

VETERANS OF INFLUENCE



After serving their country with distinction, these 19 individuals are leading the way in business

PAGES 15-35

BRANDON BALLARD

EDUCATION

Temple sets new fundraising record

The university raised more than \$100 million for the third consecutive year and is now eyeing an even loftier goal.

RYAN MULLIGAN, 12



HOSPITALITY

Four Seasons GM loves city's heart

Cornelia Samara sees local businesses working together to rebound from the pandemic's heavy toll on the industry.

EMMA DOOLING, 3



Veteran-owned businesses 21

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VETERANS
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INFLUENCE
AWARDS

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HEROES AMONG US

Every U.S. servicemember has a different reason for joining the Armed Forces. For some, it is a sense of duty, for others, it's about finding their own path. The reasons vary among this year's Veterans of Influence honorees, but each share in their commitment to the nation and the bravery they put forth by serving.

The Business Journal is proud to present this year's Veterans of Influence, which recognizes the heroes among us who after leaving active duty went on to impressive careers that have positively impacted Greater Philadelphia's business community.

This year's honorees were determined by the Business Journal's editors, who reviewed nominations made by both the public and the editorial staff before making their selections.



LISA DUKART,
Associate Editor

PHOTOS BY
BRANDON
BALLARD

In total, the Business Journal is recognizing 19 individuals, including three Rising Stars under the age of 40, and our Lifetime Service Award recipient.

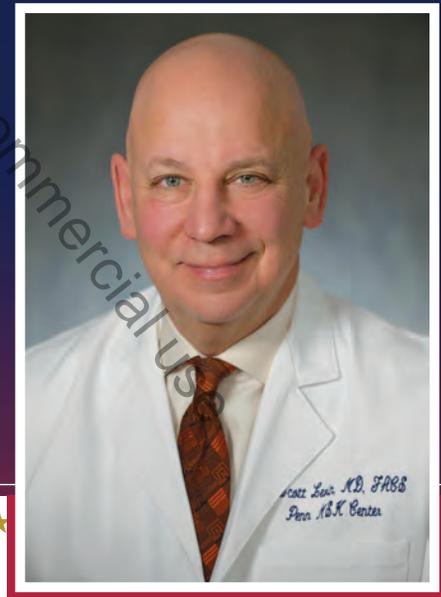
This year's honorees served in a number of the U.S. Armed Forces branches, including the Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps, which took them to various corners of the world. Collectively, our 19 honorees have served 266 years and counting. In their civilian lives, they have become leaders in the life sciences, nonprofit, cybersecurity and legal sectors, among other industries.

We are proud to honor them for the immeasurable service and sacrifice they have each made.

To our Veterans of Influence honorees and all veterans, we thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO L. SCOTT LEVIN, MD, FACS, FAOA

Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery
Veteran of the U.S. Army Reserve
& Pioneer in Orthoplastic Surgery



2022 Philadelphia Business Journal "Veteran of Influence"



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FROM THE FRONT LINES

During our photo shoots with this year's Veterans of Influence honorees, we asked them to bring an item from their time in service. Those items ranged broadly but each carried weight. For some it was service medals and for others photographs, while for some it was a piece of a uniform, whether for dress or for active duty. Below are a selection of those items.



▲ A selection of his medals, a Naval aviator pin (top right), a surface warfare officer pin (bottom right), and a command at sea pin.

BRIAN BURLINGAME



► A selection of patches from his Air Force service, including from the 8th Fighter Wing, his ribbons, and a flag from the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing.

RALPH GALATI



► A Navy SEAL helmet emblazoned with his name.

JOE CRANDALL



◀ A photo of his unit in Desert Storm (left) and his Air Medal (above).

FRANK CHERNAK



◀ A Bronze Star medal awarded for his Army service.

CHRISTOPHER MOLARO



◀ His Marine Corp cover (left) and medals for service (below).

SEAN TOOLAN



▲ A selection of medals (right) and shoulder boards from his Navy service (above).

DR. MICHAEL MITTELMAN



▲ A National Defense medal awarded for his service.

RODNEY WYATT



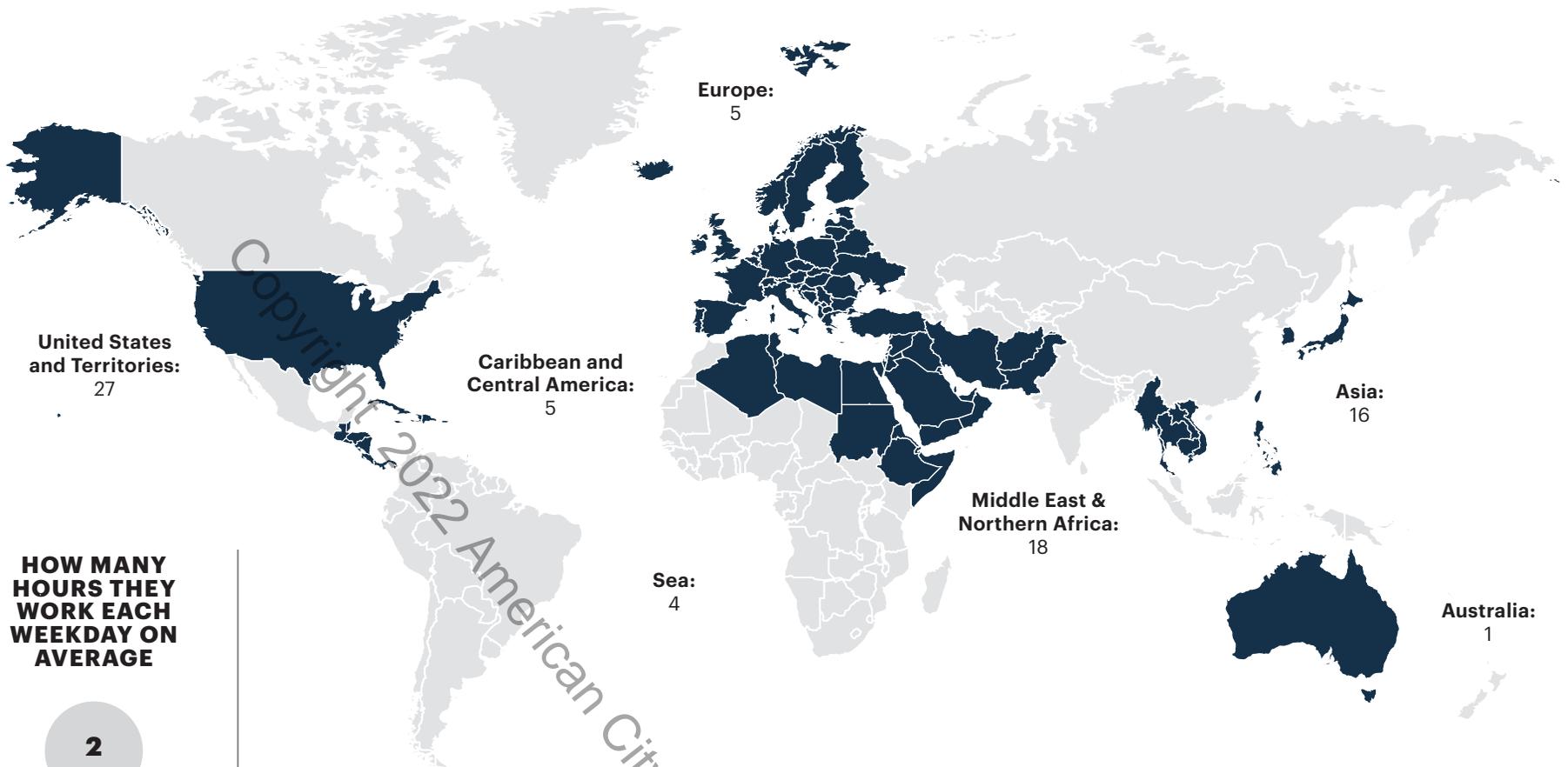


JOHN LUNGER

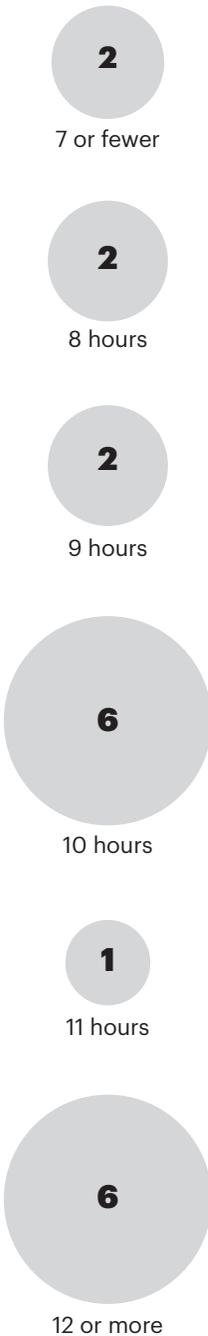
Congratulations to our Chief Patient Supply Officer, John Lunger, U.S. Naval Academy graduate and nuclear submarine trained naval officer, for being selected as one of 2022 Philadelphia Business Journal Veterans of Influence! Thank you for your service and for all you do to help Adaptimmune further its mission of designing and delivering cell therapies to transform the lives of people with cancer.



