



# STARS AND STRIPES®

50th

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



*"Welcome Home!"*

*May 11-13, 2023*

*Washington, D.C.*



### HONOR THEIR LEGACY

*Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!*

[vietnamwar50th.com](http://vietnamwar50th.com)







Throughout the Vietnam War, Stars and Stripes captured the stories and news from the front lines.

We were with you then and will continue to be with you wherever you are, reporting the news and stories impacting the U.S. military community.

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STARS  AND STRIPES®





# The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration



**C**ongress authorized The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration in 2008, and the secretary of defense and president launched the program in 2012. By Presidential Proclamation, The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration continues through Veterans Day, November 11, 2025.

Congress outlined five objectives for the Commemoration. The primary object is to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families on behalf of the Nation for their service and sacrifice, with distinct recognition of former prisoners of war and families of those still listed as missing in action. The other objectives are to highlight the service of our Armed Forces and support organizations during the war; pay tribute to wartime contributions at home by American citizens; highlight technology, science and medical advances made during the war; and recognize contributions by our Allies.

The Commemoration honors all veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of location: all were called to serve, and none could self-determine where they were stationed. Since 2012, Commemorative Partners, a network of about 13,000 organizations, businesses, and federal, state, and local government agencies, have hosted some 25,000 ceremonies to publicly honor and individually thank more than 3.6 million Vietnam veterans and their families. Vietnam veterans deserve to know their service mattered. They deserve to know you care. The Nation owes them our deepest gratitude.

*Join the Nation ...  
thank a Vietnam veteran!*

## “Welcome Home! A Nation Honors our Vietnam Veterans and their Families”

This national once-in-a-lifetime event will honor Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of service while thanking them and their families for their service and sacrifice.

The centerpiece is Camp Legacy. Located on the JFK Hockey Fields adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and on West Potomac Park across Independence Avenue from the National Mall, Camp Legacy will include daily musical performances and programs, interactive experiences, historical artifacts and exhibits, a static Vietnam period helicopter display, a veteran services hub and much more. Participating in this event are more than 100 groups including premier military bands, honor guard units and drill teams; Gold Star families; POW/MIA organizations; veterans associations; government agencies; national, military and Smithsonian museums; high school bands;

and Junior ROTC drill teams.

A formal ribbon-cutting ceremony opens Camp Legacy at 11 am on Thursday, May 11. The exhibits will open at 10 am on May 12 and 13, and the camp closes each day with a sunset concert and Taps at 6 pm.

A multimedia concert on Saturday, May 13, at 1 pm, titled “Welcome Home” will be presented at West Potomac Park. This celebration will feature musical performances, dramatic storytelling, and videos portraying the story of our Vietnam veterans and the enduring legacy of their service. It also will underscore the sacrifices of their families and the contributions of our allies and citizen volunteers who supported American troops during the Vietnam War period.

Visitors to Camp Legacy will be immersed in the legacy of Vietnam veterans and those who have supported them.



## PRESERVING THE ORAL HISTORIES OF COMBAT VETERANS

The **Witness to War Foundation** is a non-profit organization aimed at preserving the oral histories of combat veterans. The foundation is continuously looking for combat veterans who wish to preserve their service-time memories in a video interview to memorialize their experiences for future generations.

If you'd like to learn more about the program, contact Emily Carley (Director) at 770-481-3018 or [emily@WitnessToWar.org](mailto:emily@WitnessToWar.org).

[www.WitnessToWar.org](http://www.WitnessToWar.org)



## STARS AND STRIPES

**Stars and Stripes** is the editorially independent daily newspaper serving the U.S. military community worldwide. Stars and Stripes is authorized by the Department of Defense; however, the content of the publication is unofficial, and is not to be considered the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. For more information, visit [stripes.com](http://stripes.com).

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# Vietnam War Commemoration “Welcome Home!”

## Summary of Special and Partner Events

### May 10

10:30 am - 9:15 pm

#### Gold Star Family Film Screenings

DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D Street, NW, Washington, DC.

#### Reception

5:45 pm - 7:00 pm

Feature film *Blood Road* followed by cookies and conversation.

7:00 pm - 8:45 pm

War Reverberates for generations. For six Gold Star Daughters and a Sister of the Vietnam War, war is not the final word. Over a lifetime, these women sought to share a greater understanding of their losses to war through powerful storytelling.

Six films illuminate the sacrifice, triumph and heart to move forward from the shadow of Vietnam. Touching on a poignant arc of experience during and after the war, these films define what it means to be a Gold Star Family.

Join us as we explore the uncertainty of the POW/MIA issue, the unbroken will of America's POWs, and the bridge to today's Gold Star Families, while highlighting the international and inter-generational perspectives on the costs of war, all from the women who bore the burden and picked up the pieces. (See page 14, for film titles)

#### Library of Congress Special Screening

The Library's Thomas Jefferson Building and all exhibitions will be open from 5-8 pm on Thursday, May 11, for a special “Welcome Home!” event. Visitors are invited to watch “The War and Peace of Tim O'Brien” with the documentary's director, Aaron Matthew, listen to live music, view Vietnam veteran specific displays, enjoy happy hour drinks and food available for purchase in the Great Hall, and enjoy the Jefferson Building's beautiful architecture while immersing themselves in the Library's exhibits, collections, and programs.

### May 11, 12, & 13

#### Tribute wear blue Mile

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

The Tribute wear blue Mile, in partnership with Sons and Daughters in Touch, will comprise 200 posters, each with a face and name of a Vietnam War Service Member who remains unaccounted for. This moving display will border the walkway along the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool for all three days of the Welcome Home! celebration.



#### The U.S. Army Parachute Team, the Golden Knights

4:00 pm – West Potomac Park

The Golden Knights will perform precision parachute drops every day of Welcome Home! at 4 pm in West Potomac Park. A grass viewing area will be open to the public between Camp Legacy West Potomac Park and the concert stage.



### May 12

#### International Nurses Day

with wreath placing at the Vietnam Women's Memorial to follow  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

In recognition of May 12 as International Nurses Day, Camp Legacy will host Vietnam veterans from the Army, Navy and Air Force Nurse Corps. A panel discussion, “Vietnam Military Nurses Speak,” will take place on the Rally Tent stage at 1 pm. At the end of the program, a memorial wreath will be presented and carried in a procession to the Vietnam Women's Memorial where it will be placed in memory of the women and men who served in Vietnam and cared for the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines. Vietnam veteran nurses also will be honored before and during the Washington Nationals baseball game that night.



#### Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home!

Gates open 5:30 pm – Nationals Park

Major League Baseball's Washington Nationals will honor Vietnam Veterans and their families before and during the team's game against the New York Mets. Celebrations begin about 45 minutes before the 7:05 first pitch and include a pinning ceremony for Vietnam Veterans, special recognition of families who lost loved ones in the war, and an International Nurses Day tribute to Vietnam veteran nurses. In addition to scoreboard tributes throughout the game, the Nationals fans will greet Vietnam Veterans during the team's traditional “Welcome Home!” salute to veterans after the third inning. A block of tickets will be available to Vietnam Veterans and their families and Vietnam War Gold Star survivors. Inquire at one of Camp Legacy's Welcome Tents.



## May 13

**wear blue Circle of Remembrance and Run**

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Beginning at 8:30 am, The President's Council for Sports, Fitness, and Nutrition will partner with youth from the Nation's Capital to lead a warmup and stretching session for veterans, their family members, and all other attendees.



9:00 - 10:00 am

*wear blue*: run to remember will lead the Circle of Remembrance, a place of connection, support, and physical activity for athletes of all abilities. The gathering will begin with a moment of silence, followed by each member of the Circle speaking the names of our community's fallen service members. After a military family member sings the National Anthem, the gathering will transition to a

mood of motivation and high energy to celebrate the lives of those spoken names and actively remember them with our steps. Members of the group will embark on a self-paced run, walk, roll or other physical activity. The one- or two-mile routes around the National Mall will begin through the Tribute wear blue Mile highlighting 200 of the over 58,281 Service Members lost in the Vietnam War.

