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Volunteers keep soldiers past and present connected

The CapitalCare Kipnes Centre for Veterans is a long-term care centre in northwest Edmonton. In addition to general long-term care, we offer specialized dementia care and a day program for people living in the community.

On Remembrance Day and always we remember our veterans – those brave men and women who went to war for our country. Many of our veterans served in WWII and Korea. More recently, we are seeing more and more who have served in international peacekeeping operations around the globe.

The Kipnes Centre is fortunate to be supported by service groups who act as a bridge between the military of the past and the present, and whose contributions enhance the quality of life of the people in our care.

Each year at this time, a group

of residents takes part in the Veterans Night Dinner at the Edmonton Garrison, an all-ranks dinner attended by several hundred serving members and veterans. Attending the dinner brings back memories for our veterans, gives them the opportunity to mingle and share stories, as well as enjoy the musical entertainment.

This year, the six residents attending the event received some extra special attention. Long-time Kipnes volunteer and (retired) Master Warrant Officer Mike Hogan was looking for way to ensure veterans are remembered, appreciated, and valued for their contributions.

Through a series of conversations with 15 of our veterans, MWO Hogan gathered details about their service histories and created a presentation about the six

attending this year's dinner, including Pete Dutka, who left home at age 16 to join the army, served with the 17th Field Regiment, and took part in the liberation of France and Holland.

All 15 profiles were also shared with Baturyn School, to be part of their "Hallway of Heroes," a project to teach younger generations about the real world heroes responsible for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Visiting with our residents is one way for people to volunteer at our centre. It is a gift that anyone can give, costs nothing but time, and benefits everyone.

Some of our volunteers are soldiers transitioning out of military life. These soldiers share a common bond with our veterans. Talk sometimes turns to battles fought, but most often consists of reflecting on time and travel overseas, and



Pete Dutka with Sergeant Jason Tabbernor, member of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. Supplied

afforded by life in the military.

The CapitalCare Kipnes Centre for Veterans appreciates and values all contributions of time and donations that are offered.

To volunteer and meet some of our veterans contact Bev

Friske, Community Services Coordinator, at 780.442.5720 visit capitalcare.net.

To make a donation, contact the CapitalCare Foundation at 780.448.2413 or visit capitalcarefoundation.net.

THIS STORY WAS PROVIDED BY THE CAPITALCARE KIPNES CENTRE FOR VETERANS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

R.I.P.

Requiescat

In Pace

Rest In Peace

by Silvia Pecota

(dedicated to our Fallen: Task Force Afghanistan)

Requiescat in pace is used in Latin prayer, meaning "rest in peace"

'Twas Duty who called
And your Courage did
obey,
To a land of conflict
You were placed in
Harm's way

Then Destiny did
thusly,
Lowering her shield,
So Fate's embrace
Was to you revealed

Now to remember
And forever miss,
With each Dawn's arise
By her eternal kiss

Thank You

- 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron
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- Edmonton North District Area Council Two
- Edmonton 15th Service Battalion
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- Tree of Hope Charitable Society
- UN/NATO Veterans



Thank you to the benefactors who have fundraised, volunteered, and generated donations in the past year in support of enhancements for veterans living at the Kipnes Centre.

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Silvia Pecota Studio

The Edmonton Sun is proud to display the artwork of Canadian artist, Silvia Pecota throughout the We Remember special section. Front Cover artwork and image within page top banners supplied by Silvia Pecota.

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To donate:
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