NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES
OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
5673 Columbia Pike, Suite 100, Falls Church, VA 22041
PH ---703/465-7432 Chartered May 28, 1970 FAX ---703/465-7433

August 31, 2018

The Honorable Mike Bishop
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bishop,

On behalf of the National League of POW/MIA Families, I am writing to convey our full support for your initiative to amend Title 10 of the United States Code to provide Full Military Honors for enlisted returned Prisoners of War (POW) and Medal of Honor recipients.

Since formed on May 28, 1970, the League's sole purpose beyond working to improve treatment of those captured has been to obtain the release of all POWs, the fullest possible accounting for the MIAs, and repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving our country during the Vietnam War.

We were truly surprised to learn that enlisted returned POWs are not extended the courtesy of a Full Military Honors ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. It is unthinkable to fail to extend such honors to all those who served with bravery and dignity while in captivity. They certainly faced no less hardship than their fellow POW officers.

Please keep us informed as to anything we can do to provide further assistance to ensure that your intended legislation obtains the requisite support to move this forward.

Respectfully and best wishes,

Ann Mills-Griffiths

Ann Mills-Griffiths
Chairman of the Board & CEO

Special Operations Association
Special Forces Association
Joint POW/MIA Committee
13078 Sunset Lane, Anacortes, WA 98221

September 5, 2018

The Honorable Mike Bishop
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bishop,

On behalf of President Rick Estes of the Special Operations Association, President Gary Koenitzer of the Special Forces Association and our 13,000+ members, I am writing to express the full support of both our associations for your initiative to amend Title 10 of the United States Code to authorize Full Military Honors for military funerals honoring enlisted Medal of Honor recipients and returned Prisoners of War.

While it is understandable that senior noncommissioned officers (E-9) and officers are afforded Full Military Honors based on the level of their contributions and responsibilities, we feel strongly that the full measure of devotion exhibited by enlisted personnel who earned the Medal of Honor or served honorably as Prisoners of War likewise is deserving of more than Standard Honors. Rank should not be the sole determinant of who has earned our nation's highest expression of gratitude.

Please let me know if we can do anything further to ensure that your proposed legislation obtains the required level of support to move this initiative forward.

Very respectfully,

MICHAEL E. TAYLOR
Chairman, Joint SOA/SFA POW/MIA Committee
Vice President, SOA
Vice President. Chapter 43, SFA

American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation – Statement of Support

"As President of the American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation,

I am honored to extend our support for this legislation. Those who defend our country above and beyond the call of duty certainly deserve this final respect and gratitude from a grateful nation at Arlington National Cemetery."

Very Respectfully,

Jack R. Barnes

Jack R. Barnes, US Navy Retired
President of the American Fallen Warrior Memorial Foundation