

Cheryl Toland Bio

Cheryl was dependent wife for 21 of 23 yrs of her husband, Bob's Army career & she learned how to be the 'Quiet wife', because as it was known, at the time "if the army wanted us to have a wife they would have issued us one". That changed as they served together & she became an asset to their shared military marriage for 47 years before he died from Agent Orange related heart problems & she became a VA beneficiary from DIC, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

As it is MOAA policy, she received Bob's MOAA membership and become Mt. Rainier Chapter, WSCOC Surviving Spouse Liaison and MOAA Surviving Spouse Advocacy Council. On the chapter level she serves as Wreaths Across America chairman & the chapter's auxiliary, AROWS' president in 2024. As a member of MOAA's Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter & the MOAA Surviving Spouse & Friends Facebook Group she has found great resources to lead chapter members & spouses to the "Legislation Action Center " on MOAA website. She has been awarded MOAA Award for Outstanding Service twice in her 7 years of serving, September 2020 as Mt. Rainier Chapter's Liaison & September 2023 as WSCOC Liaison. In 2023 she was selected as MOAA National Surviving Spouse Excellence Award.

Outside of MOAA she has been involved with TAPS, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Eilizabeth Dole Foundation, VA Caregivers Assistance Program, Gold Star Wives & through her church the Sewing group & as a Grief Share facilitator. As a retired hairstylist of 57 yrs. she does visits for haircuts & perms at an assisted living facility or for shut-in at their private homes.