



The Alabama Purple Heart Memorial at the Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park is designated as the official memorial for Alabama recipients of the Purple Heart Medal. The Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park is honored to be chosen by the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) as the location for their monument.

How to Invest in the Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park Endowment Fund

At the end of WWII, the U.S. Army Northington General Hospital in Tuscaloosa was one of the largest military hospitals in the world. The Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park is on McFarland Boulevard at the site of the hospital chapel. The one-acre site where the chapel stood has been retained in public ownership under the oversight of the Tuscaloosa County Park & Recreation Authority.

Over the past several years, the Veterans Memorial Park Association, working with representatives of the City, PARA, and the private sector created an educational veterans park at the old chapel site. The majority of the costs to date have been donated by the private sector including more than \$500,000 of in-kind construction activity.

The Veterans Memorial Park honors those who risked their lives to defend our freedom. It is an invaluable educational resource for our children and for future generations. Please consider supporting the Veterans Memorial Park Endowment Fund on a regular basis with generosity that reflects the Park's significance. Gifts in any amount are greatly appreciated and may be pledged over several years. Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

For more information, call 205-331-5600 or mail your contribution to:

**Veterans Memorial Park Endowment Fund
PARA Foundation
P.O. Box 2496
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403**



Please visit our website:
<https://www.tcpara.org/parks/veterans-memorial-park>



MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Presented by

*Veterans Memorial Park Association,
Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center
and The University of Alabama
Office of Veteran and Military Affairs*

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

*1701 McFarland Blvd. E.
at University Mall*

May 29, 2023

9:00 a.m.



Lest We Forget:

**"Tuscaloosa Veterans Were There When
History Was Made!"**

Col. Duane Lamb, Chairman
Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park Association



Welcome and Introductions	SGT Brian Davis, U.S. Army (1992-2004) CEO, Tuscaloosa County Park & Recreation Authority
Invocation	Pastor Joel Frederick Grace Life Baptist Church
Presentation of Colors	Hillcrest High School, AJROTC
Pledge of Allegiance	David M. Jones, 1 st Lt. USAR Bamastuff and Alabama Express
National Anthem	Tracey Benson, U.S. Navy, Retired Veterans Memorial Park Association and Kappa Epsilon Psi Military Sorority, Inc.
Remarks from Tuscaloosa V.A. Medical Center	LTC John Merkle, U.S. Army, Retired & Director, Tuscaloosa V.A. Medical Center
Remarks from UA Office of Veteran & Military Affairs	Zach Herndon, Vice President UA Campus Veterans Association
Introduction of Guest Speaker	Brian Davis
Guest Speaker	Hays Webb, Tuscaloosa County District Attorney
Salute to Our Veterans	Armed Forces Medley
Taps	Corporal Charlie Pierce, TPD Honor Guard
Amazing Grace	Tuscaloosa Firefighter Local 403 Emerald Society Pipes & Drums
Ringing of the Bell	Tracey Benson
Closing Remarks	Brian Davis
Benediction	Joel Frederick

At the conclusion of the service, Tuscaloosa Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2211 members will lay a wreath in honor of all men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country at the Military Order of the Purple Heart Monument.

Thank you to those who have helped to make this event possible and to the PARA Board of Directors and employees who maintain the Tuscaloosa Veterans Memorial Park in honor of all veterans.



Hays Webb

Hays Webb is the District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Alabama, which encompasses Tuscaloosa County. He has served since September 2016.

Webb enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at the age of 17 and was a peacetime infantryman from 1985 to 1989. He served as a rifleman and mortar squad leader with Golf Company, 2nd Battalion 6th Marine Regiment and Golf Company, 2nd Battalion 8th Marine Regiment, and was honorably discharged as a Corporal. He is a member of the Mike Spann Detachment of the Marine Corps League. He is a charter member and serves on the board of directors of the Alabama Marines Foundation.

Webb received his B.S. degree in Horticulture from Auburn University in 1993 and his J.D. degree from the University of Alabama, School of Law in 1997. As an Assistant Public Defender and then with Turner & Webb, P.C., he practiced criminal defense from 1997 until 2016.

District Attorney Hays Webb is dedicated to serving the citizens of Tuscaloosa County through the effective, efficient, and ethical prosecution of crime. As a representative of all citizens of Tuscaloosa County, he believes it is vital to engage with its people and groups of people, including businesses, churches, and schools. He believes that true justice is found in fealty to the rule of law.