



# *The Paw Print*

*The Voice of the Military Working Dog Heritage Museum  
& Handler Center*



## Upcoming Events:

November 10-11 2025  
Columbia, SC

10th Anniversary  
Rededication of the  
South Carolina War Dog  
Memorial

Events being planned in-  
clude:

The Veterans Day Parade  
Museum Fundraising  
Banquet  
and More

Volume 5 Issue 10

October 2025

## Celebrating 250 Years Of The United States Navy

★  
CELEBRATING  
THE NAVY'S  
250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY



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Navy Sentry dog handlers and their K9 partners, mount up for a night patrol around Da Nang's Naval Support Activity during the Vietnam War. Original old school photo courtesy of Al Dodds.

"Few at Da Nang would argue against a dog being man's best friend, for canines of the K9 Corps and their Navy handlers act as buffers against the Viet Cong.

"From sunset to sunrise, the 75-pound German Shepherds and their handlers patrol the perimeter of Da Nang's Naval Support Activity, guarding its communications facilities and fuel supplies against

sabotage by nocturnal intruders.

"Much depends on the man-dog team. The men are drawn from applicants who are particularly adept at handling dogs. Those selected attend an eight-week Sentry Dog Handler Course after completing four weeks of Internal Security Forces studies at the Naval Amphibious School."

"Little, if anything, can be seen in the darkness which lies outside the barbed wire, so it is the dog's senses upon which the sentry depends. A growl tells the handler something is amiss.

"The dogs are particularly valuable when used to detect saboteurs who might easily slip by undiscovered by a human sentry patrolling the perimeter alone." ~~Rus Elgin 🐾

Navy Publication.



**Al Dodds with Happy M717  
in Vietnam.**

We start the month of October by celebrating the Navy's 250th birthday.



When I meet someone for the first time, during our conversation, it usually comes up that I'm a veteran. Most thank me for my service. Then they have questions. What branch? What was my job? Where was I at? What did I do? When they find out I was a dog handler in the Navy, it brings on more questions like: "What's a sailor doing with a dog?" Got dogs on a ship?" Nowadays, all the military branches have K9 units, trained to do several jobs. Although dogs have been used by the military throughout history, in the modern-day military, working dogs,

## From the Museum's Navy Coordinator's Desk

K9s, as we know them today, actually got started as sentry dogs. It was in the late 1950s. I remember seeing my first military working dog when I was about 10 years old. My Boy Scout troop visited a Nike site near our town. The military used sentry dogs to guard the Nike sites. I thought they were so cool, and in fact, that planted the K9 seed within me.

Years later, I got my draft notice. But I decided to join the Navy instead of being an Army draftee, which would have surely ended with me in Vietnam. Thinking the Navy might keep me out of Vietnam. (jokes on me) I ended up in Vietnam anyway, but I didn't go alone. I had Happy (M717), my USN sentry dog, at my side. How did that happen?

Well, one evening during Boot Camp in 1967. A call came in asking for volunteers to be dog handlers, people who like dogs, who were at least 6 feet tall and weighed at least 170 pounds. Thinking of the K9s at the Nike site, I volunteered, was accepted, and got orders to dog school at Lackland Air Force Base. I came to find out that 36 sailors were selected the prior year. They had gone through dog school and spent the past year working security in Vietnam, and were finishing up their tours.

The Navy now needed replacements. They would be

getting orders out to the fleet for their regular assignments. Being assigned to Shore Patrol, or military police, or K9 unit back then (the 60s) was a temporary duty assignment. The Navy established the master arms rate in 1971; until then, all of the Navy's military police, shore patrol, and K9 handlers were temporary duty assignments.



The Navy's primary purpose in establishing its Sentry Dog Unit was to establish and protect the Marble Mountain transmitter site, located 10 miles south of Da Nang. All communications from the I Corp of Vietnam went through the antenna pads at this location. This strategic site proved to be so important that the Navy needed the best security. The answer? Deployment of Navy Sentry Dog teams as the first line of defense to prevent intruders.

