

Once again with my brothers...as we were together then...we are together now...



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

A Nationally acclaimed and award winning Veteran Newsletter & Website

QUAD CITIES CHAPTER 299

WWW.QCVVA299.ORG

DECEMBER 2015

"We sleep safely in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would harm us." George Orwell

HOLIDAY EDITION SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

We take the opportunity of this Holiday Season to advise our Membership that contained in the "In Fold" of this issue is an application for you to travel to Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight for Vietnam Veterans. Every Member is aware that Vietnam Veterans are dying from ancient wounds whether those wounds are seen or unseen. Agent Orange continues to kill at an alarming rate.

Honor Flight of the Quad Cities (HFQC) selects Veterans for the flights on a first come – first served basis. Remember, your application must be sent to the HFQC address – do not send to Chapter 299. All Vietnam 'in-country' and Era Veterans that are battling Extreme Life Threatening Health Issues will go to the head of the line as the top priority. It is highly recommended that a doctor[s] diagnosis accompany the application. After the top priority Veterans have been assigned slots, the rest of the Veterans will be taken by date of application. It is our hope that 'in-country' Veterans will have priority over the Era Veterans, but the Honor Flight Board of Directors makes that call. If the aforementioned becomes the HFQC's policy, it will be of paramount importance to attach a copy of your DD-214 to your Honor Flight Application. If you need a copy of your DD -214 send your request = SF-180, Request Pertaining To Military Records to National Personnel Records Center – Military Personnel Records – 1 Archives Drive – St. Louis, MO 63138. You can also request a copy be sent to you on-line at – EZDD214.com

In the spirit of the Holiday Season, your editors wish to thank each of our Sponsors. Without Sponsors there is no Shoulder To Shoulder (STS) newsletter. The dollars each issue costs would stun the casual Member or recipient of Shoulder To Shoulder, which leads us to once again request that members strongly consider the on-line "e" version of the STS.

We thank: Attorney at Law and consistent Volunteer, Tom Skorepa, The Water Park Car Wash facilities in Moline, Bettendorf and Davenport and valued supporter of our Catering Crew, Carroll Industrial Ventilation, Inc. in Andalusia, Illinois, American Bank and Trust at many locations throughout the Quad Cities, L&M Accounts Inc. in Moline, James W. Victor

– Executive Director at Morgan Stanley, 299 Member Judge Jim Teros our personal "JAG" Officer, Member Ken Stotmeister – Producer / Broker and Personal & Business Insurance Solutions, Tina and Brad Forret of River View Coins in Moline, 7 G Distributing = Budweiser providing solid support for Chapter Events, Dr. Angel Hong of Healing Heroes In The Heartland who will treat all Veterans suffering from PTSD / TBI FREE OF CHARGE, Jumer's Casino and Hotel that consistently provide us assistance and its venue for a wide variety of Chapter Events, Sam's Club one of our biggest supporters and most Veteran Friendly Company in America.

Life Member Darrell Reynolds of Eriksen's Chevrolet & Buick in Milan, Illinois has been with us from the start as a Sponsor but he is so much more. Whatever the need, no matter the time, Darrell is our Go-To Guy. If anyone wants to know what the true Marine ethic is, Darrell Reynolds walks the walk. Semper fidelis Darrell – JL, BA, JH

MEMBERS NOTE – THERE IS NO DECEMBER MEETING – IF YOU APPEAR AT RI ARSENAL ON DECEMBER 15TH YOU WILL PRESIDE SINCE NO ONE ELSE WILL BE THERE!



Date Received _____/_____/_____



VETERAN APPLICATION – Vietnam Era

These are the dates set by congress for the Vietnam War. **Applicants must have served during these dates to be considered a Vietnam War Era Veteran: February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975**

Honor Flight Network recognizes the American veteran for your sacrifices and achievements by flying you to Washington, DC to see YOUR memorial and others at no cost. Top priority however continues to be for WWII Veterans, followed by Korean Veterans and terminally ill veterans from all wars. *For Honor Flight to achieve this goal a Guardian will be assigned to provide assistance in helping you and the other veterans have a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience.* For all you and your comrades have sacrificed for us, please consider this a small token of appreciation from all of us at Honor Flight. For Honor Flight of the Quad Cities information, please check our website at www.HonorFlightQC.org or call us at (563) 388-3592. ***Thank You for your service.***

YOUR NAME: _____ NICK NAME: _____
Please Print First Full Middle Last (If used)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: DAY: _____ EVENING: _____ MOBILE _____

E-MAIL: _____ WEIGHT: _____ AGE _____ BIRTH DATE (M/D/Y): _____

GENDER (M, F) _____ TEE SHIRT SIZE: (S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL) _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION (someone available the day you travel):

NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: DAY: _____ EVENING: _____ MOBILE: _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT (SON, DAUGHTER, ETC): NAME _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

SERVICE HISTORY: BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____ RANK: _____

LIST DATES OF SERVICE: _____

MEDICAL: INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL **NOT** DISQUALIFY YOU. IT PERMITS US TO ASSESS THE SUPPORT WE NEED DURING THE TRIP. INFO IS FOR HONOR FLIGHT AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL ONLY.

Do you use mobility equipment? YES/NO.

MEDICATIONS (name and how often you take it):

| <u>MEDICATION</u> | <u>TAKEN HOW OFTEN</u> | <u>MEDICATION</u> | <u>TAKEN HOW OFTEN</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Do you have any **drug allergies?** _____

Do you have a history of seizure? YES NO Please describe what type (i.e. grand mal. petit mal. other) _____

Date of last seizure. _____. If within past 5 years, STRONGLY advised you discuss trip with your private physician!

