



January 2023

Volume 3 Issue 1



Fellow Patriots,

Welcome to the Department of Arizona.

Thank you for your service to the Nation and to the MOPH. To be a successful organization we need to work as a team. You do not have to do it alone.

Lean on other chapters and Patriots for ideas. Offer up your ideas and network with the other chapters. Then share best practices.

Our number one priority as a department is to get our members involved. Once we get our members engaged new members will join, so let's give them reason to want to join our beloved order. Reach out to one other Patriot and encourage them to attend a chapter meeting and the Department convention. Getting involved is how we sustain and grow the order and ensure it stands the test of time so that we can pass it along to the next generation of service-members. Let us make this a year of growth by working together and reaching out to the community.

I won't ask you to do anything I'm not willing to do myself! I will do my best to be at as many events that I know about and fit my work schedule. Join me in showing why the MOPH is the premier veterans' organization in Arizona.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Keith Gray  
Commander

### Department Elections

Department Elections will be held April 15th. If you would like to serve as an officer let us know. If you would like to nominate someone for officer positions also let us know. [adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com)

### Department Convention

The Department Convention will be held April 15th. It tentatively will be held at the Arizona Military Museum at Papago Park Military Reservation. Zoom will also be available. More information to follow.

### Department Officers

Cdr Keith Gray [commandermophaz@gmail.com](mailto:commandermophaz@gmail.com)  
 Sr. Vice Cdr Chuck Byers [seagb@cox.net](mailto:seagb@cox.net)  
 Jr. Vice Cdr John Moore [mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net)  
 Adjutant Larry Leighton [adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com)  
 Finance Officer – Ron Capek [ronlucap@gmail.com](mailto:ronlucap@gmail.com)  
 Sgt-at-Arms – Jimi Sallmen [jimisallmen@gmail.com](mailto:jimisallmen@gmail.com)  
 Inspector – Vacant  
 Legislative Liaison – Jim Muhr [jrmuhr@yahoo.com](mailto:jrmuhr@yahoo.com)

### Donate to AZMOPH

**Donate Online:** [Donations Appreciated](#)

### Update Your Contact Information

Keep your snail mail address, phone & email address up to date. You can do this yourself at the MOPH National website at <https://national-moph.ucr.appspot.com/#>. You just need your membership number to log-in. You can also email us at [adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com) and we can update your snail mail, phone & email address for you.

### Find Us Online

**Website:** <http://mophaz.org/>  
**Facebook:** [Department Facebook Page](#)

### Calendar

- **February 3** - Four Chaplains' Day
- **February 5** - 4 Chaplains Ceremony Tucson
- **February 23** - Iwo Jima Flag Raising
- **March 15/16** - Tucson Stand-Down
- **March 22** - Verde Valley Stand-Down
- **March 25** - Welcome Home Veterans Mesa
- **March 29/Apr 2** - Traveling Wall Camp Verde
- **April 15** - Department Convention

### Monthly Commander's Call

Cdr's Call is every month on the Fourth Thursday. In the absence of the chapter commander someone from the chapter command group must attend. Open to all members. **Time: 06:30 PM Arizona Time.**

Feb 23, 2023 06:30 PM

Mar 23, 2023 06:30 PM

Zoom Meeting ID: 842 2842 9701; Passcode: 879117  
 Dial in: 669 900 6833



Fellow Patriots:

In February the chapter will hold a social dinner to honor General Washington's birthday. The chapter will participate in the Four Chaplains Ceremony by placing a wreath in honor of the Four Chaplains. The Tucson Stand-Down will be held on March 15 & 16. We have begun to schedule JROTC/ROTC Award presentations with the 13 JROTC/ROTC programs we support in southern Arizona.

We will hold chapter elections in April. If you would like to serve as an officer or nominate someone to serve contact us with nominations by March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Mike Dyer  
Commander

**Feb 20 - Chapter Social Meeting.** The meeting will be at the Golden Corral at 5:30 PM on Feb 20th. The Golden Corral is located at 6865 N Thornydale Rd, Tucson, AZ 85741. The chapter will have a reserved room. Members and their guests pay for their own meals. We need to provide the restaurant a count. If you plan to attend alone or with spouse/other guest let us know.