The Viet Cong made numerous attempts to overrun and disable the Marble Mountain Comm Site. None were successful. However, six dogs were lost that first year. So, the installation required an equal number of the replacements to bring their dogs from Lackland to

Vietnam immediately. I was one of the six people who brought their dogs to Vietnam. Our group arrived in country in December 67, and my first night on post was Christmas Eve 1967. (Merry Christmas!)

Throughout the following year, which included Tet '68, multiple attacks occurred at the communication site. Still, because the Navy sentry dog teams were on post and were so good at detecting intruders, the camp site was never compromised. At that time, the US Navy Sentry Dog Unit in Danang was the only one of its kind in the entire US Navy. Due to its success and seeing the potential of these K9s, the K9 program has grown and expanded. Today, almost every Navy base worldwide has K9s, assisting sailors in all kinds of assignments, making valuable contributions.



So, to answer the question.... Yes, the Navy has dogs! Happy 250th to the United States Navy.

**K9 Leads the Way!**

***Al Dodds***

**If you know a Veteran in Crisis, the VA Veteran's Crisis Line is: Dial 988, Then Press 1.**

## Coming From Detroit's East Side to Leading the Navy's Military Working Dog Program

By Ensign Melvin Fatimehin

**JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK-FORT STORY** — Twenty-four years ago, Master Chief Master-at-Arms Brian Teart enlisted in the Navy out of the east side of Detroit and now serves as the program manager for the fleet's military working dog (MWD) program.

After graduating from Osborn High School off Seven Mile Road, Teart decided to follow in his older brother's footsteps and enlisted in the Navy in August 2000 as a yeoman.

"When I joined, I didn't even tell my family," said Teart. "My brother joined the Navy first, and he came back with nice clothes and a nice car, and I thought, 'That looks right,' but more than that, I wanted to take care of my family, and I knew the Navy would help me do it."

Although Teart didn't tell his family of his decision, Teart said his family and school supported him in pursuing a naval career.

"Most people in Detroit go work at the assembly lines because we have a lot of companies like General Motors out there," said Teart. "Many of my classmates choose to stay home and do that, so for

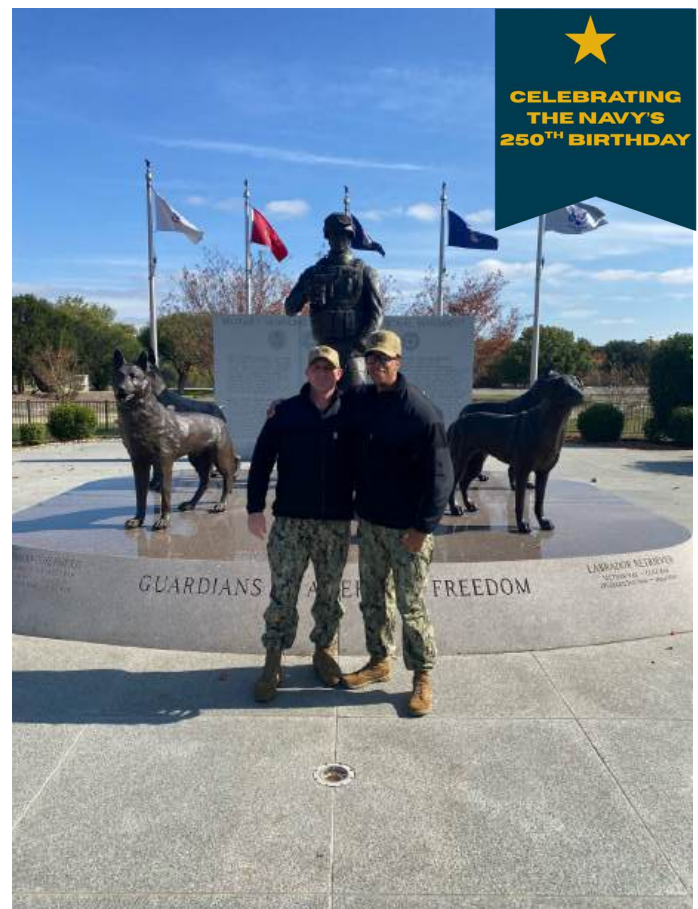
me to get away and try something different, my teachers and my family were just really excited for me."

