



AMERICAN VETERANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

Florida Gold Coast Chapter Presents

AVER Convention **2023**



Jose Zuniga, Keynote Speaker

Cassandra Leigh Williamson, TDVA

Emily Shilling, SPART*A

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Register at aver.us

Call (954) 315-1460 for convention prices when booking at Sonesta.

Point of Contact is Lee Lawson at son_oflaw@yahoo.com



October 14-16, 2023

Sonesta Fort Lauderdale Beach & American Legion

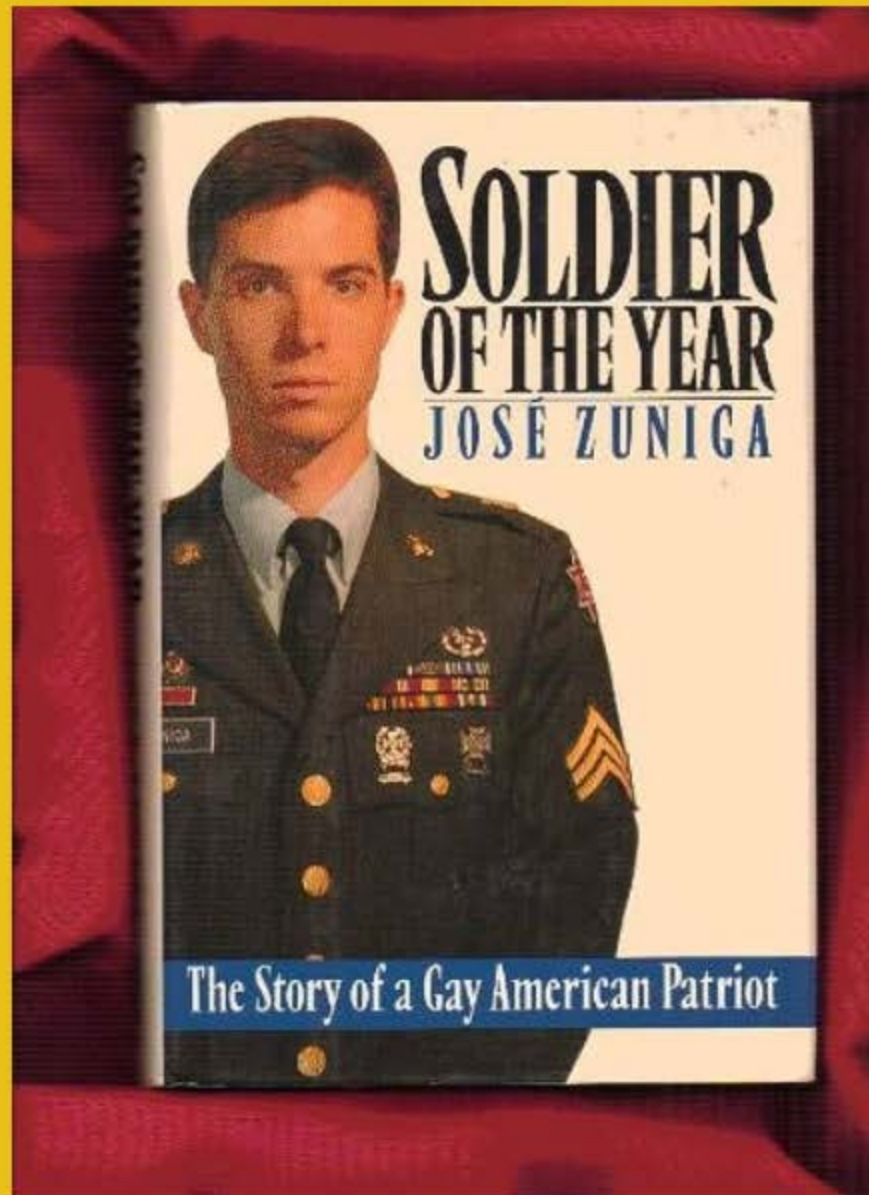


OPERATION PUSHBACK

In deciding to host our 2023 convention in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, American Veterans for Equal Rights was well aware of the state's current anti-LGBTQ climate. We are aware of Equality Florida's travel advisory warning LGBTQ citizens against visiting the state. We would advise our members and guests who feel unsafe not to attend the convention. That said, AVER has never backed down from a fight. As US military veterans, we never refused assignments that might be dangerous. As part of our warrior ethos, we leave no one behind. Our Gold Coast Chapter is one of AVER's largest and oldest. They have weathered many storms. We will not leave them isolated. Nor will we turn our backs on the courage of the Walt Disney Corporation or the many other LGBTQ-supportive heroes who are holding the line in hostile territory. The City of Fort Lauderdale has a gay mayor. The City of Wilton Manners, where events will be hosted, ranks second in the nation for the number of LGBTQ households. They need our support.

The mayor, Chief of Police, and City Council are LGBTQ. The management of the host hotel is LGBTQ. AVER will not be kept from going where we are most needed. Again, if anyone feels unsafe we encourage them not to attend the convention. We understand. We veterans have stood that watch before. Numbers count. We need you and the LGBTQ community of Florida needs you. The Freedom Riders did not travel to Boston. They traveled to Alabama. We're going to Florida. Join us. Strap on your sword and shield. Stand fast for liberty.

Keynote Speaker



Jose Zuniga
author



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