**Commander** Mike Dyer - [mrdyer@comcast.net](mailto:mrdyer@comcast.net)  
**Sr. Vice-Cdr** Richard Perkins [rperkins823@gmail.com](mailto:rperkins823@gmail.com)  
**Jr. Vice-Cdr** John Grand - [jgrand5@cox.net](mailto:jgrand5@cox.net)  
**Adjutant** John Moore - [mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net)  
**Website:** <https://moph Tucson.webs.com/>  
**Facebook:** [Chapter 442 Facebook](#)  
**Donate online:** [Donations Appreciated](#)

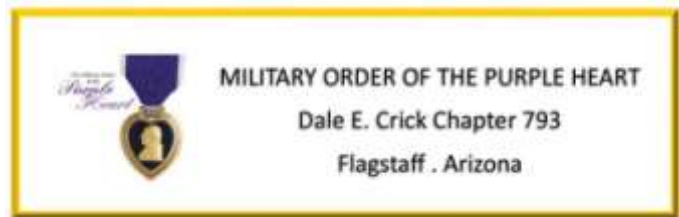
**Meeting date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (no meetings June, July or August) at 5:00 PM

**Meeting location:** Bridge Church at 8150 N Sandy Desert Trail, Tucson, AZ 85741. This is just off of I10 & Cortaro Farms Rd. Go east on Cortaro Farms Rd to N. Sandy Desert Trail.

Patriot Zimmerman and Patriot Grand will place a wreath at the Four Chaplains Ceremony. Patriot Moore will read a short history of the Purple Heart.

## The Purple Heart Magazine

The **January** issue of the **Purple Heart Magazine** is available at this [download link](#).



**Commander** Rodger Ely - [juggy64@aol.com](mailto:juggy64@aol.com)

**Sr. Vice Cdr** Daniel Reich -

[daniel\\_r\\_reich@msn.com](mailto:daniel_r_reich@msn.com)

**Jr. Vice Cdr** Elmer Sangster -

[sangster333@hotmail.com](mailto:sangster333@hotmail.com)

**Adjutant** William Weldon -

[baseballbillpaul@npgcable.com](mailto:baseballbillpaul@npgcable.com)

**Facebook:** [Chapter 793 Facebook](#)

**Next Meeting** – March 22

**Meeting time:** 12:30PM

**Meeting location:** VFW Post 1709

409 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**Meeting date:** Bi-monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.

Chapter 793 honored Arizona Veterans Service director, Colonel Wanda Wright, on her retirement. In a ceremony at Camp Navajo she was presented with several gifts to show how much MOPH appreciated her work for veterans and that she will be missed. Thank you Wanda for all you have done for our veterans.

Patriot Rodger Ely and Patriot Billy Weldon honored Colonel Wright.



Patriot Billy Weldon presents Colonel Wright an Air



## Four Chaplains 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Candlelight Memorial Service

February 5, 2023  
4:30 pm

Kino Veteran's Memorial Park  
Watch livestream on [Facebook.com/FunerariaDelAngelSouthLawn](https://www.facebook.com/FunerariaDelAngelSouthLawn)

The Tucson Stand-Down will be held March 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Lux Hotel in Tucson.

### TUCSON VETERANS

2023 Stand Down and Career Fair  
Grand Lux Hotel 1365 W. Grant Road

**Veteran Stand Down March 15**  
from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**and Career Fair March 16**  
from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

\* Please bring extra copies of your resume; business casual attire for the career fair

**Open to ALL Veterans, National Guard and Reservists  
in the local area in need of the following resources:**

- Clothing/ hygiene items
- Haircuts
- Just minor first aid
- Housing options
- Veterans Court
- Mental Health and Religious counseling

- Substance abuse counseling
- Treatment referrals
- Legal matters
- Employment assistance and job training

- Disability claims
- Benefits applications
- Pet care
- Service Organizations

Lunch will be served

For event information contact  
520-909-4660 or [azvet4u@gmail.com](mailto:azvet4u@gmail.com)

**NO ALCOHOL • NO DRUGS • NO WEAPONS**



Force themed flag.



Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans 2023 will be held at Fort Verde State Historic Park March 28-April 2, 2023. This will be an opportunity to welcome home, celebrated and honor local veterans for their service.