**Concert/Multimedia Presentation**

1:00 pm – West Potomac Park

The keystone event is a large-stage program on West Potomac Park. Live music, speakers, video montages, and multimedia elements will tell the story of the Vietnam War period and pay tribute to the service, sacrifice and contributions of Vietnam veterans, their families, and the many who supported them. The U.S. Army Band Pershing's Own will serve as the house band for an array of singers and musicians, including Broadway star Jon Hacker, actor and singer Lauren B. Martin, and the "Singing Policeman" Daniel Rodriguez. Co-hosting the celebration will be NFL legend and broadcaster Joe Theismann, Miss America 1985 and ESPN reporter Sharlene Wells Hawkes, Broadway star Jon Hacker and TV star Lauren B. Martin.

## Exhibitor List and Maps

**Camp Legacy – JFK Hockey Fields****101 1st Aid Station****102 American Red Cross**

The American Red Cross staff in Vietnam included Field Directors (communication between service members and their families), Service to military hospitals, and supplemental recreational activities overseas (Donut Dollies). [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), [www.arcoa.org](http://www.arcoa.org)

**103 MISSION: POW-MIA**

MISSION: POW-MIA as an inclusive organization recognized for its transparency, determination, and dedication to end the uncertainty faced by generations of America's POW/MIA families. [www.missionpowmia.org](http://www.missionpowmia.org)

**104 Honor Flight Network**

The Honor Flight Network is a national nonprofit organization with a mission to celebrate our nation's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials. [www.honorflight.org](http://www.honorflight.org)

**105 Central Intelligence Agency**

As the world's premier foreign intelligence agency, the CIA is vital to U.S. national security, collecting and analyzing foreign intelligence and conducting covert action. U.S. policymakers, including the President of the United States, make policy decisions informed by the information the CIA provides. [www.cia.gov](http://www.cia.gov)

**106 National Guard**

The National Guard played a strategic role in supporting the war from the home front as well as in theater. The Army and the Air Force deployed National Guard units and individual Guardsmen to Vietnam and around the world to support combat operations. Over 9,000 National Guardsmen served in-country, with more than 100 making the ultimate sacrifice. [www.nationalguard.mil](http://www.nationalguard.mil)

**107 National Vietnam War Museum & The Sons and Daughters of the Vietnam War**

The National Vietnam War Museum exists to promote an understanding of the Vietnam War Era while honoring those

who served. Supporting the museum is a historical and non-political international organization, the Sons and Daughters of the Vietnam War, dedicated to honoring those who served in the Vietnam War. [www.nationalvnwarmuseum.org](http://www.nationalvnwarmuseum.org)

**108 Library of Congress Veterans History Project / National Archives Foundation**

The Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress collects, preserves and makes accessible the firsthand recollections of U.S. military veterans. [loc.gov/vets](http://loc.gov/vets)

The National Archives Foundation is an independent nonprofit that increases public awareness of the National Archives, inspires a deeper appreciation of our country's heritage, and encourages citizen engagement in our democracy. <https://www.archivesfoundation.org/vietnam/>

**201 Vietnam Veterans of America**

Vietnam Veterans of America is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans' service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam era veterans and their families. VVA seeks to encourage the growth, development, readjustment, self-respect, self-confidence, and usefulness of Vietnam-era veterans. [www.vva.org](http://www.vva.org)

**202 Vietnam Dog Handler Association**

Six veteran war dog handlers who served during the Vietnam War organized the Vietnam Dog Handler Association in 1993 to never give up the search to re-unite veteran war dog handlers and honor the memory of their war dog partners. [www.vdha.us](http://www.vdha.us)

**203 Military Officers Association of America**

The Military Officers Association of America is an independent, nonprofit with more than 350,000 members from every branch of service and component, including retired and former officers and their families. We are a powerful force speaking for a strong national defense and representing the interests of the broad military community. [www.moaa.org/vietnam-unchronicled](http://www.moaa.org/vietnam-unchronicled)

**204 Jewish War Veterans of the USA / Reserve Organization of America (ROA)**

The Jewish War Veterans is the premier voice for Jewish uniformed service members and veterans in the United States. The JWV defends the rights and benefits of all service members and

veterans, fights anti-Semitism, and supports the State of Israel. [www.jwv.org](http://www.jwv.org)

Since 1922, The Reserve Officers Association of the United States, now known as the Reserve Organization of America to reflect its all-ranks membership, has championed the cause of the Reserve Components at home and in war. <https://www.roa.org>

**205 Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier / Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Foundation**

The Society is a nonprofit association organized expressly for and wholly committed to preserving the unique history of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. <https://tombguard.org/>

Donations to The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Foundation allow the organization to continue its charitable work in two program areas: Education and Connection. [www.tomboftheunknownsoldierfoundation.com](http://www.tomboftheunknownsoldierfoundation.com)

**206 Vietnam War Commemoration Oral Histories / Witness to War Foundation**

The Vietnam War Commemoration Oral History Project collects and preserves video-recorded interviews of Vietnam veterans and their family members. Their stories provide the public with a clearer picture of military service and the effect of that service on the people waiting back home. [www.vietnamwar50th.com/history\\_and\\_legacy/oral\\_history/](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/history_and_legacy/oral_history/)

Witness to War is an oral history preservation organization focused on video interviews with combat veterans. Founded in 2001, Witness to War has preserved the stories of over 3,000 combat veterans free-of-charge. [www.WitnessToWar.org](http://www.WitnessToWar.org)

**301 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund**

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is the nonprofit organization that founded the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C., in 1982. VVMF continues to lead the way in paying tribute to our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families and to honoring and preserving the legacy of service in America. [www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org)

**302 Military Women's Memorial / Vietnam Women's Memorial**

The Military Women's Memorial is America's only major memorial



to honor all the nation's servicewomen. With our exhibit, archive, robust oral history collection, research library and repository of more than 305,000 women's records of service, MWM is the premier resource for researchers, scholars, and educators. [www.womensmemorial.org](http://www.womensmemorial.org)

Vietnam Women's Memorial is a nonprofit that enhances the educational experience in the National Parks. We have programs that educate the public on the history and the experiences of women who served in the Vietnam War as either veterans and civilians. [www.Vietnamwomensmemorial.org](http://www.Vietnamwomensmemorial.org)

### **303 Purple Heart Foundation**

The mission of the Purple Heart Foundation is to enhance the quality of life of Purple Heart recipients and other honorably discharged veterans and their families. [purpleheartfoundation.org](http://purpleheartfoundation.org)

### **304 Coast Guard Aviation Association – Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl**

Four retired U.S. Coast Guard Aviators founded The Coast Guard Aviation Association, originally The Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl, in 1977. We are a nonprofit organization; fraternal in nature, composed of active duty, retired and former aircrew members, both enlisted and officer, as well as the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We are dedicated to the historical preservation and recognition of Coast Guard Aviation. <https://aoptero.org>

### **305 DAV**

DAV is dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. DAV accomplishes this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

### **306 Vietnam War Commemoration Welcome Tent**

Provide customer service, badges, programs and information

### **401 Vietnam War Commemoration Welcome Tent**

Provide customer service, badges, programs and information

### **402 wear blue: run to remember**

*wear blue: run to remember* honors the service and sacrifice of the American military through active remembrance. Each wear blue event begins with a Circle of Remembrance, a shared moment of silence and speaking the names of fallen service members. A self-paced run or walk on a family-friendly route follows. It is a place of connection, support, and physical activity for athletes of all abilities as active remembrance is taking deliberate action to remember the fallen, support those impacted, and live inspired by their examples. <https://www.wearblueruntoremember.org/>

### **403 National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a patriotic women's service organization whose enduring mission is to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org)

### **404 National Museum of American Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State / Smithsonian Institution**

The National Museum of American Diplomacy tells the story of the history, practice and challenges of American diplomacy. Through exhibitions and programs, we inspire the American public to discover diplomacy and how it impacts their lives every day. [diplomacy.state.gov](http://diplomacy.state.gov)

The Smithsonian Institution is the world's largest museum, education, and research complex, with 21 museums and the National Zoo shaping the future by preserving heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. <http://www.si.edu>

### **405 Allies**

Five nations joined the United States in sending combat troops to fight in South Vietnam against North Vietnam and the southern-based Viet Cong insurgency in the 1960s and 1970s. These nations were Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, and Thailand.

