



Dr. Carl Forkner  
Chapter Commander  
Service Officer

# Agenda



- Overview of DAV
- Services Provided at Chapter 8
- Compensation and Pension Claims
  - Presumptive Disabilities
- Death Benefits
- Education Benefits
- Membership & Camaraderie
- Fundraising
- Questions

# Overview of DAV



DAV is a nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. Annually, the organization provides more than 240,000 rides to veterans attending medical appointments and assists veterans with well over 160,000 benefit claims. In 2020, DAV helped veterans receive more than \$23 billion in earned benefits. DAV's services are offered at no cost to all generations of veterans, their families and survivors.

DAV is also a leader in connecting veterans with meaningful employment, hosting job fairs and providing resources to ensure they have the opportunity to participate in the American Dream their sacrifices have made possible.

With nearly 1,300 chapters and more than 1 million members across the country, DAV empowers our nation's heroes and their families by helping to provide the resources they need and ensuring our nation keeps the promises made to them.

# Overview of DAV



We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

This mission is carried forward by:

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government.
- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically.
- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government.
- Extending DAV's mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level Departments and local Chapters.
- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

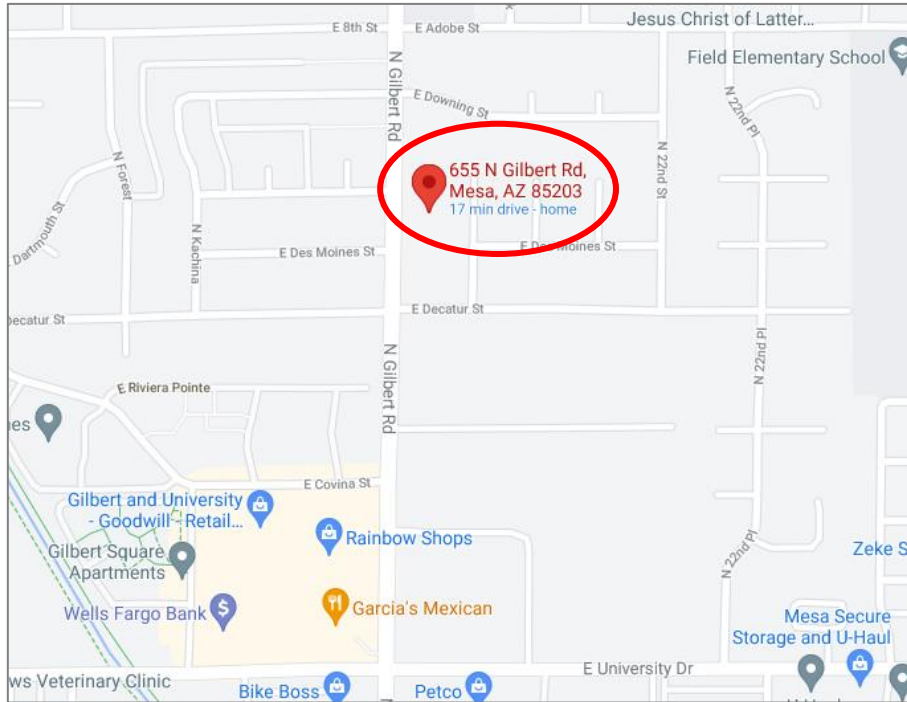
# Services Provided at Chapter 8



Trained and certified Chapter Service Officers prepare and file Veterans' applications for service connected disabilities or pensions, including (but not limited to):

- Aid and attendance for severely ill or disabled. The attendant may be your spouse, another person, or a company.
- Pensions for Veterans whose income falls below specified levels.
- Filing for enrollment in the VA Health Care System.
- Filing for additional compensation for dependents, including parents, spouse, and children.
- Application for burial benefits.
- Application for compensation, surviving spouse pension, Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and accrued benefits.
- Veterans application for Individual Unemployability.

