



January 2026

Dear AC-119 Family and Friends,

As we step into 2026, we're reminded that every new year, really every new day, gives our Association a fresh opportunity to grow stronger in friendship, in purpose, and in preserving our proud AC-119 Gunship legacy.

We move into this year with gratitude and determination. Together, we will continue to remember and tell the story of our gunship mission in Southeast Asia, support one another through the resources our Association provides, and make sure the public never forgets what the AC-119 air and ground crews accomplished. Whether you are renewing your membership, volunteering your time, attending reunions, or simply reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, there is a place for you here. I especially encourage you to reach out to your old aircrew and ground crew mates and let them know this is *their* home too, a place to share their stories through our newsletter, our website, and with each other. Every new or returning member makes our Association stronger and helps ensure our history is preserved for future generations.

As a non-profit organization, we depend entirely on the generosity of our members and supporters. Your donations, whether large or small, directly support our mission: preserving our history, maintaining our programs, and keeping this Association strong and active. If you're able, please consider making a donation and encouraging others to do the same.

Together, we honor the volunteers who give their time, the donors who believe in our mission, and the dedicated Association staff who are there for you every day with heart and commitment. I truly believe 2026 will be a great year of gratitude, storytelling, growth, and mission accomplishment as we build on what we've created together and look ahead to the important work still to come.

I wish you and your families a healthy, prosperous, and Happy New Year — and I hope you'll help us grow our AC-119 family by inviting others to join us.

Warm regards,

Bill Petrie, CMSgt, USAF (Ret.)
President, AC-119 Gunship Association