### **406 Native American Hospitality Tent**

American Indians have a proud heritage of serving in the United States Armed Forces, including during the Vietnam War. The

Vietnam War 50th Commemoration is honored to provide a place for these veterans to meet and converse about their service and Vietnam experiences.

### **501 Vietnam War Commemoration Production Center**

#### **502 Sons and Daughters In Touch:**

##### **America's Gold Star Children from the Vietnam War**

Formed in 1989, Sons and Daughters In Touch was established to locate, unite and support the Gold Star and POW/MIA children of American servicemen who gave their lives or remain unaccounted for in the Vietnam War. In partnership with the Vietnam War Commemoration, Vietnam Veterans of America and the Gary Sinise Foundation, SDIT is hosting a photo booth to provide visitors complimentary keepsake photo mementos framed with the 'Welcome Home!' logo. <https://sdit.org/>

#### **503 Gold Star Wives of America, Inc / National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum**

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting surviving spouses of fallen service members. Founded in 1945, GSW is a support and advocacy organization for the surviving spouses of those who sacrificed their lives to serve our country. [www.goldstarwives.org](http://www.goldstarwives.org)

The National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum is located at the former Naval Air Station Cecil Field in Florida. As construction continues, current exhibits include Gold Star Families Memorial, memorial honoring those from Jacksonville lost in the Vietnam War and Desert Storm, and more. When completed, the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum will give visitors an indoor and outdoor complex for reflection, learning, and experiencing stories and interactive displays. <https://powmiamemorial.org/>

#### **504 American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.**

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. is a 94-year-old Congressionally Chartered 501(c)(3) Veterans Service Organization. Our Members are all Mothers of Heroes who passed away on active duty or as a result of their military service. American Gold Star Mothers across the country volunteer thousands of hours every year to support Veterans, Active Duty Military, Gold Star Mothers and their families. <https://www.americangoldstarmothers.org/>

#### **601 Army Nurse Corps Association / Navy Nurse Corps Association / Society of Air Force Nurses**

The Army Nurse Corps Association is a nonprofit, professional military nursing organization with a mission to remain dynamic and relevant to our membership in support of the Army Nurse Corps and Army Nursing. <https://e-anca.org>

The Navy Nurse Corps Association is a service organization dedicated to preserving the rich history and traditions of the Navy Nurse Corps. <https://nnca.org/>

The Society of Air Force Nurses is a nonprofit veterans organization created in 1986 to provide social opportunities to network, reconnect with old friends and make new ones. <https://www.safn.org/>

#### **602 National Museum of Health and Medicine / Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency / Armed Forces Medical Examiner System**

The National Museum of Health and Medicine's mission is to preserve and explore the impact of military medicine through world-class collections, digital technology, and public engagement. In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, NMHM continues to seek and collect documents, photographs, films and artifacts related to the contributions of American military medicine during that conflict. <http://www.medicalmuseum.health.mil>

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency provides the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation. DPAA's world-class workforce fulfills our nation's obligation by maximizing the number of missing personnel accounted for while ensuring that timely, accurate information is provided to their families. [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil)

The Armed Forces Medical Examiner System is committed to being the Department of Defense's leader in providing medical-legal services and emerging technologies essential for the readiness, sustainability and survivability of our service members. [www.health.mil/AFMES](http://www.health.mil/AFMES)

#### **603 National Museum of the United States Army / Army Historical Foundation**

As the Army's national landmark, the National Army Museum is an enduring effort to tell the Army's story and honor the

accomplishments, sacrifices and commitment of American Soldiers. The Museum is the first comprehensive and truly national museum to capture, display and interpret over 247 years of Army history as told through Soldiers' stories. [www.TheNMUSA.org](http://www.TheNMUSA.org)

The Army Historical Foundation is the official foundation of the National Museum of the United States Army, responsible for fundraising, memberships, and operational and attractions management. <https://armyhistory.org/>

#### **604 U.S. Army Center of Military History**

The Center of Military History, which reports to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, is responsible for the appropriate use of history throughout the U.S. Army. This mission has meant recording the official history of the Army in both peace and war while advising the Army Staff on historical matters. <https://history.army.mil/>

#### **605 Association of the United States Army (AUSA)**

The Association of the United States Army is the only professional and representative association serving America's Total Army. We host the largest land power symposia and exposition in the United States and provide events, networking opportunities, education and career resources, and local chapter support. [www.ausa.org](http://www.ausa.org)

#### **701 Vietnam War Commemoration History and Legacy / North Carolina Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association**

The History and Legacy Branch of the U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration strives to provide historically accurate material and interactive experiences that will help the American public better understand and appreciate the service of our Vietnam veterans and the history of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. [https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/history\\_and\\_legacy/](https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/history_and_legacy/)

The North Carolina Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, founded in 1989, promotes and perpetuates the bonds of brotherhood that bind a group of men who have shared and survived an experience fraught with danger yet filled with the essence of pride and satisfaction. <https://www.ncvhpa.com/>

#### **702 Naval History and Heritage Command**

The NHC manages the official history program of the U.S. Navy, preserving, analyzing, and interpreting the service's hard-earned experience. [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil)

#### **703 National Museum of the Marine Corps**

The National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to the commitment, accomplishments, and sacrifices of U.S. Marines. Situated on a 135-acre site adjacent to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, world-class interpretive exhibits with innovative technology and unique artifacts surround visitors and immerse them in the sights and sounds of Marines in action. <https://www.usmcmuseum.com/>

#### **704 National Coast Guard Museum / USCG Historian's Office**

The National Coast Guard Museum will engage and educate through more than 5,000 images and 600 objects, interactive and immersive experiences, and educational programs utilizing STEM, civics and art, both in person and online through its website and virtual exhibits. <https://www.coastguardmuseum.org/>

#### **705 Naval Order of the United States**

The Naval Order, America's oldest naval history society, preserves a tradition of hereditary membership to ensure a continuing lineage to those who have served in the naval services. [www.navalorder.org](http://www.navalorder.org)

#### **801 National Museum of the United States Air Force**

The National Museum of the United States Air Force is the service's national institution for preserving and presenting the Air Force story. The museum is the world's largest and oldest military aviation museum with exhibits that highlight the people and events that comprise the Air Force storyline. <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>

#### **802 Civil Air Patrol / Air Force Historical Foundation**

Civil Air Patrol is the longtime auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and a valued member of its Total Force. It performs about 90% of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions and is credited with saving an average of 82 lives annually. CAP's 66,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. <https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/>

The Air Force Historical Foundation, founded in 1953, is dedicated to preserving the history and traditions of American aviation and space capabilities. <http://www.afhistory.org>



**803 Air & Space Forces Association**

The Air & Space Forces Association has played a crucial role in support of the U.S. Air Force since 1946—longer, in fact, than the Air Force has existed as an independent military branch. Today, AFA supports both the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Space Force and remains dedicated to its mission to educate, advocate, and support both services and the Airmen, Guardians, and their families whose services help ensure the defense and security of our nation. <https://www.afa.org/>

**Rally Point Tent / Parade Ground**

Area for daily performances and panel discussions

**Camp Legacy – Displays JFK Hockey Fields****North Carolina Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association**

Four Vietnam-era helicopters: a UH-1H Gunship, a UH-1M Medevac, an OH-6, and an OH-58.