Teart went to Great Lakes, Illinois, for boot camp, and shortly after completing basic training and ascension school, Teart was assigned to Gaeta, Italy, as a 9545 Navy law enforcement specialist. Teart's experiences in Italy as a law enforcement specialist led him to switch rates to master-at-arms, where he continued to travel the world.

Throughout his career, Teart took on various missions, including serving aboard USS Peleliu in San Diego, supporting detainee operations in Guantanamo Bay, operating as a military working dog handler in Japan, and deploying to Kuwait and Afghanistan.

"Fear of the unknown was always there," said Teart. "But in places like Afghanistan, where we lost people in our community, you learn to adapt and focus on your mission."

Teart now serves as the Navy's MWD program manager based out of Navy Expeditionary Combat Command. He is the principal advisor to the Chief of Naval Operations



**Master Chief Master-at-Arms Brian Teart, right, poses for a photo with Master Chief Master-at-Arms John Nitti by the US Military Working Dog Teams Monument at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Teart and Nitti recently completed a turnover of responsibilities for the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command military working dog program manager billet. Photo by Ensign Melvin Fatimehin.**

on all matters involving Navy military working dogs. He oversees 44 kennel installations across two fleets and nine regions and is in charge of 317 MWDs and 400 Sailors involved in the handling and logistics of the MWD program at any given time.

The MWD program is a critical asset for military

police and special operations units serving in operational environments. Navy MWDs specialize in explosive and drug detection and patrol missions.

"Every dog has their own personality but their drives are consistent across the program," said Teart. "Whether that's prey drive or play drive, we just ex-



A native of Detroit, Command Master Chief Brian A. Teart enlisted in the Navy on August 14, 2000. He is a graduate of the U. S. Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy (Class 232), earned his Bachelor's Degree in Social Science from Brandman University in 2015 and his Master's Degree in Organizational Performance from Bellevue University in 2018.

Photo by John Griffiths

pand on that with our MWDs."

Department of Defense utilizes a variety of MWDs, to include Belgian malinois, German shepherds, Dutch shepherds and Labrador retrievers. Thirteen percent of military working dogs are born and bred into the MWD program, also referred to as the Puppy Program.

While their mothers are still nursing them, potential MWDs are closely ex-

amined for traits that align well with an MWD. At around six to eight weeks old, MWDs are sent to a foster family to gain socialization skills. After six months, MWDs enter an intensive training phase where they practice bite work and essential obedience competencies. MWDs are evaluated for the MWD training program at the age of one. All MWDs must pass the evaluation to be eligible to participate in the pro-

gram. Most Navy MWDs will enter the fleet at two years old.

Once an MWD reaches the age of eight, the Navy starts evaluating its performance and medical history in preparation for retirement. Teart also facilitates the adoption process for retiring service dogs.

"Most of the time, if a dog is good to go as far as their behavior, getting a dog on the couch is a pretty easy process," said Teart. "The dog has to complete a process known as a 'disposition' and a veterinarian signs a memorandum explaining why they are recommending retirement and the dog is placed with the most appropriate caretaker, which is usually the command, or a previous MWD handler."

Since Navy MWD handlers work so closely and build a strong bond with their MWDs, they are given first rights to the MWDs when preparing to retire.

"We actually have a doctrine which gives dog handlers first dibs on retiring dogs that they worked with in the past," said Teart.

While Teart's professional accomplishments are remarkable, his focus remains on his family, whom he defines as his support system. "I struggle with

balance," he confessed. "But when I'm with my family, I'm fully present because they deserve my time and attention."

Teart's wife, a veteran who previously served as a hospital corpsman, provides unwavering support and helps him find a balance between the Navy and his family.

"My wife, she just gets it; she's the core of my support system, alongside my mom," he said. "My mom may not know all the details of what I do, but I know she's proud."

As Teart prepares for his next assignment at Navy Talent Acquisition Group Rocky Mountain, he reflects on his journey with gratitude. "I don't have expectations for perfection in this new role," he said. "I just want to be present and consistent, both for the Sailors I lead and my family."