SAVE THE DATE

## Welcome Home



### VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 2023

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall will be hosted in Camp Verde.

March 29 - April 2, 2023

Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the withdrawal of all US combat support troops completed on March 29, 1973.

Join us as we honor and pay tribute to our Vietnam Veterans.

For more information call (928) 567-3275

[AZStateParks.com/fort-verde](https://www.AZStateParks.com/fort-verde)



The Verde Valley Stand-Down will be held March 22 in Clarkdale, AZ

Wednesday - March 22nd, 2023

9 Am to 2 Pm MST

CLARKDALE AMBITORIUM

37 North 9th Street

Clarkdale, Arizona

2ND ANNUAL VERDE VALLEY STAND DOWN  
IN MEMORY OF JAMES DAVID WARFIELD



## Michael E. Mahoney Chapter 691 – Surprise, AZ



Chapter 691 Patriots,

It has been great seeing you at our chapter's meetings and activities. It keeps me motivated to see the involvement from our brother Patriots. With 2023 upon us I encourage you to stay engaged with the

chapter and at least check up on fellow Patriots, we haven't heard from some in a while. Keep your spirits, high and only focus on what you can control don't stress about what you can't. We supported a lot of good organizations with our charitable donations so just be ready to hit the fundraising hard this year.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Keith Gray  
Commander

Cdr Keith Gray - [commandermophaz@gmail.com](mailto:commandermophaz@gmail.com)  
Sr. Vice Cdr James Starkman - [karen4357@att.net](mailto:karen4357@att.net)  
Jr. Vice Cdr Harold Thomas  
- [haroldrobthomas18@gmail.com](mailto:haroldrobthomas18@gmail.com)  
Adjutant Keith Gray - [commandermophaz@gmail.com](mailto:commandermophaz@gmail.com)

**Meeting date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday

**Meeting time:** 9:00 AM

**Meeting location:** Sands Chevrolet Surprise Conference Room (16991 W Waddell Rd, Surprise, AZ 85388) Enter parking lot from N Cotton Lane.

**Website:** <http://691.mophaz.org/>

**Facebook:** [Chapter 691 Facebook](#)

**Note:** Meetings will also be via video conference using Zoom. Enter the meeting ID (842 2842 9701) and the password (879117). To join by phone, call 719 359 4580 and enter the id and the password.

## Chapter 2560 – Apache Junction, AZ



Cdr Michael Overmeyer  
[moverme48@gmail.com](mailto:moverme48@gmail.com)  
Sr. Vice Cdr Phil Yin  
[philyin@msn.com](mailto:philyin@msn.com)  
Jr. Vice Cdr Chuck Byers  
[seagb@cox.net](mailto:seagb@cox.net)  
Adjutant James King  
[kingjs6@live.com](mailto:kingjs6@live.com)

**Meeting date:** 2nd Saturday

## John Suardini Chapter 790 – Scottsdale, AZ



**Commander** Ian Parkinson -  
[790commander@gmail.com](mailto:790commander@gmail.com)  
**Sr. Vice Cdr** Sylvestre Primous  
- [slysax85@gmail.com](mailto:slysax85@gmail.com)  
**Jr. Vice Cdr** Stephan Bobby  
- [veteranairborne@yahoo.com](mailto:veteranairborne@yahoo.com)  
**Adjutant** Woody Glauadel  
- [woodyglauadel@cox.net](mailto:woodyglauadel@cox.net)

Upcoming Meetings:

- Feb 6, 2023, 06:00 PM regular meeting
- Mar 6, 2023, 06:00 PM social meeting
- Apr 3, 2023, 6:00 PM zoom meeting
- May 1, 2023, 6:00 PM regular meeting
- Jun 5, 2023, 6:00 PM social meeting
- Jul 3, 2023, 6:00 PM zoom meeting
- Aug 7, 2023, 6:00 PM regular meeting

No meetings in September.

Each meeting is on a Monday at 6:00 PM located at American Legion Post 44, 7145 E 2nd St, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. (Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, or Adjutant) **are REQUIRED to attend.**

All members are invited to participate.

