The United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence Retirement Ceremony

30 October 2026

Aviation Museum

Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commanding General, United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, is proud to honor the following individuals with this retirement ceremony:

CW3 NICK C. MOWERY

1SG RICHARD AGUILAR

SFC JASON JEROME

A final well-deserved tribute is the traditional Army way of saying "Well Done" to its retiring members. Since 1861, with the passing of the first retirement law, it has been customary to salute, with appropriate ceremony, for those who have served so well.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

WELCOME

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

INVOCATION
CH (MAJ) Christopher Washburn
Chaplain, 1st Aviation Brigade

HONORS TO THE NATION

REMARKS BY HOST
COL Michael Gourgues
Commander, 1st Aviation Brigade

AWARDS PRESENTATION

*"ABOVE THE BEST"

*"THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG"

CONCLUSION

*The lyrics for “Above the Best" and "The Army Goes Rolling Along" are included on the last page.

Special appreciation is extended to the narrator for today’s ceremony, 2LT Walker Mathews, 1st Aviation Brigade, Fort Rucker, AL and the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE) Band from Fort Benning, GA, for their outstanding performance today. We also thank our Retiree Appreciation Day guests for their attendance today.

AVIATION BRANCH SONG
"ABOVE THE BEST"

High above the best, high above the best
We are Army Aviation U-S-A,
Proud and strong, we meet the test.

Skies filled with thunder
Wearing silver wings upon our chest
We meet the needs of Ground Command
As we aid the Nation's quest
Army Aviation, flying high above the best!

THE ARMY SONG
"THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG"

March along, sing our song,
With the Army of the free.
Count the brave, count the true,
Who have fought to victory.
We're the Army and proud of our name!
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right,
And to build the Nation's might,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along.

Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along.

Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey! The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong;

For where'er we go, you will always know
That the Army Goes Rolling Along.