

Fred Darby

Candidate for State Surgeon

Veterans of Foreign Wars – Department of Missouri

Service to Country

Fred Darby is a proud Missouri native and U.S. Navy veteran. He honorably served as a **Petty Officer Second Class** with the **Navy Seabees** during the **Vietnam War**. While deployed in the **Republic of Vietnam**, he operated as a **Heavy Equipment Operator**, supporting vital construction and engineering missions. Upon returning stateside, he was stationed in **Gulfport, Mississippi**, where he completed his service in **1969**.

Service to Veterans

Fred joined **VFW Post 3944** in **Overland, Missouri**, in **2012**. His leadership, dedication, and commitment to fellow veterans quickly earned the respect of his peers. He is currently serving his **fifth term as Post Commander**, continuing to promote the values and mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In **2022–2023**, Fred proudly served as **District 12 Commander**, overseeing **eight VFW Posts** across the Greater St. Louis area. Under his leadership, **District 12 achieved All-American Team distinction**, a reflection of his effective guidance, teamwork, and dedication to veteran support.

Affiliations and Memberships

- **American Legion Post 444**, Florissant, Missouri
 - **Life Member**, Military Order of the Cootie
 - **Member**, North County Veterans Coalition
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Dedication to Service

Fred Darby's lifelong commitment to serving others — from his years in the Navy to his continued dedication to the veteran community — reflects the true spirit of the VFW. His

leadership, compassion, and hands-on experience make him a strong and capable candidate for **State Surgeon, Department of Missouri**.

Mission Statement

As State Surgeon, my mission is to promote the **health, welfare, and safety** of all veterans through compassion, advocacy, and dedicated service. Every veteran deserves access to quality care, a supportive community, and the assurance that their sacrifices are honored through our continued commitment to their well-being.

I will work to:

- **Encourage health and wellness** by helping members stay informed about medical care options and veterans' health programs.
- **Support and oversee hospital volunteer programs**, ensuring our presence brings comfort and companionship to veterans in hospitals and nursing homes.
- **Maintain accountability and accuracy** through timely, well-documented reporting.
- **Ensure safety and well-being** during all VFW events and outreach efforts.
- **Be present and engaged** at all meetings, offering leadership guided by service and unity.
- **Uphold the mission of the VFW** — to honor, advocate for, and care for all who have worn the uniform of our nation.

Through service guided by **heart, humility, and purpose**, I am committed to ensuring that every veteran feels seen, supported, and valued.

Please consider me for the position of State Surgeon. I look forward to continuing to serve you and our fellow veterans.