**Meeting time:** 6:00PM; Dinner: 6:00PM (optional)

**Meeting location:** American Legion Post 44  
7145 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Scottsdale, AZ 8525

**Chapter Officers: If you cannot make it., please CALL the Commander ((210 663 6072) to let him know.** If you have topics for the agenda, please let the commander know.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/6983434344?pwd=eXBJK2lqYlJObWdJmM1UNHZ4YnVQdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 698 343 4344

**Passcode:** 738329

**Facebook:** [Chapter 790 Facebook](#)

### Some Gave All – All Gave Some!

Order a 4" x 8" Purple Heart Brick to be placed at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol to commemorate being a Purple Heart recipient or order one to commemorate a family member or friend who received the Award. The cost of the brick, engraving, and placement costs are: \$35 Purple Heart recipients and \$40 for other veterans. Checks, along with a copy of your order form, should be made out to MOPH AZ & sent to:

Patriot Stephan Bobby  
MOPH AZ PH Brick Coordinator  
4543 E. County Down Dr.  
Chandler, AZ 85249-7339

or

of the month.

**Meeting time:** 10:00 AM

**Meeting location:** Mesa Beckhorn Elk Lodge #2656 at 6718 E Avalon St, Mesa, AZ 85205

Chapter 2560 will host a MOPH booth at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home celebration in Mesa, AZ from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

\*\*\*Save The Date\*\*\*

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Welcome Home!  
Vietnam Veterans Day**

Saturday, March 25, 2023  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Mountain View Cemetery and Funeral Home**  
7900 E. Main Street  
Mesa, AZ 85207

**What is Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day?**  
More than 8 million U.S. Troops served in Vietnam. The last combat troops were withdrawn from Vietnam and the end of March 1973. These veterans came home to a country divided on their feelings about the war. Many who returned did not receive recognition for their service.

**Schedule of Events:**

**10:00 am - 11:30 am** - We are honored to have Major General Peter Alysward and his staff from Washington, DC, several guest speakers, Veterans Heritage Project Students, Presentation of Colors by the Navy JROTC Color Guard, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students from Patterson Elementary School, Native American Blessing, Veterans Pinning Ceremony performed by the Dept. of Defense USA Vietnam War Commemoration, Bagpipes, USA Army Field Band (Six-String Soldiers), and White Dove Release.

**12:00 pm - 4:00 pm** - Enjoy fun and entertainment for the whole family.

Informational booths for Veterans - Free haircuts for Veterans - Military Equipment Wreaths Across America Educational Trailer - Bands - Food Trucks and much, much more!

A Very Special "Thank You" goes out to the following sponsors:





Questions? Please contact Nancy Fasshender at (520) 280-4715



Add your story to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. Enroll at url:

<https://www.thepurpleheart.com/enrollment/>

### AVHOFS Scholarships

AVHOFS scholarships available. Applicants must be an honorably discharged Veteran, active duty, Reserve or National Guard who is attending an institution of high learning within the State of Arizona. The scholarships are available for programs leading to a Baccalaureate or Post-Graduate degrees. Deadline is Feb 28th. For more information go to url:

Download Order Form: [PH BRICK ORDER FORM](#)



### Chapter 472 –Mesa, AZ



Cdr James Pomush  
[landjpomush@gmail.com](mailto:landjpomush@gmail.com)  
Jr. Vice Cdr Ramiero Del Rio -  
(602) 818-0796  
Adjutant James Pomish  
[landjpomush@gmail.com](mailto:landjpomush@gmail.com)

**Meeting date:** Last Thursday of the month (No meetings: Jun Jul & Aug)

**Meeting time:** 10:00AM

**Meeting location:** American Legion Post 26  
505 W 2nd Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210-1202

### **\*Chapter 1958 – Sun Lakes, AZ is Closing\***

Chapter 1958 members voted to close the Chapter and it will be completed this week. Unless a member specifically requested a different chapter, all members with an Arizona address on the National Roster will be transferred to Chapter 472. Those without an AZ address will be transferred to their State of record as Department At Large Members.

<https://avhof.org/the-arizona-veterans-hall-of-fame-society-scholarship/>

or see flyer below.



