle, Malcolm **	Brill, Taylor	Camino, Nicholas	Clay, Christopher S **
Beese, Alfred **	Briscoe, Gary R. **	Campeau, Ronald A. Jr. **	Clayton, Shane R
Begley, Jeff **	Brock, Shaun K **	Caniete, Ted A. **	Clever, Ted L. Jr. **
Bell, Dave **	Brockman, Jimmie C **	Cann, Charles D Sr. **	Clever, Theodore III **
Bell, Lantz R	Broderick, Paul J. **	Cannon, Mike **	Cobb, James A **



Cochran, Corydon V II	Dean, Michael D	Eddy, Bruce	Foote, Timothy M **
Colello, Joseph F. **	DeHart, Charles J. **	Edvalds, Harold A. **	Forbes, Deven RP
Coleman, Colin P	DeHond, Brandon **	Edwards, Jerri L. **	Foulois, Kevin G. **
Coles, John C. **	Delano, Scott A **	Edwards, William C. **	Foutch, David J
Collins, Stephen **	DeLarosa, Rene' **	Ellerman, Ryan D. **	Fowler, Christopher W
Comella, Augustine	DeMik, Michael John	Embree, Michael K	Fowler, Frederick
Cooper, Brian E. **	Denk, Michael **	Engelker, James	Fraley, Boris J **
Cooper, Steve A. **	Denman, Daniel **	English, Michael C. **	Franken, Brad **
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Cosgrove, Robert J. **	Devincenzo, Donald D. **	Erickson, Lucas **	Fredrick, Samuel A. **
Costa, Frank	Diamond, Matthew	Ernzen, Kenneth M. **	Freeman, Theodore **
Cox, Craig A **	Diaz, Adrian	Escamilla, Gabriel **	French, James T
Crawford, Kurtis	Disney, Kathleen **	Fabian, Kim **	Friedrich, William R. **
Crenshaw, Reginald **	Disney, Kyle **	Fabiani, Maria **	Fry, Matthew **
Crumpton, Lucas **	Dockery, Christopher	Faison, Michael R	Fugle, Joshua Gary
Cruz, Hermilo Jr. **	Doherty, Randall J. **	Faris, George D **	Fujimoto, Karen **
Culver, Randall S. **	Doiron, Kenneth F **	Farley, Patrick R. **	Fullmer, Christopher
Cumberland, Michael **	Domaszewicz, Chester **	Farmintino, Brian	Gainey, Maxie L. **
Cummings, Christopher **	Downey, Daniel **	Farrugia, Matthew J	Galioto, Anthony
Currie, Samuel L. **	Draiss, Logan	Fasano, Vincent	Gallagher, Robert L III
Czarnecki, Drew **	Draper, David	Faul, Hurley L	Gallo, John B. **
Czech, Edward W. Jr.	Drew, John B	Favalora, William G	Gamache, Francis J. Jr. **
Czeizinger, Rudolph E. **	Driscoll, Timothy E. **	Favorite, Kyle A	Gamache, Marie **
Daigle, Josh R **	Druding, Michael R. **	Fay, Benjamin **	Garber, Daniel
Daniel, Dianne R.S. **	Drury, Gregg **	Faynik, Robert J. **	Garcia, Paul **
Daniel, Jeffrey L. **	DuBose, William **	Felix, Jorge **	Gardiner, Douglas E. **
Daniels, Kyle D	Duncan, Brad **	Fernandez, Micah	Garner, Paul B
Danner, Lawrence Jr	Duncan, Nathan M	Fields, Hannah	Garris, Jessica
Darden, Jerome D. **	Dunkelberger, Michael **	Fields, Thomas E. Jr. **	Garrison, William F. **
Dattage, Jacob A	Dunn, Ronald L. **	Fischer, Pete	George, Donovan
Davenport, Chanel **	Dunphy, Jerry **	Fish, Charles R. **	Getz, William H. **
Davenport, Justin **	Duran, Herb **	Flannery, Ray **	Ghent, William B. **
Davies, William (Bill)	Dureitz, Arthur A. **	Fleig, Albert E IV	Giandre, Lawrence R. **
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Davis, William Brent	Dwyer, Michael **	Fletcher, Carol R	Goade, Michael K. **
De Haas, Bob **	Dye, Cory A **	Flom, Kent R. **	Gochenour, Roy **
De Haas, Monika L. **	Dykes, Michael L. **	Flores, Alfonso Sr.	Godbolt, Reginald L
De La Cruz, Genovieve	Ebner, Mike **	Flori, Robert E. **	Goode, William C

