



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** Friday, January 22, 2021

**Source:** Marcus Petty, Anthem Community Council, 623-742-4554, [mpetty@anthemcouncil.com](mailto:mpetty@anthemcouncil.com) or Kristi Northcutt, Anthem Community Council, 623-742-6065, [knorthcutt@anthemcouncil.com](mailto:knorthcutt@anthemcouncil.com)

**News tips/Keywords:** Veterans, Anthem Veterans Memorial, USMC, Quantico Marine Athletes

**QUANTICO MARINE ATHLETES KILLED IN ACTION HONORED WITH SPECIAL CEREMONY IN ANTHEM**

**Anthem, Ariz.** – During a private ceremony being held Saturday, Jan. 30, at 11 a.m., 12 members of the Quantico Marine Athletes of the 60s (QMA), who were killed in action while serving in the Vietnam War, will have pavers installed at the Anthem Veterans Memorial (AVM). Some of the remaining members of the QMA are expected to be in attendance.

The United States Marine Corps established a large varsity team program, with teams competing against other college programs in football, basketball, and track & field. Those recruited for the QMA program were often asked about their athletic background and a typical commitment was three years. Some of the athletes who took part in the program even qualified for the Olympic games. As the number of Marine Corps personnel began to shrink at the end of the war, most all teams were gone by 1972.

In addition to pavers being laid at the AVM, the 12 Marines killed in action also have been honored with a memorial located on the grounds of The Basic School at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Anthem has a long-standing reputation of supporting the veteran community, and it was an Anthem resident, Lisa Jones, who led the effort to have the QMA pavers installed at the AVM. Jones's uncle, 2nd Lt. John Bruce Capel, was killed in action on May 12, 1966, and is one of the 12 Marines whose pavers will be placed.

"I am overjoyed to be able to lay pavers honoring these brave Marines here at our Anthem Veterans Memorial," said Jones. "While I never had the opportunity to meet my uncle as he was killed in action before I was born, the Quantico Marine Athletes of the '60s have shared wonderful stories with me and taught me about my amazing uncle."

She continued, "Having them remembered at the AVM is quite special, as it allows families and their fellow Marines to visit, remember, and pay their respects to their fallen Marines, as well as the fallen veterans and veterans honored here."

Learn more about the Anthem Veterans Memorial at [OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/AVM).

###