RICHARD E. MARBES
President
DAV Charitable Service Trust (CST)

Richard E. Marbes, a service-connected disabled veteran of the U.S. Air Force, was elected national commander of the more than 1 million-member DAV (Disabled American Veterans) in 1993 at the organization’s national convention in San Francisco. Following his tenure as national commander, Marbes was appointed to the board of directors for the organization’s Charitable Service Trust in 1997, where he currently serves as president.

Marbes enlisted in the Air Force in 1955. Following training as an airborne radio operator, he was assigned to the Mutual Defense Assistance Program in Germany. After completion of the program, Marbes was assigned to medical evacuation and troop carrier squadrons in France and Germany. He himself was medically evacuated back to the U.S. following an injury which resulted in amputation of his right leg. He was subsequently retired in 1958.

Marbes is a life member of DAV Chapter 3, Green Bay, Wisconsin. He has held most appointed and elected positions in that chapter, including commander. He is also a life member of the DAV’s National Amputee Chapter. In 1978, Marbes' fellow Wisconsin veterans honored his service to veterans, naming him Wisconsin Disabled Veteran of the Year.

In 1987, after many years in the printing industry, Marbes decided to devote the balance of his career to assisting fellow service-connected veterans full-time. He served as the DAV Department of Wisconsin adjutant from 1987 to 1998. After his tenure as department adjutant, he became the department’s service director, coordinating its Transportation Network program.

Marbes also served as a member of DAV's National Hospital and Medical Services Committee from 1985 to 1987, and is a past member of its Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Additionally, Marbes oversees the northern region of Wisconsin’s DAV Transportation Network, and continues to serve as a volunteer driver to get veterans to and from their medical appointments.