Reid to be honored at Military Women's Memorial

the Honor Flight recipients

are soldiers who served during

wars, like World War II or

Reid said she applied for

the Honor Flight last year with

hopes of being selected since

the flight was to take place

on her birthday in Octo-

cool to be on the Honor Flight

for my birthday," Reid

said. She wasn't chosen for

that flight and had forgotten

about applying. She said one

of the members of the

Women's Veterans of Central

Kentucky (which she is a

member of) was also on the

board of directors of the Honor

Flight and told her to check

her email. She also said a

counselor she works with in

the Guitar for Vets program

asked her if she filled out the

application and told her she

was on the May Honor Flight.

looked the email informing

me of the honor," Reid said.

She doesn't know if the dates

were worked out for her to be recognized while also taking

the flight, or whether it was

just a coincidence. Either way,

she's touched and honored.

worthy enough or what I did

was good enough," Reid said,

holding back her tears. "I did

a good job. I belong to the

forgotten group, the Cold War

Vets. Now I know I didn't get

"I didn't know that I was

"I had completely over-

"I thought wouldn't it be

the Vietnam War.

ber.

BY DENIS HOUSE DHOUSE@LEBANONENTERPRISE.COM

When Robin Reid was a young woman, she knew that there had to be more to life outside of Marion County and she was determined to experience it.

"I was just bored with the area," said Reid, a 1981 graduate of Marion County High School. "I knew I didn't want to be a nurse or a clerk. I wanted something different."

She was studying electronics when an Army recruiter came through the area and talked to students about joining the military. The idea intrigued her even though there was a limited history of military service in her family. The recruiter told her of the opportunities the military could provide, including jobs in the electronics field. But first, she finished her education and got a degree.

"Anything to get out and see more of the world." Reid said. "Let's do it." So she signed up in September 1983, graduated in October, enlisted in November, and was on active duty for two years assigned to field radio repair, which was exactly what the title suggested: Being in the field, repairing radios.

"Being from Kentucky, sleeping in a field or the back of a pickup didn't bother me," Reid said. "But for some of my fellow soldiers from larger metropolitan areas, they were appalled by it." She quickly learned that being from the country had some advantages while in the Army, including digging a trench around her tent to help divert rain and the use of firearms.

She recalled one instance during boot camp that involved another female recruit they called "grandma" even though she was only in her early 30s.

"She joined the military to provide for her family, but she was having issues with her weapon," Reid said. "While everyone else was shooting, she still hadn't even squeezed off a round. I said, 'Grandma, what's the problem?' She was afraid her weapon was going to blow up."

After some time, Reid finally the weapon correctly, even though her drill sergeant

wasn't happy with her.



the shots she wouldn't get Arlington Heights. Typically, out of boot camp," Reid said. "Afterwards she hugged me and the drill sergeant asked me how did I know what to do. I told him I was raised around guns and was taught how to respect them." She added she asked the drill sergeant if she was still in trouble.

"He said he had done forgot what it was he was mad about," Reid said. "He also told me 'You know, you've kept her (the fellow recruit) in the service.' I just knew if you had a problem, you fix it."

Reid was stationed in Germany when the accident that resulted in a medical discharge happened. It was several degrees below zero, and someone rolled a tear gas container into the area she was in. She knew the damage it would do with temperatures that low, so she grabbed it to throw it away. It went off, and she got a good dose of tear gas for her effort. So in 1984, she was discharged with the rank of E-4.

"The Army was not happy I was leaving, but they arranged a job for me at Rockwell Missile Systems Division in Georgia, where I was employed for nearly seven years," Reid said.

Now, 40 years later, Reid got her fellow recruit to fire is going to be a passenger on the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. on May 10 and recognized at the Military Left: Robin Reid takes a moment at a local church as she prepares to travel to Washington, D.C., on the May 10 Honor Flight. Reid will be honored at the Military **Women's Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery** while she is in Washington.

Right: Robin Reid when she entered the U.S. military

LEFT PHOTO BY JANE REID KLEYN | The Lebanon Enterprise



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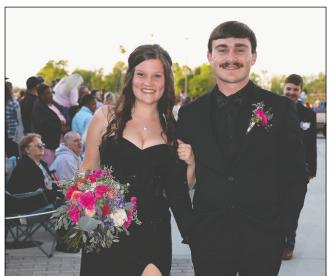
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CORRECTION

In last week's issue, some of the MCHS students attending the 2025 Prom were misidentified in the photos. We are reprinting those photos with the correct names. Our apologies to all.



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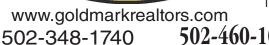
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