Gorden, Sam W. **	Hampton, Shanon	Hilton, James A **	Ivars, Richard **
Gordon, Michael **	Harlan, Bryan M	Hilton, Terry D. **	Ivy, Charles L. **
Gornay, Edmund M. **	Harmon, Clifton **	Hinkamp, Karl J. **	Jackson, Charles T. III **
Grant, Douglas **	Harper, David **	Hinkle, Kevin P **	Jantz, Matthew D. **
Grant, Levi D	Harris, Raymond E. **	Hinojosa, Gerald L. **	Jaquez, Jake **
Greca, Curt A **	Harrison, Mark **	Hipkins, Dale A **	Jensen, Maximus L
Green, Alexander W **	Hart, Rawnald **	Hippensteel, Russell **	Johnson, Brian **
Green, William H. **	Hartford, David **	Hixson, Kyle A	Johnson, Craig E. **
Greenblatt, Jeremy S	Harvell, Paul J. **	Hoffman, Jason D	Johnson, Craig S. **
Greenwood, Terrance Lynn	Harvell, Paul J. **	Hoffman, Rachel	Johnson, Daniel **
Greer, Philip E	Harvey, Robert L. **	Holloway, Sharon L. **	Johnson, Daniel L. **
Griesinger, Nathan **	Hassell, Bienvenido V. **	Holman, Michael E. **	Johnson, Park E. II **
Grieve, David D. **	Hastings, Eugene C	Holmes, Matthew T. **	Johnson, Stephen K. **
Griffin, Ben R	Hathaway, Andy	Holsenback, Andrew J	Johnson, Steve A. **
Grothe, Allen W. **	Hawkins, Erith A. II **	Holston, Lewis J. Jr. **	Jones, Cassy
Grothe, Arlo **	Hayes, John F. **	Hondel, Steve **	Jones, Darryl F. **
Guerra, Michael A	Hays, Robert H **	Hoots, Andrew **	Jones, Jason D
Guetschow, James	Hebert, Ted W. **	Horton, Nathan R. **	Jones, Jessie C. **
Guetschow, James **	Hedspeth, Randy A. **	Horwedel, Allen G. **	Jones, Michael O. **
Gunn, Kelsey D. **	Heffner, Charles V. **	House, Thomas J	Jones, Wilfred **
Gustafson, Lance P. **	Heflin, Mark **	Howard, John	Jordan, Lance **
Gustafson, Thomas L. **	Heiker, Erick **	Howard, John E **	Joy, James B. **
Gutierrez, Adolfo	Heinen, Gordon J. **	Howell, Dillon **	Julia, Philip N. **
Gutierrez, Jose R	Held, Brooke	Hoyle, Marc A. **	Junyszek, Thomas P **
Haak, Scott **	Helms, Cadar B	Hudson, Keith **	Kaiser, Charles C II
Haberlein, Robert A	Helt, Elizabeth	Huelsenbeck, Mike	Kaiser, Charles C II
Hader, James A. Jr. **	Hendrickson, Gary	Huelsenbeck, Mike	Kang, Harlasun **
Hafer, Paul J **	Hendrickson, Gary L	Huerta, Jesus **	Kapinos, Joseph V
Hager, Junathaen	Hennion, Christopher P. **	Huffman, William D. Jr. **	Kapp, Christopher S
Hall, Larry E. **	Henry, Jim **	Humes, Charles N	Karlsen, Ole **
Hall, Peter **	Henson, David G	Humphress, Robert L	Kaufman, Amber A
Hall, Randy L. **	Henson, William W. **	Humphrey, Richard K **	Kaupa, Erik **
Ham, Woo H	Herman, Michael **	Hunter, Jonathan D	Keating, Ryan M **
Hamatake, Robert	Hernandez, Erik	Hutchison, Chuck	Keil, Ivan Emil
Hambleton, Leigh **	Hernandez, Javier	Hyson, Russell M	Kelleher, Craig D. **
Hamblin, Michael **	Herrera, Tranquilino	Imbriglio, Evan Armon	Kelley, Al **
Hamill, Melvin O. **	Herrick, Wesley F. Jr. **	Ippolito, Mark R. **	Kelley, Billy G. **
Hamilton, William D. Jr. **	Hilgart, Fred **	Island, James W. **	Kelly, Ronnie M



