

Dear HMM-265 Veterans,



**Bonnie Sue, Injure, Spartan-Luck, Baseball, Dragon**

Regardless of what call sign was used during your time of service, you all made everlasting contributions to the heritage and reputation of our squadron. Whether flying along the Syrian border, across the island of East Timor, or into the Hill 55 and Ham Salad Region of Vietnam, HMM-265 was always there to provide the Marine on the ground the best possible air support. Flying Marines to the fight, sustaining their efforts, recovering their wounded, and bringing them home safely continues to be the proud mission of our squadron. As our veterans you mapped the flight path we follow today.

It does not matter what billet you fulfilled in our squadron: aircrew, maintainer, or support, each of you contributed to our continued success. While the enemy and the battlefields have changed, the need for courage and valor has not. The Marines, Sailors, and Officers of today can learn much from your example and experience. I hope to strengthen the ties between the generations and increase interaction and communication so your lessons learned can be shared today.

The Dragons are working closely with:

The HMM-265 Alumni Association (<http://hmm-265.org>)

and The USMC Combat Helicopter Association (<http://www.popasmoke.com>).

I encourage you to take the time to join these organizations and keep in touch with your HMM-265 successors.

The next couple years will bring many changes to HMM-265 to include re-designation, new aircraft, and a Permanent Change of Station. Facing these changes will not distract the "Dragons" as we continue to uphold your heritage of providing the best possible air support to the Marine on the ground.

Damien M. Marsh

LtCol US Marines

HMM-265 Commanding Officer