## Veterans!

### Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society (AVHOF) Scholarship Program

The AVHOF Scholarship program recognizes Arizona veterans who are permanent residents attending institutions of higher learning in the State of Arizona. We acknowledge Patriotism, Youth and Education while serving Arizona veterans.\*

#### Scholarships offered range from \$2000 to \$5000

Applicants must:

1. Be honorably discharged veterans, active duty, or service members in good standing with a Reserve or National Guard component.
2. Be attending an institution of higher learning within the State of Arizona that is eligible to receive GI Bill funds through the Department of Veterans Affairs.
3. Submit a completed application via email or mail per the Application Guidelines on the [The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Scholarship website](#).

## The PACT ACT

VA information on the PACT Act can be found on the VA website link below:

<https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/>

## Hotel Benefits for PH Members

PH members can receive wholesale hotel rates through the National MOPH website. There has been good feedback from folks who have used the Wholesale Hotel Rates website link at National. Go to the [Benefits Page](#) for more information.



Private Hotel Booking Rates Never Offered to the Public  
600,000 Hotels Worldwide  
Every Brand and Independent Hotel  
No Blackout Dates Ever  
Up to 50% Lower Price Over Expedia, Priceline, Hotels.com  
Forget TV Advertising Retail Sites, This is Wholesale!!!  
#1 Rated Booking Software  
Multi Language and Currency Options  
Internet and Mobile Booking  
95% of Searches Cheaper than Expedia, Priceline, Hotels.com  
Always Check Wholesale Hotel Rates Before You Book Anywhere  
Go to: <https://purpleheart.wholesalehotelrates.com/JoinRegister>  
It Takes 1 Minute to Register for a Lifetime of Hotel Savings

## VA Camp Lejeune Information

VA has established a presumptive service connection for Veterans, Reservists, and National Guard members exposed to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987 who later developed one of the following eight diseases: Adult leukemia; Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes; Bladder cancer; Kidney cancer; Liver cancer; Multiple myeloma; Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; & Parkinson's disease. Go to the [VA Website](#) for more information.

## Signed by the Governor

### HB 2062 Vehicle license tax exemption for PH veterans:



On registration of a vehicle, if the veteran submits

satisfactory proof to ADOT that the person is a veteran and a bona fide purple heart medal recipient and was honorably discharged vehicle registration tax fee is waived. Can only be used on one vehicle. Specialty plate and personalization fees still apply.

## American Dream Ambassador Program

**American Dream Ambassador Program** gives registered homeowners access to deep discounts to products and services needed to renovate or remodel their home, they can even help renovate or purchase a home. **Become an American Dream Ambassador TODAY !**

Registration is a one-time fee of \$50! After payment a \$25 tax-deductable donation will be made to the Department of Arizona, MOPH of the USA, Inc in your name. Get all the details and buy your subscription on our website at [American Dream Program](#).

## Great New Partnership for the MOPH



National has announced a partnership between Vapor Elemental Wear, The MOPH Fund, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart! 30% of sales of the MOPH Fund branded items go directly to

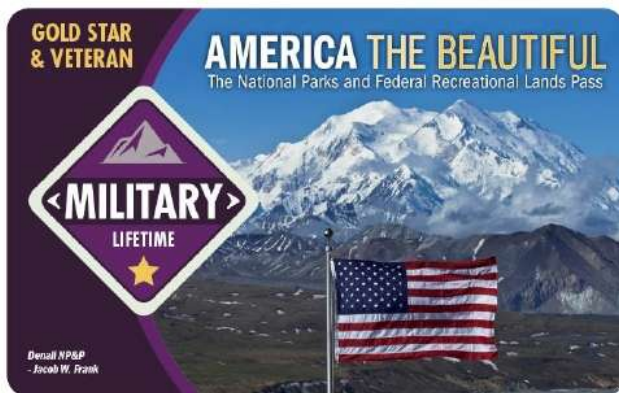
### Windows 11 Pro for \$16

Windows 11 Pro for \$16 through a special offer to PH members. Contact Adjutant Larry Leighton at [adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.mophaz@gmail.com)

We wanted to let you know about an offer on Microsoft Windows licenses that Purple Heart Combat Wounded Veterans of Arizona may find useful.