PLEASE COMPLETE and SIGN THE BACK PAGE!

Do you have problems with **motion sickness (sea or air)?** YES NO. If yes, is it controlled with medications? YES NO
If motion sickness is not controlled with medications, it is **STRONGLY** advised you discuss the trip with your private physician!

Do you have any **breathing problems?** YES NO. If YES, please describe _____

Do you use a home nebulizer machine? YES NO. If YES, you are **STRONGLY** encouraged to discuss the trip with your private physician concerning the use of portable hand-held nebulizers during the trip.

Do you use **oxygen** at any time? YES NO. If YES, you will need your private physician to write a prescription for oxygen to be used during the flight and during the tour. Oxygen will be provided. The prescription should be turned in with the application.

Do you have a **problem walking the length of a football field** without assistance? YES NO. If yes, please describe the reason (e.g. lung problems, arthritis, heart problems, etc.): _____

Do you have a history of **open head injuries, sinus problems, or ear problems?** YES NO. If YES, have you flown since the open head injury, sinus or ear problems occurred? YES NO. If YES, did you have any problems? YES NO

If YES, it is **STRONGLY** advised you discuss the trip with your private physician. If you have **NEVER** flown since the open head injury, sinus or ear problems, again we **STRONGLY** advise you discuss the trip with your private physician.

Do you have a **urostomy or colostomy bag?** YES NO. If YES, please make sure the bag is vented prior to flight. If you do not know if your bag is vented, it is **STRONGLY** advised that you discuss this issue with your private physician.

Additional Comments or Concerns:

PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY AND SIGN: (*Honor Flight refers to Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and Honor Flight Network*)

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that:

1. As photographic and video equipment are frequently used to memorialize and document **Honor Flight** trips and events, his/her image may appear in a public forum, such as the media or a website, to acknowledge, promote, or advance the work of the **Honor Flight** program. I hereby release the photographer and **Honor Flight** from all claims and liability relating to said photographs. I hereby give permission for my images captured during **Honor Flight** activities through video, photo, or other media, to be used solely for the purposes of **Honor Flight** promotional material and publications, and waive any rights or compensation or ownership thereto.
2. I further state that medical insurance is the responsibility of the veteran and I understand that **Honor Flight** does NOT provide medical care. I understand that I accept all risks associated with travel and other **Honor Flight** activities and will not hold **Honor Flight** responsible for any injury/illness incurred by me while participating in the **Honor Flight** program.
3. **I understand that Honor Flight of the Quad Cities has a Guardian for me, and is not accepting additional Guardian applications at this time.**

SIGNED: _____ DATE: ____/____/_____
(E-mail applicants will be required to sign prior to actual flight date)

Please submit this form to:

Honor Flight of the Quad Cities
c/o Ridgecrest Village
4130 Northwest Blvd.
Davenport, IA 52806

Or fax to: (563) 388-3287



HONOR FLIGHT OF THE QUAD CITIES TO ACCEPT VIETNAM-ERA VETERAN APPLICATIONS

By Tyler Langan, tlangan@qconline.com - MOLINE -- Honor Flight of the Quad Cities will begin accepting applications from Veterans who served during the Vietnam War Era.

During a news conference at the Quad City International Airport on Tuesday, directors of Honor Flight of the Quad Cities announced that, for the first time, service members who were enlisted from 1961 to 1975 will be eligible to apply for the free trips to Washington D.C. to visit War Memorials in the nation's capital.

"If there's one group that has not been honored or thanked enough for their courage, their dedication and their devotion to duty, it would be the Vietnam Veterans," said Steve Garrington, acting hub director for the Honor Flight program.

Honor Flight of the Quad Cities began in November 2008, providing trips to Washington to World War II and Korean War veterans, Mr. Garrington said. Directors of the program are volunteers, and flights and expenses are paid for through donations.

Since 2008, the nonprofit program has provided more than 3,100 trips, Mr. Garrington said.

Honor Flight of the Quad Cities still has about 100 applications on file for Korean War and World War II Veterans, who have priority over Veterans from later wars. The wait for Vietnam War Veterans may be one to three years, Mr. Garrington said.

"For us Vietnam Veterans, we have waited," said David Woods, who serves on the Board of Directors for the program. "It's going to be a time before we

can all get on our flights. Please be patient."

Mr. Woods, who was wounded in action while serving in the Army during the Vietnam War, said many people in the U.S. during the 1960s and 1970s treated Veterans harshly, calling them things like "murderer" and "junkie." He said things are better now.

"It's been well deserved," Mr. Woods said of the chance Vietnam War Veterans have to take the Honor Flight. "It's a time we had to wait for."

Honor Flight of the Quad Cities currently has no Vietnam War Veteran applications on file, but Mr. Garrington said he believes at least 1,000 veterans from that war will take the trip.

Greg Paulline, President of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 776 in Scott County, said many Vietnam War Veterans have died or face complications as a result of chemicals unique to that war. He said it is important to honor these still living before their time runs out.

"Because of the toxic substances exposure, we've lost a tremendous amount of Vietnam Veterans," he said. "Our Chapter has lost six men in the last year and a half, most of them to something to do with Agent Orange. The rate at which our Members will pass away will come too fast, too soon. Veterans interested in applying for the flights can fill out the application at honorflightqc.org, or at Ridgecrest Village, 4130 Northwest Blvd., Davenport, IA 52806. For more information, call 563-388-3592. - Thank you Dispatch / Argus and Tyler Langan

For Honor Flight of the Quad Cities Information, Contact:

Margie Hansen - Ridgecrest Foundation - 4130 Northwest Blvd - Davenport IA 52806 -
mhansen@ridgecrestvillage.org - office - 563-388-3592 - fax - 563-388-3287