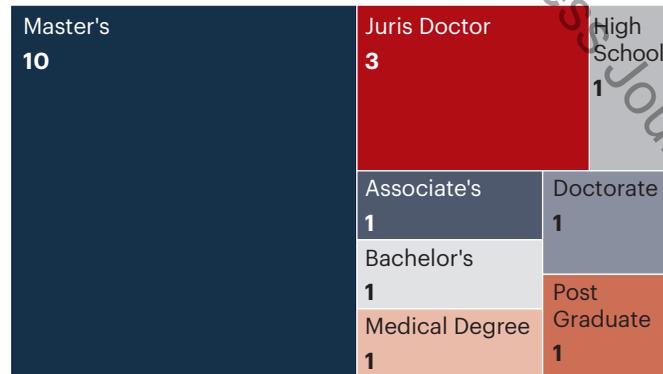
WHERE THEY WERE DEPLOYED



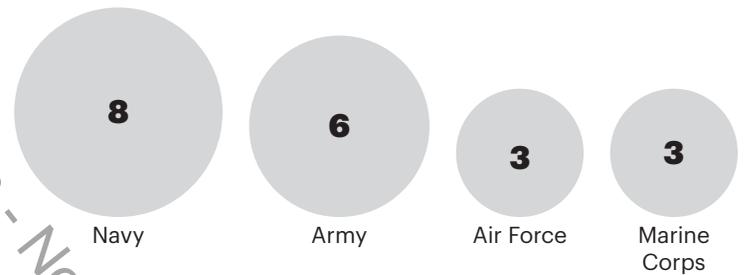
HOW MANY HOURS THEY WORK EACH WEEKDAY ON AVERAGE



HIGHEST DEGREE THEY HOLD

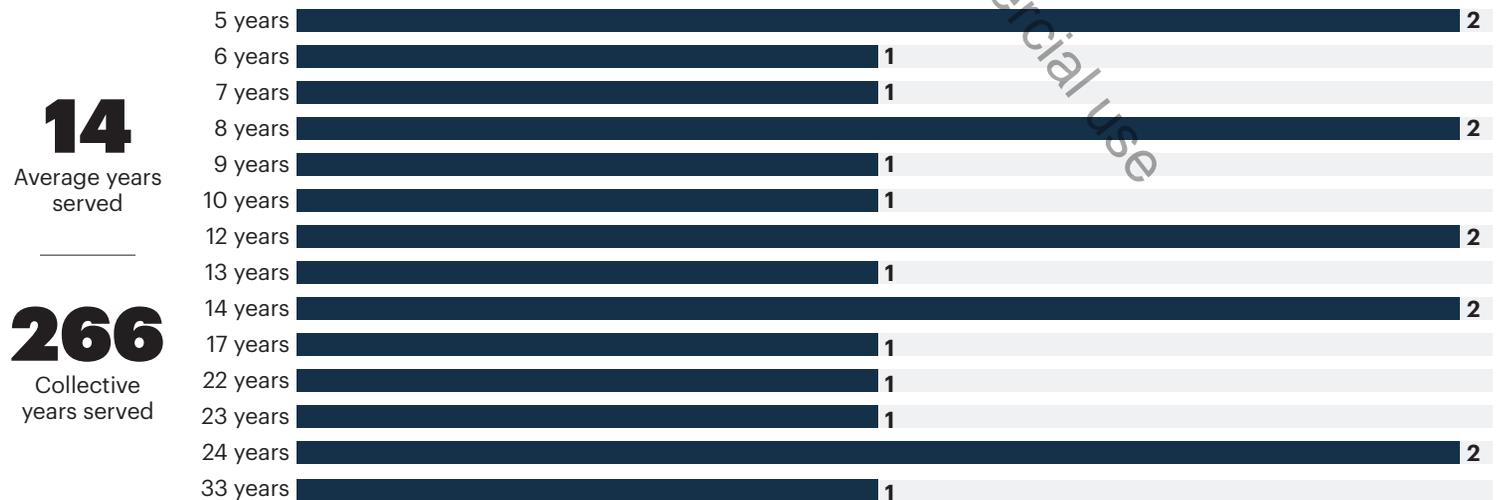


WHAT ARMED FORCES BRANCH THEY SERVED IN



Note: Some honorees served in multiple branches.

NUMBERS OF YEARS SERVED (IN BOTH ACTIVE DUTY AND RESERVES)



14
Average years served

266
Collective years served

VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES

RANKED BY NUMBER OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES

Name / Prior (*new or not ranked) / URL	Address / Phone	Total local employees	Veteran owner(s)	U.S. Military branch owner(s) served:	Top local executive
1 MARSCare ^① marscare.com	743 N. 24th St. Philadelphia, PA 19130 215-763-3992	555	Gerald Szucs	Army	Gerald Szucs jszucs@marscare.com Paul MacDonald pmacdonald@marscare.com
2 My Independence at Home ^③ myiah.org	1 Winding Dr. Monroe Bldg. #101 Philadelphia, PA 19131 215-921-2277	247	Lisa Robinson	Army	Lisa Robinson lrobinson@myiah.org
3 William A. Fraser Inc. dba Fraser Advanced Information Systems ^④ fraser-ais.com	251 St. Asaphs Rd. #105W Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 610-784-2800	150	William Fraser	Navy	Melissa Confalone William Fraser
4 Artisan Display Inc. [⊛] artisandisplayinc.com	1239 E. 6th St. Red Hill, PA 18076 215-679-8577	125	Ted Wassmer John Wassmer	Army, Marines, Navy	Ted Wassmer tedwassmer@artisandisplayinc.com
5 Greencastle Associates Consulting LLC ^⑦ greencastleconsulting.com	400 Chesterfield Pkwy. Malvern, PA 19355 610-640-9958	85	Eric Diamond Joe Crandall	Navy, Army	Joe Crandall crandallj@greencastleconsulting.com
6 Pennsylvania Steel Co. Inc. ^⑤ pasteel.com	1620 Woodhaven Dr. Bensalem, PA 19020 215-633-9600	75	Joseph Dombrowski	Army	Michael Loveland Barry Walsh
7 The Flynn Co. ^⑥ flynnco.com	1621 Wood St. Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-561-6565	52	Kevin Flynn	Marines	Kevin Flynn brokerage@flynnco.com
8 NorthStar Solutions Group LLC ^⑧ northstarsg.com	325 Sentry Pkwy. Bldg. 5W #200 Blue Bell, PA 19422 610-568-4996	40	Chris Collins	Army	Chris Collins ccollins@northstarsg.com
9 Bancroft Capital LLC [⊛] bancroft4vets.com	501 Office Center Dr. #130 Fort Washington, PA 19034 484-546-8000	25	Cauldon Quinn	Navy	Cauldon Quinn
10 Skip The Warehouse [⊛] skipthewarehouse.com	1210 Stanbridge St. #100 & 700 Norristown, PA 19041 215-316-5893	10	Valen Cianci	Marines	Valen Cianci info@skipthewarehouse.com
11 7th Level Mortgage LLC ^⑩ mortgagenewschannel.com	331 White Horse Pike #B FL. 2 Atco, NJ 08004 856-322-0233	9	Tracy Morrocco Anthony Piccone	Army	Tracy Morrocco tmorrocco@7thlvl.com Anthony Piccone apiccone@7thlvl.com
11 Thomas Miller & Co. Inc. ^⑫ thomasmlrcoffee.com	3101 E. Walnut St. Colmar, PA 18915 215-822-3118	9	Thomas Miller	Navy	Thomas Miller
13 JD Bravo Co. Inc. ^⑬ jdravocompany.com	136 Pennsylvania Ave. Malvern, PA 19355 484-320-7600	7	James Davie	Marines	James Davie jdavie@jdravocompany.com
14 Pet Stop Pet Fence Systems [⊛] papetfences.com	1611 Old Ridge Rd. Pottstown, PA 19465 610-469-2733	5	Karl Schay	Marines	Karl Schay kdschay@aol.com
14 Telmek LLC [⊛] telmekss.com	P.O. Box 768 Browns Mills, NJ 08015 888-583-5558	5	Mike Williams	Air Force	Mike Williams
16 R.B.Hall Associates LLC ^⑭ rbhall.com	P.O. Box 126 Cheltenham, PA 19012 267-536-9301	4	Rodney Hall	Navy	Rodney Hall
17 Thomas R. Arena Inc. dba Arena Sweeping [⊛] arenasweeping.net	71 W. Indian Ln. Norristown, PA 19403 610-636-7625	3	Thomas Arena	Air Force	Thomas Arena trainc56@gmail.com
18 Amlin Analytics [⊛] Amlin Analytics	530 Broad St. Spring City, PA 19475 4849480562	1	Doug Amlin	Marines	Doug Amlin doug@amlinanalytics.com
18 Brian Kitson and Associates [⊛] kitsonconsulting.com	57 Line Rd. Malvern, PA 19355 484-319-2537	1	Brian Kitson	Army	Brian Kitson Brian.Kitson@kitsonconsulting.com
18 Jim's Jarhead Jerky [⊛] jimsjarheadjerky.com	P.O. Box 1561 Medford, NJ 08055 609-634-4332	1	James Ewen	Marines	James Ewen jimsjarheadjerky@yahoo.com
18 The SpoutOff Rain Gutter Co. [⊛] thespoutoff.com	280 Kerrwood Dr. Wayne, PA 19087 610-420-0378	1	Kevin Leahy	Army	Kevin Leahy kleahy006@gmail.com

