



A Toast to Dennis
A Night of Remembrance

AD JOURNAL

September 17, 2026

Eagle Oaks Country Club

PRESENTED BY THE LT. DENNIS W. ZILINSKI, II MEMORIAL FUND





Rostron Premium Home Services, a veteran owned company, proudly remembers Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II. For all our veterans and those serving, Thank You for protecting our country and freedoms!

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Welcome and Thank You

At this, our **18th Annual – A Toast to Dennis – A Night of Remembrance**, the Zilinski Family, the Board of Directors, and the Toast Committee, are proud and grateful to welcome you to this evening's event.

We continue to honor and celebrate the Life and Legacy of Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II, who made the ultimate sacrifice on November 19, 2005, in Bayji, Iraq. Always remember his deep love of God and Country. Our dedicated board members and volunteers continue to strive to help others with the same passion that Dennis exhibited throughout his life.

As a result of **YOUR** generosity this past year, our fund has raised approximately \$300,000.00 of which more than \$200,000.00 was used to sponsor Service Dogs. The remaining funds provided direct support to those Warriors in Need that quietly live within our own communities, by way of rent payments and other living expenses.

Additionally, The Fund mailed more than 250 boxes of necessary items "from home" weighing more than 3,600 pounds to Our Troops Around the Globe.

We cannot Thank You, the donors, enough for your continued support of our fund and this event.

Once again, we are fortunate to have several warriors in attendance with us whose lives have been saved and transformed because of the strength of their families, the support of their service dog, and the Blessings of the Almighty. Please take time to talk with these warriors and thank them for their sacrifices and ability to motivate others.

As always, we continue to thank our founding and past board members, who provided the vision and direction that has allowed us to carry on the Legacy of Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II.

Most especially we thank Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II and his fellow fallen comrades from all branches of the military for their ultimate sacrifices.

May God continue to Bless all our troops and their families and may God Bless the United States of America!

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!"

Steve Hoptay – Board Chair



Let it be known that those
who wear the Purple Heart
have given their blood in the
defense of their homeland and
shall forever be revered by
their countrymen.

A Toast to Our Fallen Comrades

Ladies and Gentlemen, we'd like to bring your attention to
the small table, set for one, in a place of honor.
This table is the military's way of acknowledging
that members of this
Proud profession are missing from our midst.
They are POWS, MIAs and those like
1LT. Dennis W. Zilinski, II - United States Army,
Who were killed in action. We call them brothers.
They are unable to be with us this evening,
So we remember them because of their sacrifice.

The tablecloth is white, symbolizing
the purity of their intentions
To respond to their country's call to arms.
The single rose in the vase reminds us of
the families and loved ones
Of our Comrades-in-Arms,
Who keep faith, awaiting their return.
The red ribbon tied so prominently on the vase,
Is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn upon
the lapel and breast of thousands
Who bear witness to their underlying determination
To demand a proper accounting of our missing.
A slice of lemon on the bread plate,
To remind us of their bitter fate.
The salt is symbolic of the tears, as they wait.
The glass is inverted, he cannot toast with us this night.
The chair is empty, he is not here.

Remember them, all of you who served with them
and called them Comrade,
Who depended upon their might and aid and relied upon them,
For surely they have not forgotten you.

Tonight we toast 1LT. Dennis W. Zilinski, II
and all of the Fallen Comrades and
Honor their memory.



A Toast to Dennis A Night of Remembrance

**IS SPONSORED BY THE
LT. DENNIS W. ZILINSKI, II
MEMORIAL FUND**

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Our mission is to honor the life and memory of Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II and to provide support to improve the morale and welfare of the members of the United States Armed Forces and their families.

A special Thank you and Congratulations to the entire Toast to Dennis committee for their commitment and hard work for this year's event.

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We are truly humbled and honored to be recognized by the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund. While we are grateful for this recognition, we have never viewed our involvement as something deserving of acknowledgment.

We simply consider it a privilege to support an organization whose mission means so much to us.

Our journey with the Fund began through our grandchildren at Christian Brothers Academy and was strengthened after learning more about its incredible work and meeting the people behind it. What truly changed us was hearing the story of a veteran whose life was transformed through the support of the Fund and the gift of a service dog. In that moment, we realized this mission wasn't just about raising money, it was about restoring hope, changing lives, and reminding our veterans that they are never alone.

Everything we have accomplished has only been possible because of the generosity of our family, friends, neighbors, sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who has joined us over the years. This recognition belongs just as much to them as it does to us.

To the veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country, thank you for your service. Supporting you has been one of the greatest privileges of our lives, and we look forward to continuing this mission for many years to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Joe & Deb Panico





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The Lt Dennis W. Zilinski, II Memorial Fund is a
501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization,
created in 2006 to honor the memory and
spirit for life of
1st Lt Dennis W. Zilinski, II US ARMY

The Board is an all-volunteer Board of
Directors established to direct the
memorial fund.