# East Valley Chapter 8 Locations



## DAV Chapter House

655 N. Gilbert Rd.

Mesa, AZ 85203

Mon-Fri 0900-1400

480.890.2424

### Claims by Appointment:

- Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri

### Walk-in Claims:

- Any day the Chapter is open

# Disability Compensation Claims



## Disability Compensation Claims

- Many Veterans are not aware that they can be compensated for service-connected problems that they may have may result in them receiving compensation. Our highly-trained Chapter Service Officers (CSOs) can help you with your service-connected claims with the VA. They can advise you on what service-connected conditions you may qualify for, how to get the necessary evidence, navigate the complicated VA system for compensation claims, and help fill out the necessary claims forms for you.

# Presumptive Disabilities



- Vietnam
  - Vietnam and Thailand “Boots on Ground”
  - Brown Water Operations (inland waterways)
  - Blue Water Navy (within 12nm of Vietnam and in port)
- Middle East
  - Burn Pit Operations & Proximity
- Camp Lejeune
  - Water Contamination
- Nuclear Testing Operations
  - Ionizing Radiation Exposure

Coming soon:

- PFAS Contamination



# Presumptive Disabilities – Vietnam/Thailand



- Hypertension (PACT Act)
- MGUS (PACT Act)
- Bladder Cancer
- Chronic B-Cell Leukemia
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Prostate Cancer
- Respiratory Cancers
- Soft Tissue Sarcomas
- Amyloidosis
- Chloracne (& Acneiforms)
- Diabetes Mellitus Type II
- Hypothyroidism
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Parkinsonism
- Parkinson's Disease
- Peripheral Neuropathy
- Porphyria Cutanea Tarda (1 yr)

# Presumptive Disabilities – Middle East (Burn Pits)



- Brain Cancer
- Gastrointestinal Cancers
- Glioblastoma
- Head Cancers
- Kidney Cancer
- Lymphatic Cancers
- Lymphomas
- Melanoma
- Neck Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Reproductive Cancers
- Respiratory Cancers
- Asthma (post-service)
- Chronic Bronchitis
- COPD
- Chronic Rhinitis
- Chronic Sinusitis
- Constrictive Bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Granulomatous Disease
- Interstitial Lung Disease
- Pleuritis
- Sarcoidosis

# Presumptive Disabilities – Camp Lejeune



- Adult Leukemia
- Aplastic Anemia & other Myelodysplastic Syndromes
- Bladder Cancer
- Kidney Cancer
- Liver Cancer
- Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Parkinson's Disease

# Death Benefits



- Death Benefits
  - Pension for Surviving Spouse
  - Dependent & Indemnity Compensation for Surviving Spouse
- Burial Benefits
  - Burial in National Cemetery
  - Grave Marker or Monument
  - US Flag
  - Reimbursement for Burial Costs

# Education Benefits



- GI Bill
  - Application for Certificate of Eligibility
  - Counseling on School Selection and GI Bill Process

# Membership & Camaraderie

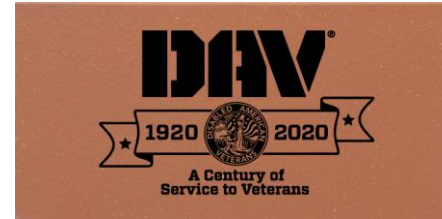


- East Valley Chapter 8 has over 3,000 members
- Monthly luncheon and general membership meetings
- Annual spring cookout for members and families
- Annual golf tournament (Nov/Dec)
- Chaplain and Service Officer outreach to sick or injured members

# Fundraising



- “Wall of Honor” Bricks
  - 655 N. Gilbert Rd. in Mesa



- Virtual Hall of Honor Plaques
  - Donor keeps plaque; image appears on Chapter Website



- Annual Golf Tournament
  - Arizona Golf Resort
  - December 2023

**Sixth Annual  
Veterans Benefit  
Golf Tournament**



- Gold Star Mothers Memorial (FY 2024 dedication)



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Mesa, AZ 85203

480.890.2424  
[www.azdav08.org](http://www.azdav08.org)