



# Mighty Hawkeye Battalion Alumni Association

VOLUME V, ISSUE X

JUNE 2020

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

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## 2020 Virtual National Commissioning—12 JUN 20

2LT Pete Grabow represented the University of Iowa Mighty Hawkeye Battalion at the Virtual National Commissioning Ceremony on 12 JUN 20.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commissioning	1
Dept News	2
Congrats Grads!	3
In Memoriam	4
Pearls of Wisdom	5
Post Sponsors	6
Here's your chance!	7



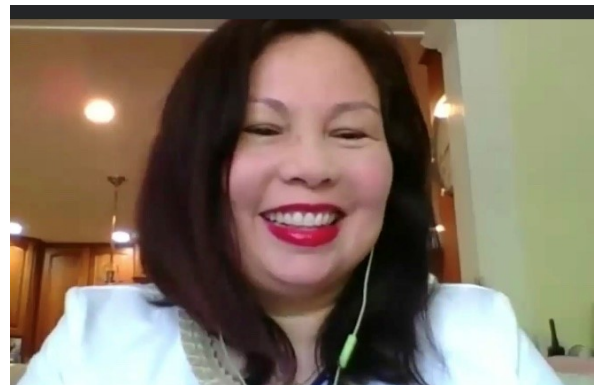
# U of Iowa Army ROTC Virtual

## Commissioning: 15 MAY 20

**Guest Speaker: MG Mitchell Kilgo**

**Honored Guest: Senator Tammy Duckworth**

**Honored Guest: MG Stewart Wallace**



Follow the MHBAA on Twitter:

@HawkeyeBnAlumni

# Congrats!

## Class of 2020 Commissionees

2LT Jacob Boevers, QM, IANG

2LT John Carlson, MP, AD

2LT Brady Glissman, MSC, IANG

2LT John (Pete) Grabow, MI (Detail IN), AD

2LT Joshua Hoover, MI, (Detailed AR), AD

2LT Brady Hoskins, MSC, IANG

2LT Brady Johnson, Educational Delay (Doctorate), AD

2LT Dallas McAlpin, AV, IANG

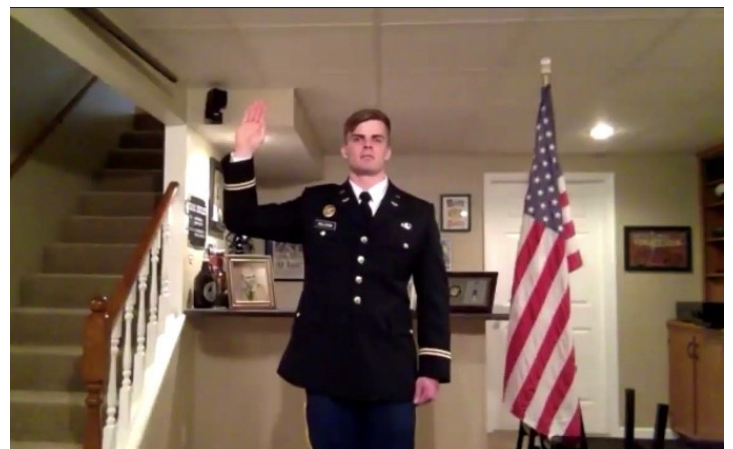
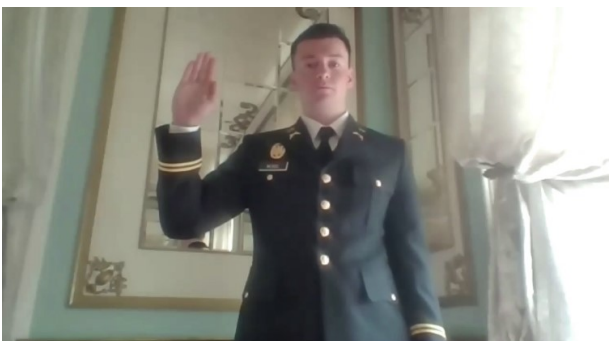
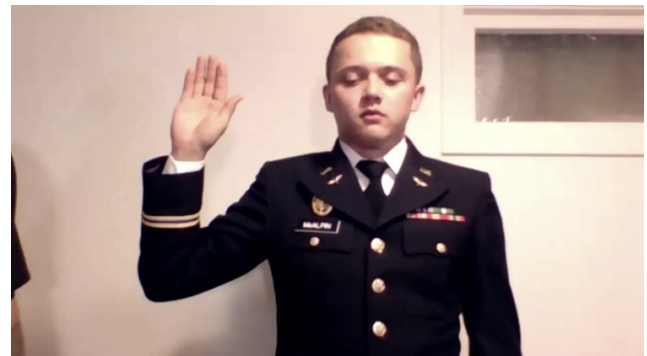
2LT Tyler McClure, EN, IANG

