

Operation Helmet



Robert H. Meaders, MD *Founder and President*

Dr. Robert H. Meaders, founder of Operation Helmet, is a retired Navy captain with over 23 years experience in the Medical Corps as an eye specialist. A Vietnam veteran, Meaders began Operation Helmut in 2003 when his Marine Corp grandson requested upgrade kits to make his unit's helmets safer in combat.

After his retirement from the Navy in 1979, Meaders began a second career working for the World Health Organization and International Eye Foundation. He has researched and authored papers for the WHO and United Nations on the prevalence and etiology of blinding eye disease and has helped design programs for blindness control in Botswana, Ethiopia, Honduras, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Lesotho and many other countries.

Meaders, 70, also had a private ophthalmology practice in Arizona for 10 years, retiring in 1994. He is a fellow with the American Board of Preventative Medicine (Aerospace) and Ophthalmology and is certified with the American Board of Ophthalmology, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Meaders has been a frequent guest speaker for the American Academy of Preventative Medicine, Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, University of Beijing, Tong Ren Hospital and the World Health Organization.

Born and raised in Glen Rose, Texas, Meaders received a bachelor of science degree from Southern Methodist University and his medical degree from the University of Texas' Southwestern Medical School.

Meaders and his wife, LaVera, live in Bentwater, Texas.

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