

MEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRUCE R. HARDER

I hereby release this information for verification by the election committee.

I am proud to announce my candidacy for member of the Board of Directors of the KWVA.

I am a Life Member of KWVA and member of the Northern Virginia Chapter #100. On August 1, 2015, KWVA President Larry Kinard, appointed me as the POW/MIA Coordinator for the KWVA. On August 1, 2016, President Tom Stevens reappointed me to the same position. I consider the next three years to be a critical period of transition of the organization from Korean War Veterans to Korean Defense Veterans.

I joined the staff of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) in August 2002 and was assigned to the personnel accounting directorate. I worked on the Korean War personnel accounting issue for 13 years. I was the senior policy & strategic planning analyst responsible for developing policy positions for the Director, DPMO, and team leader of the Northeast Asia personnel accounting policy team. I retired from federal civil service on July 31, 2015.

While working at DPMO, I visited the Korean Peninsula many times including two visits to North Korea (2002 and 2005) when DoD was conducting Korean War remains recovery operations in North Korea. I am a Korean Defense Veteran and have been awarded the Korea Defense Service Medal. The KWVA has a vast wealth of experience including those who have served in Korea in wartime and in peacetime. I feel very strongly that we must work together to carry on the legacy of the Korean War veterans who served with honor and distinction during the Korean War.

From October 1997 until August 2002, I was the Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. While working for the VFW, I traveled to Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, and worked on National Security and POW/MIA issues.

From 1969-70, I served a one-year tour in Vietnam, as an infantry platoon commander with the First Marine Division. My second Vietnam tour was from 1972-73. I was the intelligence officer for Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 333, which was deployed to the Gulf of Tonkin aboard the aircraft carrier America. Subsequent tours of duty took me to a variety of locations at home and abroad where I held command and staff positions and took part in planning and executing joint and combined military exercises and operations. I was assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa for 6 years. During this time, I deployed many times to the ROK to participate in contingency planning and to plan and execute amphibious field exercises and command post exercises for the defense of the ROK. I retired from active duty on December 31, 1997, with 27 years of active duty, and the rank of Colonel, USMC.

I hereby certify that I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

Respectfully submitted,

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