A Toast to Dennis
2026 Committee

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*In Honor of
1LT Dennis W. Zilinski, II
and in support of all our men and
women in uniform and their
sacrifice of their families.*



Dean and MaryAnn Janeway



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“All the great things are simple, and
many can be expressed in a single word:
Freedom;
Justice;
Honor;
Duty;
Mercy;
Hope”

~Winston Churchill

With gratitude to the men and women
of our armed services who selfishly
defend our country and our way of life.

The Timothy 6:17 Foundation



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Marion and Dennis
and their great work to
support our men and
women in uniform.

Quentin & Ellen Walsh



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We are proud to honor Dennis and the
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To Marion and all Military Moms,

There hasn't been much said about the military mom. Yet no wars could ever have been won without her. A military mom is a teacher of independence, perseverance, discipline, and integrity. She possesses a great sense of humor and can make of any house, a home. She is a woman of quiet strength who has shaped the hearts of our Bravest Heroes and taught them to value peace above all. The military mom is unshakeable in love for her country. That is how she is able to let go of her most precious treasure, her son or daughter. We proudly salute the Military Mom!!

~Quote From Sherry at March of Honor

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Lt. Elbert M. Taylor, US Army Air Corp.

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have earned our undying
gratitude. America will
never forget their
sacrifices.”

- President Harry S. Truman

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“It doesn’t take a
hero to order men
into battle. It takes
a hero to be one of
those men who
goes into battle.”

- General Norman Schwarzkopf

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Thank you!



Honor and Remember Our Military Heroes

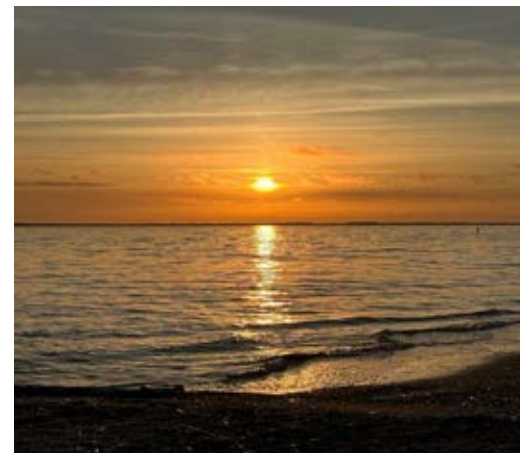
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WILLIAM H. JARRARD, US NAVY
April 17, 1934 – July 9, 2025

1Lt. DENNIS W. ZILINSKI, II, US ARMY
KIA IRAQ – November 19, 2005





Raise A Toast

Honor and Remember
Our Loved Ones...

Mona Giambrone
Robert Paul Walker



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enormous*

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*Our Silent Auction would not be
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generosity of so many.*

Again, we say

Thank you!





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For all they do, and to

Honor the memory of

1Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II

And all those who paid the ultimate price for
our freedom.

We salute ALL of our
Service men and women.



Steve and Beverly Hoptay



Service to Country

His name lives on through his legacy. We honor and remember
Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II and the sacrifice he made in service to our
nation.

Joanne & Bill Trust

Proud Army & L.E.O. Family





*You never know
how strong you
are*

*until being strong is
the only choice you
have.*





1Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski, II
US Army
12/23/81 – 11/19/05
Bayji, Iraq

“Oh, I believe there are angels among us
Sent down to us from somewhere up above
They come to you and me in our darkest hours
To show us how to live, to teach us how to give
To guide us with the light of love.”

The memories of you Dennis,
Are both our greatest treasure
And our deepest pain.
Until we meet again,
We will love,
Remember and think of you, our Hero,
Love and miss you until we meet again...

Love,
Mom and Dad
xxxooo



Our family of six now, toasting Dennis
on the shores of St. Thomas.
Remembering him on the
20th Anniversary of his leaving us.





There is a date we will never forget. Not because it is beautiful, but because it broke our hearts. The day we lost you. No matter how many years pass, when this date comes around, our hearts tell us, this was the day that everything broke. The sun still rose, the world kept moving but our lives would never be the same again.

We love you and miss you,
until we are all together again.

Doug, Shelly, Tiffany and Matt
XOXO





Proud to Support the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund

We are honored to support the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund and its incredible mission of honoring Dennis's legacy through service to our nation's veterans and active-duty military.

We are grateful to the Zilinski family for turning their love for Dennis into a mission that has touched so many lives, and we are proud to play a small part in helping that mission continue.

To our veterans, active-duty service members, and their families, thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and all you have given our country.

May we never forget that our freedom comes at a cost, and may we always remember those who serve.

With gratitude and respect,
Joe & Debbie Panico



Congratulations Nana & Papa!

Mom and Dad,

We are so proud you are being honored tonight. You have always taught us that family comes first, to show up for the people you love, and to give back whenever you can.

