

Meet Your Neighbor: Angel Rios The 2025 All-American Veterans Queen

Angel Rios is not one to sit down and relax for long. With her military career behind her, she was looking for new opportunities. Her sense of adventure led her to earning a master's degree, working as a contractor in Antarctica, membership in the Miamisburg Combined Honor Guard, and becoming the 2025 All-American Veterans Queen.

She earned her title in October at the All-American Pageant held in Ocean City, Maryland. This national pageant system honors women of all ages for their achievements. It supports the Operation We Care non-profit that sends care packages to military personnel and to first responders.

She discovered the pageant by Google search and transitioned from military formality to pageantry flair.

"It is definitely a different skill set from what I learned in the military. When we were on military parade it is straight face, sharp movements, crisp, clean, on point," Angel Rios said. "Pageantry is all about style,

pageantry, eye contact. It is something I had to learn and grow into, but with my military background, I was confident that I could learn it, and it really paid off."

Rios is proud to represent military veterans everywhere. The U.S. Air Force veteran served two tours in Iraq. She not only supports Operation We Care but dedicates a great deal of her time to the American Legion and Combined Honor Guard in Miamisburg. She has completed 37 missions as a member so far. The Honor Guard attends funerals, parades, and events such as the Miami Township Veterans Breakfast. She is qualified to carry the American Flag and is a member of the rifle team.



Rios and her husband moved into Miami Township in 2019 when he was stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. They decided to stay after he retired.

"I am a collector of experiences. I love to be out in the world and experience things. I decided once that I was going to walk 50 miles in a day and the beautiful parks and greenspaces that we have here allow me to walk around and feel safe in my community. A lot of training goes into that [Honor Guard service], so being here in a beautiful place with friendly people, allows me to get out into the world."

Rios will serve as All-American Veterans Queen through 2025. The pageant will crown her successor during its 30th anniversary celebration next October.

"I feel very proud that I was selected to carry the message about female veterans in our community. It was an honor to hear my essay read and take the stage to accept the title."

The <u>All-American Pageant</u> includes an interview, modeling, and evening gown events. Veterans must also submit a written essay. There are 14 women honored with various titles.

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