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TO: National Executive Committee
Past National Commanders
Department Commanders and Adjutants
All Employees

FROM: Barry A. Jesinoski, National Adjutant

DATE: July 17, 2025

SUBJECT: Death of Retiree John Parker

It is with regret that I advise you of the death of retiree John Parker. He died July 7, at age 74.

John enlisted in the Marines in 1970, serving as an aircraft mechanic at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California, until a near fatal car accident led to his medical discharge. After spinal surgery, he went through rehabilitation on the hospital ship *USS Repose*, where he was visited by a DAV national service officer. That fateful encounter proved to be the beginning of a new purpose-driven life of service with a career spanning 37 years.

He began as a national service officer trainee in Los Angeles in 1974 before being transferred to San Francisco as an NSO in 1976, and again to Oakland in 1990. He left DAV in 2001 before being re-hired in 2004. He then transferred as a senior NSO to Cleveland, Ohio, in 2008 and remained there until his retirement on Feb. 28, 2011.

John was a past commander of Chapter 154 in Pittsburg, California, and Chapter 35 in Akron, Ohio, as well as the Department of Ohio in 2017. He is survived by his devoted sister and dedicated caregiver, Carol.

A memorial service will be Monday, July 21, 2025, from 5–8 p.m. at the Campfield Hickman Collier Funeral Home at 566 West Park Ave., Barberton, Ohio 44203. Those wishing to attend military services for John are asked to go directly to the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery at 10175 Rawiga Rd., Seville, Ohio 44273, no later than 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22 to line up for the procession to the memorial pavilion.

John's unwavering dedication to his fellow veterans and his decades of faithful service to DAV left a lasting impact on the organization and all those privileged to serve alongside him.

Barry A. Jesinoski
National Adjutant

BAJ:ads