**Camp Legacy – West Potomac Park****102 Vietnam War Commemoration Media Operations Center****103 U.S. Army Soldier for Life**

Soldier for Life engages and connects Army, governmental and nongovernmental organizations in order to influence policies, programs and services that support Soldiers, Veterans and Families and reinforce the Soldier for Life mindset throughout the Soldier Life Cycle. <https://solderforlife.army.mil>

**104 Vets4Warriors**

Vets4Warriors is a national program staffed by veteran Peer Support Specialists providing confidential, personalized, and ongoing support. We assist more than 2,000 callers per week seeking support with challenges related to social isolation and loneliness, depression, anxiety, PTSD, TBI, financial, medical, aggression, housing, relationship, employment, and family issues. All calls, live chats, and texts to Vets4Warriors are free. <https://www.vets4warriors.com/>

**105 The Independence Fund**

Founded in 2007, The Independence Fund is committed to serving the veteran community by providing innovative programs and services to support the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual independence of our service members, combat veterans, their caregivers, families and those Allies who served in combat alongside our troops. <https://independencfund.org/>

**106 ZERO Prostate Cancer**

ZERO Prostate Cancer is the leading national nonprofit with the mission to end prostate cancer and help all who are impacted. Our Veterans Initiative seeks to increase the public's knowledge regarding the risk Veterans have for prostate cancer. <https://zerocancer.org/>

**107 VA Debt Management Center / Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Outreach, Transition and Economic Development (OTED) / VA Office of Connected Care & VA Patient Care Services**

The VA Debt Management Center provides veterans and beneficiaries with compassionate counseling on options to resolve their VA benefit debts. DMC manages the debt collection process and provides assistance with debt resolution and relief options. <https://www.va.gov/manage-va-debt/>

VBA's Outreach, Transition and Economic Development's mission is to collaborate, inform and advocate for transitioning service members, veterans, survivors, family members and all eligible beneficiaries about VA benefits and services. <https://benefits.va.gov/transition/index.asp>

As part of its efforts to find new ways to improve services for veterans, VA has increased its focus on developing virtual technology to provide and improve access to health care. The Office of Connected Care's programs offer virtual tools and remote access designed to help veterans take charge of their own health care. <https://connectedcare.va.gov/>

**108 VA National Cemetery Administration / Veteran Readiness & Employment / U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Women Veterans**

The VA's National Cemetery Administration provides burial and memorial benefits to eligible veterans, their spouses, and their dependents at no cost to the family. NCA also manages the Veterans Legacy Memorial, a digital memorial to more than 4.5

million veterans interred in VA's national cemeteries and VA-funded state, territorial, and Tribal Veterans cemeteries. <https://www.cem.va.gov/>

If you have a service-connected disability that limits your ability to work or prevents you from working, Veteran Readiness and Employment can help. This program—also known as Chapter 31 or VR&E—helps you explore employment options and address education or training needs. [www.va.gov/vre](http://www.va.gov/vre)

The Center for Women Veterans was established by Congress in 1994. Our mission is to monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women veterans; to serve as an advocate for cultural transformation in recognizing the service and contributions of women veterans and women in the military; and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women veterans with dignity and respect. <http://www.va.gov/womenvet>

**109 VA Million Veteran Program / Veterans Readjustment Counseling Service**

The Million Veteran Program, VA's largest research effort, is inviting more than 1 million veterans to help us understand how genes, lifestyle, military experiences, and exposures affect your health and wellness. Any veteran can participate. You can sign up online or by calling 866-441-6075 to schedule an appointment. [www.mvp.va.gov](http://www.mvp.va.gov)

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers that provide a wide range of social and psychological services, including professional readjustment counseling to help individuals and families make a successful transition from military to civilian life or after a traumatic event experienced in the military. <https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

**201 VHA Office of Integrity & Compliance / VBA Benefits Delivery Protection & Remediation Office**

OIC enhances and preserves veterans' trust in VA by promoting a culture of integrity addressing non-ethical and non-compliant risks and behavior. OIC supports integrity and compliance officers nationwide who implement local compliance programs.

BDP&R protects veterans' benefits for our nation's heroes by preventing fraud, waste and abuse. BDP&R uses standardized processes, to detect, remediate and ultimately prevent theft of veterans' benefits payments.

**202 Moral Injury International**

Moral Injury International is a podcast composed of American, Irish and Australian veterans who produce a monthly podcast on the topic of moral injury. They focus on the experiences of moral injury among women veterans and combat veterans from the United States, Ireland, South Africa, Belgium, Australia, Germany and Canada.

**203 Veteran's Last Patrol**

Last Patrol connects veteran volunteers to veterans in hospice. We cooperate with medical providers of hospice care to connect volunteers to the patients so that their last patrol isn't alone. It is hard to underestimate the importance of friendship during end-of-life care. Last Patrol brings new friendships when friendship matters most. <https://www.veteranlastpatrol.org/>

**204 Hero's Bridge**

Hero's Bridge is dedicated to serving elderly veterans, age 65 and older. We bridge our veterans to a better quality of life through our age-specific and innovative programs. These services are available to our heroes wherever they call home, at no expense to them or their families. <https://herosbridge.org/>

**205 Woody Williams Foundation**

The Woody Williams Foundation is a charitable 501(c)(3) organization that pursues specific endeavors and goals through the vision of Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams. The Foundation encourages establishing permanent Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments in communities throughout the United States, conducting Gold Star Families Outreach across the country, and providing Living Legacy scholarships to eligible Gold Star Family members. <https://woodywilliams.org/>

**206 Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors**

TAPS is the national nonprofit organization providing compassionate care and comprehensive resources for all those grieving the death of a military or veteran loved one. Since 1994, TAPS has provided comfort and hope 24/7 through a national peer support network and connection to grief resources, local and national, at no cost to surviving loved ones. [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

**207 The Distinguished Flying Cross Society**

The Distinguished Flying Cross Society is a nonprofit war veterans' organization whose members have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism or extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. The DFC Society's mission is to honor, preserve, and teach legacy DFC heroism and achievement to members through videos, podcasts, online radio interviews, social media, and personal presentations. <https://www.dfcsociety.org/>

**208 & 209 Virginia War Memorial**

Walk through a Shrine of Memory and engage with the past and present of Virginia's Vietnam Veterans. Through the stories of those who served, the nation's leading state War Memorial honors Virginia's Vietnam fallen and preserves the past. The Memorial also educates and inspires for the future. <https://vawarmemorial.org/>

**210 Americans in Wartime Experience: Voices of Freedom Mobile Recording Studio**

The Americans in Wartime Experience explores the impact of war and conflict on America since World War I. It honors those who served in the military and on the home front and highlights the values they demonstrated in serving: duty, honor, and courage. It challenges visitors to remember the service and sacrifices made by their fellow citizens to preserve and defend our freedoms. <https://www.americansinwartime.org/>

**301 Camp Legacy Cinema**

The Legacy Movie Theater in a Camp Legacy tent will show an ongoing program of documentaries centered on the Vietnam War and its legacy.

**302 Semper Fi & America's Fund**

Semper Fi & America's Fund cares for our nation's critically wounded, ill, and injured service members, veterans, and military families. Supporting all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, we provide one-on-one case management, connection, and lifetime support. Today. Tomorrow. Together. <https://thefund.org/>

**303 Veterans of Foreign Wars**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is the nation's largest and oldest major war veterans organization. Founded in 1899, the congressionally chartered VFW is composed entirely of eligible veterans and military service members. With approximately 1.5 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in nearly 6,000 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans service organization is proud to proclaim "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS" than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans' service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs. <https://www.vfw.org/>

**304 Vietnam War Commemoration Welcome Tent**

Provide customer service, badges, programs and information

**305 1st Aid Station****401 Defense Commissary Agency**

The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of commissaries delivering at least a 25% savings on groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. A core military family support element, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance military quality of life, and help recruit and retain the best men and women to serve their country. <https://www.commissaries.com/>

**402 Stars and Stripes / Armed Forces Network**

Stars and Stripes provides independent, First Amendment-protected news and information to the U.S. military community, including active duty service members, DoD civilians, veterans, contractors, and their families. Stars and Stripes has published its daily print newspaper continuously since World War II and now reaches over 1.4 million readers on any given day through its variety of products, including print publications, websites, mobile apps, podcasts, videos and other forms of media. <https://www.stripes.com/>

The mission of the Armed Forces Network is to provide U.S. radio and television news, information, and entertainment programming to active, Guard, and Reserve military service members, Department of Defense civilians and contract employees, and their families overseas, on board Navy and Coast Guard ships, and other authorized users. <https://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/AfnInfo.aspx?b=958>



