

Meet LTG Gary Volesky

Introduction by Jimmy Collins

It is my honor and privilege to introduce to you my friend and fellow soldier, Lieutenant General Gary J. Volesky. We are pleased to have him join our ranks since he lives “Service Above Self.” General Volesky is the most senior uniformed military leader in our state – a three star general in our Army. As you become acquainted, he will be Gary to some of you; Sir to many of you; but, please no “Sir, Gary” from any of you.

A native of Spokane, Washington, a graduate of Ferris High School where he ran track, followed by Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Gary and his wife, LeAnn, are thrilled to return to the Pacific Northwest. During his military career, he has gained education credentials from the Army’s Command and General Staff College in Kansas as well as the Air War College in Alabama. He also obtained a Master’s degree from Princeton University.

His military leadership skills have been developed over the past 30 years and included military deployments with code-name operations: Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Inherent Resolve (all in Iraq). He also served in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. He had multiple assignments in the Army’s 75th Ranger Regiment which has been in continuous use across the globe in recent years.

Most recently General Volesky served as Commander, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). During that assignment he spoke to the Nashville Rotary Club and realized the important work of Rotary International. At the 101st, he led the US response to the Ebola crisis during Operation United Assistance in Liberia. Those of you here in the health care field know the high adventure that existed in our world at that time. His key assignments as a General Officer include time as Chief of Public Affairs for the Army – journalists here know that means he was on the short leash to speak for senior Army leaders at any time.

In his current assignment, General Volesky is on the front edge of training and developing our Army forces in Asia Pacific. In that regard he has made several multi-week journeys to Korea, Japan, Australia and other regional destinations to learn the territory and prepare his troops to conduct an array of potential missions.

Gary and his wife, LeAnn, who is a native of Yakima, have one son. Alex is a sophomore at Austin Peay University in Clarksville, Tennessee. The family enjoys vacationing in the Pacific Northwest and sports.

Role as CG, I Corps, since April 3, 2017:

- Senior uniformed military leader in Washington.
- Leads Army implementation of Pacific strategy. I Corps is regionally aligned with PACOM and globally responsive to the nation’s military requirements. Most of his Soldiers based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord are assigned to PACOM.

Military forces from Australia, Japan, India, Republic of Korea, and Thailand are frequently invited to JBLM to train and learn from each other.

- Deployable US Army units based in Washington (most with the 7th Infantry Division), Hawaii (most with the 25th Infantry Division), Alaska, and Japan report to General Volesky so he is a busy fellow.

When I asked him to share something that you might not gain from reading his bio on LinkedIn he told me: “I met LeAnn at what was then Fort Lewis while we were cadets in ROTC. We saw each other for the next four weekends and then eloped. We have been married for 34 years since.”

Gary Volesky wants to get to know you and for you to know your Army. As our Army prepares for future missions and deployments he wants to be sure we are connected with our neighbors in the Pacific Northwest. As a corporate member Gary will be here infrequently. He looks forward to meeting you today and speaking to Seattle 4 in the future. He does want his leaders from JBLM to participate in Seattle 4 activities as much as possible.

Please join me in welcoming LTG Gary J. Volesky with the classification Military – Army.