

In Memory Weekend ITINERARY



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06.14.2024

Stop by the VVMF Meet-and-Greet Desk

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Crystal Gateway Marriott Lobby VVMF Desk

All *In Memory* families are welcome to ask our staff any outstanding questions about *In Memory* Weekend.

Early Bird Welcome Dinner Check-In: Welcome Dinner attendees are encouraged to stop by the Meet-and-Greet desk to pick up their dinner tickets and avoid longer lines prior to the dinner.

Welcome Dinner Check-In

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM, Crystal Gateway Marriott Arlington Ballroom

Each ticket purchaser, (rather than each attendee), will check in to the Welcome Dinner with their name, and will be given the tickets for their whole group at that time. We ask that groups send *only* the ticket purchaser to check-in.

Welcome Dinner

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Crystal Gateway Marriott Arlington Ballroom

Those who purchased tickets to the optional Welcome Dinner will join us in a banquet-style ballroom for dinner. *As the room has a limited capacity, only ticket holders will be admitted, and tickets will not be sold at the door.*

S A T

06.15.2024

Shuttle Service to Ceremony

7:30 - 9:30 AM, meet at Crystal Gateway Marriott Front Entrance

There is no cost or ticket required to utilize the VVMF shuttle bus. Please expect to wait in a line for a bus.

Wheelchair and scooter users, and *one* member of their party, may use an accessible shuttle van.

****Taxi/Rideshare app users:** Provide this drop-off address: 21st St NW & Constitution Ave. NW.

****Please do not plan to drive to the ceremony and park.** There are no parking lots or garages at the ceremony site.

Check-In and Seating

7:45 AM - 9:45 AM, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, meet at white check-in tent

Upon drop-off, please send *only* one member of your party to check in with your honoree's name.

Seating is first-come, first-serve. We ask that only two attendees - a reader and an escort, go on stage to read each name. Readers/Escorts will sit in designated rows. All other attendees will be seated in General Seating.

Portrait Photography

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM, two locations (see below)

If you'd like, you may get photos taken that you can later purchase in two locations: behind the check-in tent (for a view of the Washington Monument in your photo), and next to the stage (for a view of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial).

In Memory Ceremony

10 AM - ?? PM, Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Following formal proceedings, we will invite *In Memory* families to the stage for the *In Memory* Honor Roll Call.

Readers/escorts should remain seated until VVMF staff has directed their row to rise and approach the stage.

We ask that all attendees stay for the duration of the ceremony to ensure each honoree is given equal respect.

Attendees are encouraged to pack snacks and water, as there are no food/beverage options on-site.

Shuttle Service to Crystal Gateway Marriott

For one hour following ceremony, meet at 21st St NW & Constitution Ave. NW

VVMF staff will direct attendees onto shuttle buses following the ceremony.

S U N

06.16.2024

Shuttle Service to Father's Day Rose Remembrance

9:30 - 11:30 AM, meet at Crystal Gateway Marriott Front Entrance

See notes above for details on shuttle service. Please note that the Rose Remembrance, unlike the Saturday ceremony, is a come-and-go activity. Attendees may plan to arrive at the meet-up point at any time during the shuttle service.

Father's Day Rose Remembrance

10:00 AM - 12 PM, Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Upon drop-off, please send the member of your party who sponsored the rose(s) to check-in, at which point they will receive their rose(s) and card(s) to write personalized message(s). Attendees may lay roses and cards anywhere on the memorial site, then depart at their leisure.

Shuttle Service to Crystal Gateway Marriott

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, meet at 21st St NW & Constitution Ave. NW

Rose Remembrance attendees will have access to complimentary shuttle buses back to the Crystal Gateway Marriott from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Trips back to the Crystal Gateway Marriott can not be accommodated after 12:00 PM.

In Memory Weekend PREPARATION

Complete the RSVP Form

DEADLINE: May 13th

Please help us in our preparations to honor your Vietnam veteran by indicating your attendance or absence at the *In Memory* Ceremony. Find the RSVP form at <https://www.vvmf.org/In-Memory-Program/In-Memory-Ceremony/>.

Order your *In Memory* T-Shirt

DEADLINE: May 13th

Support *In Memory* and show your pride for your Vietnam veteran by ordering *In Memory* merch during this **limited time** sale. All shirts will be shipped after the conclusion of the sale with an estimated delivery date of May 30th. Find the *In Memory* Merch Sale at <https://www.vvmf.org/In-Memory-Program/In-Memory-Ceremony/> and scroll down to "In Memory Merch Sale"

Share news of your veteran's induction

Reach out to local media in the next week for the chance to have your veteran remembered for Memorial Day

We are pleased to provide press releases so you can share the news of your veteran being honored with local media where you live, your VVA chapters, VFW/American Legion posts, or reunion groups at www.vvmf.org/In-Memory-Program/In-Memory-2024-Press-Releases/. You may share these press releases with local media and organizations at any time, although we recommend sharing these as soon as you are able, as many *In Memory* families have found local media eager to share our story around Memorial Day.

Sponsor a rose for Father's Day

DEADLINE: June 7th

Sponsor a rose to be laid in remembrance of your Vietnam veteran at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Find instructions at <https://www.vvmf.org/fathers-day/>.

Pack for your trip to Washington, D.C.

The ceremony will be held outside, rain or shine. Summers are typically hot and humid in Washington, D.C.

Plan to bring:

- comfortable clothes and shoes to wear
- sunscreen
- water, snacks (there are no food/beverage options on-site, and the ceremony will run through lunch time)
- rain gear (please note that umbrellas can not be used in seated areas of the ceremony)
- sun hat/visor
- handheld fans/cooling towels/etc.

You do not need to print or bring any tickets, etc. for any of the weekend events. Check-in at each event will require a name - for the Welcome Dinner, we'll need the ticket purchaser to identify their name at check-in; for the *In Memory* Ceremony, we'll need you to provide your honoree's name at check-in, and for the Father's Day Rose Remembrance, we'll need the name of the individual who sponsored the rose(s) at check-in. As long as you completed the necessary forms/purchases ahead of time, there will be no need to pack any sort of ticket to be admitted to the weekend events. Please keep in mind that attendance at the *In Memory* Ceremony on Saturday does not automatically guarantee inclusion at the Friday Welcome Dinner and Sunday Rose Remembrance - only those who purchased tickets to the Welcome Dinner will be admitted; and only those who sponsored roses will be given roses to lay at the Rose Remembrance.

Prepare family, friends, and loved ones for the ceremony

Keep loved ones informed of your veteran's induction by:

- sharing your honoree's online Honor Roll page and inviting others to submit photos and remembrances of your veteran. You can find your honoree's Honor Roll page at www.vvmf.org/Honor-Roll/
- sending them the webpages that they can watch the ceremony on. While the ceremony is going on, families can tune in live from home at www.vvmf.org/live. After the ceremony, families can watch it back at any time at www.vvmf.org/inmemoryceremonies/

Questions? Contact inmemory@vvmf.org or call 202-330-4950.