**403 Angel Force USA**

Our mission: Stop SuiSilence, the avoidance of discussion about suicide. Angel Force USA and our partners focus on the balanced approach to reducing the isolation and disconnection that precedes suicide through the Eight Dimensions of Wellness. We want to make sure our veterans and their families and friends know that there is no shame in asking for help. We believe that shame cannot survive the spoken word. SuiSilence is a killer—let's start talking. [www.Angelforceusa.com](http://www.Angelforceusa.com)

**404 National Park Service**

Since 1916, the National Park Service has been entrusted with the care of our national parks. With the help of volunteers and partners, we safeguard these special places and share their stories with more than 318 million visitors every year, including the National Mall and its hallowed memorials to Vietnam Veterans. <https://www.nps.gov/index.htm>

**Continuing Service Hub**

**101 The U.S. Marine Corps**

**501 Navy Recruiting Command**

**502 U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting Command**

**503 U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting Command**

**504 U.S. Army Recruiting Command**

**505 U.S. Air Force Recruiting Service**

One lasting legacy of the Vietnam War is the United States determinedly relying on volunteers instead of a draft to build and maintain its armed forces. The draft became the primary source of personnel for the Army through most of the Vietnam War. It came at a cost in morale, combat proficiency, and public support. Official efforts to end the draft began in 1969, and Congress passed a law to that effect in 1972. Transitioning from the draft to an all-volunteer force improved the quality of the Army according to several measurements, and the number of career personnel increased almost threefold. So fundamental is an All-Volunteer Force to the governing principles of our nation, and so essential is an All-Volunteer Force in achieving the highest possible level of capabilities

and readiness, since Vietnam, the armed services have steadfastly resisted returning to the draft, even as the pool of qualified recruits in America has shrunk.

- <https://www.navy.com/start>
- [www.gocoastguard.com](http://www.gocoastguard.com)
- 1B - Baltimore - Home (army.mil)
- <https://www.recruiting.af.mil/>

**PAVILION Designated spot for rest and relaxation**

**Vietnam War Commemoration Command Post / Mayor's Cell**

**Camp Legacy – Mobile Units and Displays West Basin Drive**

**USO**

Since 1941, the USO has been the nation's leading organization to serve the men and women in the U.S. military and their families. Today's USO continuously adapts to the needs of our men and women in uniform and their families so they can focus on their important mission. We operate USO centers at or near military installations across the United States and throughout the world, including in combat zones, and even un-staffed USO service sites in places too dangerous for anyone but combat troops to occupy. <https://www.uso.org/>

**Operation Purple Heart Truck**

The mission of the Purple Heart Truck is to bring peace to those veterans who carry the burden of war. The Purple Heart Truck travels the roads to bring smiles to faces, to listen to stories, to remember our friends past and present, to talk to all, to make new friends, to bring and share honor to those who served this great nation and to share Herb Delbridge's story and his devotion to our service men and women. <http://www.purpleheartfiretruck.com/>

**Vet Center**

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers that provide a wide range of social and psychological services, including professional readjustment counseling to help individuals and families make a successful transition from military to civilian life or after a traumatic event experienced in the military. <https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

**The American Legion**

The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service

organization with more than 1.8 million members in more than 12,000 posts across the country. The American Legion's mission is to enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by their devotion to mutual helpfulness. <https://www.legion.org/>

**Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES)**

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is the retailer in U.S. Army and Air Force installations worldwide. Military exchanges offer online shopping privileges to honorably discharged veterans, and have expanded in-store shopping privileges to all veterans with service-connected disabilities, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, and primary family caregivers for veterans who are enrolled in the VA Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians in the continental U.S. also are eligible to shop at military exchanges. <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/community>

**Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit**

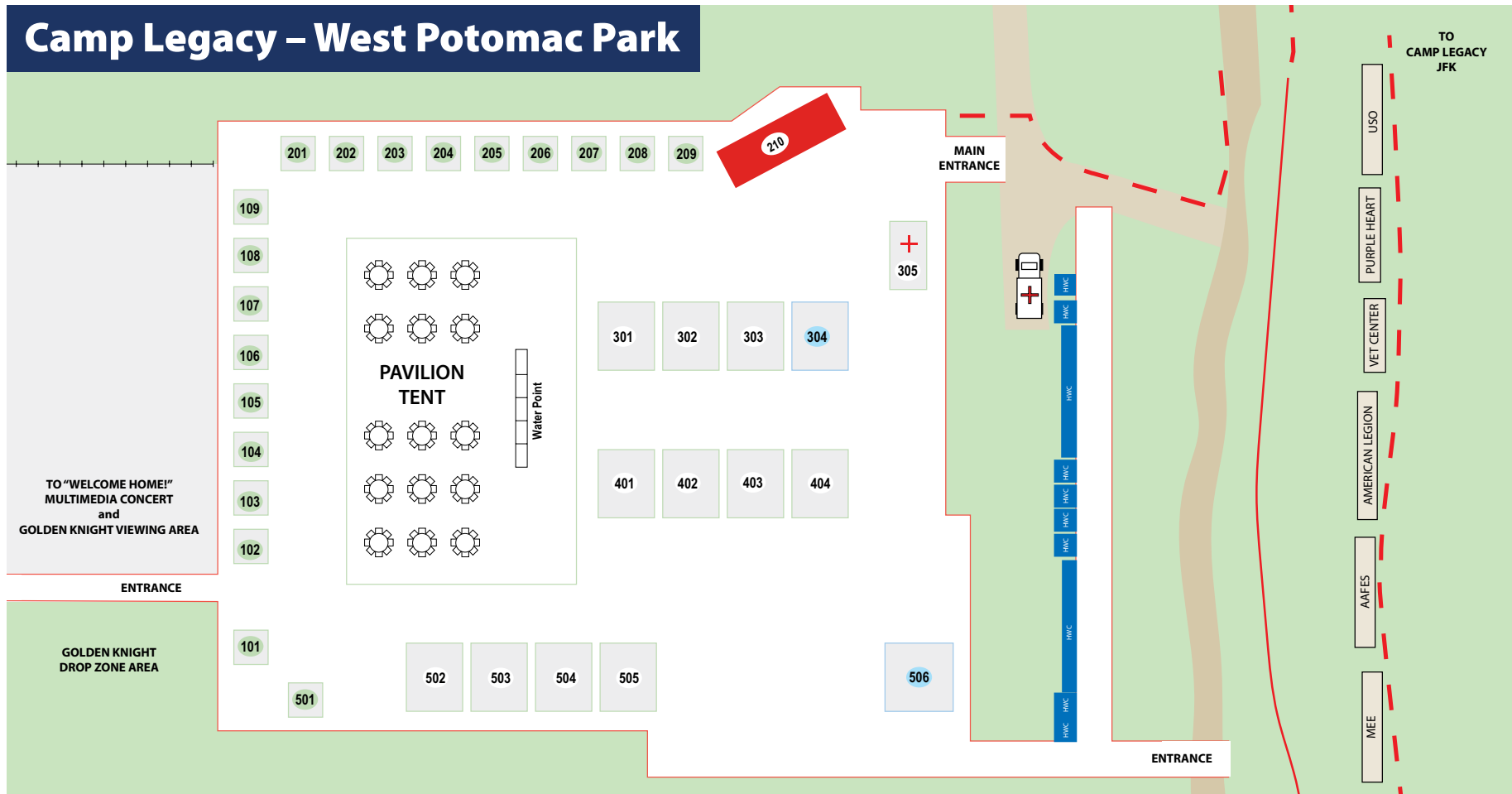
The goal of the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit is to bring local communities and our military together with education, stories and interactive connections. The 48-foot exhibit is equipped with a 24-person screening room that showcases the different aspects of the WAA mission through video. To the front of the exhibit are three interactive computers with locations, trucking supporters, and general wreath sponsorship questions. In addition to teaching the next generation about service and sacrifice, the Mobile Education Exhibit shares stories of patriotism and love of country to communities around the United States. <https://learn.wreathscrossamerica.org/mobile-education-exhibit>