"One of my good friends told me, 'In parenthood, the goal is to be present, not perfect,' and that advice stuck with me and applies to my Navy career as well," said Teart. "I focus on being available and consistent rather than aiming for perfection."





# MEMORIAL REDEDICATION EVENT



10-11 Nov, 2025  
Columbia, SC

For more info [mwdheritagemuseum.org](http://mwdheritagemuseum.org)

## Don't Miss Out—Last Call for the SC War Dog Memorial Rededication

The Team at Military Working Dog Heritage Museum, led by our Army Coordinator, Johnny Mayo, and our Events Coordinator, John Homa, invite you to join us for a very special celebration to honor the 10th Anniversary of the Dedication of the South Carolina War Dog Memorial, a significant milestone that we are all proud to commemorate.

The stunning memorial patrolling a hillside in Columbia, South Carolina's Memorial Park, is the conception of Johnny Mayo, a Vietnam Army Scout Dog Handler. His vision, forged in bronze by gifted sculptress Renee Bemis, breathes life into metal.

The connection between dog and handler is indisputable. Tension hangs in the air as the handler takes a knee, reacting to his partner's alert. Tiny details, such as the K9's tattoo number, make this monument special. And, if the artwork weren't memorable enough, the man who spearheaded this monument is. Johnny Mayo is a leader among Vietnam handlers. Old school, soft-spoken, and inspirational. Be there to join us in person.

You may find all of the important details at:

<https://mwdheritagemuseum.org/events/columbia-sc-war-dog-memorial-rededication/>



Our Army Coordinator, Johnny Mayo, Supporter Jerry Whitman, and our Events Coordinator, John Homa pose for a photo at a previous event. The Columbia, South Carolina event will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Dedication of the South Carolina War Dog Memorial in Columbia, SC.

Photo by Dixie Whitman.

Or here:



The deadline for registration of hotel rooms is October 20 or earlier, if the block of rooms has been filled.

Additionally, you may register for our two events—one on **November 10th** and the second on the **11th**.

The Pizza Fundraiser event, scheduled for November 10th, is a fun-filled evening that includes pizza and beverages, while you have an opportunity to bid on auction items or try your luck at a raffle. Your participation in these activities will directly contribute to our fundraising efforts. The Mission BBQ Event, scheduled for the 11th, will continue our camaraderie and fundraising efforts.

But that's not all, register to participate in the Veterans Day Parade and ride on an

authentic vintage military vehicle. This is a unique opportunity that you wouldn't want to miss. Spots are limited, so register early to secure your place.

Our Events Coordinator, John Homa, is asking for your support by donating quality items to our raffle and auction fundraisers. Please contact him at [Events@mwdhm.org](mailto:Events@mwdhm.org) to donate. Your support is crucial to the success of our event, and we greatly appreciate your contributions. 🐾

## Honoring the Service and Sacrifice of War Dogs

Courtesy of Steve Luz

On May 17, 2025, the third and final war dog memorial sculpture designed by renowned artist A. Thomas Schomberg was officially dedicated at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island. This powerful tribute stands as a solemn recognition of the bravery, loyalty, and sacrifice of military working dogs who have served alongside our nation's troops.

Schomberg's latest work completes a series of memorials that pay homage to these unsung heroes, ensuring their legacy is preserved for future generations. The dedication ceremony brought together veterans, service members, and community members, all united in honoring the invaluable role these courageous animals have played in military history.

As we reflect on the service of war dogs past and present, we acknowledge their vital contributions to missions around the world—providing protection, companionship, and unwavering loyalty in times of conflict.

For more information about the memorial and its significance, click [here](https://afafoundry.com/the-silent-soldiers-a-thomas-schombergs-monument-to-military-canines/) or go to the website:

<https://afafoundry.com/the-silent-soldiers-a-thomas-schombergs-monument-to-military-canines/> 



Above, left to right: Steve Luz and "Mac" McDonough attended the dedication. Both served as dog handlers with the 366<sup>th</sup> SPS K9 in Da Nang, era 1968.

Left: A. Thomas Schomberg, the sculptor of the monument, spoke at the dedication. Behind him is Ruth Gordon, the event organizer.