NOTES: NA - not available; NEW - New to the list; WND - Would not disclose

► CLOSER LOOK

1,410

Total local employees among the listed companies.

1,729

Total companywide employees among the listed companies.

\$356M

Total revenue among 14 reported companies.

ABOUT THE LIST

Information was obtained from firm representatives. Information on The List was supplied by individual companies through questionnaires and could not be independently verified by the Philadelphia Business Journal. Only those that responded to our inquiries were listed. In case of ties, companies are listed alphabetically.

NEED A COPY OF THE LIST?

Information for obtaining reprints, web permissions and commemorative plaques can be obtained from Sierra Quinn at squinn@bizjournals.com.

WANT TO BE ON THE LIST?

If you wish to be surveyed when The List is next updated, or if you wish to be considered for other Lists, visit philadelphia.lists.bizjournals.com/nominate.

RALPH GALATI

IBM and Philadelphia Foundation

Between 1961 and 1973, hundreds of Americans were held captive by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong amid the Vietnam War and subjected to inhumane conditions for months – and in some cases years. Among them was Philadelphia native and Air Force officer Ralph Galati. Galati first became involved with the Armed Forces when he joined Air Force ROTC during his junior year at Saint Joseph’s University. There, he studied English and was a distinguished military graduate.

Following his time at St. Joe’s, Galati underwent Air Force flight training and received his wings in 1971, after which he was deployed to Asia. A weapon systems officer and forward air controller in an F-4 Phantom aircraft based out of Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base in the early 1970s, he and his pilot were shot down on Feb. 16, 1972 over North Vietnam and held prisoner for 14 months in Hanoi. After more than a year as a prisoner of war, Galati was repatriated on March 28, 1973 as part of Operation Homecoming. Taking place between February and April of 1973, Operation Homecoming saw some 566 military personnel prisoners released.

Despite the harrowing circumstances he survived, Galati remained with the Air Force, serving as a flight instructor and later in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force Office in Washington, D.C. For his service, Galati received numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star with Valor and one oak leaf cluster, a Silver Star, an Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, an Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and a Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster.

After eight years with the Air Force, Galati went on to lead an impressive civilian career, spending 28 years at IBM, where he was a certified client executive. During that time, Galati worked with global companies in large industrial sectors such as DuPont and Boeing. For much of that time, he was also an adjunct professor and academic advisor at a number of area schools, including St. Joe’s.

No matter where life has taken him, Galati has maintained his connections to the Armed Forces and has dedicated much of his personal time to helping veterans, particularly following his retirement from IBM. That included working with the Delaware County Department of Veterans Affairs and today serving on the boards of the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association and the Red Cross.

In 2014, Galati founded and led the Office of Veterans Services at St. Joe’s. Today it has three distinct goals: to develop and implement entrepreneurship programs for veterans; to build a network of veteran-friendly businesses, mentors and civic organizations to aid with



LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

job placement initiatives; and to support the school’s student veteran community.

Galati continues to find ways to aid veterans and this past year led a pilot program with VetJobs through the Philadelphia Foundation’s inaugural Weinberg Fellowship. Through the fellowship, completed in September but for which he is still doing work, he helped establish a VetJobs presence in Greater Philadelphia, including creating a number of corporate and organization contacts to support veterans, particularly with career opportunities.

“Helping one [veteran] at a time and then seeing them get on the right path is a major accomplishment,” Galati said.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: For the past 10

years I have spent my retirement in support of veterans programs, including jobs, benefits, services and programs.

Proudest military accomplishment: Surviving as a prisoner of war and returning with honor.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Spending 28 years of personal growth and development at IBM.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Time and risk management.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: What it takes to make critical and timely decisions.



**CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING NAMED
“VETERAN OF INFLUENCE”**

Mandy Poper

E4 Specialist, 91 B
United States Army



AmericanHeritageCU.org



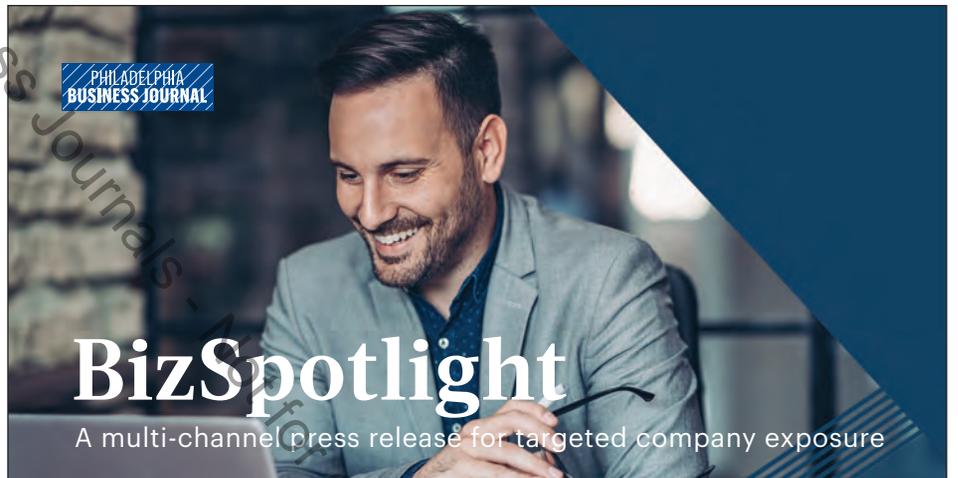
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AS A

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For Kevin Antoine, joining the Armed Forces was in his DNA. “My ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War I. My father served 23 years in the American military through World War II, Korea and Vietnam,” he said, noting his three brothers also served. Naturally, Antoine decided to serve the nation as well by way of the Air Force. He spent four years in active duty and another eight in the Air Force Reserves. Trained as an air battle manager, he was stationed in Upstate New York at air bases under what is now known as the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or more commonly NORAD, a binational command that seeks to protect air space above both Canada and the continental U.S.

