



A Philadelphia native, Colonel Thomas Manion joined the United States Marine Corps following his graduation from Widener University. Tom served as a Marine for thirty years, eleven on active duty and nineteen in the reserves; during that time earned a Master's Degree from the Naval Postgraduate School. After ending active duty service, Tom began a successful 23 year career as a business and information technology executive at Johnson & Johnson, retiring in 2014. Tom continues to work within the community and around the country to galvanize and inspire people around him to convey a sense of sacrifice and public service in all that they do.

Tom is currently Chairman Emeritus of the Travis Manion Foundation ([www.travismanion.org](http://www.travismanion.org)). The Foundation empowers veterans and the families of fallen heroes to develop character in future generations. In 2007 Colonel

Manion's son First Lieutenant Travis Manion (USMC) was killed in Iraq while serving his wounded teammates. Today Travis' legacy lives on in the words he spoke before leaving for his final deployment, "If not me, then who..." Founded by the late Janet Manion, the Foundation has served over 60,000 veterans and survivors as well as organized over 50 9/11 Heroes Runs.

Colonel Manion served our country for 30 years in the Marine Corps. Commissioned in 1978 he started his career with the 1st Battalion 10th Marines serving as Battalion Adjutant, Legal Officer and HQ Battery Commanding Officer. From there he was assigned to the Inspector General's Office. He was nominated to attend the Naval Postgraduate School and upon graduation, assigned to HQMC Manpower Department as an Operations Research Analyst.

In 1989 Colonel Manion transitioned to the Reserves as a member of Plans, Policy and Operations Department. He transferred to Marine Air Group 49 where he served as the S-1, S-4 and Executive Officer before promotion to Colonel. As Colonel he was assigned to the Office of Secretary of Defense, Manpower and Reserve Affairs Group. His final tour before retirement in 2008 was with the 4th Marine Air Wing as the G-6.

Tom is the co-author of the recently released book, "Brothers Forever," the story about the friendship, sacrifice and service between Travis and his Naval Academy roommate LT (SEAL) Brendan Looney.