Photos courtesy of Steve Luz.



## SMSgt. Brian Williams: The Man of Iron - Part II

by Senior Airman Katelynn Jackson



Staff Sgt. Brian Williams, 87th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, receives Carly, his newly adopted military working dog Aug. 28, 2013, on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. Williams, while on a mission, sustained injuries when an improvised explosive device detonated. During his recovery at Walter Reed National Medical Center, Carly was brought to visit. (US Air Force photo by Russ Meseroll.)

This article is continued from the September issue of Paw Print. We learn more about the story of Air Force handler, Brian Williams, who sustained injuries in an IED explosion in Afghanistan.

"Everyone kept telling me I didn't have to serve anymore and that I had given enough," said Williams. "I remember thinking, 'I know, but I want to so can we talk about that?'"

Williams said that he might have felt differently about wanting to fight to stay in if he had behaved recklessly or done something wrong to cause the incident, but he hadn't, so it wasn't right to push him out.

"I was just doing my job," said Williams. "I was just doing what I am supposed to do."

With the help of a supportive member of Williams' leadership, a blueprint was designed for how Williams

would continue a career in the Air Force.

Even though he would be physically unfit to serve as a MWD handler again, there was precedent for those in security forces injured in service to become a technical school instructor at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas.

"I didn't necessarily want to go back to Lackland," said Williams. "But I kept hearing about the word 'impact.'"

Despite not wanting to return to Texas, Williams knew he could have a huge impact, helping shape and support the next generation of security forces Airmen.

Before Williams could get there, though, he had to face the MEB (Medical Evaluation Board), where he says he felt continuously written off by medical personnel.

"I was constantly being met with 'no's' and had to grind out the whole process," said Williams. "I continuously advocated for myself all the way up to the Secretary of the Air Force."

Despite his strongest efforts, Williams' original board denied his return to active duty, which Williams appealed, accompanied by his commander and supervisor, who traveled out of pocket to advocate for him in person.

Following the appeal hearing, Williams was yet again recommended to retire, but would have to go through the evaluation process again before he could get a final answer. This time, he wrote a letter to the SECAF (Secretary of the Air Force) explaining his case and asking if he could approve his return to active-duty.

With the SECAF approval, nearly two years after his injury, Williams was finally granted retainability.

During the time before he was approved, Williams had been working in the tax office and excelling in all of the total Airmen concepts. He was awarded the USO George Van Cleave Military Leadership Award, a recognition given to one individual in each branch of service a

year, who through their selfless commitment to our country, reflects the enduring legacy of the U.S. military and mission of the USO.

"Every 'no' I got during that process didn't deter me," said Williams. "All I could think about was setting a precedent to give an opportunity for every Airman injured after me."

"I make it look easy," said Williams, a smirk pulling on his lips. "But it's not."

The next year, in 2015, Williams was reading the Air Force Times when he scrolled upon a piece about the Warrior Games. Created in 2010, the Department of Defense Warrior Games introduced wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans to Paralympic-style sports.

In June, Williams competed in his first Warrior Games. While he was originally only interested in wheelchair basketball, he was pushed to try a multitude of sports that he would grow a passion for.

He now competes in volleyball, archery and track and field in addition to basketball. After seven years of competing in the Warrior Games, Williams has earned 30 medals across multiple events, over half of which are gold.

Aside from gaining new passions, Williams said that the people he has met through the program have been the most rewarding part.

I've met some real good people through that program," said Williams. "Everybody there has similar experiences to me, whether their wounds are physical or invisible."

In November of 2015, Williams moved to Lackland AFB to begin training for his role as a security forces technical school instructor, and began working at the 343rd Training Squadron in March of 2016.

Throughout his time as an instructor, Williams began to realize the Airmen were looking at him like he was a ghost.

"I would ask them why they are looking at me like that," says Williams. "They would tell me that I was a part of their curriculum at basic training."

In 2014, Williams won the American Airmen Video Contest, a total force effort to showcase Air Force stories in short selfie videos.

His video would go on to be shown in 'Airmen's Week' of basic military training, a 31-hour values-based course on the last week of basic training.