2LT John Daniel Meade, MP, AD

2LT Nate Moeller, TC, AD

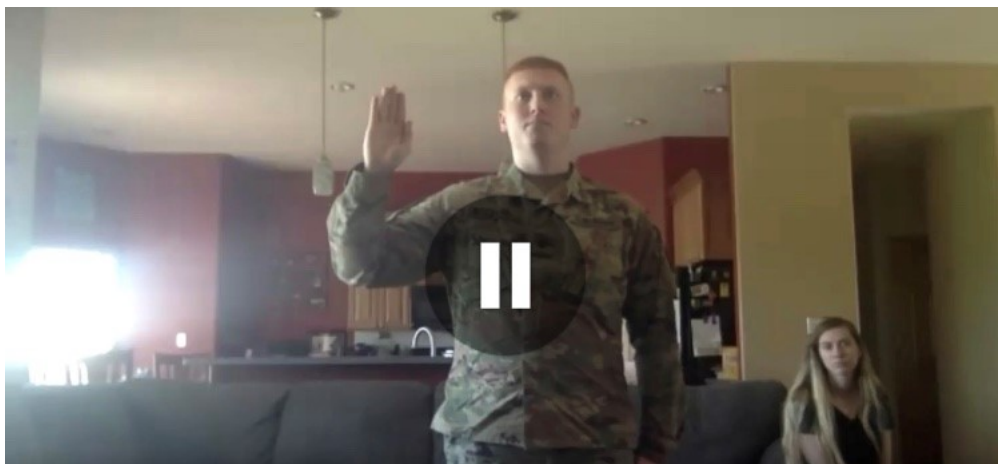
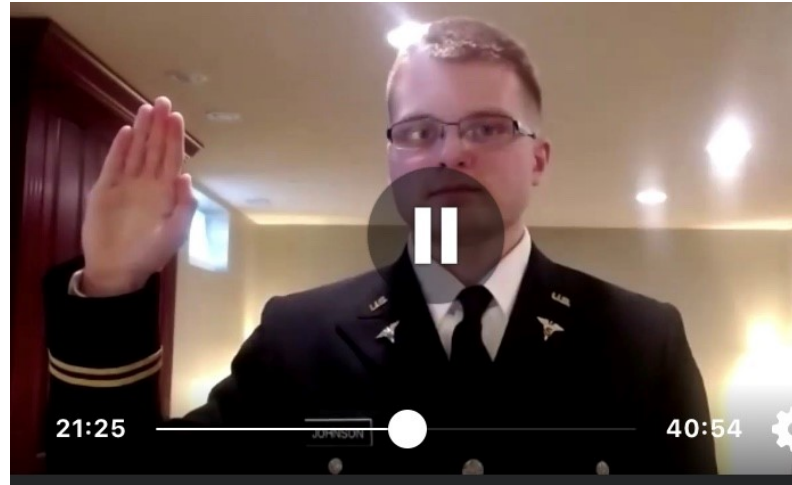
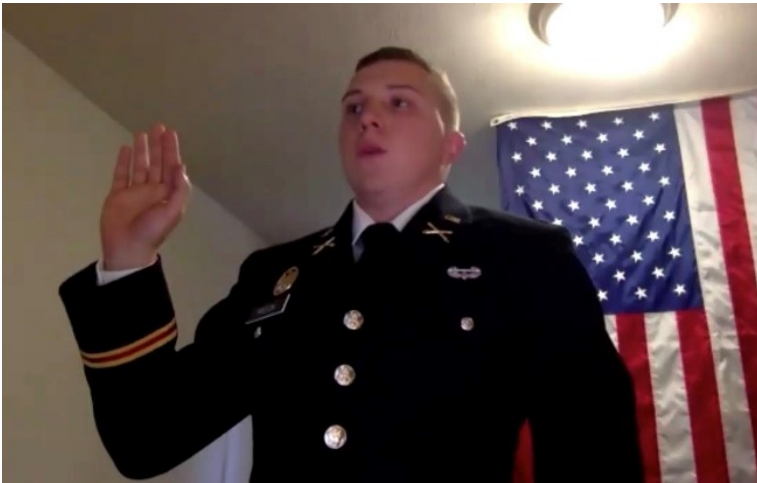
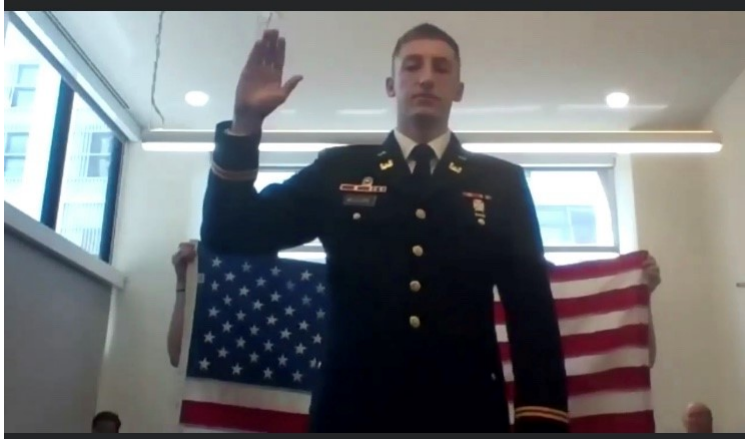
2LT Dan Rieck, FA, AD