**Two M706 amphibious armored cars**

**Other contributing organizations that do not have tents:**

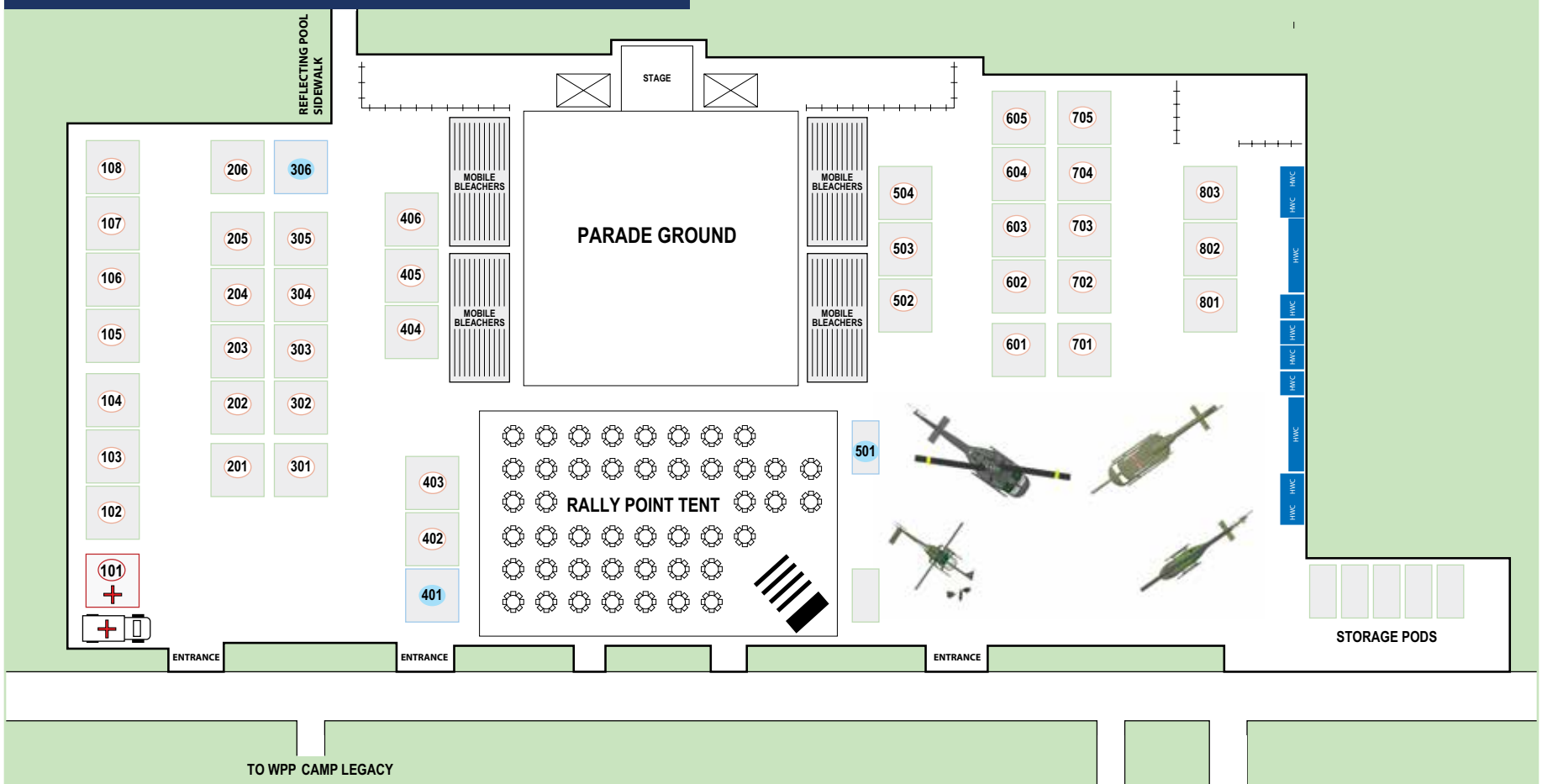
- USAA
- Rolling Thunder, Washington, DC, Inc.
- President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition
- Travis Manion Foundation
- Defense Media Activity
- OSD Graphics
- Joint Task Force – National Capital Region
- Washington Nationals
- Amtrak

**Camp Legacy – West Potomac Park**





# Camp Legacy – JFK Hockey Fields

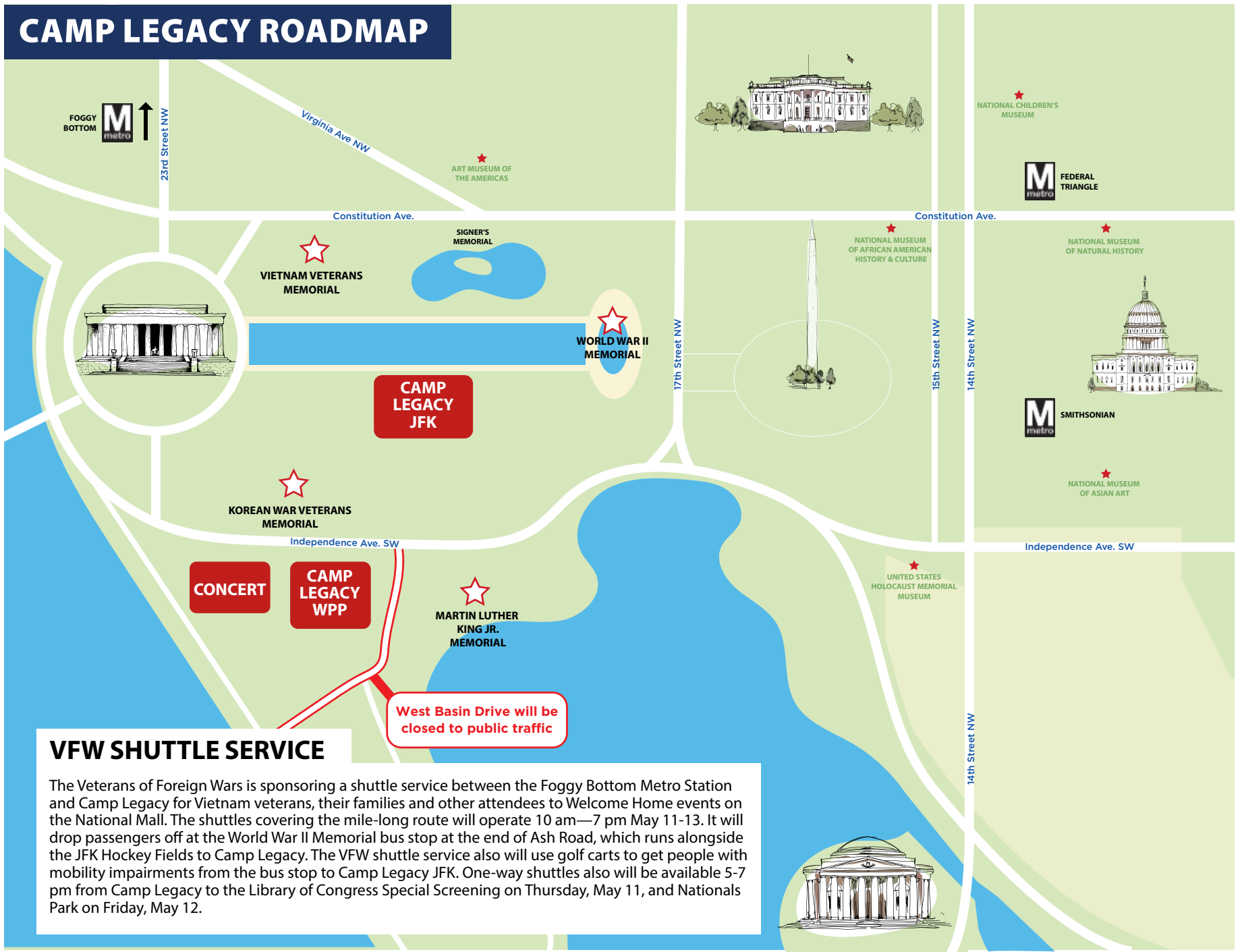


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# CAMP LEGACY ROADMAP



## VFW SHUTTLE SERVICE

The Veterans of Foreign Wars is sponsoring a shuttle service between the Foggy Bottom Metro Station and Camp Legacy for Vietnam veterans, their families and other attendees to Welcome Home events on the National Mall. The shuttles covering the mile-long route will operate 10 am—7 pm May 11-13. It will drop passengers off at the World War II Memorial bus stop at the end of Ash Road, which runs alongside the JFK Hockey Fields to Camp Legacy. The VFW shuttle service also will use golf carts to get people with mobility impairments from the bus stop to Camp Legacy JFK. One-way shuttles also will be available 5-7 pm from Camp Legacy to the Library of Congress Special Screening on Thursday, May 11, and Nationals Park on Friday, May 12.

