



UNION COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

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News Release

Lt. Col. Colin L. Hood to Speak at Veterans Day Program

November 4, 2013, Monroe, NC – The Union County Veterans Service Office will honor veterans at their annual Veterans Day program on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 11 a.m. at the Charlotte-Monroe Executive Airport during the annual Warbirds over Monroe Air Show.

The program's key note speaker will be retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Colin L. Hood. Lt. Col. Hood was born in Missoula, Montana and graduated in 1984 from the University of Utah with a bachelor's degree in cultural geography and a minor in military science. While studying he served as an Operational Detachment-Alpha Executive Officer in the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) of the Utah Army National Guard. Commissioned in 1984 into the Adjutant General's Corps, he later earned his master's degree in business from Webster University in Missouri.

Lt. Col. Hood's assignments included the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Devens, Massachusetts as an S1 and Company Executive Officer, the 7th Special Operations Support Command at Bad Toelz, Germany serving as the Director of Personnel and Administration and Company Commander with the Special Operations Support Command in Boblingen, Germany. He also served as an Instructor and Team Leader at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana and as Executive Officer, 369th Adjutant General Battalion at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Upon graduation from the Command and General Staff College, Lt. Col. Hood was assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina and served as a Brigade S-1 and Deputy Commander, 18th Personnel Group (Airborne). Following Fort Bragg, Lt. Col. Hood was the Director of Theater Army Replacement Operations at Camp Coiner, Korea.

Lt. Col. Hood was selected as the G1, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, deploying as the C1, Task Force Mountain in Bagram, Afghanistan, Operation Enduring Freedom. Following selection for command, he moved to Fort Hood, Texas and assumed command of the 15th Personnel Services Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, deploying as part of Task Force Baghdad, Operation Iraqi Freedom in Baghdad, Iraq. Lt. Col. Hood concluded his career at the Pentagon as the Executive Officer and then as the Principal Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army – Human Resources.

Among his awards and decorations are the Bronze Star Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with one oak leaf, South West Asia Service Medal with two stars, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 2, Saudi-Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, Kuwait-Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, Master Parachutist Badge and the Special Forces Tab.

Lt. Col. Hood now resides in Waxhaw with wife, Lauren and their two sons. He currently works for Bank of America. Lt. Col. Hood also serves as an active officer and member of Chapter 95, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in Monroe.

During the Veterans program, Union County will present the Annual Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Patriot Awards to a selected cadet from each of the JROTC high schools. Please come out and help us congratulate these outstanding cadets!

On Nov. 9 at 9 a.m., a JROTC drill competition will be held for high school drill teams to compete in various drill events. The drill competition is hosted by the Warrior & Warbirds who provide a monetary award, and judged by the Veterans Council of Union County and community volunteers.

Questions regarding the program may be directed to the Union County Veterans Service Office at 704-283-3807. More on-line information regarding the weekend Airshow events may be found at www.warbirdsovermonroe.com.

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