Dear Surviving Spouse:

Thank you for your interest in the MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter. We are very excited about this new venture! Our purpose is to provide:

* a national forum for surviving spouses of uniformed services officers,
* a common space to communicate with each other,
* information about concerns pertinent to each of us and our families, and
* a platform to advocate for protection of rights for our members and our dependents.

Additionally, we want to become a reliable source for surviving spouses who live in remote areas, who are housebound, who have jobs and children, or who might be unable to participate at the chapter level.

MOAA’s board of directors chartered this virtual chapter March 5, 2018. It is MOAA’s second virtual chapter; the first is for uniformed services nurses. The Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter is an “affinity group,” with members who can share information in a virtual environment with colleagues seeking to work together as we each adjust to a new life. We want to make a difference locally, state-wide, and nationally, because as members of national MOAA and its local chapters and councils, we “never stop serving.”

Some of the topics we will address, include:

* Are you a new surviving spouse? Do you need information on where to go, who to talk to, the first steps, and then what to do next?
* Did your spouse serve in Vietnam? Could he have been the victim of Agent Orange?
* Are you eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)? How do you apply?
* Are you a recipient of the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)? What are your benefits?
* What is SBP/DIC? The “widows tax”? The Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance?
* Rules on remarriage
* Information you need to know about TRICARE, dental care, and vision care

We would like to invite you to join us in this exciting new initiative. Initially, we plan to meet quarterly. Our goal is to eventually have all 50 states represented. We all have busy lives, and we only ask that you participate to the degree you can. For additional information or to join the MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter, contact Gail or Micki at mssvc02@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you, and we welcome your participation in our virtual chapter. Attached is a membership application for your convenience.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Gail Joyce Micki Costello
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5808 Pebble Beach Drive 1203 Winchester Street
Granbury, TX 76049 Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(214) 676-2132 (214) 770-4140

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE**

**MOAA SURVIVING SPOUSE VIRTUAL CHAPTER**

Yes! I would like to be part of this exciting new venture! Please accept my application below.
I understand I must meet two criteria and certify I am both a member of national MOAA *and* **(a)** a surviving spouse of a uniformed services member (CWO and above), *or* **(b)** the spouse of a uniformed services member of MOAA and currently serving as a surviving spouse liaison, *or* **(c)** a uniformed service member currently serving as a surviving spouse liaison.

\_\_\_\_a \_\_\_\_\_b \_\_\_\_ c (Please check applicable criteria.)

**NAME (LAST, FIRST & MIDDLE):**

**MOAA#: IF NOT A MOAA MEMBER, JOIN ONLINE AT** [**MOAA.ORG/JOIN**](http://www.moaa.org/join)(if you are a Surviving Spouse Liaison, please provide your spouse’s MOAA#)

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A SURVIVING SPOUSE? Applicant’s DOB (dd/mm/yyyy):**

**SPOUSE’S NAME (if applicable): RANK (if applicable):**

**SERVICE (SPOUSE): \_\_ARMY\_\_AIR FORCE\_\_MARINE CORPS\_\_NAVY \_\_COAST GUARD\_\_ NOAA
\_\_ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**

**EMAIL ADDRESS: BEST PHONE #:**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

**IF YOU ARE A SPOUSE/ MILITARY MEMBER, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN CONNECTED TO THE MILITARY? \_\_\_YEARS ACTIVE DUTY \_\_\_ YEARS RETIRED**

**I HAVE A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT, AND I AM COMFORTABLE WORKING ON FACEBOOK:
\_\_ YES \_\_NO**

You can either:

a. Complete this form on your computer, save it, and then email it as an attachment to mssvc02@gmail.com, or

b. Print out the form, fill it in by hand, and mail to 5808 Pebble Beach Dr., Granbury, TX 76049

Please email or call any of the names listed below with questions you might have. Thanks for joining us!

**Gail Joyce Micki Costello MOAA Councils & Chapters**

mssvc02@gmail.com mssvc02@gmail.com chapters@moaa.org 214-676-2132 214-770-4140 800-234-6622