



North Carolina Department of Adult Correction Fallen Heroes Memorial

May 5, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

RANDALL BUILDING
831 West Morgan Street
Raleigh, N.C.

I Never Dreamed It Would Be Me

I never dreamed it would be me.
My name for all eternity,
recorded here at this hollowed place.
Alas, my name, no more my face.

"In the Line of Duty" I hear them say.
My family now the price will pay.
My folded flag stained with their tears.
We only had those few short years.

The badge no longer on my chest.
I sleep now in eternal rest.
My sword I pass to those behind.
And pray they keep this thought in mind.

I never dreamed it would be me.
And with a heavy heart and bended knee,
I ask for all here from the past...
Dear God, let my name be the last.

Author Unknown



We extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for joining us in honoring the lives and service of our fallen heroes. Your presence today is a testament to the strength of our North Carolina Department of Adult Correction family and the enduring impact of those we have lost. May we continue to carry their legacy forward with integrity, dedication, and unity.

Thank you for standing with us in remembrance.

Special thanks to the North Carolina Correctional Association for the memorial wreath and peace lilies.

Order of Service

Welcome

Dr. Anthony O. Vann
Chief Deputy Secretary
Administration

Presentation of Colors & Memorial Wreath

NCDAC Honor Guard

National Anthem

Marie Polo
Division of Community Supervision

Memorial Prayer

Rev. Dr. Sarah Jobe
Director of Chaplaincy Services

Opening Remarks

Leslie Cooley Dismukes
Secretary

Roll Call

Tammera Hill
Chief Operating Officer

Memorial Poem

Loris Sutton
Senior Deputy Secretary
Special Operations and Intelligence Unit

**Three Volley Salute
Retiring of Colors**

NCDAC Honor Guard
*will include the sound of gunfire from blank cartridges

Closing Remarks

Dr. Anthony O. Vann
Chief Deputy Secretary
Administration

* Special thanks to Kirk Vann Hyning of the Raleigh Pipe Band

***S.H.I.E.L.D. staff are available onsite today in the third floor conference room for support, and afterward via access line at 855-774-4353.**

North Carolina Department of Adult Correction

Fallen Heroes

Staff whose lives were taken or lost due to natural causes while on duty.

Community Supervision

William Vance Lee
EOW: 9/11/1989

David Shawn Cortner
EOW: 7/12/1999

Jeffrey Lynn Settle
EOW: 8/4/2011

Institutions

J.C. Freeman
EOW: 9/18/1915

Thomas Peter Sale
EOW: 1/28/1916

A.D. Spivey
EOW: 8/30/1928

Ernest Hux
EOW: 8/30/1934

Andrew Lewis Ayscue
EOW: 2/22/1935

James S. Chesser
EOW: 12/28/1939

H. Carl Keith
EOW: 5/25/1945

George S. Bowman
EOW: 3/4/1947

Kermit Dale Jackson
EOW: 7/21/1960

Earl Strickland
EOW: 6/2/1969

Jenette W. Fish
EOW: 5/19/1975

Randall C. Cupp
EOW: 6/5/1986

Alan Kirk
EOW: 7/15/1991

Leslie John Besci
EOW: 6/30/1992

William Davis
EOW: 11/16/1998

David Anthony
EOW: 10/27/1998

Shannon Smith
EOW: 11/9/1999

Jimmy Fisher
EOW: 1/2/2007

Edward Pounds
EOW: 1/9/2010

William Lee Wright
EOW: 4/12/2012

Keith Decarlo Smith
EOW: 12/1/2012

Meggan Callahan
EOW: 4/26/2017

Justin James Smith
EOW: 10/12/2017

Wendy Shannon
EOW: 10/30/2017

Geoffrey Alan Howe
EOW: 11/12/2017

Travis Oates
EOW: 2/2/2021

Helen Mae Smith
EOW: 2/3/2022

Crystal Melton
EOW: 7/25/2023

Correction Enterprises

Veronica Darden
EOW: 10/12/2017

Engineering, Construction and Maintenance

Jeffery McKay
EOW: 8/14/2023

Special Operations and Intelligence Unit

Samuel Poloche
EOW: 4/29/2024

William Alden Elliott
EOW: 4/29/2024