



For Immediate Release
May 25, 2021

Contact: Heidi Zimmerman
Phone: (202) 765-3773
hzimmerman@vvmf.org

Thirty-Six Pennsylvania 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-six from Pennsylvania, 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 Pennsylvania:

[Richard Alan Benton, U.S. Army](#)

Bedford, Pa.

March 13, 1947 – January 24, 2020

[Joseph D. Breslin, U.S. Army](#)

Allentown, Pa.

September 8, 1949 – March 26, 2018

[Herbert M. Brooks Jr., U.S. Air Force](#)

Hershey, Pa.

June 19, 1949 – March 26, 2016

[Orrin Joseph Cadwell, U.S. Army](#)

Scranton, Pa.

December 27, 1947 – June 1, 1998

Jim Conteen, U.S. Army

Pittsburgh, Pa.

April 5, 1948 – February 8, 2018

Thomas L. Conti, U.S. Army

Wayne, Pa.

April 17, 1941 – September 8, 2019

Charles Fredrick Detwiler, U.S. Army

Penn Rune, Pa.

August 20, 1948 – August 22, 2000

Wilma Evans Jr., U.S. Army

Pittsburgh, Pa.

December 25, 1946 – August 26, 2008

Kenneth Charles Fillman Jr., U.S. Marine Corps

Allentown, Pa.

May 15, 1948 – May 9, 2019

David Etter Gotwald III, U.S. Air Force

York, Pa.

January 5, 1945 – July 3, 2016

John Hamilton Gotwald, U.S. Air Force

York, Pa.

April 7, 1947 – October 9, 2016

Alton D. Gutshall, U.S. Army

Mechanicsburg, Pa.

August 3, 1938 – May 2, 2012

Bruce Andrew Hilt, U.S. Army

York, Pa.

April 6, 1947 – April 21, 2019

Dennis Richard Holland, U.S. Army

Emmaus, Pa.

October 12, 1948 – December 17, 2018

Terry C. Hunter, U.S. Army

Honesdale, Pa.

May 18, 1949 – May 5, 2012

Ralph Leroy Killian, U.S. Army

Shickshinny, Pa.

November 17, 1942 – June 21, 2015

Lloyd Michaels, U.S. Army

Vintondale, Pa.

August 25, 1943 – November 11, 2017

Francis Mil, U.S. Army

Philadelphia, Pa.

May 5, 1950 – December 3, 1981

Larry Lee Nonnemacher, U.S. Navy

Allentown, Pa.

October 6, 1947 – July 30, 2019

Elmer A. O'Brien Jr., U.S. Marine Corps

Upper Darby, Pa.

April 30, 1945 – December 21, 2019

Timothy O'Toole, U.S. Air Force

Pittsburgh, Pa.

November 1, 1955 – May 22, 2005

Stephen Roger Osier, U.S. Marine Corps

Shippenville, Pa.

November 8, 1950 – June 27, 2013

Richard Alan Phillippi, U.S. Army

Mount Pleasant, Pa.

January 24, 1949 – December 1, 2019

John Pohida, U.S. Army

Freeland, Pa.

March 26, 1932 – March 5, 2013

Stephen J. Rumnock Jr., U.S. Army

Horsham Township, Pa.

January 24, 1947 – January 18, 2018

Robert Charles Schultz, U.S. Army

Philadelphia, Pa.

June 12, 1947 – March 17, 2019

Victor R. Short Jr., U.S. Army

Wampum, Pa.

February 24, 1948 – April 6, 1993

Henry Andrew Sobolak Jr., U.S. Marine Corps

Lenox, Pa.

October 7, 1946 – December 9, 2011

William Robert Stokes Jr., U.S. Navy

New Castle, Pa.

November 1, 1950 – August 12, 2019

David Lee Stone, U.S. Army

Charleroi, Pa.

October 22, 1949 – May 13, 2019

Dennis K. Thompson, U.S. Marine Corps

Oakmont, Pa.

July 26, 1947 – May 13, 2017

Douglas D. Trump, U.S. Army

Allentown, Pa.

March 24, 1950 – December 15, 2007

William Edward Turner Sr., U.S. Army

Feasterville, Pa.

April 7, 1946 – June 29, 2015

Robert Hughes Whisler Jr., U.S. Army

Malvern, Pa.

June 11, 1944 – May 6, 2016

James Ron Wiegler, U.S. Army

Edinboro, Pa.

September 8, 1947 – February 3, 2019

James D. Wynn, U.S. Marine Corps

Plymouth, Pa.

March 31, 1945 – September 17, 2005

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.

#