



# Pigeon Forge Celebrates Freedom

## The Parade You Never Got!

Pigeon Forge, TN August 23, 2014

This event was created to honor our Vietnam Veterans; to hail them as the heroes they are. It is an opportunity for families, friends and citizens to salute them with pride; a chance for a grateful nation to say 'Thank You'.

In 2013 more than 500 Vietnam Veterans from 28 States rolled quietly into Pigeon Forge with their friends and family to march in "The Parade They Never Got." But that quiet disappeared quickly; rising in volume to become a glorious sound. It was a rousing celebration, a parade filled with the roar of motorcycles, music of marching bands, the sound of a Huey flying over - and the cheers from a welcoming crowd that took 50 years to assemble! This event is a combination of free events and special performances, with the Parade as the centerpiece.

### FREE EVENTS

- The Welcome Home Vietnam Parade
- VVA Color Guard Competition
- Military Vehicle Restoration Competition
- Celebrate Freedom Weekend Coupon Package



**CALL NOW 888.393.8687**

[www.welcomehomevietnam.com](http://www.welcomehomevietnam.com)

Special thanks to our sponsors who have helped make this event possible.



Compassion International  
Dixie Stampede  
Fee Hedrick Family Entertainment  
Smith Family Theater

# Celebrate Freedom

## Day 1 – Thursday, August 21, 2014

This 5 Star Package starts with Smoky Mountain Opry's special "Salute to Patriots." From the biggest stage in Pigeon Forge with singers, dancers, comedians, magicians, jugglers and aerialists you are entertained. This Salute has state of the art special effects including lasers, pyrotechnics, performers that fly overhead, giant video screens, concert quality lighting and sound. It will take your breath away! With music that includes country and pop, comedy and Broadway, the Smoky Mountain Opry salutes America's Soldiers.

This Opry Salute and other shows are available only with purchase of the Welcome Home Ticket Package. However there are many Free Events, coupons and discounts available to Veterans.

## Day 2 – Friday, August 22, 2014

This morning we will have a VVA Color Guard Competition at Dixie Stampede. Additional details will be posted as they become available, but we hope your VVA Chapter will compete. Judges will award the best of the best with a trophy. Immediately following that competition, there will be another contest for Military Vehicle Restoration Clubs, with prizes for Jeeps, Trucks, and Armored Vehicles, as well as a special prize for other, uniquely customized vehicles. By early afternoon all competitors and spectators are free to enjoy the many attractions of Pigeon Forge. We will also have a coupon booklet for you filled with discounts on other attractions, shopping and restaurants. All competitors will be invited to stay for the Welcome Home Parade on Saturday, winners will receive a Place of Honor in the Line of March.

Tonight's highlight will be a dinner show at the Smith Family Theater sponsored by Compassion International. You will enjoy a nice buffet dinner, followed by an evening of wonderful music. Compassion, a charity that supports needy children worldwide, brings you a special evening filled with live music celebrating the service of our Vietnam Veterans. You'll leave this show with a swelled chest and a tear in your eye – as Compassion International produces a wonderful thank you for America's Vietnam Vets.

## Day 3 – Saturday, August 23, 2014

The Ramada Pigeon Forge South Convention Center will be this morning's point of interest for many of you as it hosts a large Military Memorabilia Show. You will find exhibits filled with weaponry, uniforms, books, CDs and many more collectibles from the Civil War to the present. This is headquarters for the day. Enjoy the displays, spend time talking with other Vets, or enjoy another day of attractions in the Smoky Mountains.

Today's highlight is the **Welcome Home Vietnam Parade** which again marches down the Parkway. We step off at 9:30 am near the Red Roof Mall, ending at the Ramada Pigeon Forge South. Last year's parade featured more than 500 Vietnam Veterans marching and riding troop transports. The parade was filled with Military Vehicles, marching soldiers, motorcycle groups, colorful floats, sporty cars, unique displays, helicopters both on the ground and in the air, dignitaries, local celebrities and more. This was "The Parade They Never Got," it was big, and the streets were filled with cheering crowds. It was both wonderful and emotional. This year we expect a much larger parade with many more color guards, military vehicles, re-enactment groups, floats and bands. Download a parade application at <http://welcomehomevietnam.com/events-and-itinerary/>.

This evening, enjoy a special evening and dinner show at Dixie Stampede exclusively for the Package Holders. Last year our surprise guest was Adrian Cronauer, author of the movie "Good Morning Vietnam." With this year's Celebrity Guest we hope to provide you with another stirring memory.

## Day 4 – Sunday, August 24, 2014

This morning Ticket Holders will enjoy our last Celebrate Freedom Event. It's a Sunday Remembrance Service at the Smoky Mountain Opry, with music by The Blackwoods, and comments from several distinguished guests. This show is about Remembering the Sacrifice of those who gave all. At the conclusion of this event our weekend celebration ends and we begin making plans for next year. **Welcome Home!**

Call for Pricing, Deposit & Cancellation Policy



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[www.welcomehomevietnam.com](http://www.welcomehomevietnam.com)  
Or Call: 888.393.8687

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### SERVICE INFORMATION

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Year(s) In Country (ex. 1969 - 1970) \_\_\_\_\_ Unit or Ship \_\_\_\_\_  
For the Welcome Home Parade, will you be marching? \_\_\_\_\_ or riding a transport vehicle? \_\_\_\_\_

Source: <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/>