

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

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

Rochester, New York Oct 17th, 2023 Media Contact:

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Honor Flight Rochester Welcomes Home Mission 81 Veterans

Sunday, October 22nd Rochester International Airport

Honor Flight Rochester (HFR) is very pleased to announce that Mission 81 will fly the weekend of October 21-22. This will be the sixth and final mission for this year. Flights will resume in April 2024.

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-two veterans will fly on Mission 81 including 1 World War II veteran, 6 Korean War veterans, 3 Cold War veterans, 8 Cold War/Vietnam War veterans and 44 Vietnam War veterans. Their branches of service are: Army (29), Navy (16), Air Force (15) and Marines (2).

According to a veteran who flew on a mission this spring, "Honor Flight provided a taste of a 'brotherhood' we had been missing, a warmth flowing from our families and community and a special closure to a conscious choice we had each made, long-ago, one that we might have even been doubting, for a half of century."

Since 2008 including Mission 81, HFR will have flown 4,071 veterans funded entirely through the generosity of our community including individuals, organizations, corporations, hundreds of volunteers and testamentary bequests.

WELCOME HOME DATE: Sunday, October 22nd, 2023

<u>AIRPORT CELEBRATION:</u> Between Noon to 2:00 PM, after the veterans have disembarked the plane <u>FLIGHT INFO:</u> Arrival 11:55 AM Sunday on Southwest Airlines Flight 3595 at Rochester International Airport

EMCEE: Glenn Johnson, Meteorologist WHEC-TV

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Mr. Shawn DeFries, Chief Operating Officer VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System

ANTHEM SINGER: Barbara Maltese, National Recording Artist

BAND: Prime Time Brass

COLOR GUARD: West Webster Fire Department

DEPARTURE: Saturday, October 21 departs the Greater Rochester International Airport at 6 AM

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