

## Veterans of Foreign Wars District 10 Department of Arizona



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact:

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### **Casa Grande resident, Frank Alger being inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame!**

**Casa Grande, AZ—September 4<sup>th</sup>**, VFW District 10 Department of Arizona has a rich history in Pinal County, but over the last year their members have really made an impact, and this has been seen not just locally but they have even made an impact across the State.

Frank Alger has been working for our veterans and youth in Arizona since 2002 and was recently nominated for the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame and Governor Katie Hobbs signed off on the class of 2023 in August. Frank has been a resident of Casa Grande since 2020.

Frank was born in San Francisco, California in 1962, Frank "Gunny" Alger served 20 years in the US Marine Corps, retiring as a Gunnery Sergeant. Since moving to Arizona in 2002 has been an active member of the Marine Corps League, currently serving with Detachment 901, Casa Grande and as a Department MCL Officer. He is also serving at VFW Post 1677 and VFW District 10 as adjutant and Webmaster. Gunny supports the annual Arizona Youth Leadership Conferences and Youth Art Contests.

A member of the Joe Foss Institute, 2005-2019, Frank spoke for hundreds of hours about America's history and patriotism to over 30,000 youth. Frank is a Founding Member of the East Valley Young Marines Unit in Mesa, AZ, serving as Unit Commander, 2005-2019; Patriot Battalion Commander, 2006-2009; Grand Canyon Regimental Commander, 2009-2019; and Division SIX Adjutant, 2016-2021. As part of the Phoenix Free Speakers Bureau, Gunny Alger speaks about veterans, leadership, and change to many audiences.

Frank is a Founding Member of the East Valley Veterans Parade Association (formerly Mesa Veterans Parade Association) and since moving to Casa Grande in 2020 He has served on Casa

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Grande Veterans Day Committee since 2021 and created, implemented, and coordinated the Youth Art Contest for the Parade Committee for 2021 and 2022. Thus, engaging the youth of the community and allowing them to learn about veterans and their service.

Frank is married to Mary (Thiele) Alger and they have three grown children and 6 grandchildren.

### **His personal awards include:**

Military Awards: Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal (5th), Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, United Nations Medal, National Defense Service Medal

Veteran Awards: 2023 MCL National Commandants Distinguished Citizen Award Gold Award, 2022 Marine Corps League Southwest Division Marine of the Year, 2018 Citizen of the year for Tempe Elks Lodge BPOE Number 225, 2016 Presidents Lifetime Achievement Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, 2011 Volunteer of the year for the Young Marine Sixth Division, 2011 National Young Marine Volunteer of the year, 2011 Saguaro Detachment Marine of the Year, 2008 Volunteer of the Year for the Grand Canyon Regiment, among many others.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars strives to do good things for deserving people - our veterans, their families, and our community. From local grassroots ideas to national influence, we work every day to make a difference. It's our strength as an organization. And, with each individual membership, we only grow stronger.

For more information, visit the official website at: **[www.vfwazdist10.org](http://www.vfwazdist10.org)**.

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