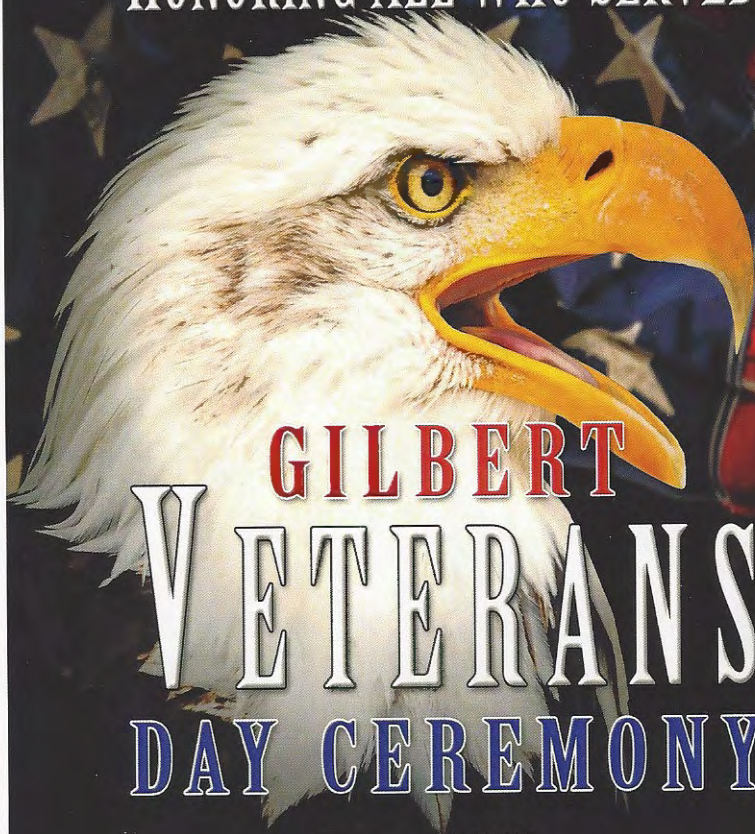


HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



GILBERT
VETERANS
DAY CEREMONY

Town of Gilbert

50 East Civic Center Drive Gilbert, AZ 85296

11:00am Patriotic Music 11:30am Ceremony Begins

Lunch will be Served



NOVEMBER 08, 2018





Lieutenant Colonel Freddie J. Blish, USMC

Originally from Springfield, Vermont, LtCol Blish graduated from Norwich University in 1986 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

After attending The Basic School for Marine Officers, he was assigned as an Engineer Platoon Commander deploying to Viequez Island, Puerto Rico. Later, 1stLT Blish was assigned to Marine Corps Security Force Company Panama, and subsequently promoted to Captain.

Capt. Blish was given a company command at 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division. His company was significantly involved in the planning and execution of two Regimental size amphibious exercises, which included operational and strategic level input on future tactics, techniques, and procedures which effected the entire Marine Corps.

Subsequently, Major Blish was assigned to Marine Forces Pacific Command for duties as the Engineer Operations and Plans officer for Marine Forces Pacific and Marine Forces Central Command. He was then assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps.

In July 2002, LtCol Blish was assigned as the Operations Officer Marine Wing Support Group 37, 3rd Marine Air Wing and deployed to Kuwait and Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom I. During OIF I LtCol Blish led a composite element of three FARP teams and one RRR team more than 400 Marines from Baghdad, Iraq to Tikrit, Iraq as part of 1st Marine Division Task Force Tripoli. Prior to Operation Iraqi Freedom II, LtCol Blish was hand selected to participate in the I Marine Expeditionary Force site survey of the Al Anbar Province of Iraq for future Marine Security and Stability Operations.

In May 2005, LtCol Blish commanded Marine Wing Support Squadron 373, training and deploying more than 750 Marines in 2006 to 2007 for Operation Iraqi Freedom IV/V.

LtCol Blish retired from the Marine Corps in May 2007.

LtCol Blish was married to Heather Eisenwinter Blish for 20 years before she passed from cancer in August 2007. He is now married to Mrs Hope Blish and he is Owner & President of Robar Companies, Inc., in North Phoenix.

Town of Gilbert

Veterans Day Celebration

Patriotic Music 11:00am-11:10am	4th Graders from Settlers Point Elementary Led by Stephanie Usery and Sandra Hendrickson
Patriotic Music 11:10am-11:30am Welcome – 11:30am	Williams Field High School Symphonic Band Led by Mr. Bob Edgar, Director Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Bienz, ANG (Ret.)
Parade and Post the Colors	Color Guards
National Anthem	Campo Verde HS Advanced Vocal Ensemble Led by Mr. Matthew Flora, Director
Pledge of Allegiance	Jim Lykins, US Vietnam War Army Veteran
Setting of MIA/POW Table	Gilbert High School AFJROTC
Battle Field Cross	Higley Unified School District AFJROTC
Recognition of Veterans	Veterans, please stand as service song is played
Introduce Council and Dignitaries	Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Bienz, ANG (Ret.)
Introduce Mayor Jenn Daniels	Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Bienz, ANG (Ret.)
Remarks and Presentation of Veterans Day Proclamation	The Honorable Jenn Daniels Mayor, Town of Gilbert
Introduce Keynote Speaker	Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Bienz, ANG (Ret.)
Keynote Speaker	Lieutenant Colonel Freddie J. Blish, USMC
Taps, Retire the Colors	Williams Field Student Alyssa Alexander
Conclusion – Thanks	Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Bienz, ANG (Ret.)
Pipes and Drums	Gilbert Fire Department Ceremonial Team

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CPAexpress	T Mobile
Northrop Grumman	Dierks Bentley Whiskey Row
Southwest Foodservice Excellence	Arizona Republic
Perform Air	

Thank You to Our Lunch Sponsors

Brass Tap	Nitro Live IceCreamery
Chick-fil-A	Joe's Real BBQ
Dragon Wok Fine Chinese Restaurant	Sal's Gilbert Pizza
Fancier's Restaurant	Texas Roadhouse

Thank You to Our Event Participants

Color Guards

American Legion Post 39	Gilbert Fire Department
Gilbert Police Department	Higley Unified School District AFJROTC
Korean War Veterans	Perry High School AFJROTC

Information Tables

American Legion Post 39 Legion	Arizona Historical Military Transport Association
Arizona Department of Veterans Services	Southeast Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic
Operation Welcome Home	Vetdrenaline
Gilbert Historical Museum	Robar Companies, Inc.

Service Recruitments

Planning Committee

Phil Bobadilla	Ernie Lane	Michelle Reese	Jess Maney
Lew Bradley	Mike Leppert	Pamela Rinesmith	Chris Marini
Chris Ellis	Jim Lykins	Courtney Black	Peyton Parker
Karl Kohlhoff	Les Presmyk	Josh Bring	Dave Rosenfeld
Cliff Jenkins	Jim Schorie	Rich Vandermolen	