

Veterans Tribute Airshow and Texas Historical Commission Marker Dedication

Camp Billy Machen Memorial Park

Honoring

Billy Wayne Machen



Petty Officer Machen was the first US Navy SEAL killed in the Vietnam. He died of wounds received in an ambush when he exposed himself to enemy fire to protect his teammates.

Thursday, October 17, 2024

2:30 - 4:30 PM

1707 Machen Lane

Lake Gilmer, Texas 75644

- 1:30 pm Gates open. Free admission. Free parking. Bring lawn chairs.
- 2:30 pm Motorcade Vietnam helicopters, Historical Military Motor Vehicles, East Texas Patriot Guard
- 3:00 pm Posting of the Colors, Gilmer High School AFJROTC
National Anthem, Buckeye Band
- Welcome, Steve Dean, Captain USAF Retired
Invocation, Mike Kessler, Pastor, First Baptist Church
Upshur County Judge Todd Tefeller, Proclamation and Resolution
State Representative Cole Hefner, Texas House of Representatives
US Congressman Nathaniel Moran
- Armed Forces Medley, Buckeye Band
- 3:30 pm Keynote Speaker Alan Metzel, Coach, Texas State Champion Gilmer Buckeyes
- Unveiling of the Texas State Historical Marker
The Family of Billy Machen
- Posting the Navy SEAL Flag
Veterans Band of Brothers and AFJROTC
- Anchors Away Buckeye Band
- 4:00 pm VETERANS TRIBUTE AIRSHOW * MISSING MAN FORMATION