Antoine went on to complete numerous higher educational programs, including a law degree from the College of William and Mary and a fellowship at the Harvard School of Public Health. A member of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, his research focuses on how the U.S. can apply international treaties to domestic laws. The associate vice president for government relations at Bucks County Community College, he also serves as the school’s chief diversity officer.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: For two decades in higher education my office has sponsored a veterans program that features both active duty military and veterans as speakers to educate students on civics, national service, and the defense of democracy.

Proudest military accomplishment: In the winter of 1983 the NORAD General was visiting the air base when two Soviet

Bombers were detected on radar flying up our East Coast two miles outside of our territorial waters. The base went on high alert and scrambled two fighter aircraft to intercept the Soviet Bombers. As a 24-year-old First Lieutenant I was the air battle manager on duty that night that guided our fighters to intercept the Soviet Bombers and escorted them 20 miles into international waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

Proudest civilian

accomplishment so far: Being a parent of four daughters and one son.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: The leadership skills I learned in the military have been invaluable in my role as a decision maker.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: You learn respect, honor and valor by experiencing victory and failure.



KEVIN ANTOINE

associate vice president for government relations and chief diversity officer, Bucks County Community College

Branch of service and highest rank: Air Force, captain

Total years of service: 12



BRIAN BURLINGAME

president, BlueStar Ventures

Branch of service and highest rank: Navy, captain (senior enlisted leader)

Total years of service: 22

Brian Burlingame’s path to service was a little different than most others – he was recruited to play basketball at the U.S. Naval Academy and would ultimately serve his county for 22 years. During that time, Burlingame was a Navy pilot including in combat in Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War and later in Kosovo, completing eight six-month deployments.

His corporate career spanned roles at pharmaceutical giants Merck & Co. and Pfizer, as well as aerospace company Lockheed Martin. Five years ago, Burlingame founded BlueStar Ventures. The West Chester service-disabled veteran-owned small business specializes in consulting services including brand creation and management, computer programming, energy efficiency assessments, clean plastic recycling and communications, among others. Burlingame said through the company he was seeking to “serve in an industry that sought to improve/impact the world.”

He’s equally focused on supporting veterans and is involved with the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania and the Travis Manion Foundation, a Doylestown nonprofit seeking to empower veterans and the families of those who died in combat.

Proudest military accomplishment: Leading an aviation organization of 400 personnel, nine aircraft and a multimillion-dollar budget. I led the organization on a six-month deployment to five different locations to include a two-plane detachment to support operations in Kosovo. I returned all personnel and equipment home safely.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Starting a grassroots veterans organization at Merck & Co., which grew into a federally recognized, award-winning program.

Ways I’m working to support and empower active military personnel and/or veterans: I’m active in various veteran organizations with a focus on helping veterans

transition and find meaningful post-service employment.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Servant leadership.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Take care of the troops and all other things take care of themselves.



Congratulations TO OUR OWN **RICK RUSSO**

MANAGER, GLOBAL SECURITY OPERATIONS



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Frank A. Chernak
on being named
"Veteran of Influence"
by the Philadelphia Business
Journal



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Frank Chernak decided to follow his father’s advice and join the Air Force through its Officer Training School, which he attended in San Antonio, Texas. Following his time there, Chernak went on to Navigator Training School, where he was a student, and then on to be a navigator, instructor navigator, standardization/evaluator navigator and a wing scheduler. Moving to Pennsylvania, he spent 16 years in Willow Grove where he was an operations flight commander and a standardization/evaluator navigator. During his years of service, Chernak flew 47 combat support missions, including during Operation Desert Storm in the Gulf War, ultimately receiving an Air Medal for his service. The medal is “awarded to U.S. and civilian personnel for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievements while participating in aerial flight and foreign military personnel in actual combat in support of operations,” according to the Air Force.

While serving, Chernak also pursued his legal studies, earning a juris doctor from Temple Law School. For over a decade, he worked at Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads, followed by 15 years at fellow Philadelphia law firm Ballard Spahr. He returned to Montgomery McCracken five years ago. There, his practice focuses on personal injury defense. He also represents employers and municipalities in matters such as race and age discrimination, sexual harassment, hostile work environment and more.

Proudest military accomplishment: Flying 47 combat support missions over the Arabian Peninsula during Desert Storm and leading a six-ship formation during an IFR flight for an Operational Readiness Inspection.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Induction in the American College of Trial Lawyers in

March 2020.

Ways I’m working to support and empower active military personnel and/or veterans: Working with pro bono organizations and also supporting military support organizations.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business

world: Staying even keeled during times of serious stress (flying through thunderstorms, flying during a war when a radio call identified a hostile aircraft following us).

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: I’m proud to have served my country for almost 25 years.



FRANK CHERNAK

partner, Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads

Branch of service and highest rank: Air Force, lieutenant colonel

Total years of service: 24



JOE CRANDALL

CEO, Greencastle Associates Consulting

Branch of service and highest rank: Navy, lieutenant

Total years of service: 14

After high school, Joe Crandall was seeking some direction and decided to pursue the Navy, enlisting as an electronics technician and then entering the Naval Academy Prep School before attending and graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy. After, he went on to become a Navy SEAL. During his 14 years of service, Crandall served two six-month deployments in Guam and Japan and ultimately was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal.

Again looking for direction after his years of service, Crandall entered into a sales job for pharmaceutical company Pfizer before undertaking a number of roles at other companies, including General Electric and GetWellNetwork. In 2012, he began at Greencastle Associates Consulting, was named a partner in 2015 and in 2019 bought the company for which he now serves as CEO. Based in Malvern, Greencastle is a veteran-owned and -operated enterprise that provides data-driven results in areas such as project management, business intelligence and data analytics, business case development and readiness assessments.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: I own a 100-person consulting firm that is 100% veterans. Every employee is a veteran and our average salary is over \$100,000 per year. I donate our office to help train service dogs for veterans in need. Greencastle has donated over \$150,000 to veteran service organizations in 2022 alone. We help support Team Foster, Patriot Fund, Bunker Labs, Our Community Salutes and many others

with our time and money.

Proudest military accomplishment: Becoming a Navy SEAL took years of preparation and training.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Owning Greencastle, keeping it 100% veteran operated and hiring more and more veterans each month.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been

invaluable in the business world: I learned not to confuse effort with performance. Activity without outcomes is just busy work and gets nothing done. Results matter and getting stuff done matters.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Learning how to lead in stressful situations. Being a junior leader in the SEALs taught me so much about servant leadership and getting stuff done. Lessons that have proved to be key to my success.

Morgan Lewis

We are proud of our partner

DAVID DZIENGOWSKI

being named a

2022 VETERAN OF INFLUENCE

Congratulations to all this year's honorees!



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David Dziengowski was inspired to join the Navy in part by his family’s service, but also because “I feel so incredibly fortunate to live in the United States and felt obliged to serve in exchange for the great benefits it has afforded me,” he said. It also afforded him real world legal experience which he leans on every day as a partner at Philadelphia-based law firm Morgan Lewis & Bockius. In his 14 years with the Navy – he is still in the reserves – Dziengowski served in the Naval Legal Service Office North Central at the Washington Navy Yard and was later deployed to Afghanistan, where he was a Rule of Law Field Support Officer. Returning to the U.S., he went on to serve as appellate defense counsel for the Navy-Marine Corps Appellate Defense Division during which time he was awarded the Navy JAG’s Military Justice Officer of the Year Award.

Today Dziengowski splits his time between private practice at Morgan Lewis – where he’s part of the firm’s labor and employment practice – and the Navy Reserve Law Program. In February, he will join the NR Preliminary Hearing Unit as a preliminary hearing officer.

Dziengowski supports other veterans through his pro bono practice at Morgan Lewis and through Community Council of Hope for the Warriors.