Kennedy, William R	Kuhn, Douglas **	Lis, James **	McArthur, Donald F. **
Kenny, Thomas **	Kuhns, Eric W. **	Liston, Buddy R. **	McBrearty, Nicole **
Kenny, Thomas A. **	Kulig, Kevin P. **	Lloyd, Andrew	McCarty, Patrick **
Kent, Chad **	Kunkel, Jason S **	Lloyd, John W **	McClanahan, Shane A **
Kent, Michael L. **	Lager, Mark R. **	Love, Cyrus A	McClure, Darrin M. **
Kern, Tim **	Lambrecht, Michael **	Lucas, Benjamin **	McCommons, Harry P. **
Kessler, Jesse **	Lancaster, Robert E. **	Lund, Bruce A. **	McCool, Jackson P
Khamone, Cravenkeo	Langenstein, Jack **	Lusk, Steven R. **	McCoy, Christopher D **
Kidder, Allison	Lao, Becky	Lutman, Scott R. **	McCracken, Charles L. **
Kim, Sandra	Larsen, Richard **	MacGregor, Douglas **	McCuddin, Douglas **
King, James L **	Lau, Gordon R. **	Maciborski, James P. **	McDonald, David Justin
King, Jeanette **	Laub, Douglas J. **	Mackay, Brian P	McGowan, Samuel E. Jr. **
King, John **	Lauderdale, Charles **	Madden, William R. **	McGuire, Scott O.
King, Justin **	Lawrence, Dwight L. **	Magee, Wayne L. **	McGuyver, Alec R. **
Kinnan, Ricky L. **	Lawrence, Lori **	Magestro, Sean M	McLaren, John **
Kinsley, James	Layne, Winston E. **	Maheux, Donny **	McLimans, Luke R
Kirkendall, Dane	LeCouve, Jacob S	Maille, Christopher **	McMillan-Graham, Rebecca **
Kirnan, Sinead K	Lee, Jacob **	Malcolm, Richard R.	McNees, David **
Kitchen, James A III	Lee, Rasheem R	Mallock, James J **	McNellis, James M **
Kitchen, Mark **	Leet, Robert N. Jr. **	Mangefrida, John F	McPhail, Liam
Kitchen, Paul J.	Lemons, Chris **	Manley, Erin **	Meador, Charles **
Klemp, John A. **	Lenz, Brandon	Mark, George R. **	Means, Brian D. **
Klindt, Milburn R. **	Leonard, Jeffrey A. **	Marques, Ricardo Jorge Sr.	Meluskey, Dwayne **
Klippel, Jeffery A	Leonard, Richard J	Marshall, John S. **	Melvin, Eugene **
Knight, Josh **	Lester, Chris W	Marston, Rick **	Mendes, Michael L
Knight, Lloyd **	Letts, James	Martin, Cary Lane **	Mengesha, Tezerawork Hailu
Knight, Philip	Letz, Kevin	Martin, John W. Jr. **	Meyer, Gene L. **
Knoblock, Karen L. **	Lewis, Benjamin **	Martin, Raymond E. **	Michels, Melissa
Koch, Chris **	Lewis, James **	Martin, Ryan	Mico, Ty E
Koerner, Kent **	Lewis, Mark A. **	Martinez, Anthony R	Miles, Austin
Kohli, Daniel A. **	Leyva, Hector **	Massey, Christopher	Miller Jr., Shem **
Kolasa, Cale **	Lia, Vebjorn **	Masterson, Matt	Miller, Jack J
Kolb, Mark W	Lickey, Duncan B **	Masur, John F. **	Miller, Jacob T
Kolbo, Robert C. **	Lilly, Austin	Masura, James C. Jr. **	Mills, John **
Koon, Tom **	Limbach, John F. **	Mathes, Douglas R. **	Mills, Scott A. **
Koula, Thomas R. **	Linaweaver, Larry B. **	Mayall, Mark **	Moeller, Enrique
Krolak, Donald M. **	Lindgren, John **	Mayfield, Jerry L. **	Montes, Alfred
Kubik, Donald **	Lindner, Ronald W. **	Mazzone, Thomas B. **	Montgomery, Joel E. **

Montiel-Torres, Ricardo **	Nodine, Dennis A. **	Penor, Miles G. **	Rasar, Douglas B. **
Moody, James E. **	Nontelle, Brandon **	Perdue, Kevin J. **	Rasnick, Mark A **
Moore, John H. **	Norton, Patrick T	Pereira, Jose	Ratzlaff, Patrick D. **
Moracco, Joshua A. **	Norwood, George W **	Perera, Michael **	Rayman, Jordan J **
Morales, Renee **	Nuckoles, Rodney W. **	Perez, Elijah	Raymond, Mark E. **
Moran, Timothy D. **	Nunez, Edgar	Perkins, Mike **	Reddy, Scott
Morawek, Thomas **	Nyhus, Dale **	Perry, Victor C. **	Redeye, Stanley M. **
Moreno, Albert A. **	O'Brien, Robert	Peters, Justin	Reed, Scott A
Morgan, Bailey	Obrock, Steven T	Peters, Mitchell **	Reede, Herman **
Morgan, Jason **	O'Bryant, Todd M. **	Peterson, Greg B. **	Regan, Kenneth E. **
Morgan, William J. III **	ODonnell, Caitlin B	Peterson, James	Reibel, John **
Morlan, Charles **	Ohler, Marcus **	Pfeifer, Paul C. **	Reighter, Shevaun
Morris, Alex	Olen, Alec c	Phillips, Joe **	Rein, Albert III
Morris, Robert A. **	Olson, Cory M. **	Phillips, John **	Renaud-Williams, Karen M. **
Morse, Kevin **	Onsgard, Robert E. **	Philon, Terry **	Rennekar, Edward E **
Morton, Ronny **	Orozco, Sierra	Piasecki, Michael L **	Reyes, Demetrius
Motta Perez, Mario	Orr, Robert L. **	Pierce, Ronald D. **	Reyes, Robert **
Mueller, Matthew E. **	Orrie, Louis D. **	Pierce, Tony A. **	Reynolds, Charles E. **
Mueller, Michael **	Ortman, Jonah	Pino, Wilfredo E. **	Reynolds, Michael C. **
Muñoz, Antonio Sr.	Osborn, Victor J. **	Piper, Bert L. **	Richardson, Jesse **
Murphy, Brian K. **	Overstreet, Edward C. **	Pitcher, Byron E. **	Richardson, Lonnie D. **
Murphy, Frank **	Owens, Frank E. **	Pitts, Robert E. **	Richburg, Brent **
Murphy, Russell J. **	Oxley, Michael **	Pogue, Joshua D **	Richey, Bruce **
Murray, Isaiah **	Paradis, Bill J. **	Ponto, Andy **	Ricks, Richard S **
Myers, Rodney L. **	Paradis, Wilfred B. **	Poulsen, Virgil A. **	Rifenbury, Philip M Jr
Nason, John **	Parker, Carl D. **	Powell, Mitchell F **	Ringenoldus, Jon
Needham, Ronald A. **	Parker, Michael S. **	Prater, Chuck C. **	Rios, Julio C
Neil, Charles **	Parker, William T. Jr. **	Prothero-Waller, Christopher R.	Ritchie, Jessie **
Nelson, Harley **	Parks, Ronald D. **	Puerner, David A. **	Roberts, Adam **
Nelson, Joshua L	Patrick, Melvin J. Jr. **	Pyeatt, Tim **	Roberts, Jack T **
Nelson, Marc **	Patton, Christopher S. **	Pyle, Sherman R. **	Roberts, Joe E.
Nelson, Tomas **	Paumier, Daniel F. **	Radovich, George A. **	Roberts, Paul **
Nemeth, Matthew C. **	Payne, Edward **	Radziewicz, Brett A	Roberts, Roger F. **
Nesheim, Ben **	Peele, Barry E. **	Raines, Edward Jr	Robinson, Kevin **
Neumann, John	Pena, Danilo J	Rainey, Stephon C. **	Rodriguez, Avis C
Nevin, Edward J. **	Pena, Edward **	Raleigh, Percy L. **	Rodriguez, Luis J
Newell, David F **	Pendleton, Mark T **	Ramirez, Jesus **	Rollis, Regina C. **
Nicholson, Kenneth D. **	Pennypacker, Stephen	Rann, Nathan **	Rood, Harold D. **



