



Meet Our New Military Makeover Family

Introducing the Marquezes of Dacula, Georgia

Marcelino Marquez enlisted in the Marine Corps out of high school. Starting at the bottom rung of the ladder, he rose to Master Gunnery Sergeant, the 9th and highest enlisted grade in the Marine Corps. Marquez has served 27 years on active duty and in the Reserves, and spent more than five years assigned to Mortuary Affairs.

Upon enlisting out of high school, Marcelino had looked forward to escaping troubles at home. In the Marine Corps, he found acceptance from a military family filled with comrades-in-arms where he excelled. That bond and support carried him through two tours in Okinawa, two tours in Iraq, and two tours in Afghanistan, along with many other challenging postings. Marcelino started as an infantryman, then became a mortar man before shifting from mortars to close air support as a Low Altitude Air Defense (LAAD) Gunner.

As Marcelino transitioned into Mortuary Affairs and deployed to Afghanistan, he found an unexpected calling that he ultimately found compelling. Honoring the Marine's creed of "No One Left Behind" became the most rewarding and harrowing role of his career.

In the military—and the Marine Corps in particular—Mortuary Affairs services involve critical and challenging work. Mortuary Affairs soldiers recover the bodies and remains of those who are killed in action and returning them home. The service is tasked with the search, recovery, identification, preparation, and burial of American and American-allied personnel killed in action.

Studies have shown that Mortuary Affairs personnel have some of the highest rates of post-traumatic stress disorder. The very nature of this work is so mentally and physically challenging that it's virtually impossible to escape receiving emotional scars. Marcelino continues to struggle every day with the experiences he encountered while serving in Mortuary Affairs. He wants to share his story and the stories of others engaged in this difficult work to offer support and hope.

Marcelino now works and lives outside of Atlanta with his wife Frances, their three children, their dog Rex, and Perry the parakeet.

Military Makeover is proud to help renovate the Marquez family's home and serve Marcelino after he gave so much in service to his country.

* To Volunteer please go to our Signupgenius Website: <https://bit.ly/3bQiNqy>



Marcelino and Frances Marquez



Marquez Family

AIRING ON 

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Thurs. & Fri. at 7:30 a.m. (ET/PT)



Military Makeover with Montel is a very special home improvement series that aims to respect those who have served our country, rebuild the homes—and even the lives—of these brave service men and women, and repay veterans for the service and sacrifices they've made for us.

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