Proudest military accomplishment: My deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2011-12. All these years later, I still marshal that experience and the perspectives gained from it when I am confronted with challenges in private practice and in life, generally. I am proud to have served with some of the bravest teenagers and twenty-somethings that our country has to offer.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Promotion to partner at

Morgan Lewis & Bockius. The firm’s tight-knit, collaborative nature offers the closest parallel to the Navy wardroom that I have found.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Learning how to present the BLUF, or bottom-line up front, has been invaluable in the business world. Executives are busy, and time is a precious commodity. Flag Officers in the Navy are in a similar camp. Presenting the

answer up front – whether it is good news or bad news – has served me well and demonstrates to the client that I am mindful of their time. Clients may ask for the “why” or the “how” after the BLUF, and I am always prepared for that. But it is best to start with the BLUF and work backwards, taking cues from the client if more exposition is desired.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Proper hydration solves 80% of life’s problems.



DANA ROMANO PHOTOGRAPHY

During his more than 20 years serving in the Marine Corps, Jon Katz was deployed to numerous locations across the globe and was involved in the Gulf War, including in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and Operation Enduring Freedom, enacted as a result of the Global War on Terror, among others. Following his time in the Armed Forces, for which he received six Meritorious Service Medals, Katz went into the private sector before venturing into nonprofits. At his current role at Bestwork Industries for the Blind, he’s building on more than five years of prior experience with the visually impaired, having served as vice president of National Industries for the Blind.

Cherry Hill-based Bestwork is the largest employer of blind or visually impaired individuals in New Jersey and provides training and employment opportunities for such individuals. Fittingly, it manufactures military-style and safety apparel and offers contract sewing.

Proudest military accomplishment: Having the honor and privilege for over 20 years to serve with, and lead, the finest men and women our nation has to offer.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Leading the men and women of Bestwork Industries for the Blind.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: Our work at Bestwork Industries directly

supports the warfighter by providing clothing that soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines wear every day – like our fleece jacket, fire-retardant T-shirt, moisture-wicking T-shirt, cold-weather undershirt, and flight deck jersey, to name a few. As a member of the Marine Executive Association, we focus on assisting Marines transitioning to the civilian sector. As a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we support veterans in the community directly, as well as on the national level with legislative advocacy. And as a member of the

Military Officers Association of America, we provide legislative advocacy focused on veterans benefits.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: No plan survives execution – improvise, adapt and overcome.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Where do we find such outstanding, courageous men and women? Our nation’s security is in good hands!

Following the attacks on the nation on 9/11, Michael Lahiff was inspired to enter the Armed Forces. In 2003, he joined the Navy and went on to spend 10 years serving the U.S., six of those years as a Navy SEAL. During that time, Lahiff served in combat deployments in the Middle East and out of Japan. He also served a deployment with the United States European Command for a joint Special Operations Forces partner training.

After leaving service in 2013, Lahiff worked for a private fund and Comcast NBCUniversal before co-founding Conshohocken-based ZeroEyes. The gun detection startup uses existing cameras and artificial intelligence to detect firearms, the goal being to deter mass shootings. School shootings, a growing epidemic in the U.S., were a driver behind creating the company, Lahiff said. In 2021, ZeroEyes raised a \$20.9 million Series A and this past summer landed two separate grants from the Air Force totaling nearly \$2 million.

Since its inception, ZeroEyes has hired 70 veterans and Lahiff has been active in supporting veterans outside of work through the Travis Manion Foundation.

Proudest military accomplishment: The opportunity to serve in the SEAL Teams.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: The opportunity to continue working with veterans in a mission that is dear to all of us.

Ways I'm working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: We place a high priority on hiring veterans and we are very active in utilizing the Skill Bridge program for transitioning active duty personnel.

A skill I learned while serving that's been invaluable in the business world: Teamwork and communication.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Always stay in the fight.

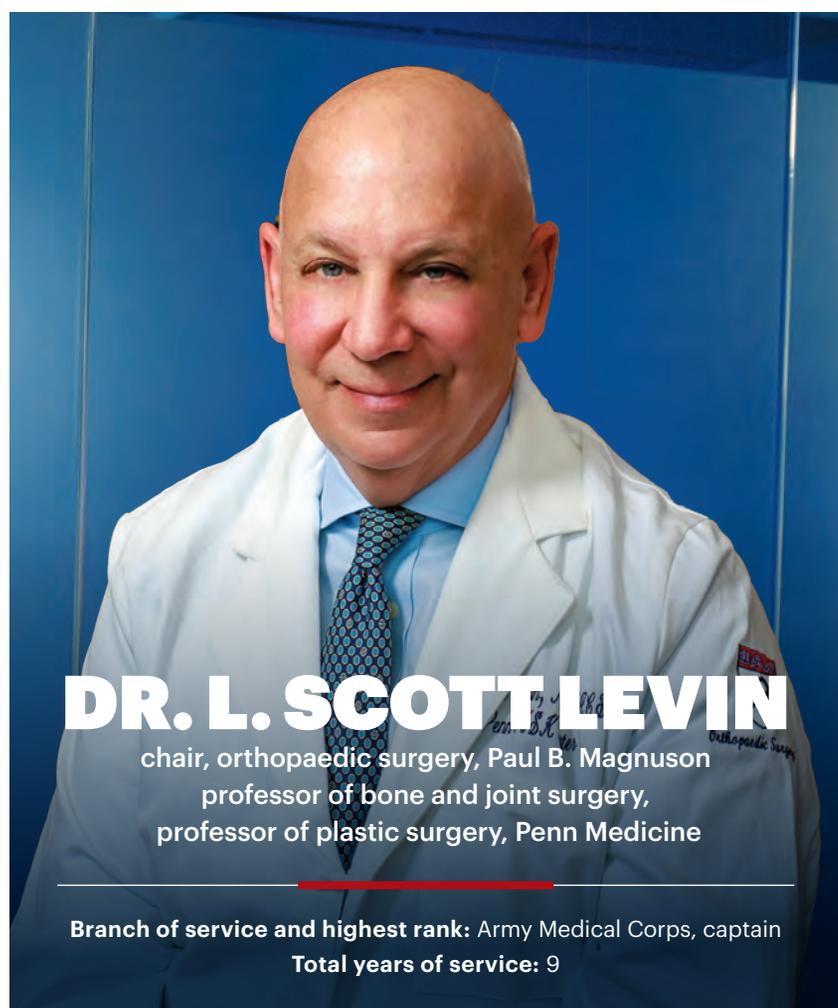


MICHAEL LAHIFF

CEO and co-founder, ZeroEyes

Branch of service and highest rank:
Navy, special operator first class

Total years of service: 10



DR. L. SCOTT LEVIN

chair, orthopaedic surgery, Paul B. Magnuson professor of bone and joint surgery, professor of plastic surgery, Penn Medicine

Branch of service and highest rank: Army Medical Corps, captain

Total years of service: 9

PENN MEDICINE

Inspired by his father's military career, Dr. L. Scott Levin enlisted in the Army, where he served in the Medical Corps, eventually rising to captain. During his nine years of service, which overlapped with Desert Storm during the Gulf War, Levin earned his board certifications in orthopaedic surgery, plastic surgery, and surgery of the hand. A graduate of Temple University's Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Levin applied his vast training and experience to eventually launch the Orthoplastic Limb Salvage Center at Penn Medicine. The only program of its kind in the U.S., according to Penn Medicine, the center "provides unique microsurgical and complex fracture expertise for patients at high-risk for limb amputation." Renowned for his work in the field of orthoplastic surgery, Levin undertook the first pediatric bilateral hand transplant.

Ever connected to his time in the Armed Forces, in 2009 he went to Germany to treat soldiers wounded in Afghanistan and Iraq. Levin continues to work with the Navy and the Philadelphia VA Medical Center.

In addition to aiding his patients and veterans, Levin is also committed to serving the community and established a program at Penn Medicine that offers free physicals to high school athletes in North Philadelphia.

What inspired me to join the Armed Forces: The desire to serve my country and follow my father's career in the military.

Ways I'm working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: In 2009, I returned to Landstuhl, Germany, to care for war injured. I am an active consultant for Walter Reed

National Military Medical Center [in Bethesda, Maryland.] I routinely care for wounded military personnel and veterans.

Proudest military accomplishment: Caring for wounded warriors in Landstuhl.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Leading division and departments in academic medicine.

A skill I learned while serving that's been invaluable in the business world: Leadership matters.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Discipline and accountability.