Rorie, James T. **	Schwandt, Krys **	Smith, Rika **	Storrs, Austin D
Roscoe, Keith **	Schwartz, John C **	Smith, T.V. **	Stout, Gary B. **
Rose, Wayne J	Scott, Bob **	Smith, Terry W. **	Strader, Tony E **
Rossi, Janine	Secrest, Glenn E. **	Smith, Thomas B **	Stratman, Amy B. **
Ruch, Monte L. **	Sedlacek, Darin **	Smith, Trevor M **	Stratton, Bradley A. **
Rud, Richie **	See, Michael A. **	Smith, Wayne	Stratton, Richard W. **
Russell, Richard E. **	Segreti, James	Smith, Zach	Strayhorne, Ronald E. JR
Russell, Robert **	Self, Matthew D. **	Snedegar, Raymond F Jr. **	Strong, Kenneth C. **
Russell, Robert W Jr. **	Sell, Leonard M **	Snook, Robert E. **	Strouse, Richard A. **
Rutter, Jeffery S. **	Sellers, Carl R. **	Snyder, Courtney **	Stroz, Douglas H. **
Rzomp, Matthew D	Settle, Mark W. **	Sokgobenzon, Dmitri **	Stueven, Scott A. **
Sabecky, Chris	Sewell, Jimmie **	Soriano, Graciela V	Sturgill, Larry D **
Salerno, Franklin **	Shadoff, James A. **	Sortomme, Levi **	Suenaga, Robert **
Salisbury, John **	Shank, William W. **	Soto, John **	Sugai, Raymond K. **
Salisbury, Todd A	Sharp, Ronald W	South, Danny	Sullivan, Pennie J. **
Salts, Glen E. **	Sharratt, Joshua M. **	Spaeth, Leon S. **	Summ, Brian **
Salyer, Dave **	Shartzter, Kenneth **	Spangler, Michael D. **	Sutherland, Paul J. **
Samuels, Aubrey C. **	Shaw, Jeffrey **	Spanos, Johnny M. **	Suvatne, Arne **
San Cartier, John H. **	Sherrill, Danny L	Speer, Gary D **	Swaim, Scott R. **
Sanchez, Angel	Shest, Benjamin J **	Spillane, John Joseph IV **	Swanson, Norman C. **
Sanchez, Arthur C. **	Shiflet, Phil	Spotts, Stephen R. **	Swanson, Ted **
Sanders, Duke E. **	Silbermann, Edward J. **	Sprenger, Mark R. **	Switser, Michael A **
Sankey, John D.	Simanton, Zakaree	Springer, Alfred **	Taff, Brendan G. **
Sarceda, Brandon	Simcox, David R. **	Stacey, John E. **	Taillon, Walter N. **
Sauceda, Abelino **	Simmons, Joseph G	Stacy, Jessica **	Talas, Eugene
Saucier, David W. **	Simpson, Harold Jr. **	Stamm, Robert M **	Talbot, Dan
Saucier, Thomas **	Sims, Simba S	Stanford, John V. Jr. **	Tarrance, Donald **
Savage, Charles	Sinden, Christopher S. **	Stanich, Ryan P	Tascione, Lori E
Savage, William **	Sizemore, Dewhitt **	Stanley, Michael C. **	Taylor, Roy L. **
Scanlan, James P. **	Skalisky, Michael G. **	Staples, Robert E. **	Taylor, Scott E. **
Schaadt, Rachael L	Skinner, Scott Alan	Steed, A. E. Jr. **	Tecuanhuey, Tonatiu P
Schade, Steven M. **	Skvarna, Edward B. **	Steen, Tory W	Tellers, David J. **
Schatza, James J. **	Slocum, Jerry **	Stefanowicz, Ryan **	Terrell, David L **
Scheidt, Peter **	Smarr, Joseph **	Stephens, Valerie	Terrell, Stephen H
Schoettlin, Michael **	Smith, Dennis E. **	Stewart, Josh **	Terry, Craig L
Schoettmer, Patrick J	Smith, Mark	Stiff, Shannon M **	Terry, Ernest L. III **
Schofield, Ken	Smith, Michael	Stollenwerck, Andre D. **	Thagard, Howard
Schultz, Stan **	Smith, Michael D **	Stone, John **	Thames, James **

