

William (Bill) Kaden

Veteran Volunteer

Total Volunteer Hours: 618

US Army, Private First Class

1980-1983

11B1P, Airborne Infantry

Personal Background

Mr. Kaden was born in Port Hueneme, CA, the son of a 34-year career Navy Seabee.

He attended boot camp in Fort Knox, KY, Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, GA then jump school. He served time stationed in Italy (2 years) and Fort Bragg, NC.

Mr. Kaden completed over 100 jumps during his career and recalls accomplishing 8 or more in one singular day. The Chinook Boeing CH-47 was his favorite aircraft from which to jump, but he also enjoyed jumping from the balloons because of the quietness.

Mr. Kaden is a driver for the Volunteer Transportation Network Program. He provides transportation for Veterans locally in Warren, as well as traveling to Erie, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Jamestown and additional cities within New York.

Mr. Kaden is also a proud member of the Honor Guard. He finds partaking in someone's last wishes rewarding and feels a connection through brotherhood, even though he may not have personally known the Veteran.



Inspiration for Volunteering

Mr. Kaden became an Erie VA volunteer through his involvement with the American Legion. Upon receiving a donation from his post, the DAV program informed him of a need for drivers.

Denise A. Herbol

Civilian Volunteer

Total Volunteer Hours: 1,324.25

Notable Awards | Achievements:

- Administrator LGBTI Inclusion Award June 2016
- Superior Honor Awards 2015 and 2008;
Superior Accomplishment Award 2011
- Group Superior Honor Awards: 2010 (USAID),
2010 (Dept. of State), 1997 (Dept. of State)
- Corbett M. Flannery Security Award: 2008
(this award was for my work in Ukraine
post 9-11 securing our USAID facilities)
- Meritorious Honor Awards: 2007, 2005, 2003,
2001, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1993, 1989
- Performance Awards: (SES) 2014, 2012,
(SES) 2010, 2008, 2005, 2002, 2001, 2000,
1998, 1997, 1992, 1991; Cash Award 2012;
Meritorious Step-Increase: 1989

Personal Background

Ms. Herbol was a U.S. Foreign Service Officer working with the U.S. Agency for International Development for over 35 years. Her job included developing integrated strategies and programs to end extreme poverty, promote resilient, democratic societies and advance U.S. Government security and prosperity. As Mission Director, she reported to the U.S. Ambassador and served as Acting Deputy Chief of Mission and/or Chargé when requested. Ms. Herbol maintained effective working relationships with Ministers of State in host countries, the U.S. Embassy interagency team, USAID/ Washington, Department of State, U.S. Military, international development partners, and the private sector. She served and lived in Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Ghana, Belize, Albania, Uganda, Ukraine/Belarus/Moldova, Colombia, Iraq, Pakistan (Islamabad and Karachi) and Jamaica.

Ms. Herbol is a divorcee and raised her 3 children alone. They accompanied her on all her tours, living and attending school overseas in International or American



Inspiration for Volunteering (as written by Denise)

My father was a Navy pilot; my brother a Marine Corp pilot, and my son is a U.S. Air Force pilot. With this as my background, volunteering at the VA made perfect sense when I retired.

Schools. Her oldest son is a Major in the U.S. Air Force (flies KC 135 and is a trainer as well), her daughter lives in Florida with her husband and daughter, and her youngest son lives in Philadelphia, has a PhD in nanophysics and is married with two boys and a third on the way.

Ms. Herbol grew up in Fairview, PA; returning to the area after retirement in 2017 to care for her elderly parents.

In addition to volunteering at the Erie VA, being the sole caregiver for her mother since her father's passing, she is actively involved in her Parish (St. Francis Xavier in McKean) where she is an Eucharistic Minister, Lecturer, and does scheduling for the various ministries.

Ms. Herbol enjoys baking and shares her delicious treats with many people, including her group at the VA pharmacy, her local post office, area widows, and more.

Her children's nickname for her is MAD (their Mom And Dad), which she wears as a badge of honor.

Jean Lehman

Civilian Volunteer

Total Volunteer Hours: 21, 350

Personal Background

Mrs. Lehman (1 of 15 children) hails from Albion, PA, where she graduated from Northwestern High School. She was preparing to join the U.S. Air Force when she met her husband, John. Her and John (now married 59 years) had four children; all of which happily married, including their son who passed away 8 years ago, leaving them with two grandsons.

Mrs. Lehman and her husband have 10 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. They enjoy each and every one of them. Although they do not get to see them as often as they would like, as they all live far away, they enjoy vacations together as much as possible.

Inspiration for Volunteering (as written by Jean)

I got involved with the VA through some good friends who wanted to start doing something for the VA. I have been with the VA since day one. I enjoy working with the staff and meeting all the Vets. I will keep volunteering until I can't, it does get me out of the house! I have received many different awards throughout my years of volunteering, including TV and local newspaper recognition. My achievement has been conquering my shyness through numerous interactions with the Veterans in the clinic as well as transporting the Vets in need of a ride.



John Morris

Veteran Volunteer

Total Volunteer Hours: 374

U.S. Army 1968-1995

Commissioned Officer U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Vietnam 1970-1971. 4th Infantry Division, An Khe and
84th Engineer Battalion, DaNang
4 tours in Germany; 23rd Engineer Battalion, 3d
Armored Division, 237th Engineer Battalion, 7th
Engineer Brigade, HQ VII Corps
Instructor, (Chemistry) West Point
Engineer Brigade Commander, 3rd Armored Division,
Desert Storm
Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Buffalo

Personal Background

Mr. Morris was born in Iowa to an Army family. He married his high school girlfriend who is from an Air Force family. Mr. Morris served as the Engineer Staff Officer for NATO's rapid reaction force during one tour in Germany. He served in the 3rd Armored Division at every rank from 2Lt to Colonel (except major, missed by 20 days). As the Commander, Buffalo Engineer District, he constructed the breakwaters at Presque Isle Park.

Mr. Morris retired to Erie and worked at Urban Engineers for 17 years. He served as Civil Engineering Project Manager for projects including: Lampe Marina Camp Ground, Bicentennial Tower, Erie Convention Center, Sheraton Bayfront Hotel, St Mary's West, Lake Erie Speedway and Sheetz regional facilities.

Currently, Mr. Morris plays golf, cross country skis and travels. He has visited all states, all continents, and will continue to explore our world this summer.

Inspiration for Volunteering

Since the military has forever been a part of John's life, upon retiring he wanted to maintain contact with the military community to continue to serve. The VA offered the best opportunity to serve and to learn.