As an instructor, Williams made a point to actively engage with Airmen, using things his students were interested in, such as sports or video games, as metaphors for his lessons.

"I had to find out what each student connected to," said Williams. "And I would use that to drive the messages I was trying to instill within them."



**Staff Sgt. Brian Williams hugs his fiancée, Staff Sgt. Emily Christofaro, after finding out he received a promotion to technical sergeant. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Alexis McGee.)**

This leadership style led to high retention rates, ultimately leading to his contribution to graduating over 520 students in the span of two years.

Staff Sgt. Austin Johnson, 56th SFS armory non-commissioned officer in charge, one of Williams' former tech school students, said that Williams stood out from the other instructors in more ways than one.

"Senior Williams was by far sterner than the other instructors," said Johnson. "At the same time, it was clear he was so direct because of how much he truly cared about helping us exceed in our careers."

Another prior technical school student underneath Williams, Staff Sgt. Cameron Newhouse, shared a similar sentiment on Williams' impact as an instructor.

"He was different, not just by the way he carried him-

self, but simply by how much he cared," said Newhouse. "We all took everything he said to heart because we knew it came from a place of wanting us to learn and grow."

Not only did Williams leave a lasting mark on his students, but they, in turn, left one on him.

"The students were my motivation," said Williams. "I know I had an impact on them, but they re-established my faith in resiliency."

In 2018, his last year at Lackland, Williams was transferred to serve as the superintendent at the 341st TRS (Training Squadron), where MWDs are developed.

Prior to his arrival, the 341st TRS was training hundreds of dogs below the requirement. A few months after his arrival, they were exceeding it. This would be the first time the quota was met in over four years, leading to him being named the 341st TRS's Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

When his tour at Lackland AFB expired, Williams found out his next assignment would be at the Pentagon as a law-and-order branch manager, where he would be creating policies for his career field.

While in his assignment at the Pentagon, he began to see a therapist to address his mental health issues.

"I was finally taking care of something I should have

taken care of long ago," said Williams. "When I got to the Pentagon, I didn't hesitate to get help, and it was lovely."

In addition to making progress to his mental health, Williams contributed to progressing the security forces career field, leading to him winning multiple Headquarters Air Force awards. Among these was the HAF (Headquarters Air Force) National Public Service Award in 2021.

After serving four years as the law-and-order branch manager, Williams would return to Luke AFB as the operations superintendent for the 56th SFS (Security Forces Squadron).

"I always wanted to come back to Luke AFB," said Williams. "But when my dad got diagnosed with cancer in 2019, I knew it was time to come back to take care of my parents."

Williams arrived at Luke AFB in 2023 using the Air Force's Humanitarian Reassignment and Deferment Program, a one-time reassignment or deferment designed to enable Airmen to resolve a family issue.

Even while helping with his parent's wellness issues, Williams was able to thrive in his duty station, earning SNCO of the Year across the entire 56th Fighter Wing in 2023.

At this point of his career, Williams had continuously defied adversity and accomplished more than many thought was possible including serving over 20 years,

qualifying him for retirement.

"After I made master sergeant, I thought I would have retired," said Williams. "But they say when you are done with service, you will know, and that has not hit me yet."

Williams said when he no longer feels like he has an impact, he will be done, but he knows he still does.

"I have a responsibility to these Airmen that work our gates, the same gates that I used to work," said Williams. "I want to be a beacon for them and take care of them to the best of my ability."

While contributing vastly to countless security forces Airmen during his career, one of the ways he could increase his ability to contribute to their lives is to make chief master sergeant.

"Will there be a Chief Williams? I don't know, but I wouldn't be upset if that's what the Air Force wants of me," said Williams. "I would definitely stick around longer if that happens."

Surrounded by his fellow Airmen and co-workers, some of which have been there since the beginning of his career, 56th FW leadership entered Williams' office with a plaque to notify him that he was a chief master sergeant select.

Williams had reached the ninth and highest enlisted rank in the U.S. Air and Space Force, joining the top 1% of the enlisted force who make the final rank.

