

## **HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS**

With Free Flights to Washington, DC to Visit and Reflect Together at Memorials Built in Their Honor

Rochester, New York June 14th, 2023 Media Contact:
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## **Honor Flight Rochester Welcomes Home Mission 78 Veterans**

Sunday, June 18th Rochester International Airport

Honor Flight Rochester (HFR) is very pleased to announce that Mission 78 will fly the weekend of June 17<sup>th</sup>-18th. This will be the third of six missions for this year. As always, the safety of our veterans and volunteers is paramount.

HFR Missions provide local veterans with what has been described as "the trip of a lifetime." Veteran applications never expire. Their position on the Fly List advances with each flown mission. Sixty veterans will fly on Mission 78 including 5 Cold War veterans, 2 Cold War/Vietnam War veterans, 52 Vietnam War veterans and 1 Post Vietnam War veteran. Their branches of service are: Army (26), Navy (20), Marines (12) and Air Force (2).

Here is an often heard quote from a Vietnam veteran who traveled last fall, "Yes... it was an experience of a lifetime and especially sharing it with one of my sons. Everything was top notch from the get go until the emotional and fantastic airport reception when we got back." This is an opportunity not to be missed by Rochester area veterans.

Since 2008 including Mission 78, HFR will have flown 3,889 veterans funded entirely through the generosity of our community including individuals, organizations, corporations, hundreds of volunteers and testamentary bequests.

WELCOME HOME DATE: Sunday, June 18th, 2023

AIRPORT CELEBRATION: Between 1:30 – 3:00 PM, after the veterans have disembarked the plane

FLIGHT ARRIVAL TIME: Arrival 1:15 PM Sunday on Southwest Airlines Flight #1143

**WHERE:** Greater Rochester International Airport

**EMCEE:** Eric Snitil, Chief Meteorologist WROC-TV Channel 8

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Steven Hess, Concentration Camp Survivor, U.S. Naval Officer-Bay of Pigs & Cuban

Missile Crisis

ANTHEM SINGER: Abbie Riggins, Soloist LeMoyne College

**BAND**: Pittsford Fire Department Band **COLOR GUARD**: Chili Lady Liberties

**DEPARTURE:** Saturday, June 17th; departs the Greater Rochester International Airport at 6 AM

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