# — Thank You —

USAA and VFW for providing water for the event and the National Society of the Daughters of the Revolution for providing the Vietnam War Commemoration “Welcome Home” lanyards.





# Panels and Performances

Camp Legacy closes after final performances at 6pm, daily.

## May 10

**10:30am - 9:15pm Gold Star Family Film Screenings**  
DAR Constitution Hall 1776 D St, NW,  
Washington, DC.

## May 11

**11am Opening Ceremony**  
U.S. Navy Band for Patriotic Opening;  
Armed Forces Joint Color Guard  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

**11am - 6pm Tribute wear blue Mile**  
Camp Legacy JFK

**12pm Unity Reed HS AFJROTC/USAF Drill Teams**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

**1pm**  **Patt Garvey**  
*Irish folk music*  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade  
Ground Stage

**2pm Rally Point panel discussion: Reflections On the Vietnam Veterans Memorial**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, dedicated on November 13, 1982, evolved from a controversial sculpture to one of the nation's most powerful emblems of service, sacrifice, and national reflection. Individuals involved in the fundraising, design, and dedication of The Wall will discuss their journey, their key decisions, and the memorial's lasting legacy.

**3pm**  **The Angel Force Band**  
*Late '60s/early '70s music*  
Camp Legacy JFK  
Parade Ground

**4pm Rally Point panel discussion: Servicewomen in the Vietnam War**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

Trailblazing Vietnam veteran servicewomen share their remarkable stories of service—what they did, what it was like to be a woman in the military, why they couldn't carry weapons or fly airplanes, and what inspired more than 265,000 women to don the uniform and serve.

**4pm U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights Jump**  
Camp Legacy West Potomac Park

**5pm USCG Drill Team / Sunset Performance (USCG Jazz Band)**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

**6pm TAPS played by Vietnam Veterans with Bugles Across America**  
Camp Legacy JFK  
Parade Ground



## May 12

**10am Camp Legacy Opens**  
Camp Legacy

**10am - 6 pm Tribute wear blue Mile**  
Camp legacy JFK



**10am Ballou HS Band/ Herndon HS NJROTC/USN Drill Team**  
Camp Legacy JFK  
Parade Ground

**11am Rally Point panel discussion: U.S. Allies in the Vietnam War**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

Hear and honor the experiences of South Korean, Australian, New Zealand, Philippines and Thai military personnel in the Vietnam War. Learn how the allied partners who fought alongside the American forces were organized, where they served, what they did, and how they were treated after the war.

12pm



**Danny Many Horses**  
*Native flute songs with jazz*  
Camp Legacy JFK  
Parade Ground  
Stage

1pm

**Rally Point panel discussion: Vietnam Military Nurses Speak**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

As part of the program celebrating International Nurses Day, a panel of Vietnam Veteran nurses from each of the services will recount their experiences during the Vietnam War, mending wounds and tending to mysterious ailments under harsh conditions and unrelenting fire.

2pm



**Donnie Isaacs**  
*Country music*  
Camp Legacy JFK  
Parade Ground  
Stage

3pm

**Rally Point panel discussion: Four-Star Vietnam Veterans**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

The Air & Space Forces Association hosts six generals in a multiservice discussion of the Vietnam War and its military legacy: Vietnam veterans Gen Ron Fogleman, USAF, Adm James Loy, USGC, Adm Mike Mullen, USN, Gen Denny



## HONORING OUR HEROES!

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Salute Vietnam Veterans

The Bradford Exchange has made a charitable donation to Honor Flight Chicago thanking Vietnam Veterans for their service to our country.

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In 1973, just over 50 years ago, "Operation Homecoming," brought our POWs to their families and sparked a transition in public opinion, garnering respect for all Vietnam Veterans. Now The Bradford Exchange Mint honors all U.S. POWs and Vietnam Veterans with the *Vietnam Homecoming 50th Anniversary Proof Coin*. This exclusive, 99.9% Silver plated tribute features photographic imagery and arrives secured in a crystal-clear capsule.

Acquire yours at the \$49.99\* price, payable in two installments of \$24.99 each, backed by our unconditional, 365-day guarantee. This could be your only opportunity to preview *The Vietnam Homecoming 50th Anniversary Proof Coin* as well as additional issues in *The Vietnam Homecoming 50th Anniversary Proof Coin Collection*. Issues will arrive about once a month at the same price. Send no money now, and you may cancel at any time. So act today.



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E-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**923725-00000**



Reimer, USA, Gen Jack Sheehan, USMC, and the first-ever National Guard 4-star, Gen Craig McKinley, NGB.

4pm



**U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights Jump**  
Camp Legacy  
West Potomac Park

4pm

**Rally Point panel discussion: The Ongoing Mission Accounting for MIAs**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

One important population of Vietnam Veterans have yet to be “welcomed home”: The still unaccounted for are an important population of Vietnam veterans yet to be “welcomed home.” Hear experts on this issue and the remarkable and successful efforts in accounting for the unaccounted.

5pm

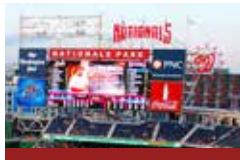
**USA Drill Team / Sunset Performance (USN Band Country Current)**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

6pm

**TAPS played by Vietnam Veterans with Bugles Across America**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

7:05pm

**Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home at Nationals Park**  
Nationals Park



## May 13

**8:30am Presidents Council for Sports, Fitness & Nutrition Warm-up Session**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

**9 -10am wear blue Circle of Remembrance and Run**  
Camp Legacy JFK

**10am Camp Legacy Opens**  
Camp Legacy

**10am - 6pm Tribute wear blue Mile**  
Camp Legacy JFK

10am



**Military Working Dog Demonstration**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

Military Working Dog Demonstration by the 316 Security Support Group, Military Working Dog Unit, at Joint Base Andrews, hosted by the Vietnam Dog Handler Association

**11am Stars & Stripes Panel Discussion - Journalism in Vietnam**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

The Vietnam War was the first TV war, and media coverage of the conduct of the war changed the perception and support back home in the United States. Hosted by *Stars and Stripes*, Mark Bowden, author of *Hue 1968* and *Black Hawk*

*Down*, will lead the discussion, which includes two *Stars and Stripes* reporters in Vietnam—John Olson and Calvin Posner—of the difficulties of telling the Vietnam War story.

**1 - 3pm Multimedia Concert “Welcome Home”**  
West Potomac Park

**3:00pm Erica Scanlon Harr Showtunes**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground Stage

**4:00pm Rally Point panel discussion: How to Preserve Your Service Artifacts**  
Camp Legacy JFK Rally Point Tent

Hosted by the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, professional museum curators and archivists will offer tips on how to preserve your own historic documents and artifacts, and where to donate those service memorabilia into perpetuity.

**4:00 pm U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights Jump**  
Camp Legacy West Potomac Park

**5:00 pm USMC Drill Team/Sunset Performance / Closing Ceremony (USMC Band Free Country)**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

**6:00 pm TAPS played by Vietnam Veterans with Bugles Across America / Camp Legacy Closes**  
Camp Legacy JFK Parade Ground

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May 26

# GARY SINISE

FOUNDATION PRESENTS:

A Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Celebration of Service featuring Gary Sinise & the Lt. Dan Band



Tickets can be reserved at [www.garysinisefoundation.org](http://www.garysinisefoundation.org)



There are over **20,000 Gold Star Children** whose fathers died, or are missing, in the Vietnam War.