Thigpen, Randy **	Vazquez, Roy **	Welch, Michael M. **	Wilson, Wilbur A. **
Thomas, David **	Vega-Rodriguez, Jaime Sr.	Wellbrock, William B. **	Winn, Richard B. **
Thomas, Eric **	Verbiski, Gregory A. **	Werner, Thomas O. **	Wisley, Jeffery A. **
Thompson, Chad **	Vickery, Phillip G	Wesley, John M. **	Witherly, Jeff
Thompson, Daniel P. **	Viel, Harry B. Jr. **	West, Monty II **	Withers, Thomas B. **
Thompson, Heather N **	Viguers, Robert S. III **	Westhead, James W. Jr. **	Withers, Thomas Barry **
Thompson, Matthew E **	Vinson, Don **	Wheeler, David **	Witucki, John A. **
Thompson, Ronald H	Vinson, Gerald R	Wheeler, John C Jr	Wolfley, William H. **
Thornton, John Daryl II	Viventi, Tony **	White, Jeremy **	Wood, Kenneth F. Jr. **
Thurgood, Craig C **	Vo, Michael	White, Lucas J. **	Wosak, Ginny
Thurston, Nina J **	Volkman, Frederick III **	White, Roscoe L. **	Wright, Muriel E **
Tichawa, Todd M. **	VonBonin, Stephen T. **	White, Thayne	Wright, Terry L. Jr. **
Tkach, Stephen **	Vujovich, John E. **	Whitney, David M. **	Wright, Terry L. Sr. **
Tocknell, Fred J. **	Wadzinski, Richard J. Jr. **	Whittington, George E. **	Wyche, John W
Topouzoglou, Terry **	Wagner, Alan L. **	Wickliff, David L. **	Wyman, Robert D. **
Torgerson, Daniel K. **	Wallace, John A	Wien, Philip **	Wynn, Gary F. **
Traynham, Quentin L. **	Walter, Alex J. **	Wien, Philip W. **	Wytttenbach, James **
Tristram, Adam	Walters, Rob **	Wike, Christopher **	Xavier, Stephen D
Trowbridge, Paul L. **	Wangelin, James W. **	Wilberg, Joshua **	Yamada, Randall **
Trudell, Zachary **	Ward, Joe S. **	Wiley, James C.	Yarton, Ryan
Turley, Larry D. **	Wares, Levi P. **	Wilkerson, Ray H. Jr. **	Yeary, William **
Turley, Peter K **	Warner, Michael V. **	Wilkins, Eric R. **	Young, Frank
Vaillancourt, Fred **	Warrings, Carl S. **	Willey, Richard A. **	Young, George W. Jr. **
Van Beuge, Douglas C **	Watts, Keaton X	Williams, Daniel A. **	Zachary, Niki **
Van Epps, Steven J	Weber, Michael **	Williams, Eddie S **	Zalucki, Anthony F **
Van Landingham, Jeffery J **	Weeper, William H. Jr. **	Wilson, Charles R Jr. **	Zeringue, Sean P **
VanDenBergh, Don **	Welborn, William C.	Wilson, Jeffrey D. **	Zisa, Rosario F. **
Vaquera, Andres Jr. **	Welch, John D. **	Wilson, Thomas C. **	Zukoski, Paul C. **

**In Memorium** - The Professional Loadmaster Association offers condolences to the families and friends of the following Loadmasters whose deaths have been reported to our association. Name underlined denotes a PLA Member. \*Denotes a Lifetime Member.

