



HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER NEWS

MOAA MEMBER EVENTS:



On June 7th, a dinner for MOAA members and their guests was held at the Boone golf course. The dinner was held in combination with the New River Chapter and filled with conversation, laughter, and the meeting of new friends. A special guest speaker from MOAA National provided insight regarding issues being faced by the military and the nation.



SAVE THE DATE -- UPCOMING ACTIVITY FOR CHAPTER MEMBERS and FRIENDS:

Mark your calendars for a great opportunity of fun. Our next fellowship dinner/meeting will be on

Thursday, August 18, 2022.

We will be meeting at the Rotary Pavilion in Blowing Rock at 5:30. We have "Hog Wild" catering the event at a cost of \$15 per attendee. Please bring cash or a check to cover the costs. The town of Blowing Rock does permit alcohol, so bring your favorite beverage.



This meeting is intended to be primarily social with a very limited business component. We would like to get as many members as we can. Please also invite a guest or prospective member to accompany you to the gathering. There are several picnic tables in the shelter but please bring your own camp chair(s) for extra seating. RSVP to George Brudzinski at hccmoaa@gmail.com or you may call him at 828-961-3475. We will send additional information, as needed.

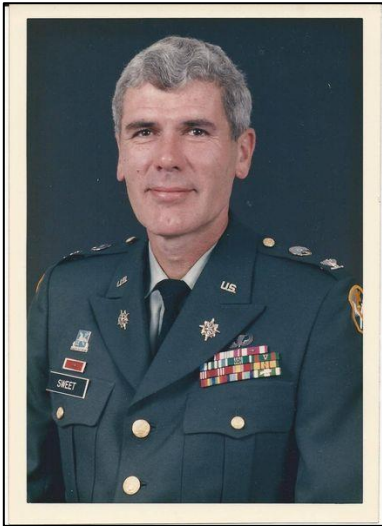


High Country Military Officers

Serving our Veterans and Community

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SONNY SWEET CELEBRATION OF A HERO'S LIFE



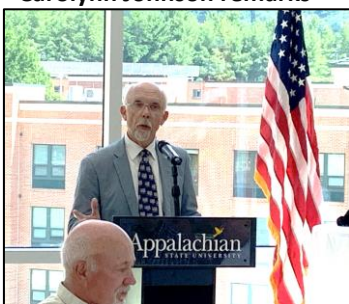
July 14, 1939 - June 13, 2022

A beloved and valuable member of both the High Country Chapter of MOAA and the Boone community finally succumbed to cancer on June 13, 2022.

What can be said of Worth Alfred Sweet, Jr., that hasn't already been said or known about the man? He was a decorated soldier that ascended from the enlisted ranks to achieve the rank of Colonel. He was a man of the mountains who gave his heart and soul to the men and women of this community. He gave himself to the American Red Cross, the Henson Chapel United Methodist Church, Boone Kiwanis, Mountaineer Ruritan, Western Youth Network (he created a scholarship fund - https://donorbox.org/wyn_online_donation), the High Country Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (which he helped start), and Meals on Wheels. He helped initiate several continuing local events, such as Boone's Fourth of July Parade, MOAA's Memorial Day and Veteran's Day celebrations, and the Blood, Sweat and Gears bicycle ride. His comprehensive disaster planning was rivalled only by his personal dedication to helping both first responders and victims across all types of catastrophic events. Sonny was overjoyed to give back to his community and to give the credit for any successes to others.



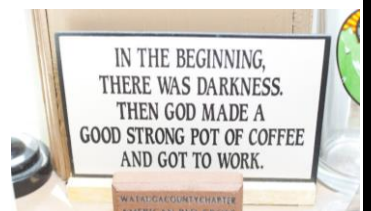
Carolynn Johnson remarks



George Brudzinski remarks

Sweet's greatest joy emerged in his boundless love for his family. He treasured his three sons, Jonathan (Sonia), Nathan, and Brandt Sweet, and his daughter, Brianna Swartz (Joshua). He cherished his three granddaughters, Rebecca Sweet, Taylor Swartz, and Alyssa Swartz, and is also survived by his grandson, Steven Sweet. Sonny loved to laugh with his younger brother, Edward Sweet (Eileen). Sonny's fierce love for his wife, Bricca Sweet, was unparalleled.

A celebration of life was held July 14, 2022, at Appalachian State's Grandview Ballroom.





PAGE THREE – NATIONAL NEWS

MOAA JULY 2022 MAGAZINE:

Have you received/read the July issue of the MOAA magazine? It provides a fascinating snap-shot into Americas newest military, the Space Force. The article introduces leadership, programs, and technology. For instance, can you identify and describe the new Space Force Warp Core program? (answer at bottom of the next page.)



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

DID YOU KNOW:

Did you know that the VA lists health risks associated with different times and conflicts? Since most of us served during the Cold War era, 1945-1991, what health risks should we/you know about? (from VA

website <https://www.va.gov/health-care/health-needs-conditions/health-issues-related-to-service-era/cold-war/>

You may be at risk of illnesses or injuries caused by contact with:

- Radiation:** A type of radiation exposure from atmospheric and underground nuclear weapons tests
- Mustard gas:** An odorless poisonous gas used in military tests in the 1940s
- Herbicides:** Agent Orange and other herbicides used in Vietnam and tested or stored in other locations
- Occupational (job-related) hazards:** Chemicals, paints, radiation, and other hazards you may have come in contact with through your military job
- Noise:** Harmful sounds from guns, explosives, rockets, heavy weapons, jets and aircraft, and machinery that can cause or contribute to hearing loss and tinnitus.
- Projects 112 or Shipboard Hazard and Defense (SHAD):** Military tests of chemical and biological warfare materials that took place in the 1960s to early 1970s
- The Atsugi Waste Incinerator:** Combustion waste disposal that burned industrial and medical waste
- The Edgewood/Aberdeen Experiments:** Classified medical studies of low-dose chemical agents conducted from 1955 to 1975
- Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River:** Sites of contaminated drinking water from August 1953 through December 1987
- Fort McClellan:** Site of possible exposure to low levels of radioactive compounds and chemical warfare agents (mustard gas and nerve agents) and airborne polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)



PAGE FOUR



NATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT:

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veteran's association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, Public Health Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their surviving spouses.



GETTING INVOLVED WITH MOAA ON A NATIONAL LEVEL:

1. As a nonprofit veteran's association MOAA is a nonpartisan organization that does not lobby for any political party or affiliation.
2. National MOAA does have opportunities for members to impact legislation on national and state levels. Go to MOAA's online legislative Take Action Center at www.moaa.org/takeaction for more information.
3. Did you know MOAA has a jobs board for veterans and spouses seeking new employment opportunities? Go to [Help \(indeed.com\)](http://Help.indeed.com) for more information.



Warp Core serves as the Data as a Service (DaaS) platform for data ingestion, retention, processing, normalization, analysis, and visualization across the global space enterprise.

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER 5 GOALS:

1. To protect the rights and interests of members by supporting national and state initiatives.
2. To highlight the contributions of the military throughout the Chapter area.
3. To contribute to Chapter area communities by focusing on military related projects and programs.
4. To support and enhance interaction among and between all Chapter area military organizations.
5. To foster fraternal relations among those who serve and have served and family members of deceased member officers.