



**Willie Flight 82
Daedalians**

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Fellow Daedalians,

Just when we thought summer was over---BAM!!! Another week of temperatures hovering around the 110 mark! Hopefully we will get a break and have cooler weather for our next gathering which will be in the evening on Thursday, October 10th at the DoubleTree Phoenix/Mesa. The address is 1011 W. Holmes Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210. W. Holmes is just north of the 60 and Alma School interchange. Head east on Holmes. The hotel will be on your right a few hundred yards down the road.

Registration and Meet & Greet will begin at 1700. A buffet dinner will be served at 1800, followed by our speaker. The menu will be a house salad with ranch or balsamic dressing, rolls and butter, roasted pork loin with gravy, Yukon roasted potatoes, and roasted vegetable medley. Brownies for dessert!

The speaker for the event will be CW4 Gregory L. Riggs, USA Retired. Please see his very impressive attached bio: 10,245 flight hours, 1,977 combat hours, and 11 deployments!

The gathering will end at 1930.

As always, we need to have a head count of members and guests who plan to attend the September meeting. Please contact your Element Leader NLT Sunday, October 6th using the alphabetical chart below if you can attend:

Members	Element Leader	Phone	E-mail
Allen thru Deschenes:	Sig Nelson	602-793-4367	sigsbee.nelson@gmail.com
Dickman thru Hayes:	Art Stark	480-277-4700	artstark6160@gmail.com
Homewood thru Koeller:	Gary Zettl	623-680-2603	gzettl@msn.com
Lester thru T. Norton:	Bill Follette	602-6195445	bill@strategicquality.com
Oldroyd thru Smith:	Rick Drown	480-518-7665	rickdrown@msn.com
Stark-Zettl:	Ron Perkins	602-295-3880	rperkins@cox.net

Stay safe and be well,

Rick Drown



CW4 Gregory L. Riggs, USA, Retired
154E, MH47 Pilot

Riggs is a native of Kinston, North Carolina, and enlisted in the Army in 1994. He attended Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training as a 12B, Combat Engineer at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He served in the South Carolina Army Reserve before transferring to Active Duty and serving in Baumholder, Germany with 1AD. Mr. Riggs attended Warrant Officer Candidate Course and US Army Helicopter flight school in 1996 where he joined the Warrant Officer Corps and attained a pilot rating in the OH58D Kiowa Warrior. Mr. Riggs past assessment for 160th Special Operations Aviation Command and attained a pilot rating in the MH-47G Chinook. Mr. Riggs ended his US Army career as an US Army Combat Readiness Center Accident Investigator. Riggs's deployments include Operation Joint Guard, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom. He has 10,245 flight hours, 1977 combat hours, and 11 deployments.

Riggs's Military education includes PLDC, Aviation Warrant Officer Basic Course, Aviation Warrant Officer Advance Course, Warrant Officer Senior Course, and Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course. He is a graduate of Airborne school, Aviation Life Support Supervisor School, Aviation Safety Officer School, Electronic Warfare Officer School, Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape School, and Special Operations Training School. Riggs holds a Masters of Arts from Brandman University, a Bachelor of Science from Liberty University, and a Bachelor of Science from Holmes College of the Bible.

Riggs's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award), Air Medal (2nd Award), Army Commendation Medal (5th Award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, USAF Meritorious Award, USA/USAF Presidential Unit Citation, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 2 campaign stars. He has earned the Combat Action Badge, Master Aviation Badge, and Parachutist Badge.