Francisco Benavides was born in Laredo, Texas on October 10, 1929. He passed away on Monday, November 16, 2020 at the age of 91. Francisco served in the Marines and United States Air Force. He was preceded in death by his late wife, Alicia, and son Frank Benavides. Survived by his wife, Rosaelia Benavides; sons, Byrne Benavides and wife Norma, Ronnie Benavides and daughter Mayra Saenz and daughter-in-law Frances Benavides; stepsons, Elpidio Gongora, Cipriano Gongora and Jesus Gongora along with two stepdaughters Rosie C. Martinez and Anna Hammad; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Visitation will be on Monday, November 23, 2020 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Porter Loring Mortuary, 1101 McCullough San Antonio, Texas. <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/19038539/Francisco-Benavides>

\* Sam Gorden (January 26, 1951 - September 03, 2022) Sam Gorden, age 71, passed away Saturday, September 3, 2022 at Hospice Savannah. Sam was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Sam and his wife, Beverly, moved to Midway, GA in 1990. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Senior Master Sergeant in 2010. He was a firefighter for Lake George Fire Department and served as their Safety



Captain for a number of years. Sam served as a U.S. Marine in the Vietnam War. After the war, he joined the Texas Air National Guard as a Loadmaster. He then moved to Atlanta where he joined the Georgia Air National Guard and served in the 165th Air National Guard in Savannah. He deployed all over the world having served in, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Sam was a member of St. Anne Catholic Church where he was a CCD teacher and was a Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus member. He loved fishing and hunting. Sam enjoyed traveling throughout the world and he liked family camping. He was preceded in death by his parents, Sanford and Verda Mae Gorden; two daughters, Samantha Gorden Smith and Sabrina Gorden Bishop. Sam is survived by his wife of 49 years, Beverly Gorden; a daughter, Stacia R. Gorden; a son, Shawn R. Gorden; sisters, Connie Gorden, Pam Gorden, Sandra Gorden, and Deb Lille (Jeff); 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. A rosary service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 8, 2022 at St. Anne Catholic Church with a funeral mass to follow at 11:00 a.m. Inurnment services with military honors will be held at the Georgia Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Glennville, GA in November with the date and time to be announced later. <https://www.coxrichmondhillfh.com/obituary/sam-gorden>

Jose R. Gutierrez, USAF (SMSgt Ret.), 91, passed away on May 14, 2022. He was born March 11th 1931 in Wetmore TX, the son of the late Francisco and Mercedes Gutierrez. Jose proudly served in the U.S. Army and USAF and was a veteran of the Vietnam and Korean War. He retired after 26 yrs of dedicated service and was awarded numerous military honors with his highest achievement being the Distinguished Flying Cross. He is survived by his wife of 40 yrs Anunciacion "Arlene"; daughters Annie Mae Wright, Debbie Flores (Daniel), Brenda Gutierrez (Desiree), Liza Dokken (Chris) and Fe Bryan (Mark), sons Roland Gutierrez (Eskarlet), Michael Gutierrez, his brothers Richard and George (Espevia), sisters Virginia and Helen Campos (Phillip), 10 Grandchildren and 3 great-Grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter Stella "Blanche" Thompson. He was incredibly loved, one of a kind and will be sorely missed. Visitation and Rosary will be at 5 pm, Thurs. May 26th at Mission Park Funeral (3401 Cherry Ridge, San Antonio TX 78230). Funeral services will be held at 1 pm, Fri. May 27th at St. Peters the Apostle Catholic Church (202 W Kronkosky St, Boerne TX 78006). <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sanantonio/name/jose-gutierrez-usaf-ret-obituary?id=34897885>

Juan Manuel Levario (CMSgt Ret), USAF, passed away on October 4th, 2022 at a local care center. A service with full military honors will be held October 19th at 2:00 pm at the Texas State Veteran Cemetery at Abilene. Born in El Paso, Texas on June 25th, 1946 to Manuel and Clare Levario, Juan was raised in El Paso and graduated from high school there. Juan entered the Air Force after high school graduation in 1965 and spent 30 years of faithful service protecting his country. Juan achieved the rank of Chief Master Sergeant and served four tours of duty in Vietnam and was one of the first American troops to arrive in Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield/Storm. He was a Loadmaster for the C-130 while stationed at Dyess and overseas and helped write the manual for proper loading procedures for the C-130 and other aircraft. Preceding Juan in death were his parents and his wife Billie. Surviving him are his children Regina Levario, Donna Winkles and husband Homer, Cathy Martinez and husband Ronnie and Rhonda Phipps. In addition, he is survived by his grandchildren; DeeAnna Randall and husband Jonathan, Robert Winkles and wife Dawn, Brandy Martinez, Christopher Winkles and Mathew Martinez, brothers; Pete Levario and wife Debbie and Arturo Levario, and a sister Amelia Martinez as well as several great-grandchildren and many other extended family members and close friends. Condolences may be offered to the family online at [www.pbfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.pbfuneraldirectors.com). SERVICES: Graveside Service Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 2:00 PM. Texas State Veterans Cemetery of Abilene 7457 W Lake Road Abilene, TX 79601. <https://www.pbfuneraldirectors.com/obituary/manuel-levario?fbclid=IwAR0eW-9UX4jP80HuQ59EXS4qonhEbbV72fj68aHYgZRAjP3EaAotDIK92Lo>

