

The Valley Voice *August 2020*

Thank you for your service.

Dana Perdue is a part-time Respiratory Therapist at Valley Nursing Center and a full-time Respiratory Therapist at Blueridge Healthcare in Morganton. Dana has been at Valley for 19 years and currently works on Monday nights. On weekends, Dana is a Master Sergeant in the NC National Guard.

Dana has been in the National Guard for 30 years, 18 years in West Virginia and 12 years in North Carolina. He started out as a draftsman and worked his way through the ranks to reach Master Sergeant. He is currently an Apache Helicopter Repairer. Although most of Dana's National Guard duty is on weekends, he spends 2 weeks every year in reserve training and is readily available for deployment if the need arises.

In Dana's 30 years of service, he has been deployed 5 times, Honduras, Panama, Iraq (2009 - 2010), Kuwait (2015) and Afghanistan (2018 - 2019). Although the deployments have allowed Dana to travel to new parts of the world, the deployments are long, hot and dusty in the desert. He enjoys the comradery and the experience but misses his family.

Dana is married to Lisa Perdue, who is also a part-time respiratory therapist at Valley. Together they have 4 sons, ages 13 - 21. Dana has 2 other children by a previous marriage, both registered nurses. Devin, Dana and Lisa's oldest son, is following his parents' footsteps with a career in Respiratory Therapy.

Dana, thank you for your service to our country because we know the sacrifices you have made when you have been deployed. Thank you also for taking such great care of our residents here at Valley. "I treat my residents like I would my own family" is your motto, and it is obvious in the loving, compassionate and professional way you perform your job functions. We are blessed to have you in our ranks!

For more information
Please contact Admissions

Phone (828) 632-8146
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Find us on the web
www.valleyrehab.com

Valley Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center

581 Highway 16 South
Taylorsville, NC 28681



Resident Veterans:

- Winston Adams– Army
- Billy Burris– Army
- Parkus Chrisawn- Navy
- Kenneth Floyd– Army
- Jacob Gross– Army
- Michael Holman– Navy
- Bert Johnsen– Army
- Harry Landers– Air Force
- Thomas Memory– Army
- Lawrence Neuen– Army
- Alfred Smith– Army
- Isaac Smith– Army
- Pamela Smith– Army
- Gregory Withrow– National Guard

We thank you!



“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

John F. Kennedy

VETERAN RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Michael Holman was an E-7 Chief in the U.S. Navy. He entered the Navy at 23 years old and served for 17 years. He chose the Navy “for the education. They had excellent service schools.” He had family in the Navy before him; his stepfather and two uncles. He had a good experience overall with some good memories and some bad memories. When asked if he would do it again, Michael said, “I would.” Michael deployed to several places outside the U.S. such as New Zealand, Japan, and even Kenya. His favorite places were New Zealand and Australia. After leaving the Navy, Michael took a job driving transit vans for the disabled. Thank you for your service, Michael!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Risk a Lot to Save a Lot

Valley Nursing Center proudly employs Engineer Nick Brown and Lieutenant Lamont Barber of Boomer Volunteer Fire Department as part of our maintenance team. Lamont has been with the department for 10 years and Nick for 2 years. Nick and Lamont both explained that they “grew up in it” and that it is a “family tradition.” They both volunteer their time to help the community of Boomer stay safe by being ready for action in times of trouble. Both men agree they like helping people when they feel bad, as Lamont said, “I would want someone to help my family.”

Nick states they attend hours of training to prepare for their job and “When we are called out it’s because someone is having a bad day and we need to be ready to face it”. Nick and Lamont agree that you must be ready to commit 100% when you are rushing into burning property. When they arrive on site of an accident or active fire everyone knows what their job is and must work as a team to save people and property. If someone doesn’t pull their weight, it is noticed, which causes everyone to suffer. Nick and Lamont have experienced calls that stay with them. Lamont said “You need support and it comes from our families, fellow firemen, and pastor. You have to talk about the bad in order to move on.”

Don’t worry because it isn’t always serious and hard for these servicemen. Lamont and Nick say that their fellow firemen certainly know when to have fun including throwing a comrade in the 3000 gallon drop tank for their birthday. They also enjoy the fellowship of their team and families during fundraisers.

VNC would like to thank Nick and Lamont for their commitment and service in and outside of our facility.



Double Duty Staff:
 Dana Perdue Army National Guard
 Nick Brown Fire Fighter
 Lamont Barber Fire Fighter
 Philip McCurdy EMS