For a \$16 admin fee, you can get a full license for Windows 11 Pro. This license is for the full version of Microsoft's desktop operating system. It's ideal for computers that have a copy of Windows Home installed. You can also install it on a computer that does not have a licensed installation of a previous Windows operating system. This license also allows you to downgrade from Windows 11 to Windows 10.

### Free National Park Passes



New life time pass available for Military Veterans  
More information is available at the National Parks Service [website](https://www.nps.gov).

### Newsletter Information

Please send information & photos that you would like included in the newsletter to [mophchapter442@comcast.net](mailto:mophchapter442@comcast.net). We would like to get the newsletter out the last day of the month. Get me news information & photos by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Respectfully,  
John R. Moore.  
Jr. Vice-Commander

### From the Archives

In 2004 Department Member Herb Hanson represented Arizona at the World War II Memorial dedication in Washington D. C. in 2004.

the MOPH Fund, which is used to directly fund programs in the Military Order of the Purple Heart, such as suicide awareness, homeless veterans assistance, job training, and scholarships. You can help improve the lives of combat-wounded veterans and their families by purchasing your gear today! Purple Heart recipients can use the code VETS10% to receive a discount of 10%! Go to url: <https://vaporapparel.com/collections/purple-heart-partnership>

### Camp Corral

Applications are open for this summer's Camp Corral for children of wounded, ill, fallen military, and Veterans. Visit link for more info. MOPH supports Camp Corral. <https://www.campcorral.org/camper-application-23/>



### From the Archives

Arizona PH license plates were first issued in 1988.

### Three Tucson veterans receive Purple Heart auto license plates

Three Tucson veterans were among the first in Arizona to receive Purple Heart license plates during ceremonies yesterday at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Marie Lenze, of the Arizona Department of Transportation, presented the special license plates to Donald Dingee, 56, who was wounded in Korea, and Jack Ayers, 59, and Garner Hooper, 66, who were wounded in Vietnam.

A state statute passed this year authorized the Motor Vehicle Division to produce a distinctive license plate for veterans awarded the honor. The plates have a white background, purple letters, and a replica of the Purple Heart medal. The awards were presented during Veterans Day ceremonies that

included a parade through downtown Tucson.

"It's a great honor. It separates a particular class of veterans," Hooper said.

"It's indescribable. To have something like this is really an honor. I think it expresses what Arizonans think of its veterans," Hooper said.

Dingee said the plates were the result of "a lot of long, hard efforts by a lot of veterans." State Sen. James Henderson, D-Window Rock, "deserves a lot of credit," Dingee said. Henderson sponsored the bill.

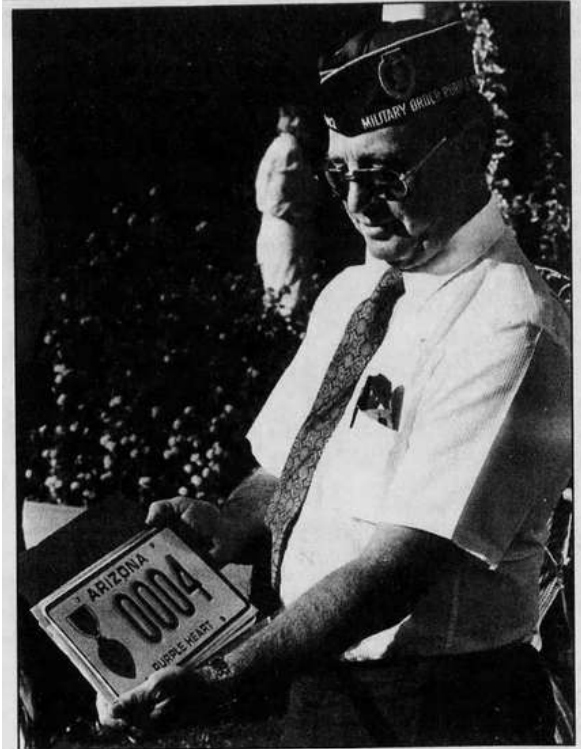
Applications for the plate may be presented at all vehicle license offices, with proof of receiving the medal. The fee for the special plate is \$25.



Herb Hanson will represent Arizona at the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. He co-founded the Scottsdale chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.



Donald Dingee received license plate number 0004.



Benjie Sanders, The Arizona Daily Star

Donald Dingee shows license honoring wounded veterans