\* Gregory A. Verbiski, 60, of Blair, OK formerly of Jeiseyville, IL, passed away at home surrounded by his family on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. of pancreatic cancer. He was born on May 29, 1962 in Taylorville, IL the son of Ronald L. and Priscilla A. (Grobosky) Verbiski of Bulpitt, IL. He married Michele R. (Johnson) Verbiski in July of 1985 in Reno, NV. Greg retired out of Scott AFB, IL Headquarters as a Senior Master Sergeant after 21 years of service as a C-141 Loadmaster in the United States Air Force. Throughout his career, he traveled the world and was part of many operations including Operation Deep Freeze (Antarctica). After his military career, he then retired from the Department of Natural Resources for the State of IL in June 2022 after 20 years. Greg enjoyed hunting, fishing, classic cars, and gardening. Greg is survived by his wife Michele of Blair, OK; son Gregory R. (Amy) Verbiski of Altus, OK; granddaughters Peyton and Payslee Verbiski of Altus, OK; sister Mary Baker (David C. Daigh) of Owanaco, IL; nephew Evan German and daughter Rory of Murrells Inlet, SC. as well as many cousins and aunts. He is preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, and several aunts and uncles. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sunday, July 31st at the South Fork Gun Club Rt 104, Kincaid Lake from 1:00-5:00 p.m. with military honors at 3:00 P.M. by the United States Air Force. Casual wear requested. Bib overalls welcome. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to JCMH Hospice P.O. Box 1139 Altus, OK 73521 "In memory of Gregory A. Verbiski" (checks only). Masterson Funeral Home in Kincaid, IL is assisting the family with arrangements. [https://www.mastersonfh.com/obituary/Gregory-Verbiski?fbclid=IwAR2mFjpxgX3aMI9Ue4kZEw-DyPVARdySIJF\\_aGMHKJuR1748C9JUYrUsEh8](https://www.mastersonfh.com/obituary/Gregory-Verbiski?fbclid=IwAR2mFjpxgX3aMI9Ue4kZEw-DyPVARdySIJF_aGMHKJuR1748C9JUYrUsEh8)

Non PLA members:

Paul J. "Grizzly" Adams passed away on September 18, 2022 - <https://www.knaufffuneralhomes.com/obituary/paul-adams>

Lloyd Thomas "Tom" Aycock Jr., passed away on July 22, 2022 - <https://www.beggfuneralhome.net/obituary/LloydTom-AycockJr>

William Charles Baker, passed away on August 15, 2022 - [https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/north-charleston-sc/william-baker-10888908?utm\\_source=share\\_obit&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=obit\\_detail&utm\\_content=view\\_obit\\_button](https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/north-charleston-sc/william-baker-10888908?utm_source=share_obit&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=obit_detail&utm_content=view_obit_button)

Greg Dalton passed away on June 30, 2022- <https://www.app.com/obituaries/asb283166>

James Alfred "Jim" Dodgen, passed away September 23, 2022 - <https://www.alvismillerfuneralhome.com/obituaries/James--A-Jim-Dodgen?obId=25946360>

Lloyd Everette Driessen, passed away on Sunday September 18, 2022 - <https://drydenwire.com/obituaries/lloyd-e-driessen/>

David Eugene Fisher, passed away on September 30, 2022 - <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/26087923/david-eugene-fisher?fbclid=IwAR03cJA8cpGA8GQULcg45GWEOPYJ9oTfpz5q7z2oRsOVYMPKMUG9xokwYMQ>

Roland Hohrman, passed away September 21, 2022 - <https://www.northfieldfuneral.com/obituaries/Rolland-Hohrman?obId=26040244>

Samuel James Hudson, Jr., passed away on September 27, 2022 - <https://www.delmarvanow.com/obituaries/sdt054436/>

James Harold Loftin, passed away on July 25, 2022 - <https://www.colemanfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Jim-Loftin-2/#!/Obituary>

Charles "Mike" M. Perry, Sr., passed away on September 24, 2022 - <https://www.delawareonline.com/obituaries/wnj126410>

C. Gary Tippins Sr., passed away September 16, 2022 - <https://griceconnect.com/2022/09/charles-gary-tippins-sr/>

Albert David Willette, passed away on July 28, 2022 - <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/25487212/albert-david-willette>

Scholarship Donations can be made to our PLA Headquarters:

P.O. Box 4351 Tacoma WA 98438

Write "Scholarship Fund" on checks. Remember every little bit counts toward keeping this program ongoing.

**Scholarship Manager**

Jim Engelker

707 Morningview Drive,  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
[engelkerj@gmail.com](mailto:engelkerj@gmail.com)

The Professional Loadmaster Association (PLA) offers five scholarships annually for College and/or Vocational/Technical School after high school graduation. Current college or vocational/technical students may apply to complete their educational endeavor. We have two scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each named in honor of John L. Levitow and Bill Cannon. These are permanent scholarships. Three additional \$500.00 scholarships, each named for a different deceased Loadmaster, will be awarded each year. Candidates for the selection process must be from PLA members in good standing and their family members (sons, daughters or grandchildren), and are limited to one scholarship per applicant. If exceptional circumstances should arise, the Executive Committee will handle them accordingly. For more information on scholarships go to <http://www.loadmasters.com/scholarships>. Applications, located on the PLA website, may be applied for through the Jim Engelker at [engelkerj@gmail.com](mailto:engelkerj@gmail.com).

