

Volunteer Acknowledgements

The Director and Staff of Alabama National Cemetery would like to express their sincerest gratitude to the dedicated volunteers. Their generous contribution helps to preserve the memory of the men and women who answered our country's call to service.

Alabama National Cemetery Staff

Alabama National Cemetery Support Committee

Alabama Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution

American Legion, Department of Alabama

American Legion Riders

American Village - Citizenship Trust

AARP Alabama

Catholic Diocese of Birmingham

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

(Alabaster Ward, Columbiana Ward)

Columbiana United Methodist Church

Dixie Division Military Vehicles Club

First Baptist Church of Columbiana

Jefferson and Shelby County Boy Scouts of America

Jefferson and Shelby County Girl Scouts of America

Kosak Services, Inc.

Montevallo Police Department/Fire and Rescue

Patriot Guard Riders

Shelby County RSVP

Shelby County Sheriff's Office

1st Pennsylvania Regiment

Pete Anderson

Dalton Banks

Bob Barefield

Nancy Barefield

Jorge Barnard

Adrienne Bourland

Peggy Bourland Evans

Ed Burdett

John Burke

Cody Caldwell

Chic Cecchini

Rachel Clinkscale

Marvin Copes

Newton Duke

George Graham

David Harcourt

Jim Harris

Larry Harris

Ron Haygood

Lowell Houk

Jeff Jones

Tommy McCulloch

Clem Muck

Pam Nichols

Charon Rivers

Wes Sanders

Keith Schramm

Mary Ellen Schramm

Mike Self

Marynell Winslow

Alabama National Cemetery

Tenth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony



May 28, 2018
9:00 A.M.

Please join us at The American Village for a Memorial Day Program beginning at 11:00am

James W. Darden
Major General US Army Reserve (Retired)
Alabama Ambassador for Chief US Army Reserve

Army Reserve Ambassador James W. Darden, a retired Major General, served in the Army Reserve for thirty-eight years, from his commissioning in 1966 to his retirement in 2004. Prior to his terminal assignment as the Director of Mobilization and Reserve Affairs/Deputy J5 of the European Command, Mr. Darden held three command-level positions as a General Officer including commanding general of the 81st Regional Readiness Command in Birmingham, Ala., from May 1995 until February 1999. Mr. Darden is a native of Memphis, Tenn. He earned an undergraduate degree from Mississippi State University and his master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Mississippi. Now a Birmingham resident, he is president of Darden and Associates, a real estate and construction company. He is also the vice president of Ellis Services Corporation and a partner in Springville Properties.

Wreath Laying Organizations

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.
American Gold Star Mothers
Alabama Gold Star Families, Inc.
U.S. Army
U.S. Marine Corps
U.S. Navy
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Coast Guard
U.S. Merchant Marines
POW/MIA

(Escorted by Bessemer Civil Air Patrol Cadets)

"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

—Abraham Lincoln
Second Inaugural Address
March 4, 1865

It is the mission of The Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery to honor our American military veterans who are interred at the Alabama National Cemetery by giving comfort to their families, promoting the cemetery to others, developing and participating in commemorative cemetery programs and providing financial support to the cemetery to further enhance its beauty, maintenance and expansion.

Alabama National Cemetery
Tenth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

Prelude Music
Homeland

Flyover

Master of Ceremonies
Ms. Brenda Ladun
Anchor ABC 33/40

Invocation

Mr. Duke Martin
Chaplain American Legion AL Dept

Presentation of Colors
All Service Color Guard

National Anthem
Ms. Jessica Procter
Miss Alabama 2017

Pledge of Allegiance
Shelby County Girl Scouts of America

Introduction of Special Guests
Mr. Brian Hudson
Alabama National Cemetery

Welcome Remarks
Mrs. Kay Ivey
Governor, State of Alabama

Welcome Remarks and Greetings
Elected Officials - (Federal, State, County and Local)

Introduction Of Guest Speaker
Mr. Herman Watkins
Program Specialist, Alabama National Cemetery

Guest Speakers
Major General James W. Darden, US Army Reserve (Retired)
Alabama Ambassador for Chief US Army Reserve

Musical Selections
Homeland

Wreath Laying Ceremony

Benediction
Mr. Duke Martin

Rifle Salute
American Legion Post 9 Ceremonial Guard

TAPS
Mr. Gene Ramsay
Bugles Across America – Alabama

Cannon Salute
Barry Winn, Jimmy White, Ken Sumner and American Legion Post 555