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Thirty-Two Illinois Veterans to be Inducted into *In Memory* Program for 2020

Ceremony in Washington, D.C. honors Vietnam Veterans who died after returning home

Washington, D.C. – Nearly 600 Vietnam veterans, including thirty-two from Illinois, will be inducted into the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's (VVMF) *In Memory* Program for 2020. The program honors Vietnam veterans whose lives were cut short as a result of their service after they returned home from Vietnam.

On October 15, 2021, VVMF will host its 2020 *In Memory* ceremony on the East Knoll of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, where the names of each of the 591 honorees for 2020 will be read aloud. The ceremony was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic.

“For many Vietnam veterans, coming home from Vietnam was just the beginning of a whole new fight. Many never fully recovered, either physically or emotionally, from their experiences. As these veterans pass, it is our duty and solemn promise to welcome them home to the place that our nation has set aside to remember our Vietnam veterans,” said Jim Knotts, president and CEO of VVMF.

The plaque that honors these veterans was dedicated as a part of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial site in 2004. It reads: *In Memory of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service. We honor and remember their sacrifice.*

2020 In Memory Inductees from Illinois:

[James B. Anderson, U.S. Army](#)

Machesney Park, Ill.

September 22, 1948 – April 17, 2017

[Robert Samuel Barlow, U.S. Army](#)

Rockford, Ill.

November 25, 1945 – March 15, 2019

[Steve Barrett, U.S. Navy](#)

Oswego, Ill.

October 26, 1947 – August 28, 2016

[Daniel Lee Beese, U.S. Army](#)

Princeton, Ill.

May 28, 1951 – May 2, 2019

Roger L. Booth, U.S. Navy

Kinderhook, Ill.

June 29, 1946 – April 13, 2019

Howard Lee Boswell, U.S. Army

Kewanee, Ill.

November 28, 1949 – July 24, 2011

Stanley Cox, U.S. Navy

Wood River, Ill.

December 24, 1942 – September 15, 2014

Salvatore Louis DeLuca, U.S. Army

Chicago, Ill.

March 15, 1947 – May 14, 2019

Ricky Fishel, U.S. Army

Rockford, Ill.

December 18, 1946 – August 31, 2018

James A. Gough, U.S. Army

Belvidere, Ill.

April 15, 1944 – January 26, 2018

Larry Weldon Hall, U.S. Army

Maryville, Ill.

December 4, 1943 – January 17, 2015

Thomas Howard Hall, U.S. Marine Corps

Granite City, Ill.

December 3, 1949 – November 12, 2019

Kenneth Wayne Harrelson, U.S. Army

McLeansboro, Ill.

June 17, 1937 – February 27, 2018

Edward Carl Hokens, U.S. Marine Corps

Dolton, Ill.

August 6, 1948 – August 16, 2017

Bruce Leonard Janusweski, U.S. Marine Corps

Springfield, Ill.

April 9, 1950 – December 13, 2018

Dennis E. Johnson, U.S. Army

Chicago, Ill.

September 15, 1942 – September 21, 1989

James William Karban, U.S. Air Force

Belleville, Ill.

April 19, 1947 – October 3, 2019

Robert Joseph Krebel, U.S. Army

Fults, Ill.

November 30, 1949 – January 13, 2013

Paul Terry Lindsay, U.S. Marine Corps

Chicago, Ill.

July 25, 1943 – September 1, 2011

Leonard McBride, U.S. Navy

East St. Louis, Ill.

May 8, 1946 – June 25, 2003

Allen F. McGuire, U.S. Army

Chicago, Ill.

November 2, 1943 – December 25, 2016

George Edward Meyer, U.S. Army

Litchfield, Ill.

July 27, 1943 – July 26, 2014

Kenneth L. Ozyuk, U.S. Army

Chicago, Ill.

April 17, 1947 – April 23, 2019

Thomas David Richards, U.S. Marine Corps

Galesburg, Ill.

August 25, 1947 – May 6, 2011

Harold Leslye Rife, U.S. Army

Naperville, Ill.

December 25, 1947- December 14, 2018

Dale W. Roy, U.S. Army

Prairie du Rocher, Ill.

July 27, 1950 – June 21, 1979

George James Sliwa Sr., U.S. Army

Lombard, Ill.

November 4, 1943 – November 25, 2011

Bruce Mayo Spivey, U.S. Army

Kankakee, Ill.

August 24, 1950 – October 11, 1982

Dale Owen Spurlock, U.S. Army

Rockford, Ill.

June 21, 1950 – March 4, 2019

Steven C. Thaxton, U.S. Army

Chapin, Ill.

January 18, 1949 – March 18, 2019

Ralph E. Whitler, U.S. Air Force

Carlinville, Ill.

August 17, 1947- July 26, 2005

Jerry Lee Wright, U.S. Army

Mt. Caramel, Ill.

June 16, 1944 – June 29, 1995

VVMF has created a personal remembrance page for each honoree online in the *In Memory* Honor Roll at www.vvmf.org/honor-roll. Their photos are also displayed around the country when VVMF's mobile exhibit, *The Wall That Heals*, is on display in an honoree's home state.

The 2020 *In Memory* ceremony will be shown live on VVMF's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/VietnamVeteransMemorialFund>) beginning at 10 a.m. ET on October 15, 2021. The *In Memory* program was created in 1993 and has since honored more than 5,100 veterans. For more information on the *In Memory* program or to apply to have your loved one honored in 2022, please visit: www.vvmf.org/inmemory.

About the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that founded the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C. in 1982. VVMF continues to lead the way in paying tribute to our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families. VVMF's mission is to honor and preserve the legacy of service in America and educate all generations about the impact of the Vietnam War and era. To learn more about VVMF, visit www.vvmf.org or call 202-393-0090.

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