Honoring America's Veterans

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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This Veterans Day, Honor Flight Rochester Thanks America's Veterans and Looks Ahead to Its 100th Mission

After honoring more than 5,100 veterans on 99 missions, the organization calls on the community to help find more veterans for future flights

ROCHESTER, NY — On this Veterans Day, Honor Flight Rochester extends its heartfelt gratitude to all who have worn our nation's uniform. Their service and sacrifices, in times of peace and war, deserve our enduring respect and appreciation.

This Veterans Day also marks an important milestone for Honor Flight Rochester. With the completion of Mission 99 this fall, the organization has now flown more than 5,100 veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect together at the memorials built in their honor.

Since its founding in 2008, Honor Flight Rochester has provided thousands of veterans with an opportunity to visit our nation's memorials, share their experiences with fellow veterans, and receive the recognition they have earned.

"On Veterans Day, our first message is simply thank you—to every veteran who has served our country," said Peter J. Glennon, Co-Founder and Chairman of the Board of Honor Flight Rochester. "We've had the privilege of honoring more than 5,100 veterans through Honor Flight Rochester, and each mission reminds us why this work matters. We look forward to honoring many more in the future."

Looking Ahead to Mission 100 and the Future

Honor Flight Rochester is preparing for its historic 100th mission in May 2027, marking another significant milestone in the organization's 19-year history.

Having successfully worked through its longstanding veteran waiting list, Honor Flight Rochester plans to operate four missions in 2027, rather than its traditional six, while continuing its efforts to identify and recruit additional veterans.

The adjusted schedule reflects the organization's current veteran pipeline and its commitment to providing an exceptional experience for every veteran who participates.

"Our mission remains as important as ever," Glennon said. "As we approach our 100th mission, We're adapting our flight schedule while working to reach more veterans who may not know about Honor Flight or who have been reluctant to apply. We want to ensure that as many veterans as possible have the opportunity to experience an Honor Flight."

"**It's Your Turn!" — Seeking More Veterans to Fly**

Honor Flight Rochester is particularly encouraging veterans who served during World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and the Vietnam era through 1975 to sign up now.

Veterans do not need to have served in combat or overseas to participate. Every veteran took the same oath to serve our country, and every veteran's service deserves recognition. Honor Flight Rochester welcomes applications from all veterans, regardless of where or how they served, all of which are subject to its flight-priority guidelines.

Veterans with terminal or serious illnesses receive priority, followed by veterans from the earliest eligible service eras and then by the date their applications are received.

Honor Flight Rochester also encourages veterans who served during 1976–1989 to submit their names now as the organization prepares to recognize veterans from subsequent service eras on future missions. Current flight priority remains with earlier generations.

Through its ongoing “It’s Your Turn!” campaign, Honor Flight Rochester is encouraging veterans who have not yet participated to sign up for a Mission.

“We often hear veterans say some variation of, ‘Take someone else first,’” Glennon said. “Well, We’ve already taken more than 5,100 veterans, and we’re looking for more veterans to fly. To those veterans who have been waiting, our message is simple: It’s your turn.”

Help Us Find Them

Honor Flight Rochester is also asking families, friends, veterans organizations, and community groups to help identify veterans who have been hesitant or reluctant to sign up or who may not know about Honor Flight.

“Many veterans would never seek this recognition for themselves,” Glennon added. “We are asking everyone in our community to think of a veteran they know and ask one simple question: ‘Have you taken your Honor Flight?’ If not, please encourage them to sign up.”

Veterans from all service eras may sign up or submit their names online at www.HonorFlightRochester.org. Flight assignments are determined according to the organization& established priority guidelines.

About Honor Flight Rochester

Founded in 2008, Honor Flight Rochester, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring America’s veterans by transporting them to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect together at the memorials built in their honor.

Through 99 missions, Honor Flight Rochester has honored more than 5,100 veterans, thanks to the dedication of its volunteers, guardians, donors, and the greater Rochester community.

For more information or to sign up a veteran, visit www.HonorFlightRochester.org.

Media Contact:

Honor Flight Rochester, Inc.

(585) 210-2115

www.HonorFlightRochester.org