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NEWS RELEASE

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Smith and Smith wed at Martinsburg VAMC historic chapel

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – Wedding bells were ringing at the Martinsburg VA Medical Center (VAMC) historic World War II chapel this past weekend as two employees exchanged their vows.

Dr. G. Robert “Bob” Smith, and Irine Smith, BSN, RN both served in the military and are currently employed at the Martinsburg VAMC. Bob Smith is a West Point and Uniformed Services University graduate. He retired as a colonel from the U.S. Army Medical Corps after 28 years. He is an ophthalmologist and the site director for the George Washington University Ophthalmology Residency Program at the medical center.

Irine Smith served six years active duty in the Air Force, six years in the Air Force Reserves and has been serving in the New Mexico Air National Guard for the past 12 years. She has been with the medical center for over a year as a critical care nurse in the Intensive Care Unit.

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Their path to this wedding day began in 2010 at the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico during new employee orientation. Over the next several years they endured job transfers and long distance until Bob proposed and asked Irine to move to West Virginia with him.

They started the wedding planning process, and chose the historic World War II chapel on campus. "I am a military retiree, and one day Irine will be as well," said Bob. "We both work here and the chapel is so beautiful. It was a natural choice."

"It is so nice to have found a man to share the exact love I have been looking for," Irine said. "Our love reminds me of the love my parents have shown each other the 46 years that they have been together."

Bob and Irine Smith are heroes who have served their country, served our nation's Veterans and will now embark on the journey of serving each other. Congratulations from all of us at the Martinsburg VAMC!

Photo caption: Bob Smith and Irine Smith became Mr. and Mrs. Smith when they exchanged wedding vows on June 21 at the Martinsburg VAMC historic World War II chapel.

The Martinsburg VA Medical Center mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. Located in West Virginia, the medical center offers a comprehensive range of services, including internal medicine, ambulatory surgery, audiology and speech pathology, dental, nursing home, nutrition, podiatry, prosthetics, women's health, mental health, and rehabilitation medicine. With a service area of nearly 125,000 Veterans in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, the medical center operates seven Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). Four of the clinics are VA-staffed and are located in Cumberland, Hagerstown and Fort Detrick, Md., and Stephens City, Va. Three of the clinics are contracted and are located in Petersburg and Franklin, W.Va., and Harrisonburg, Va.