



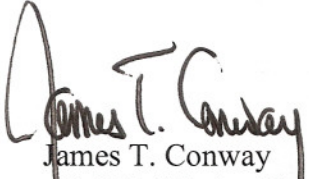
A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

As we celebrate the 234th Anniversary of our Corps' founding, I want to extend sincere appreciation to the Marine Helicopter Squadron 361 Veterans Association for your participation in the Bridge Renaming Ceremony in honor of Lance Corporal Jordan Haerter. As you may know, LCpl Haerter's family graciously allowed us to include their story in the Video Birthday Message this year. They are a remarkable Marine Corps family, and your efforts to help them recognize their son are truly valued.

On behalf of all Marines, I also thank you for your dedication to preserving our Corps' history through the restoration of the Sikorsky UH-34D and to ensuring that piece of our legacy is passed on to our Nation's youth. The "Flying Tigers" played a vital role in Vietnam and continue to provide invaluable air support to our Marines on the ground today. Your unwavering commitment to our Corps and to your brothers- and sisters-in-arms is a testament to your patriotism, devotion to duty, and steadfast fidelity.

Thank you for all that you do to pay tribute to those who have gone before us and to ensure that the history of our Corps will live on through the coming generations. Marines around the globe salute your dedicated service to Corps and country and proudly carry on the legacy you helped forge.

Semper Fidelis,


James T. Conway
General, U.S. Marine Corps