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ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

# Veterans Memorial

For Immediate Release

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## **Orange County Veterans Day 2022**

### ***UNC-Chapel Hill Joins Orange County in Joint Ceremony in Chapel Hill***

Chapel Hill, NC - (October 31, 2022) -- The 2022 Orange County Veterans Day Celebration will take place Friday, November 11, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Southern Human Services Campus, 2501 Homestead Drive, Chapel Hill, NC.

For the first time, The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill will join Orange County leaders in a joint ceremony. All of the University's ROTC programs (Army, Navy, and Air Force) will be represented at the ceremony.

Live music will be provided by Russell Howard of The Auxiliary. The event is free and open to the public. Parking available at site.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz, will speak. Guskiewicz, a neuroscientist, academic leader and concussion researcher, is the 12<sup>th</sup> chancellor of the university.

Special guest speaker is, Major General George Alan Higgins, US Army (Ret.). General Higgins entered West Point in July 1968 and graduated in June 1972, commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry. General Higgins holds a Master of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Virginia and a Master of Military Art and Science from the United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. General Higgins has served in command and staff positions throughout the field Army in the United States and overseas. After 36+ years on active duty, General Higgins retired from the Army on May 1, 2008. His awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal and Legion of Merit Award among others. Higgins is married to the former Marilyn Ann Barrs and they have two sons, Jeff and Steve, both serving in the Army. George and Marilyn have two daughters-in-law and six grandchildren.

# **VETERANS DAY PROGRAM**

**Friday, Nov. 11, 2022**

## **Master of Ceremony**

James I. Merritt, US Army (Vietnam)

## **Posting of Colors**

UNC ROTC Joint-Service Color Guard

## **Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Lee Heavlin, Master Chief Petty Officer, US Navy (Ret.)

## **National Anthem**

Cadet Jacob Ratashak

## **Welcome**

Col. Fred Black, US Army (Ret.)

## **Recognitions of Branches of Service**

Regina Merritt, US Army

## **Introduction of Guest Speaker**

Kevin Guskiewicz, Chancellor, University of North Carolina

## **Veterans Day Address**

Major General George Higgins, US Army (Ret.)

## **Fundraising Update**

Bruce Runberg, Captain, US Navy (Ret.)

## **Recognition of Elected Officials, Dignitaries**

Barbara Foushee, Council Member, Carrboro Town Council

## **Closing Remarks**

Renee Price, Chair, Orange County Board of Commissioners

## **Traffic Control**

Orange County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Charles Blackwood

## **Retiring of the Colors**

## **Sounding of Taps**

The mission of the Orange County Veterans Memorial Committee is to provide a living memorial to those who have served our country in the uniformed services since the founding of our nation. <https://ocveteransmemorial.com/about/>

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