



Miramar National Cemetery Support Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VETERANS, MILITARY AND PUBLIC INVITED TO MEMORIAL SERVICE SUNDAY, MAY 25, AT MIRAMAR NATIONAL CEMETERY

San Diego-area veterans and their families, active duty military, and members of the public are invited to attend the third annual Veterans Memorial Service at Miramar National Cemetery at 1 p.m., Sunday, May 25.

Brig. Gen. John W. Bullard, Jr., Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West, Camp Pendleton, is this year's keynote speaker. Among many important assignments during his 32-year career, he commanded the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit during two deployments to Iraq. He also served as Commander of NATO Headquarters Sarajevo in support of United Nations operations in 2009-2010.

Guest speaker Bradley Phillips, executive director of Memorial Service Network V, will welcome participants on behalf of the National Cemetery Administration, which oversees operations at Miramar National Cemetery. NCA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. An Army veteran with 20 years' commissioned service, Phillips served in the Military Intelligence Corps.

The memorial service will feature the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band, conducted by Staff Sgt. Monica Preston; a U.S. Navy League Sea Cadets color guard; and a special presentation of "Taps" with a remote bugler.

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Navy Lt. Daniel J. McGrath, chaplain of the USS Essex (LHD 2), will offer the invocation and benediction. Previously, Chaplain McGrath served with the 5th Marine Regiment out of Okinawa, and participated in the humanitarian effort that followed the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The next year, he was officer in charge of community service activities for Pacific Partnership 2012, coordinating 105 events in four Asian countries and Guam.

Sponsored by the Miramar National Cemetery Support Foundation, the service will be conducted in the cemetery's Memorial Circle at the eastern end of the Avenue of Flags. Free public parking will be available on cemetery streets.

The cemetery is located at 5795 Nobel Drive, San Diego, between Interstate 805 and Miramar Road west of the Marine Corps Air Station.

For information about the Miramar National Cemetery Support Foundation, go to www.miramarcemetery.org.

For information about Miramar National Cemetery and veterans' benefits and services, go to www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/miramar.asp

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