Timeline for Scholarships: Scholarship applications are due by close of business on April 1, 2023. Please review the PLA scholarship information on the PLA website. Take the time to complete an application, include your photograph and email it, in PDF format, to Jim Engelker. All scholarship applications received after that date will be returned. Announcement of

the scholarship award to the individual participant shall be no later than the middle of May of the year before scholarship announcement. Announcement of scholarships awarded shall be published each year in the July issue of "The Loader" newsletter.

When completing your PLA application you will need to know the PLA membership number and date. Please contact Chris Cummings at [cchris1686@gmail.com](mailto:cchris1686@gmail.com) to obtain this information."

Additional Scholarship Name Selection: Selection of names to be honored for upcoming additional scholarships shall be provided by December of the year before scholarship announcement.



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APPLICATION DUE APRIL 1, 2023

Application form can be found at:  
[www.loadmasters.com/scholarships](http://www.loadmasters.com/scholarships)  
Send to: [engelkerj@gmail.com](mailto:engelkerj@gmail.com)



Please limit your application to only those items requested on the form below. NOTE: If additional space is required to complete the application, please continue on a separate piece of paper, and make sure you reference the item you are continuing.

Student's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Students:**

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Size: \_\_\_\_\_ ACT/SAT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College(s), University(ies), and Vocational/Technical School(s) you have made application to:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**College Students:**

College/University, Vocational/Technical School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College/University, Vocational/Technical School you are or will be attending:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**All Students:**

Proposed Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Why did you choose this field of study? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarships/Financial Aid you have received or still pending (include amounts):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What is your connection with the Professional Loadmaster Association? Please provide the name of the PLA member and his/her relationship to you. \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # and expiration date of PLA membership \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i.e., I am a member, my father/mother/grandparents are members, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received a PLA scholarship in the past? If so, you are not eligible for additional PLA scholarships.

If at all possible, complete application and email to [engelkerj@gmail.com](mailto:engelkerj@gmail.com).

Please attach the following items: The following items, in addition to the requested information on page one, will be used by the selection committee to select the PLA Scholarship winners for the coming year.

1. Please provide a short biography (150 - 200 words) and a current photograph of yourself. The short biography MUST include an introduction (your name, date of birth, where born, parents names), information about education (level of grade obtained, type of graduation – high school diploma, GED, level of college), relevant information regarding any awards and achievements you have received, relevant work experience and/or qualifications, as well as hobbies and interests and a conclusion. The conclusion should include future dream goals and/or future job aspirations.

2. Explain why financially you should receive this scholarship.

NOTE: Photograph WILL NOT be used by the selection committee. The purpose of the short biography and current photograph will be used by the editor of the PLA Publication "The Loader" if you are selected as a PLA Scholarship winner.

**“The Loader”**

Professional Loadmaster Association  
P.O. Box 4351  
Tacoma WA 98438-0351  
**Address Service Requested**

“The Loader” is published for members of the Professional Loadmaster Association, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization sanctioned by Washington Secretary of State and the Internal Revenue Service. “The Loader” is published three (3) times a year. In the event of voluntary dissolution of said association, after all debts and obligations have been met, the remaining assets will be distributed to a nonprofit fund or organization which is operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious and or scientific purposes and which has been established tax exempt status under section 501C (10) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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**Parting Shot**



Edwards AFB Airshow team. Photo by David Joseph

**Professional Loadmaster Association Registration Card/Personal Data Change**

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MIDDLE INITIAL \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: WORK \_\_\_\_\_ HOME \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY/BASE/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ JOB TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
AIRCRAFT FLOWN \_\_\_\_\_ SPONSORED BY (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
ACTIVE \_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_ RESERVE \_\_\_ ANG \_\_\_ CIVILIAN \_\_\_ OTHER (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
HOW DID YOU HEAR OF THE PLA? \_\_\_\_\_  
WHO REFERRED YOU? \_\_\_\_\_  
PREFERRED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION: U.S. POSTAL \_\_\_\_\_ ELECTRONIC \_\_\_\_\_  
I CERTIFY THAT I AM/OR HAVE BEEN A QUALIFIED LOADMASTER \_\_\_\_\_  
ADD ANY COMMENTS ABOUT YOURSELF: \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP:      1 YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00;    3 YEARS \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00;  
   10 YEARS \_\_\_\_\_ \$150.00;    LIFETIME \_\_\_\_\_ \$250.00

Please enclose your check or money order and send to:

**PROFESSIONAL LOADMASTER ASSOCIATION**  
**P.O. Box 4351**  
**Tacoma WA 98438-0351**

You may also join at [www.loadmasters.com/subscribe](http://www.loadmasters.com/subscribe). By becoming a member, you agree to the terms and conditions located at [www.loadmasters.com/blank](http://www.loadmasters.com/blank). We can be reached at the following telephone numbers: (845) 475-8457 or E-Mail address: [cchris1686@gmail.com](mailto:cchris1686@gmail.com). Thank you for your membership and welcome to your organization.