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# WE HONOR VETERANS

AN NHPCO NEWSLETTER FOR  
WE HONOR VETERANS

## WE HONOR VETERANS RELEASES NEW VIDEO TO RECRUIT HOSPICE PARTNERS

**Amanda M. Bow, Director, Communications,  
NHPCO**

In March of 2018, three NHPCO staff members – Katherine Kemp, Hope Fost, and I - embarked on a trip to Severn, Maryland to meet Albert Sherard, a 92-year-old Vietnam Veteran and Hospice of the Chesapeake patient. We interviewed Mr. Sherard, his daughter Winette, and members of the hospice staff to create a video that would give partners a tool to promote the work they are doing, help educate the public about We Honor Veterans and more importantly, recruit new hospice partners to the program. We gathered great material to work with but came away from this trip with much more. We all felt honored to spend time with an American hero and witness the beautiful connection that he and his Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer have made. To see the benefits of the We Honor Veterans program in person and in action is priceless!

In the video, viewers get a glimpse of how Albert and his Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer Charles DeBarber spend their time together. The Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer initiative is a required activity once WHV partners reach Level Three. Hospice of the Chesapeake, a Level Four partner, has a robust Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer program.

“OUR WE HONOR VETERANS PROGRAM BRINGS TOGETHER OUR VETERANS IN THE COMMUNITY TO OUR VETERAN PATIENTS,” SAID HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES MARY JERMANN. “AND THERE’S A REALLY POWERFUL BROTHERHOOD AND RELATIONSHIP THERE THAT IS EXPERIENCED THROUGH THE MULTITUDE OF THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT ARE FORMED HERE AT HOSPICE OF THE CHESAPEAKE.”

Albert was an avid gardener but with his declining condition, he is unable to be as active as he once was. Charles has found a way to bring the outside in. The video shows the two Veterans at Albert’s kitchen table preparing plants that will eventually make their way into the ground. The connection between the two is evident on screen and Albert’s daughter Winette reinforces the idea. “I think he feels good that it’s a Veteran he can talk to,” Winette said. “There is something that happens that makes it a brotherhood, even though they are very different ages.”

Additionally, the video highlights the goals of the WHV program and explains why it’s vital that hospice organizations become partners. *(Continued on page 2)*

*Pictured left to right  
are Veteran-to-  
Veteran volunteer  
Charles DeBarber,  
Katherine Kemp,  
Amanda Bow,  
Albert Sherard,  
Winette Sherard,  
and Hope Fost.*

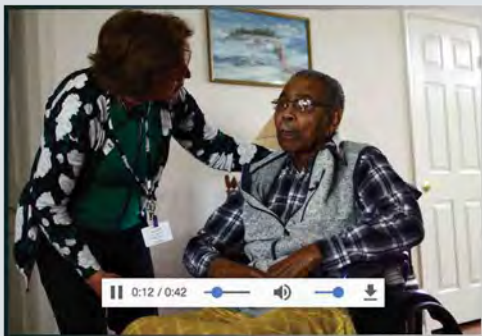


## WE HONOR VETERANS RELEASES NEW VIDEO TO RECRUIT HOSPICE PARTNERS

(Continued from page 1)

Hospice of the Chesapeake CEO & President Ben Marcantonio encourages other hospice programs to join WHV. "We became keenly aware of how many Veterans are served through our hospice population. Those people who need hospice care - of those people, 25% in our region are Veterans. So just that in and of itself was a compelling argument for our commitment to this aspect of our service."

WHV partner programs are invited to use the video to educate their community about their partnership and for promotional opportunities. The video can be found on the [WHV website](#) and on [YouTube](#).



Vietnam Veteran Albert Sherard is featured in the new We Honor Veterans video that will be used to educate the public about the program and recruit new hospice organizations.

## NHPCO STAFF ATTENDS WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY EVENTS

March 29th marks the official Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. At the end of each March, organizations and states across the US hold events with the hope that each and every Vietnam Veteran will receive the thank you and warm welcome that they should have received when returning home decades ago.

This year, staff from NHPCO was lucky enough to attend two commemorative events – first with Level Four partner Hospice of the Chesapeake in Pasadena, MD and next with Level Four partner Gilchrist in Hunt Valley, MD. Both partners have strong Hospice-Veteran Partnerships and relationships with other Veteran-centric organizations in their community. They made sure to include young service members who took part in pinning Veterans as they entered. The programs included musical performances, an Honor Salute, and a number of speakers who touched on the message of the need to help Veterans heal the psychological wounds from battle in Vietnam and the treatment they received when coming home from war.

As the generation of Vietnam Veteran era continues to age, more and more patients are entering the care of We Honor Veterans partners and the importance of these events cannot be stressed enough. For Vietnam Veteran-focused educational materials and resources click [here](#), and for more information on hosting your own event contact [veterans@nhpco.org](mailto:veterans@nhpco.org).



Retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Bobbi Hovis shows off her Woman Veteran hat as she attends her fourth Hospice of the Chesapeake Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. Hovis was the first Navy nurse to volunteer to go to Vietnam in 1963.

