

# Dale Dye

*Hollywood's "go-to guy" for all things military, retired Marine Capt. Dale Dye has been the senior military advisor and/or a featured actor in some of America's finest movies and television shows of the past 25 years, including Platoon, Saving Private Ryan, Entourage, The Pacific and JAG. He currently runs Warriors, Inc.*

To America's troops,

It's clear I may need an additional block of military instruction. I'm finding it hard to write this one-handed with my body vibrating at a rigid position of attention and my right hand raised in a well-deserved salute to our men and women in military uniform. While I wait for the class to begin, I'll take the opportunity to say how much I admire, cherish and respect all of you who are so selflessly doing whatever our nation asks of you in far-flung duty stations around the world. I've been in a few of those places serving before you, so I know what it takes to gut it out and continue the march.

I've been called the most type-cast guy in Hollywood; that's just fine with me. Practically every role I'm asked to play on screen has me in military uniform of one sort or another. There are a lot of actors who would object to that - but not me. I'm more than a little proud to represent you in roles that have ranged from senior enlisted to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. That mostly puts me well over my paygrade, but it also gives me a chance to let audiences see how truly competent, professional and capable our men and women in uniform are today.

You deserve respectful treatment in the popular media. And as long as I'm in that game, you'll get it from me and the people I train to represent you in movies and television. I put young actors through rigorous and rugged training for military films because I want them to understand more than the practical business of looking like proper Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. I want them to understand the way we think and the way we feel about each other, our unit and our missions. As one of you for most of my adult life, that's the least I can do to celebrate your service and sacrifice.

As you drive on for the remainder of your enlistment or for a full career, remember that friendly fire isn't; recoilless weapons aren't; and tracers point both ways. Also, please remember that regardless of what you might hear or read, there are folks here in Hollywood who truly understand and appreciate what you do for all the rest of us. Semper Fidelis.

Dale Dye, Captain USMC (Ret)



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