



CLAN MACCALLUM - MALCOLM SOCIETY

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Donald E. Lay

Christian G. Malcolm Kehm U.S.M.C. Memorial Piping Scholarship Recipient
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Letter addressed to Alexis and Charlie Kehm

Word cannot express how thankful I am to have had this opportunity.

The past couple of years have been very difficult for me as I have been suffering with severe PTSD and have been receiving treatment, so the news of the award was very exciting to me and I can't begin to tell you how much I anticipated the trip. Fortunately I was able to drive to the Academy and I spent such time taking in God's beauty of this earth and to reflect on the blessings that have been bestowed upon me by our Creator. One of the things that struck me the most during my travels was the terrain I encountered. Being an amateur historian of the U.S. Civil War I couldn't help but think about how our soldiers traveled through these difficult hills and mountains not to mention the challenges they surely encountered with the weather.



There are no words sufficient to express the rewards I received during my time at the Academy. The people I spent the week with will not long be forgotten. I was very impressed by the instruction received and the time the staff took to make sure that I was able to learn the lessons. My piping has improved and what's more important is that I now have the confidence that I can hold my own with the others.

Again, please accept my heartfelt appreciation for granting me this wonderful opportunity. I hope I am lucky enough to meet you someday and I will continue to pray for you and for Christian.

Donald Lay