Inspired to join the Navy thanks to his family’s tradition of serving, John Lunger attended and graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1990. After, he undertook five years of active duty as a nuclear trained division officer aboard the USS Stonewall Jackson, a ballistic missile submarine. During that time, Lunger completed three strategic deterrent patrols in the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. Following his service, Lunger went on to earn an MBA and move into the life sciences field. He said he was drawn to the industry “due to the complexity of solving challenging technical and biological problems along with the mission-driven nature of biotech to advance the treatment of unmet medical needs for patients.” For the past five-plus years, Lunger has been with Philadelphia-based Adaptimmune Therapeutics, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company working on novel cancer immunotherapy products. Prior to Adaptimmune, Lunger worked at other pharmaceutical firms including Merrimack, Pfizer and Wyeth.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: In addition to informal mentoring of transitioning military, I support a number of programs at the Naval Academy. I participate on the congressional nomination board for Pennsylvania District 5 as well as serve as an Athletic and Scholarship Foundation trustee for the Naval Academy.

Proudest military accomplishment: Leading

nuclear trained sailors and successfully completing three strategic deterrent patrols during the later stages of the Cold War (editor’s note: the war formally ended in December 1991 after more than 40 years).

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Leading the establishment of Adaptimmune’s cell therapy manufacturing capability and being part of the executive team that has grown Adaptimmune into a leading engineered

T-cell company on the verge of filing with the FDA for approval of our first product for people with cancer.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Grit and perseverance. And “it can always be worse!”

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Lifelong friendships from the talented officers and sailors I served with in the nuclear submarine force.

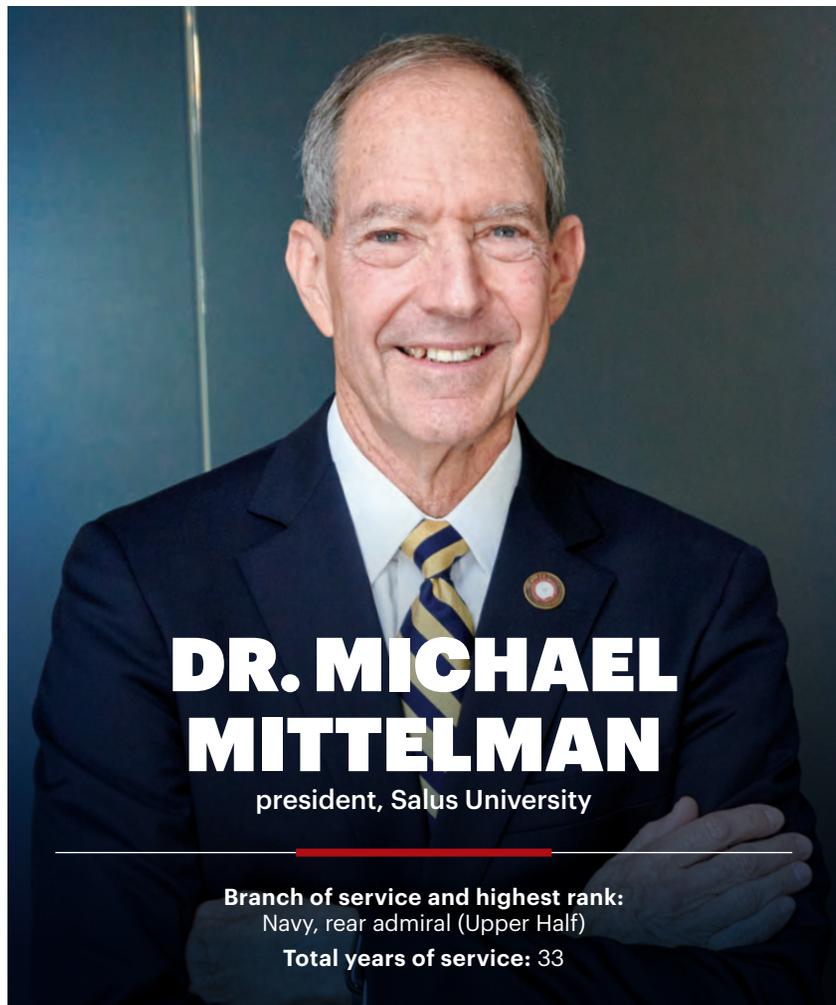


JOHN LUNGER

chief patient supply officer,
Adaptimmune Therapeutics

Branch of service and highest rank: Navy, lieutenant (O-3)

Total years of service: 5



DR. MICHAEL MITTELMAN

president, Salus University

Branch of service and highest rank:
Navy, rear admiral (Upper Half)

Total years of service: 33

Throughout his 33 years serving in the Navy, Dr. Michael Mittelman blazed a trail of firsts, including being the first Navy aerospace optometrist, optometrist to command a major naval hospital, clinician to lead the Navy Medical Service Corps, non-medical doctor to serve as a combatant command surgeon in the U.S. Pacific Command, and non-medical doctor to serve as the command surgeon for the U.S. Joint Forces. Mittelman held numerous roles in locales across the globe, after which he was recruited to academia. In 2013, following an illustrious Navy career, Mittelman was installed as the sixth president of Salus University. The Elkins Park school – of which he is an alum, when it was known as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry – focuses on optometry, audiology and health sciences, education and rehabilitation. Like with his naval service, Mittelman views his latest career iteration as a way to “give back to all who trained me and to support emerging health care professionals.”

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: I’m honored to serve as chairman of the Armed Forces Council of the Union League. I help to support numerous events that directly support veterans. I also strongly advocate for veterans to receive financial and other types of assistance so they can attain their professional and avocational goals through education.

Proudest military accomplishment: Successfully leading our nation’s medical response to Operation Tomodachi (editor’s note: the operation was undertaken in 2011 to aid Japan in disaster relief following earthquake and tsunami devastation).

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Leading the finest health science professional school in the country!

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Leadership, leadership and leadership.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: The importance of caring for all under your charge – servant leadership is by far the most effective way to influence and empower others to excel.

When the 9/11 attacks were perpetrated in 2001, they struck a chord with Christopher Molaro. Twelve years old at the time, he felt a “calling to serve a mission bigger than myself.” He did so in the Army, where he served for over five years, rising to the rank of captain. During that time, he served as a field artillery officer and was deployed as a platoon leader during operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, for which he was awarded numerous medals, including the Bronze Star and the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters. Following his deployment to Iraq, Molaro returned to the U.S. where he earned his MBA at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business and then went on to co-found NeuroFlow. Based in Philadelphia, the mental health startup in October raised a \$25 million growth round. NeuroFlow looks to track patients’ moods, pain levels and sleep through self-assessment, helping health care providers identify behavioral health conditions. Its founding was an extension of Molaro’s desire to “continue serving, though in a different capacity with a different mission,” he said.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans:

NeuroFlow has contracts with the Department of Defense as well as veteran support organizations, and so every day our work helps improve the overall mental wellness, resiliency and health of our service members, their family members and our veterans. In an indirect way, NeuroFlow looks for opportunities to hire veterans and their spouses....

Proudest military accomplishment:

Leading

our nation’s sons and daughters as a platoon leader was an honor that still humbles me today. Helping mentor and inspire them to be the best version of themselves in the name of accomplishing our mission was, still to this day, the biggest honor of my life.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far:

Not dissimilarly to a lot of people, I experience personal tragedy with gaps in care when a soldier in my unit took their own life.

I am proud that, along with a lot of help with our team, advisors and investors, we created a company that now helps bridge that gap – both with the military and civilians alike.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world:

Effective leadership of people is paramount – without our people we have nothing. Second would be problem-solving in a fast, decisive, and flexible manner leads to better outcomes.