"To say that when I joined 23 years ago that making Chief was always in the cards for me would be a lie," said Williams, smiling pensively. "But I hope that by joining the 1%, I can provide continuous impacts for



Staff Sgt. Brian Williams, 87th Security Forces Squadron military working dog handler, receives Carly, his newly adopted military working dog Aug. 28, 2013, on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ. Williams trained and was also deployed with Carly in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Williams hails from Sierra Vista, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo by Russ Meseroll)

those around and under me, which is the reason I continue to serve."

From before his service as a JROTC cadet and as an Airman and NCO, Williams was continuously met with roadblocks and those who told

him he was incapable of accomplishing all he has today. 🐾

## US War Dogs 25th Anniversary Celebration

**The team at Military Working Dog Heritage Museum sends our warm wishes for a successful and meaningful 25th Anniversary celebration to our friends at US War Dogs. See you in San Antonio.**

**US WAR DOGS  
25<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**



You are cordially **invited** to our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at 11am on **Friday 17 October 2025**



Join War Dogs team members, beneficiaries, Gold Star families, supporters and friends for a special day of reflection, celebration and fellowship

- What: Following our birthday program, will be lunch, drinks and a chance to enjoy fellowship with our K-9 family
- Where: Plaza San Antonio Hotel & Spa, Autograph Collection, 555 S Alamo St, San Antonio, Texas, USA, 78205
- When: Ceremony starts at 11am, followed by lunch, drinks, a raffle and silent auction
- Dress: Smart casual

**K-9 leads the way**

RSVP to [rsvp@uswardogs.org](mailto:rsvp@uswardogs.org)  
by 17 September 2025



**CELEBRATING  
THE NAVY'S  
250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

# US Navy K9s



## Go Navy!

Photos by DoD photographers.



*Military Working Dog  
Heritage Museum &  
Handler Center  
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From the Team at MWDHM...

We invite you to join the museum's journey  
by signing up for a free *Paw Print* subscription.  
Email: [info@mwdhm.org](mailto:info@mwdhm.org)

**Military Working Dog Heritage:  
Always on Point**

We're on the Web: [mwdhm.org](http://mwdhm.org)

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Military Working Dog Heritage Museum

**Recycle, please.**



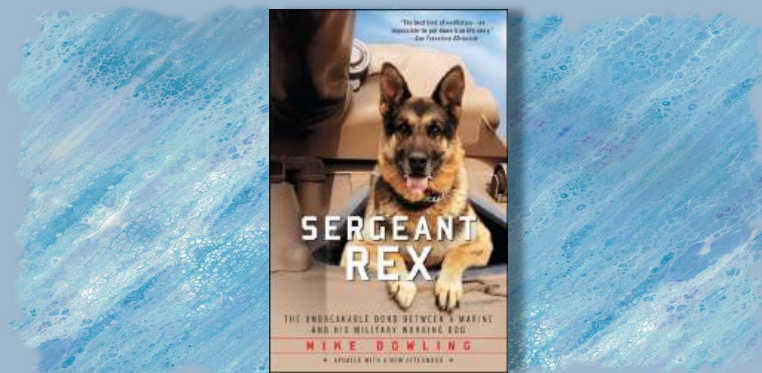
**Share your story.**

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**Share your voice.**

**Share your copy of  
our newsletter.**

## Book of the Month



**Sergeant Rex: The Unbreakable Bond Between a Marine and His Military Working Dog** is authored by Mike Dowling, a Marine Corps Military Working Dog handler. The prologue immediately engages as Rex, his canine partner, identifies a bomb in an area known as IED Alley just as an insurgent attack takes place. The main portion of the book details the team's experiences in Iraq's "Triangle of Death" during 2004, highlighting the numerous dangers encountered and how they bonded under fire. The epilogue is particularly impactful for Mike and Rex, and I'll leave that for you to experience. Joel Burton. Buy it [HERE](#).

## Submitted Photo of the Month



**Navy Sentry Dog  
Teams at Da  
Nang—left to right:  
Hanwell and MWD  
Falk; Swann and  
MWD Duke; and  
Collums and MWD  
Frtiz.**

Photo courtesy Al Dodds