2LT John (Jack) Sullivan, AV, AD



Congrats!

Class of 2020 Commissionees



**Mighty Hawkeye Battalion Alum, Gary Calhoun ('68), passed away June 19. Gary was highlighted in a previous newsletter. He served as a Medevac pilot in Vietnam (may 1969-70), where he flew Medevac missions for 45th Medical Corps (Air Ambulance). Gary flew over 900 hours of combat medical evacuation combat flights. Gary was shot down, spending a night in the jungle awaiting rescue. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions and service. Gary is survived by his wife Judy, Iowa class of 1968.**

**When I interviewed Gary for the newsletter AUG 2018 article, he was very humble and told me that he didn't think that his service was so unique or amazing. That's the amazing part...paving the way for current medevac operations and risking his life to save other Soldiers in Vietnam...I'd say that's pretty inspiring Gary. Your life was an inspiration to many young Soldiers. See you on the high ground.**

**-Katie Hanna**



# Pearls of Wisdom

MHBAA) 2019-2020 Cadet Mentor 'Pearls of Wisdom' (Part 1)

Brad Cook (class of '95) note to cadets:

- In order to try to spur initial conversations, your MHBAA mentors have assembled the following 'pearls of wisdom' - things we wished we had known as cadets or new 2LTs as we embarked on our Army careers - to share with you. These are the collected bits of wisdom that we have learned (usually the hard way, often-times more than once) over our hundreds of years of combined Army experiences. Please skim through them to see if there's any information you might not already know and feel free to ask your mentor

About them. Enjoy!

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## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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- Military Decision Making Process (MDMP) Steps / how to show or verbalize you used those steps (we learned it in ROTC but I don't feel like we practiced it enough)
- Reading / writing Operations Orders (OPORDs) (I think Uofl cadets got practice with this more than those of us from Coe)
- Complete a writing for Business and Industry course. A large portion of what you will do in your Army career is to attempt to communicate effectively and professionally. As you rise in rank, you will spend less time creating initial drafts and more time reviewing written products that you receive (inputs) and have to then transform into, clear, concise, and professional written products (outputs) for higher-level leaders.
- Be a sponge. Take in the advice of your Senior Officers and NCOs, and do not be afraid to ask questions. Seek mentorship from your Company Commander, 1SG, XO and PSG; between the four, you will gain a wealth of knowledge. Do not be afraid to expand your rolodex and seek mentorship outside your company.
- Know your stuff. Building your knowledge base should be an enduring task. Learn your doctrine and regulations (even AR 670-1). Do not reinvent the wheel; the Army has provided the framework for everything you will ever do; know them and, as you gain experience, you can build on them. If you are grounded in doctrine and regulations, you will very rarely be completely wrong.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). If your platoon does not have one, build one (with the help of your NCOs and guidance from your Company Commander). Encompass everything, from administrative functions to your battle drills, so that everyone is on the same page. Always look to improve your SOPs, but ensure everyone is tracking any changes.