CHRISTOPHER MOLARO

president, CEO and chairman, NeuroFlow

Branch of service and highest rank: Army, captain

Total years of service: 5



CAULDON QUINN

CEO, Bancroft Capital

Branch of service and highest rank: Navy, lieutenant (O-3)

Total years of service: 7

Growing up, Cauldon Quinn spent much of his youth on military bases with his father serving in the Air Force. Quinn similarly decided to serve, joining the Naval Academy Preparatory School, after which he was commissioned as a naval officer. He went on to become a visit, board, search and seizure, or VBSS, boarding officer, undertaking over 20 boardings across two deployments. It was during that time that the 9/11 attacks were carried out and Quinn immediately put in a request to serve in combat and was sent to Bahrain and eventually inserted into Afghanistan. Following a near-death experience, Quinn was honorably discharged as a service-disabled veteran. After working in institutional finance, in 2017 he co-founded Bancroft Capital. Based in Fort Washington, it has grown to six offices and \$10 million in revenue and has a robust pipeline for veterans. “Most importantly, Bancroft has remained true to our mission to provide training/employment to disabled veterans,” Quinn said.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans:

Through Bancroft’s Veteran Training Program we are able to touch disabled veterans early in their separation process, at the recovery centers while still in the military. We begin by opening their eyes to the world of opportunity available to them beyond government/contractor service. We introduce them to the possibility of a career on “Wall Street.” ... Seated alongside an industry veteran and servicing our clients, they learn by doing. In about 12 months we get

them licensed and begin the development of a skillset capable of supporting a career in institutional finance. To further prepare our candidates for careers (not just a job) we have partnered with several higher education institutions who offer our candidates free access to business school courses, including DeSales University and Villanova University.

Proudest military accomplishment:

Volunteering for, and serving with, the most amazing group of volunteers as a member of the command staff for Task Force 58.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far:

Raising four strong Christian men.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world:

“Slow is smooth and smooth is fast.” I learned this while being trained for clearing rooms on VBSS boardings. While relevant to certain military activity, this mantra has proven true for any situation with elevated energy. Do not act out of emotion. Take a deep breath. Control your mind and collect the facts. Make a logical decision based on the facts.

With her father being a veteran, Lisa Robinson was used to traveling around. “Living in different cultures was very interesting to me,” she said. As a result, she decided to join the Army where she worked as a skilled documentation specialist. For a time, she was stationed in Seoul, South Korea, running its public relations department, and was also stationed at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Silver Spring, Maryland. There she “worked alongside researchers/doctors to document, by way of photos, the research they were conducting to minimize injuries to soldiers during the Gulf War.” Following her service, Robinson went on to work in finance for more than a decade, before founding My Independence at Home, a full-service Philadelphia-based home care agency. A stroke survivor herself, Robinson said she understands “the importance of home care and how it can impact your recovery.”

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: We have a number of veteran participants who we are currently caring for.

Proudest military accomplishment: Making it

through basic training!

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Employing and caring for hundreds of people who live in my community.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been

invaluable in the business world: Leadership and perseverance.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Teamwork and finding the right team member is and continues to be the pinnacle to my success.



LISA ROBINSON
founder and CEO, My Independence at Home

Branch of service and highest rank: Army, specialist
Total years of service: 8



RICHARD RUSSO
manager, global security operations,
West Pharmaceutical Services

Branch of service and highest rank: Army, sergeant major
Total years of service: 24

Who better to work within global security operations than someone who spent over 20 years as a counterterrorism target analyst? Such is the case for Richard Russo, who undertook five deployments in support of the Global War on Terrorism during his service in the Army. Russo said he was inspired in part to join by his father’s service and a desire to serve the nation.

For the majority of his service, he worked with the 75th Ranger Regiment and special reconnaissance units in the Department of Defense’s National Counterterrorism Joint Task Force. He received numerous commendations including the Knowlton Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence and a Bronze Star Medal, among others.

After serving, Russo went into defense policy analysis and corporate security, working at pharmaceutical giant AmerisourceBergen. There, his team’s work was instrumental in saving \$11 billion in perishable pharmaceuticals from spoilage. Earlier this year, he continued his work in health care and intelligence by joining Extion-based West Pharmaceutical Services, which manufactures packaging components and delivery systems for health care products and injectable drugs. There, his work focuses on the Fortune 1,000 company’s global facilities and locations. Russo is also active with its veteran-focused employee resource group. Outside of work, that includes nonprofit Ranger Leadership and Policy Center, which seeks to organize leadership development programs and public outreach.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: Our Ranger Leadership and Policy Center offers veterans an opportunity to continue sharing their leadership skills with their community and contribute to national security dialogue through analysis of leadership execution of defense policy.

Proudest military accomplishment: Serving as part of the special operations community in several nominative organizations.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Being able to share what I’ve learned in the military to support my colleagues and community.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Personal accountability and being able to disagree without being disagreeable.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Service is its own reward.

Veterans don't always have access to the programs and services they need. After serving for 12 years across the Marines and Army, Rodney Wyatt continued his service with a focus on veterans. For six years, he was a disabled veterans outreach program specialist with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in 2014 launched his own nonprofit. Newtown-based Salute 2 Service provides outreach programs to veterans and their families, including emergency assistance, career guidance, job search assistance, pranic health – a form of holistic treatment – plus help obtaining records such as medical history. Since its founding, Salute 2 Service has helped over 10,000 individuals. Wyatt had no shortage of experience to draw on as a veteran, having joined the Armed Forces amid the Vietnam War.

Ways I'm working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: Salute 2 Service provides transition assistance to active duty military – they're in need of so much to connect with civilian society. S2S connects them with jobs, housing, food, medical and clothing [to help fulfill] all of their needs when they transition from military. For instance, thanks to our partnership with Caring for Friends' food program, we're able to provide military

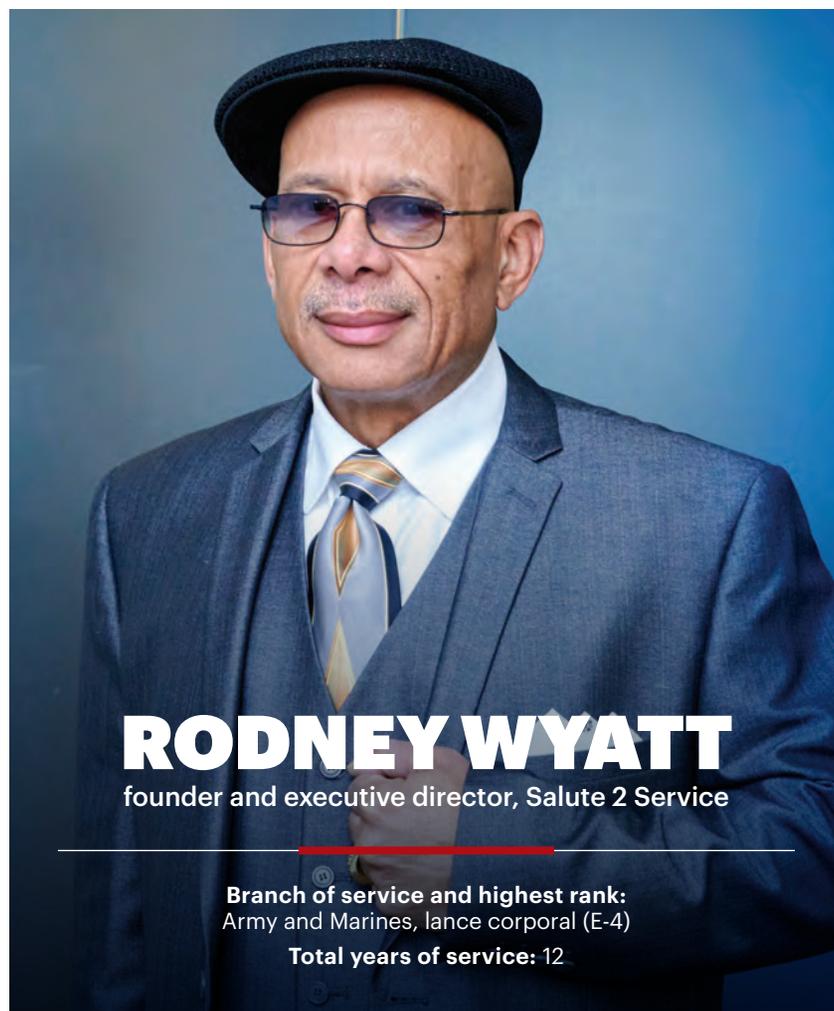
families fresh produce and frozen homemade meals at a weekly Wednesday drive-up distribution. Our new location also allows us to provide a thrift store of sorts, as well as space for a doctor and mortgage specialist.

Proudest military accomplishment: I received two Army commendations back-to-back in 1999 and 2000 – something that's rare – for accomplishing successful

tactical maneuvers.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Starting Salute 2 Service.