Since 1989, we have come together in community and finally found understanding.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Single unit - \$19.99 per unit	\$19.99

Shipping & Handling + \$7.95

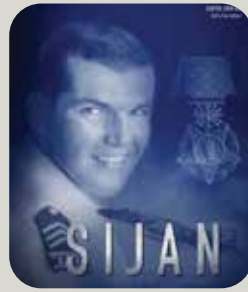
TOTAL





## GOLD STAR FAMILY FILM SCREENINGS

War reverberates for generations. For six gold star daughters and a sister of the Vietnam war — war is not the final word. Over a lifetime, these women sought to share a greater understanding of their losses to war through powerful storytelling. Each woman holds lessons learned. Six films illuminate the sacrifice, triumph, and heart to move forward from the shadow of Vietnam. Touching on a poignant arc of experience during and after the war, these films define what it means to be a gold star family.



**SIJAN** - produced and directed by the sister of Air Force Captain Lance P. Sijan. This inspiring and heartfelt documentary is a tribute to the resilience and camaraderie America's POWs upheld during the Vietnam War. Sijan's sister, Janine Sijan-Rozina, tells the story of not only an airman, but a man—an older brother, a son, a friend. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Sijan's story reflects the optimism he held for his country and sense of duty. Fellow POW veterans who lived with Sijan detail his final days and incredible will to survive. Sijan, a posthumously-awarded Medal of Honor recipient, evaded the North Vietnamese for a harrowing six weeks after being shot down in November 1967. Today, Janine leads resiliency training for the USAF at installations across the globe.



**BLOOD ROAD** - Released in 2017, Blood Road follows the journey of ultra-endurance mountain bike athlete Rebecca Rusch and her Vietnamese riding partner, Huyen Nguyen, as they pedal 1,200 miles along the infamous Ho Chi Minh Trail through the dense jungles of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Their goal: to reach the crash site and final resting place of Rebecca's father, a U.S. Air Force pilot shot down over Laos some 40 years earlier. During this poignant voyage of self-discovery, the women push their bodies to the limit while learning more about the historic 'Blood Road' they're pedaling and how the Vietnam War shaped their lives in different ways. MIA daughter Rebecca Rusch and her sister BG Sharon Bannister, USAF, a member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's board of directors, are frequent speakers on the POW/MIA issue.



**GOLD STAR CHILDREN** - an award-winning documentary about child survivors of war casualties. Director/Producer Mitty Mirrer is also the Gold Star daughter of Marine Capt. William A. Griffis, III. This intimate look at children who have lost a parent to war follows the parallel journeys of two generations of our nation's Gold Star Children. Gold Star Children who lost parents serving in Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq work together to ensure that all child survivors know they are not alone. The film opens a window on a unique part of the American story—one that has been tragically overlooked and is happening now. Ultimately, this is a story about the redemptive power of sharing and resilience of America's Gold Star Children. In 2008, Mitty founded the nonprofit organization Gold Star Children.



**THEY WERE OUR FATHERS** is a documentary narrated by Director/Producer Jill Hubbs whose father Navy Commander Donald Hubbs became Missing in Action during his second tour of duty in Vietnam, and who remains unaccounted for today. The film features the stories of America's Gold Star Children from the Vietnam War—members of Sons and Daughters in Touch, a non-profit established in 1989 to locate, unite and support the estimated 20,000 American children who lost fathers in the Vietnam War. These stories of loss, patriotism and honor are powerful testimonies of the true costs of war. Jill is the General Manager of WSRE (PBS) in Pensacola, FL.



**HE'S ONLY MISSING** - The American POWs were released in 1973, and my father, Lt. Col. Robert Norman Smith, was not among them. The absence of information allowed the possibility of hope to linger. In 1978, I produced this film to try to explain what it feels like to live in this state of limbo, never really knowing the circumstances of a loss. Years later, fragments of what happened began to emerge with the discovery of some bones in the village of Phuy Thuy. A CBS News television crew followed me and my husband as an elderly former Viet Cong soldier led us into the jungle to see remnants that remained at the crash site. "Your father is sacred," he told me through a translator. "His soul led you to this place. You may not find everything you are looking for, but you will find what you need to know." The story of our journey, "Letting Go," aired on CBS News in 1995. Robin Smith is an Emmy Award-winning producer and Founder and President of Video/Action Fund.



**THE 2 SIDES PROJECT** is an award-winning documentary that follows the unforgettable journey of six U.S. sons and daughters as they discover a country and a people with whom they share a common history. Over 11 days in December 2015, American and Vietnamese sons and daughters—who had all lost fathers on opposite sides of the war—held the first-ever formal meetings. The film captures the entire story, not just the transformative two sides encounter, but the profoundly moving experiences these Americans had while visiting the sites where their fathers died, and the powerful encounters they had with the country itself. The 2 Sides Project was produced by Margot Carlson Delogne, whose father, Air Force Captain John W. Carlson, was killed on December 7, 1966. His body was never recovered, and he remains missing in action.

PARKES



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

# VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



A GRATEFUL NATION THANKS AND HONORS OUR VIETNAM VETERANS AND THEIR LOVED ONES



## Vietnam Veterans hold a special place in my heart.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the end of combat operations and a return of US troops from the Vietnam War. We honor and remember the sacrifices made by all those who served and their families.

Many of my family members and friends served in Vietnam. Hearing their stories of combat and of returning home to a nation that turned its back on them left an indelible impression on me. In fact, I wore my brother-in-law Jack's dog tags when playing the character of Lt. Dan in *Forrest Gump*. Their stories were the early genesis of my mission to serve America's heroes and all **the real Lt. Dans** wounded in battle.

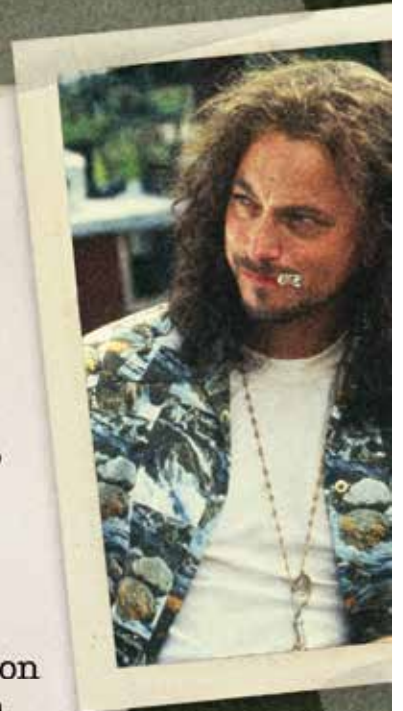
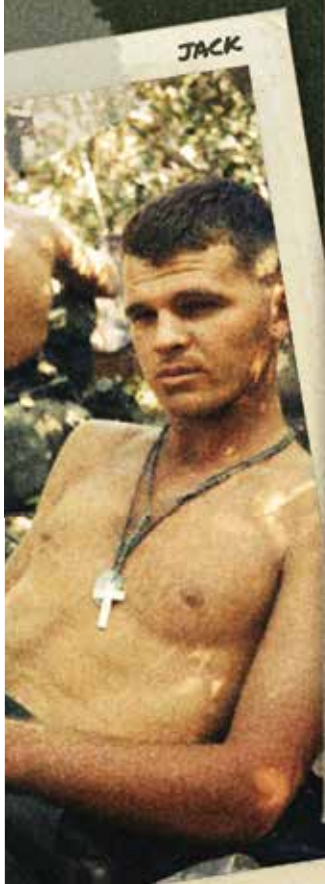
Our Vietnam Veterans didn't get the welcome home they deserved all those years ago. During this 50th anniversary year, I say, "Welcome Home" to each and every one of our Vietnam Veterans. Your service and sacrifice in defense of freedom is appreciated and will never be forgotten.

The Gary Sinise Foundation honors our Vietnam Veterans and all our nation's heroes and their families. Join our important mission today. I hope to see you on this journey.

Your pal,

*Gary Sinise*

SCAN THIS! →



### SERVING AMERICA'S HEROES & THEIR FAMILIES

We're building custom homes for severely wounded heroes, organizing healing retreats for families of the fallen, hosting uplifting events for active duty service members, and so much more. Join us today. Visit [GarySiniseFoundation.org](http://GarySiniseFoundation.org)