## Here's Your Chance!

Are you looking for an opportunity to connect with fellow University of Iowa ROTC Department alumni and get more involved with current Department activities? The Mighty Hawkeye Battalion Alumni Association (MHBAA) is seeking volunteers to join the Support and Enhance Department Activities strategic planning committee. Members of the committee help identify, coordinate and plan alumni participation in events like football tailgates, the Military Ball, Commissioning, fundraising and more. We need your input and ideas to identify opportunities for alumni to reconnect with the Department. The committee will soon be working with Department Cadre and the MHBAA leadership to identify activities for the 2020-2021 academic year. Don't miss out! We are accepting additional volunteers for the committee until July 15th. We need your experience and energy to create opportunities for all of us as alumni to reconnect to the ROTC Department, the University of Iowa and Iowa City! Please reach out to Karl Kraus by email at [hawkifanz@gmail.com](mailto:hawkifanz@gmail.com), or by phone/text at (813) 956-3688 to sign up, or for more information. GO HAWKS!!

Retiring, promoting, etc?

Send milestones to  
[katiebhanna@gmail.com](mailto:katiebhanna@gmail.com)

## New MHBAA WEBSITE!!

The new MHBAA Website is online...check it out!

<http://www.mhbaa.com>

This is a great resource for all alumni featuring information, newsletters, and meeting minutes and resources linked to our committees and endeavors.

Also, there are links to fundraising opportunities and MHBAA merchandise.



# Alum Spotlight

Iowa Army ROTC Alumni Kevin Gamble and MAJ Ron Mortenson, both MSC Officers, conducting Battle Assembly with Detachment 1, 4224 Army Hospital, Cedar Rapids, IA. Kevin was a member of the famous Ranger Challenge Championship Teams in 1986, 87, and 88. Ron was a member of the 2006 Ranger Challenge Team. Both still going strong!



## MHBAA Logo and Apparel

The US Army star is centered on our logo emblazoned over a yellow shield, symbolizing the U of I & ROTC (the three organizations we have in common). The lettering is our alumni association and the year it came into existence. The shirts are by Port Authority and are of quality appropriate for business casual. Shirts are for sale at Stitch N Time (POC Jim Halvorson) 319-338-2466 or [stitch@qwestoffice.net](mailto:stitch@qwestoffice.net).

Women's: S-XL - \$32 Men's: S-XL a- \$38    XXL - \$2 extra, XXXL - \$4

**\*\*\$3 from each sale goes back to MHBAA\*\***

Shipping charges apply to other orders. Items can be embroidered for an add'l \$13 charge.

Contact Melanie Young with any apparel questions or suggestions: [meceyoung@gmail.com](mailto:meceyoung@gmail.com)



# Post Sponsors

Would you like to assist new Hawkeyes coming to your duty location? If so please contact MHBAA Secretary Katie Hanna ('94). We will add you to the newsletter so fellow Hawkeyes can make contact and get Intel on their new duty location.

Our current post sponsor's are:

**DC Area**

CPT Pat O'Connor ('09)  
patrick.k.oconnor.mil@mail.mil  
563-543-8556

**Ft. Bragg, NC**

LTC Steve Fredericks ('97)  
Steven.fredericksii@gmail.com  
910-495-4599

MAJ (r) Sharm Kuch  
Sharm.kuch@yahoo.com  
910-286-5266

CPT Paul Kilgore ('09)  
Paul.m.kilgore@gmail.com  
515-782-5582

CPT Sam Crothers ('10)  
Samuel.crothers@socom.mil  
319-855-3033

**Ft. Bliss, TX**

ILT Julie Bracamonte  
juliebarker42@gmail.com  
641-751-3594

**Ft. Campbell, KY**

Jake Halverson  
Jacob.j.halverson@gmail.com

**Ft. Carson, CO**

CPT Greg Horsley ('11)  
Gregory.r.horsley.mil@mail.mil  
Ruben Rangel—10 SF Grp  
Rangel\_ra@yahoo.com