## NEW! WE HONOR VETERANS PRODUCTS TO SUPPORT VETERANS AND PROMOTE YOUR PARTNERSHIP!



### WE HONOR VETERANS DECAL

Use these WHV decals anywhere. Show your veteran support by displaying these on patient windows, doors, in your office or on your car. Perfect for most flat surfaces and can be easily removed, these 6 x 2 inch decals with clear backing are also great for giveaways.



### WE HONOR VETERANS CERTIFICATE FOLDER

This golden embossed We Honor Veterans certificate holder adds an elegant touch to your Veterans recognition certificates. The navy folders fit 8 x 10 and 8.5 x 11 paper and is perfect for presenting and displaying certificates for Veterans in your care.

Visit [NHPCO's Marketplace](#) for pricing information.



## WEBINARS AVAILABLE ON DEMAND

Did you miss the recent VA webinar ELNEC – for Veterans: Final Hours or our webinar with Dr. Ed Tick on Warriors: Their Relationship to Death and Dying? Great news – this along with other webinars are now available for free on the [WHV Webinars Page](#). Other topics include:

- LGBT Veterans and End of Life Considerations
- Moral Injury: Invisible Wounds of Combat
- Evidence-based interventions for treating dyspnea in advanced disease
- Caring for Vietnam Veterans with Serious Illness
- Delirium in Palliative and Hospice Care

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### PARTNER NETWORKING CALL

Our next Quarterly Partner Networking Call will be June 20th from 2-3:30 pm (est), registration details will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Did you know that you can listen to past call recordings and get notes to see what was discussed? [Click here](#) to see what you missed!

June 20th from  
2:00 - 3:30 EST

### WEBINARS

Also keep an eye out for an upcoming webinar that will feature Deborah Grassman speaking on caring for Vietnam Veterans at the end of life.

### CONFERENCES

Planning on attending NHPCO's Interdisciplinary Conference in New Orleans from November 3-7, 2018 or still on the fence about registering? Based on feedback from last year's successful WHV event and panel discussion highlighting community activities and the power of HVPs, there will be a Veteran-focused session and an event is in the works. Stay tuned! More info for IDC is available here:

[www.nhpco.org/IDC2018](http://www.nhpco.org/IDC2018)



## 2018 INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

NEW ORLEANS, LA

EDUCATION PROGRAMS & PRECONFERENCE SEMINARS - NOVEMBER 3-4, 2018

MAIN CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 5-7, 2018

HYATT REGENCY NEW ORLEANS - NEW ORLEANS, LA

National Hospice and Palliative Care  
Organization







## WE HONOR VETERANS PARTNERS IN ACTION!

### WE HONOR VETERANS COMMUNITY PARTNER GIVES VETERAN A DIGNIFIED FAREWELL

Beverly Brown, StoneMor Partners, L.P.

Charles Oskle made his home in the Sacramento, CA area in 1962. He served in the United States Air Force and later served the Sacramento community locally as a butcher. Charles Julian Oskle was born on May 4, 1931. On January 30, 2018, he took his last breath on earth. In the months preceding his passing, Charles visited Sacramento Memorial Lawn on a regular basis, spending time making conversation with the funeral home and cemetery staff and sharing his life stories. Through these interactions employees began to know Charles in a more personal way; each one now agrees this was their privilege. Charles was a unique person, a Veteran who served to protect and defend our freedom; and someone who could make you feel as if you were an old friend.

As the Friday, March 9 memorial service to honor the life of Charles Oskle was being planned, the arranging Funeral Director spoke with his daughter and learned that she would be unable to attend the upcoming service. Charles' wife had preceded him in death; and no other family members would be present. That is when the staff at Sacramento Memorial Lawn set in motion to make sure that the U.S. Air Force Veteran received a dignified farewell, and one that was well-attended by his community. The Funeral Director collaborated with the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard, Patriot Guard Riders, and other community members to honor Mr. Oskle's life.

Mortuary Manager Patricia Kerley said, "Bringing local Veterans into focus and recognizing their service and sacrifice is one way to remain committed to our nation's heritage. To be a friend and supporter of United States Air Force Veteran Charles Julian Oskle was an honor and privilege. As a Community Partner in the national We Honor Veterans Program, Sacramento Memorial Lawn is committed to honoring our local Veteran community with care deserving of a hero."



U.S. Air Force Honor Guard personnel perform honors to remember U.S. Air Force Veteran Charles Julian Oskle.

### EARN YOUR STARS

Already a We Honor Veterans partner program? We know that your organization is committed to providing Veteran-centric care to the Veteran patients you serve each and every day. If your program is ready to move up through the levels to increase your ability to serve your Veteran patients, [contact us](#) today. You can learn about the different [We Honor Veteran partner levels here](#).

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Are you part of a non-hospice organization that would like to join the mission to provide support for Veterans in your community? [Contact us to learn how you can become a Community Partner](#).

### SPONSORSHIPS

Interested in learning how you can support the We Honor Veterans program beyond becoming a partner? Individuals or organizations interested can [contact us](#) to hear about sponsorship opportunities.



WE HONOR VETERANS  
Sponsor