



VA Veterans Day Parade Fact Sheet

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Jason LeVecke **United States Marine Corps** **Business Community Grand Marshall**

Jason LeVecke along with his family are an owner/operators of over 130 restaurants and convenience stores in Arizona, Texas, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, and Tennessee including Carl's Jr., Hardees, Pizza Patron, and Bill's Ghost and Spirits. He is a grandson of Carl's Jr. Founder, Carl Karcher, who started in Los Angeles, California with a hot dog cart, a seventh grade education, hardly a penny to his name and a dream.

LeVecke is a native Arizonan who spent his formative years at the knee of his grandfather learning the values of a hard work ethic, integrity, improvement, persistence and leadership. He and his family have carried those values into both their business and community efforts. He started his working career on the front lines of the restaurant business, working as a cook and cashier at a Carl's Jr. eventually working his way up to General Manager of various Carl's Jr. Restaurants.

His sense of duty and love of country led him to enlist five years active duty, in the United States Marine Corps where he excelled in various assignments. He graduated from the Defense Language Institute as an Arabic Linguist with Top Secret Security Clearance and earned two Naval Achievement Medals during his enlistment.

Following Jason's service in the military, he, his wife Andi, and their four children returned to Arizona and started a business with their family, together the LeVecke's grew just two Carl's Jr. Restaurants into over 70 successful Carl's Jr., Pizza Patron, and Bill's Ghost restaurants and convenience stores throughout the state of Arizona. They recently added to their stable of restaurants with the purchase of 60 Hardees restaurants in the Midwest.

In addition to his business success, Jason LeVecke created the Golden Door Foundation, an organization committed to promoting free market solutions to major issues facing our nation.

Jason LeVecke has been an ardent supporter of veterans and has demonstrated that support as a member of the Veterans Medical Leadership Council. In this role he has provided numerous financial and in-kind donations to help his fellow veterans.

The Carl T. Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which is part of the Phoenix VA Health Care System, has been serving veterans in Maricopa County since 1951. We currently have 130 inpatient beds for medical and surgical patients, 80 beds for nursing home patients and 48 inpatient beds for mental health patients. We are honored to serve our veterans who have paid the price for us to enjoy our freedoms.