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson  
Courtney Gustin ('01)  
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Ft. Gillem, GA  
Bruce Berger  
Bruce.d.berger.ctr@mail.mil

Ft. Hood, TX  
MAJ Chris Neels ('00)  
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913-660-6149

Ft. Irwin, CA  
CPT Bobby Baythavong ('07)  
bobbybaythavong@gmail.com  
706-761-2401

**Italy**

CPT Ryan Wilson ('13)  
Ryan.m.wilson57.mil@mail.mil

Kaiserslautern, Germany  
LTC Eli Seeley ('97)  
Benjamin.e.seeley.mil@mail.mil

**Korea**

Caroline & Zachary Sunkle  
sunkle09@gmail.com

**Ft. Lee, VA**

Spencer Shields ('07)  
Spencer.shields07@gmail.com

**Ft. Leonard, MO**

Adam Tarleton ('15)  
atarleton92@gmail.com  
630-624-2440

**Pentagon**

Vance Stewart  
[vance.stewart@verizon.net](mailto:vance.stewart@verizon.net)

**Ft. Riley, KS**

CPT Alexander Herink ('12)  
ajherink@yahoo.com

Redstone Arsenal, Hunstville, AL  
COL Karl Kraus ('87)

hawkifanz@gmail.com  
813-956-3688

Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL  
COL Brad Cook ('95)  
bjasonc73@yahoo.com  
563-332-5377

Joint Base—San Antonio/Ft. Sam Houston  
LTC Chris Van Fosson  
Christopher.vanfossion@gmail.com

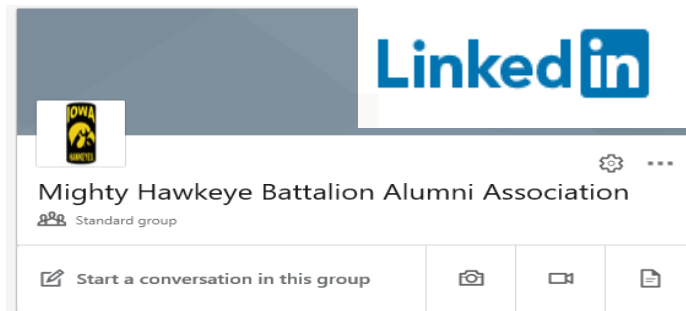
Ft. Stewart/HAAF, GA  
CW2 Jeff Adams ('03)  
jeffreycadams@gmail.com  
515-371-6222  
Nicholaus Cortez ('08)  
Nicholaus.j.cortez.mil@soar.army.mil  
254-258-3838

Yakima Training Area, Yakima, WA  
CPT Brien Waldron ('11)  
brienwaldron@gmail.com  
319-389-0756

Ft. Wainwright, AK  
MAJ Thomas Gorman ('07)  
[tgfle23ee@gmail.com](mailto:tgfle23ee@gmail.com)  
319-270-8074



\*If you are no longer at this duty station, please email Katie Hanna for corrections at [katiebhanna@gmail.com](mailto:katiebhanna@gmail.com)



# MHBAA Board of Directors



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	Jamie Clasen ('07)	Jamie.r.clasen.mil@mail.mil
	Brad Cook ('95)	bjasonc73@yahoo.com
	Kevin Flatt ('70)	flattfam@charter.net
	Karl Kraus ('87)	hawkifanz@gmail.com
	Luke Peters ('89)	luke.peters2325@gmail.com
	Ken Madden ('71)	ken.madden1@yahoo.com
Scott Sanborn ('85)	s2sanborn@yahoo.com	
Stewart Wallace ('68)	wallace1944@aol.com	



## Make a Contribution:

**ALL DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!**

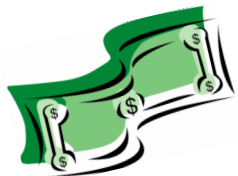
If you wish to make a donation to the MHBAA Operational Fund please send a check made out to the Mighty Hawkeye Battalion Alumni Association to our

**Treasurer, *Melanie Young* at**

**805 Melville Avenue West Burlington, IA 52655**

To donate to the **Mighty Hawkeye Battalion Alumni Association Scholarship Fund** or the **Army ROTC Facilities Fund**

follow these steps to donate online:



1. Go to <http://Givetoiowa.org/armyrotc>
2. Chose the fund you would like to donate to.