



Chaplain's Corner

August 2024

Resiliency Resources

TMD Counseling 512-782-5069

One Source 800-342-9647

Suicide Lifeline 988

TXMF Sexual Assault Support
512-565-4410

DoD Safe Helpline 877-955-5247

Substance Abuse 512-782-6091

EO/EEO 512-782-5118

Soldier Family Readiness Specialist
512-782-1472

Financial Assistance 800-252-8032

Financial Planning 512-595-9138

YOUR UNIT CHAPLAIN

TXMF Chaplain 512-782-5522

36 ID DIV Chaplain 903-714-5519

Veterans Retreats

Project Sanctuary

veteransfamiliesunited.org

vettix.org

Upcoming Building Strong and
Ready Teams Events
512-426-9288

TBD

Other Training/Classes

Speed of Trust: TBD

Financial Resiliency: TBD

ASIST: TBD

“There are three truths I hope you always remember when going through tough times. You’re loved ... You’re never alone ... You have a home.”

CH(LTC) Pat Maae – 36 ID DIV CH



PURPOSE

What am I supposed to do? How am I supposed to do it? It's important to remember that who we are isn't determined by what we do. Sometimes we confuse purpose with performance. Performance is observable and objective. Purpose is more personal and relates to identity. Understanding who we are is crucial to each mission.

This time of year stirs up old memories of playing football. Wonderful times, but I also recall the anxiety of studying plays; the unease of seeing large crowds; the worry of letting teammates down; and the nagging stress of wondering if you can handle it. I had fantastic coaches and remember a saying that helped settle nerves when concerned about performing ... "When in doubt, just fire out and hit someone." This helped me keep things simple by focusing on two objectives --- 1. Where I'm supposed to be. 2. What I do when I arrive. It reminded me to close the gap with an opponent and hit hard when I got there. Eventually, the team and I fine-tuned and coordinated our versions of this saying into effective plays.

We appreciated some of the physical confrontations, but also learned that effective plays depend on more than a "big and bad" performance. Effective plays and sustaining them depend on conducting that performance in the right attitude with the right heart. Some players simply operated to show how much punishment they could dish out. That type of gameplan rarely lasted long. Although hitting hard was a necessary and rewarding tool, it wasn't the point of the game.

As representatives of our school, our purpose was to work as an honorable team to cross the goal line or defend it from being crossed.

Unfortunately, we have adversaries in the world whose sole purpose is to inflict misery and suffering. They exist merely to degrade the will of a population through humiliation and intimidation. Confronting these adversaries can challenge our own morals and we can be tempted to sink to their level. Knowing what's right and training for what's right going into a battle enables us to navigate dilemmas. Although there may be moral failures in the fight, or we may see/do things that no one should have to experience, having the right heart going in provides a roadmap for healing coming out.

Few people in the world have witnessed the full power and maneuver of an Infantry Division. It's my prayer that, if we're called to be a part of any future display, we do so for the right purpose and with the right heart. A moral professional is a trained and educated citizen who understands the meaning of "... all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator ..." I believe it's important for every Soldier to understand humanity is made in the image of this Creator --- when tasked with the privilege and responsibility to hit hard.

CH Maae

Prayer requests may be emailed to your unit Chaplain at: patrick.v.maae.mil@army.mil