A skill I learned while serving that's been invaluable in the business world: So many things the military instilled in me: leadership development; how to take on a task and finish it; and to never give up until the mission is complete.



RODNEY WYATT
founder and executive director, Salute 2 Service

Branch of service and highest rank:
Army and Marines, lance corporal (E-4)
Total years of service: 12



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When Eric Moore enlisted in the Navy, he was driven by a desire to serve his country, discover leadership opportunities, travel the world, find education through the Naval Academy and challenge himself. He did just that, serving for 13 years, seven of those in active duty. Those years saw him deployed to regions like the Horn of Africa and the Persian Gulf aboard a dock landing ship. His work in those waters ranged from driving the ship to managing engineers to undertaking counter-piracy operations, as well as humanitarian aid, hostage negotiation and intelligence gathering. Returning to the U.S., he had postings across the eastern seaboard. During that time, he also undertook the start of his civilian career, working as a consultant for McKean Defense Group and later as a private client advisor with U.S. Trust, now known as Bank of America Private Bank. Earning his MBA from Villanova University, Moore brought his skills to Bernstein Private Wealth Management, which has offices in Philadelphia. His practice focuses on business owners and corporate executives. “In my MBA program, I discovered that my passion and skills intersected in financial services. Empathy, building trust, being part of a team, and giving sound advice are all necessary for building a successful practice,” he said. “I’ve drawn on my experience in academics, athletics and military service to guide my career.”

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans:

Mentorship for current and prospective military personnel and supporting various organizations: the Travis Manion Foundation; the Greater Philadelphia Veteran Network; Naval Academy recruiting; the Naval Academy and Villanova Veterans; and Bunker Labs.

Proudest military accomplishment: Serving alongside brave men and women from all over the

country and assisting with the peaceful transfer of a cargo ship’s crew taken hostage off the coast of Somalia in 2007.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Raising money and awareness for Bringing Hope Home, an organization that supports local families affected by cancer.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Grit, determination

and perseverance — comfort in being uncomfortable, pushing through challenges and picking myself up when things don’t always go as planned.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Our country has its problems, but I believe our democracy is so great that it’s worth fighting for. I’ve had the privilege to serve in the world’s greatest military alongside tremendous men and women who share this principle.



RISING STAR

ERIC MOORE

vice president, wealth advisor,
Bernstein Private Wealth Management

Branch of service and highest rank:
Navy, lieutenant commander (O-4)

Total years of service: 13
Age: 39



RISING STAR

AMANDA POPER

information technology support supervisor,
American Heritage Credit Union

Branch of service and highest rank: Army, E4
Total years of service: 6
Age: 26



“I always loved troubleshooting and being the answer for a problem,” said Amanda Poper of her decision to enlist in the Army. Serving for six years and stationed in Horsham, she had no shortage of opportunities to troubleshoot, working with new soldiers to train them on wheeled vehicles and problem-solving maintenance issues. She carried that same desire to troubleshoot into her civilian career, working in information technology for Philadelphia-based American Heritage Credit Union, where she is a supervisor today. A graduate of the Community College of Philadelphia, Poper is now working toward her bachelor’s degree at Temple University. Just two years out of the Army, Poper remains active with the veteran community, giving back how and where she can.

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: I stay active in my community and volunteer when I can. My employer also helps homeless veterans every year by donating clothes, food, etc.

Proudest military accomplishment: I received the “Hero of Battle” certificate of achievement during my 2017 annual

training.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: So far my biggest accomplishment is being the first person in my family to graduate college.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: Being a great leader that’s disciplined yet friendly

with my staff.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: I have experienced many things that others my age have not. I have been able to travel and I have met some great people. I think the biggest takeaway is always have your team’s back and be professional even in the toughest situations.

For seven years, Sean Toolan served active duty in the Marine Corps, undertaking two deployments to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and then to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. After three deployments, Toolan was based out of Quantico, Virginia, where he was a systems test and engineering project officer and an advanced amphibious assault program officer. Since 2012, Toolan has been in the Marine Corps Reserves. During his early years in the reserves, Toolan earned his MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and then went on to focus his career on cybersecurity. “My exposure to the many benefits of the effective use of technology in the military furthered my interest in pursuing a career in the technology sector,” he said. He’s held cybersecurity roles at PricewaterhouseCoopers, FireEye Mandiant and today at Malvern-based Layer 8 Security, work he says allows him to “still protect and provide value to businesses and organizations.”

Ways I’m working to support active military personnel and/or veterans: I have attempted to continue to support and empower active military and veterans by being a resource for help in transitioning to civilian career paths, coaching them on interview and resume preparation, and being actively involved in corporate veteran affinity groups and charities like the Semper Fi & America’s Fund and Four Block.

Proudest military accomplishment: Leading the training, deployment

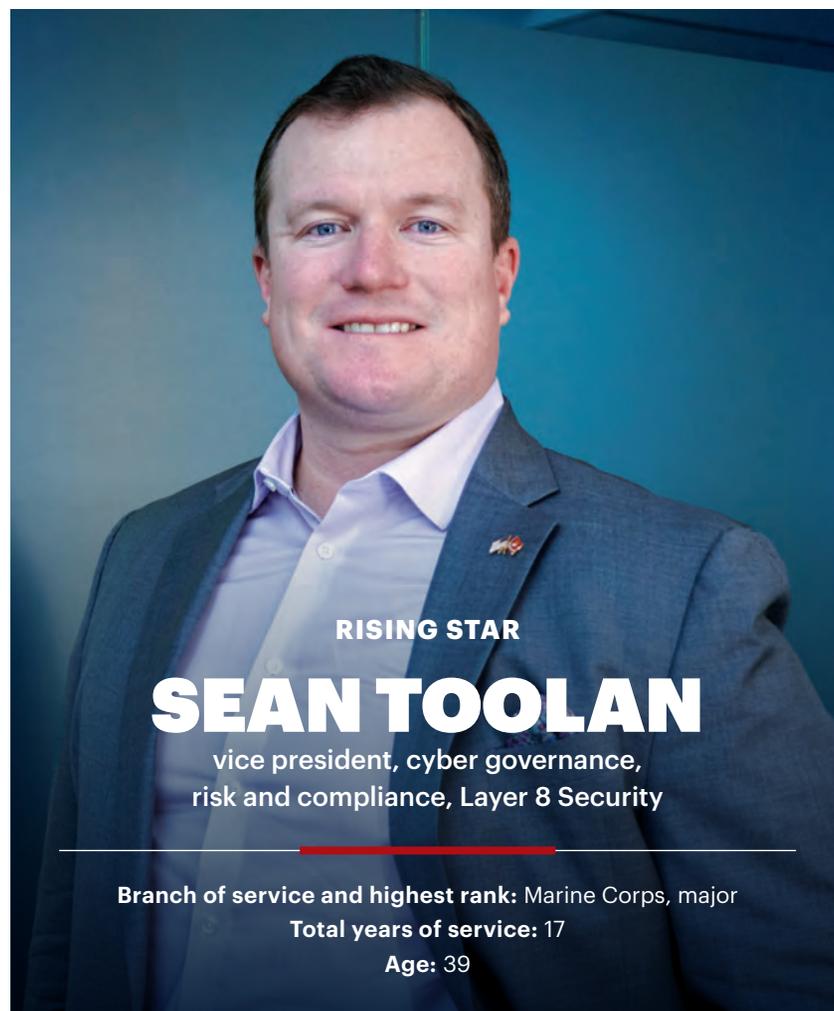
and operations of a platoon of over 50 Marines in Al-Anbar Province, Iraq, in 2008.

Proudest civilian accomplishment so far: Managing the election cybersecurity program for a major metropolitan area during the 2020 and 2021 U.S. and local election cycles, respectively.

A skill I learned while serving that’s been invaluable in the business world: The ability to identify a primary objective and design a plan to help drive organizations toward

that objective from a people, process and technology perspective.

Biggest takeaway from serving in the Armed Forces: Our global and national security depends on the selfless service of many dedicated military service members constantly serving in harm’s way, in addition to their families. Although we can never truly repay our veterans’ service for our security and freedoms, American society should always try to do its best to honor the service of veterans and their families.



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