Nicholas and Anthony are so fortunate to have their Nana and Papa at crew regattas, special events, accomplishments, vacations and all the moments in between.

Seeing the love, time and energy you have given to the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund and its mission makes us even more proud. We know you never do any of it for recognition, but tonight, enjoy it. You deserve it!

We love you and couldn't be prouder!

John, Jennifer,
Nicholas & Anthony





Congratulations Mom & Dad!

Mom and Dad,
I couldn't be prouder to see you honored tonight.

You have always been my role models, not because of what you've told me, but because of what I've watched you do. You put family first, care deeply about others, give back and never look for anything in return.

I've seen firsthand the time and heart you have given to the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund and how deeply you believe in its mission of supporting our veterans.

Tonight, everyone else gets to recognize what I've been fortunate enough to see every day.

I love you both!

Love,
Andrew



Congratulations Nana & Papa!

Mom and Dad,
We are so proud of you both and this incredibly well deserved honor. Whether it's family dinners, vacations, summer trips, dance recitals for Antonia, trips to the races, or simply being there whenever we need you, you have always given us the greatest gifts, your love and time.

It makes us incredibly proud to see you give that same time, love and generosity to the Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II Memorial Fund and the veterans and service members it supports.

That is exactly why you are tonight's honorees! Congratulations!

We love you!
Stephen & Antonia





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Toast to Dennis - A Night of Remembrance

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A YEAR OF GIVING

Your generous support has allowed us to accomplish the following donations in 2025

Donations for 2025

- Totaled \$298,111.19
- \$203,000.00 donated to sponsor Service Dogs

\$88,012.69 represents private donations to individual warriors and/or their families; supporting troops by way of rent payments; assistance with living expenses; and,

\$7,098.50 mailing expenses to ship 258 boxes of necessary items to our troops and our Military Working Dogs serving around the world in 10 different countries with a total weight of 3,680 lbs.



CARRY HIS NAME

★ ★ ★
LYRICS

We speak his name where the silence runs deep,
A promise he made is a promise we keep.
A son and a soldier who answered the call,
He gave all he had, he gave it all.

Banners still rise where his footsteps once fell,
A story of courage too timeless to tell.
The love that remains and the pride they still feel,
Are proof of a bond that time cannot steal.

He's the quiet that holds them when nights feel long,
The strength in their hearts that keeps them strong.
He walks beside them through sorrow and grace,
A presence unbroken, no time can erase.

Lieutenant Dennis, the strength we expected.
A shield for his nation, forever respected.
His courage a beacon that will not fade,
A hero whose spirit still leads the parade.

Through battles long ended and shadows now past,
His legacy shines, his light built to last.
In the home that still speaks of the man he became,
We rise as one people, and carry his name.

He's the whisper that steadies when roads feel unknown,
The heartbeat that tells them they're never alone.
Through each passing season, in each sacred place,
His love lives forever, no time can erase...

Thank you Dennis, we love you.

LIEUTENANT
DENNIS W. ZILINSKI II
★ ★ ★
MEMORIAL FUND

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A SONG IN HONOR OF DENNIS

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LISTEN ON
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A Night of Remembrance

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Established 1966

2,091 Individual Members | 35 Community Partners

We are a 100% volunteer 501©3 non-profit organization serving the Greater Monmouth County Region. We implement our mission, Voice for the Army-Support for the Soldier with the following efforts and program events:

SERVICE DOG INITIATIVE: Our Caring and Pairing Program has paired 11 Monmouth/Ocean County Veterans and Wounded Warriors with Fully Trained Service Dogs. We will have a Fundraising Pancake Breakfast for this program in October 2026.

FISHER HOUSE FOUNDATION: Together with our partners, we raised \$53,000 in 2025 for the Fisher House Foundation, which builds comfort homes to host family members of servicemembers and veterans who are at military hospitals recovering from injury. Our annual Gingerbread Ball Gala supporting the Fisher House Foundation will be held Saturday, December 5th, 2026, at the Sheraton Hotel in Eatontown.

ARMY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND JROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:
We celebrated the Army's 251 st Birthday this year on June 16th, 2026.

We awarded \$3,000 in JROTC scholarships to graduating seniors, and achievement medals to underclassmen.

NJ RUN FOR THE FALLEN: We will present personalized "Honor and Remember" flags to Gold Star families during the NJ Run for the Fallen in September.

VETERANS DAY LUNCHEON: On November 19th we will especially honor Iraq and Afghanistan veterans at our annual Veterans Day Luncheon.

PATRIOTISM AND SERVICE TO THE NATION: We discuss patriotism, military awareness, and the value of service to the nation in classroom settings at local high schools when requested.

And we do so much more! Please consider becoming a member or a community partner of our great AUSA Monmouth Chapter!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

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