

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

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

Rochester, New York Sept 27th, 2023 Media Contact:

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Honor Flight Rochester Welcomes Home Mission 80 Veterans

Sunday, October 1st Rochester International Airport

Honor Flight Rochester (HFR) is very pleased to announce that Mission 80 will fly the weekend of September 30th - October 1st. This will be the fifth of six missions for this year.

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-one veterans will fly on Mission 80 including 4 Korean War veterans, 7 Cold War veterans, 6 Cold War/Vietnam War veterans and 44 Vietnam War veterans. Their branches of service are: Army (27), Navy (17), Air Force (15), Marines (1) and Coast Guard (1).

Here is a quote from a veteran received just two weeks ago, "I want to let you know how you changed my life by taking me and my son... Most of all the Vietnam Wall brought tears to my eyes... The welcome home made me cry. It was 50 years overdue. It brought me peace and I forgive the people of the past that made me feel ashamed."

Since 2008 including Mission 80, HFR will have flown 4,007 veterans funded entirely through the generosity of our community including individuals, organizations, corporations, hundreds of volunteers and testamentary bequests.

WELCOME HOME DATE: Sunday, October 1st, 2023

<u>AIRPORT CELEBRATION:</u> Between Noon to 2:00 PM, after the veterans have disembarked the plane <u>FLIGHT INFO:</u> Arrival Noon Sunday on Southwest Airlines Flight 3977 at Rochester International Airport

EMCEE: Don Alhart, News Anchor WHAM-TV

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Peter Kelderhouse, Sr., President MCCC Foundation

ANTHEM SINGER: Abbie Riggins, Soloist Lemoyne College

BAND: Mark Time Marchers

COLOR GUARD: American Legion Post 120 Palmyra, NY

DEPARTURE: Saturday, September 30 departs the Greater Rochester International Airport at 6 AM

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