



## New Mexico National Guard

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### **New Mexico National Guardsmen to be inducted into Hall of Honor**

SANTA FE, N.M - The New Mexico National Guard, the New Mexico Military Museum and the New Mexico Military Museum Foundation will induct their newest members from the Class of 2020 into the New Mexico National Guard Hall of Honor on Saturday, November 21, 2020, 3 pm. The story of their accomplishments while in uniform and in their communities will be broadcasted via a virtual video induction ceremony on the New Mexico National Guard's Facebook page. The public is invited to join us in viewing.

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Manuel Armijo, 200th Coast Artillery and the oldest Bataan Death March survivor; Chief Warrant Officer 5 Richard J. Quigley, New Mexico Army National Guard Fixed-Wing Detachment commander and Vietnam veteran; and Col. Robert L. Sands, veteran of World War II, Korean War and the New Mexico Air National Guard, were selected as the second class of inductees by the NMNG Hall of Honor Board.

After the viewing, the story of their accomplishments will then reside at the New Mexico National Guard Hall of Honor located at the New Mexico Military Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, N.M. and at [newmexicomilitarymuseum.com](http://newmexicomilitarymuseum.com)

"It is a humbling experience to look at the records of those individuals that were nominated. They are awesome men and women that have led the way for each of us," said retired Brig. Gen. Jack Fox, chairman of the NMNG Hall of Honor committee. "Hopefully, as we induct these three new members in the Class of '20, it will inspire others to look at the past and nominate other men and women that should be part of this great history that we call the New Mexico National Guard."

"The Hall of Honor Class of 2020 represents the excellence and accomplishments of New Mexico's finest Soldiers and Airmen," said Maj. Gen. Kenneth Nava, the Adjutant General of New Mexico. "Their selfless service to our nation, state and our communities reflects upon the outstanding history of the New Mexico National Guard and carries on our legacy of honor."

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Manuel Armijo



he remained captive for another year. He spent 3 ½ years in captivity doing forced labor before finally returning home to Santa Fe in 1945. Of the 1,800 New Mexicans sent to the Philippines, about 900 returned home.

As the first sergeant of his company, Armijo always cared for fellow prisoners and repeatedly fought with Japanese captors, insisting on uniting the Soldiers from New Mexico at one location. He was discharged in 1946 and was recognized with the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Prisoner of War, and Army Good Conduct Medals and several more. Additionally, he proudly wore the Presidential Unit Citation with two Oak Leaf Clusters and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

1st Sgt. Armijo, along with other survivors, co-founded the New Mexico Military Museum. He also established the annual Bataan surrender observances held every April 9 in Santa Fe. His words remain familiar to historians and others researching the Bataan Death March. After the

1st Sgt. Manuel Armijo honorably served his nation, state, the New Mexico National Guard and his fellow veterans for his lifetime.

In 1940, 1st Sgt. Armijo deployed with Battery C, 200th Coast Artillery, New Mexico National Guard, and with other U.S. and Filipino troops who fought off the Japanese Army before being surrendered by senior leaders. He and the other prisoners were forced to march 65 miles up the Bataan Peninsula without food, water or medical attention. Those who collapsed along the way were shot or bayoneted; thousands more died in Japanese transport ships and POW camps.

After the "Death March," he was imprisoned in Camp O'Donnell for three months and then in Camp Cabanatuan for two more years until he boarded the Mati Maru "Hell Ship" to Omuta, Japan, where

war, he served in state government, retiring as director of the Veterans Service Commission in 1966.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Richard J. Quigley



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Richard J. Quigley served in the New Mexico National Guard for over 30 years, exemplifying the traits of a professional Soldier, aviator, warrant officer and consummate leader. CW5 Quigley was qualified in just about every airframe the New Mexico Army National Guard had ever been assigned.

After graduating basic training in 1967, he attended the U.S. Army primary helicopter pilot training at Fort Wolters, Texas. He earned his wings and warrant officer one rank in May 1968 when he completed advanced training at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. He was then assigned to the 118th Assault Helicopter Company who provided air support to ground units fighting in Vietnam from May 1968 to May 1969 where he logged 1,039

combat flight hours.

After Vietnam, he trained as a flight instructor at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and was then assigned to the 56th Artillery Group in Germany where he shared his combat experience with new Army aviators until his service term ended in October 1970.

He joined the New Mexico Army National Guard in September 1976, progressing through the warrant officer ranks, ultimately obtaining the rank of chief warrant officer five while assigned as the fixed-wing detachment commander.

CW5 Quigley retired from military service with 12,700 flight hours, including 1,200 hours in combat. Decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, 38 Air Medals, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Master Aviator Badge and many additional decorations.

Colonel Robert Sands



to Korea.

Flying F-86 aircraft, he flew 104 missions (163 combat hours) and is credited with three confirmed MIG-15 kills and two damaged.

Colonel Robert Sands exemplified exemplary service in the New Mexico Air National Guard as pilot, flight leader, operations officer, squadron commander and group commander. He led him to serve as chief of staff (Air) and assistant adjutant general (Air).

He began his military service as a Naval Reservist in November 1942 and was called to active duty in March 1943. He transferred to the Army Air Corps to attend pilot training and received his wings in September 1944.

He joined the New Mexico Air National Guard in 1948. The unit, possessing F-51 aircraft, was activated on February 1, 1951, during the Korean conflict and deployed to Long Beach, California, to augment the 27th Air Division. Col. Sands became jet qualified and was subsequently assigned

He was released from extended Active Duty on November 1, 1952, and returned to the New Mexico Air National Guard the next day.

His decorations and awards include Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Readiness Medal, Good Conduct Medal (Navy), Korean Presidential Unit Citation, and many others. Upon retirement in March 1978, he had approximately 5,300 hours of flying time and was rated as a Command Pilot.

To see criteria for Hall of Honor inductees or to nominate a former New Mexico National Guard Soldier or Airmen to the Class of 2021, please visit [www.newmexicomilitarmuseum.com](http://www.newmexicomilitarmuseum.com)

For additional information, please contact Joseph Vigil, NMNG chief of public affairs at (505) 553-1427 or [joseph.vigil21.civ@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.vigil21.civ@mail.mil)