



Our Mission

Our sole mission is to fly our heroes to Washington, DC to visit their respective memorials and reflect upon their service, sacrifices, and memories.

Every service member deserves a first-class THANK YOU and WELCOME HOME in the grandest style ever. Honor Flight Bluegrass honors our heroes and recognizes their sacrifice. It is with extreme pride, unwavering gratitude, and utmost respect that we provide this service to World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans.



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AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Honor Flight Bluegrass is operated by a wide volunteer base made up of a variety of backgrounds and talents. We would not be able to accomplish our mission without the tremendous efforts of everyone involved. Throughout the last several years, we have seen some volunteers rise above the call of duty with the right attitude and enthusiasm that represent and promote the interest of Honor Flight Bluegrass. Therefore, we have implemented an Ambassador Program to recognize those who believe in the mission, goals, and values of our organization, and share it with others. We are excited to announce our first two HFB Ambassadors. These gentlemen bring an extra special gift to our organization because they are Veterans that have experienced an Honor Flight. They continue to volunteer with Honor Flight so that other Veterans can have the same Honor Flight experience as they did. Please welcome and congratulate Ambassadors Jack Mooney (WWII) and John Shircliff (Korea)!



Jack Mooney • US Navy • World War II

Gunners Mate 3rd Class • USS Walker (DD-517)

Mr. Mooney is 95 years old and a native of Louisville. He graduated in 1945 from St. X and joined the Navy after graduation. He served aboard the destroyer USS Walker in the Pacific manning 5 inch guns and earning the rank of Gunners Mate 3rd Class. He married the love of his life Marie, and together they raised 5 children. He is a proud Grandpa to 10 adoring grandkids and 8 great-grandkids. Jack took the Honor Flight in 2018 and describes it as *"the experience of a lifetime."* He went from a man who had to be persuaded into going on the flight, to Honor Flight Bluegrass's biggest cheerleader! His love for Honor Flight is because of the dedication and professionalism of the Honor Flight staff and volunteers. He is not one to look for accolades, but the gratitude he felt was so overwhelming he wants to make sure every Veteran gets the thanks they deserve.

John Shircliff • US Army • Korean War

Sergeant 1st Class E-6 Tank Commander • 40th Recon Co. 40th Inf. Div

Mr. Shircliff, 91 years old, joined the Army and served from 1951-1953. He married and raised 3 children and is a proud Grandpa to 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He was selected to be on the Honor Flight on June 6, 2015. He said going on "D-Day" was even more special. John will tell you, *"It was the best day of my life. Being there with those who shared the same experiences and sacrifices meant so much more."* He is so appreciative and grateful for the opportunity to have spent the day with fellow veterans touring the memorials in Washington and the overwhelming welcome home, that he wanted to find a way to give back. So, he volunteered to be part of the Ground Crew. John has volunteered for every flight since his June 2015 flight. He starts with 4:30 a.m. coffee duty and winds up greeting the Veterans when they return home in the evening. Any opportunity to assist with Honor Flight Bluegrass events, John is there. He feels fortunate to have met and become friends with such wonderful people. This is a true blessing for this special man.



Chairman Jeff Thoke has been volunteering with HFB for many years and truly realizes the importance of our volunteers and all the roles they play. *"Our Honor Flight hub goes beyond the mission of flying Veterans to D.C., we serve our Veterans with different events throughout the year...but we know we could not do all these things without the hundreds of hours that our Volunteers give. I am especially excited about this new Ambassador Program and even more excited for our first two to be a WWII and Korean War Veteran. It takes it to a whole new level when our Veterans are giving back to Veterans. I am honored to know Mr. Mooney and Mr. Shircliff, and they are very deserving of the Ambassador title. We call on them for so many of our events, and they are always there with a smile and a great story. Congratulations to you both. Well deserved!"*

WALL OF HONOR

Honor Flight Bluegrass is reliant on the public to fund our mission of serving Veterans, and our Wall of Honor not only helps us raise money, but also gives you an opportunity to recognize your loved Veteran. Your gift of \$100 or more will help us fulfill our mission and acknowledge your special veteran with a picture and words of appreciation. You can visit our website <http://www.honorflightbluegrass.org> and submit your information, a picture of your Veteran, and a donation of \$100 or more. Your loved one will stay on our Wall of Honor for a lifetime and your generous gift will go toward serving our Veterans. We truly appreciate all who support our mission.

 <p>In Memory of Walter L. Jones</p> <p><i>Served with honor</i></p> <p>United States Navy - WWII</p>	 <p>In Memory of Shirley Jackson Baker</p> <p>WWII Veteran</p>	 <p>In Memory of Ansel Curry, Jr.</p> <p><i>Proud Veteran</i></p> <p>United States Navy - WWII</p>	 <p>In Memory of Raymond J. Peterson</p> <p><i>Served his country</i></p> <p>US Air Force - Korean War Veteran</p>
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 <p>In Memory of Henry Floyd Hogan, Jr.</p> <p><i>A fine man and a credit to his uniform. He will be missed.</i></p> <p>1854 Aviation Engineers - Army Air Force - WWII</p>	 <p>In Memory of Kenneth S. Leistler</p> <p><i>Ken thoroughly enjoyed his Honor Flight. He would certainly want to help another veteran enjoy this opportunity as much as he did.</i></p> <p>USAF - Airman 2nd Class - Korean War</p>	 <p>In Memory of Maurice Douglas Schrader</p> <p><i>In memory of a great man, veteran, husband, father and grandfather.</i></p>	 <p>In Memory of Pedro Carrillo</p> <p><i>A great man, proud Navy and Army WWII and Korean War Veteran, and loyal friend of Honor Flight Bluegrass.</i></p>
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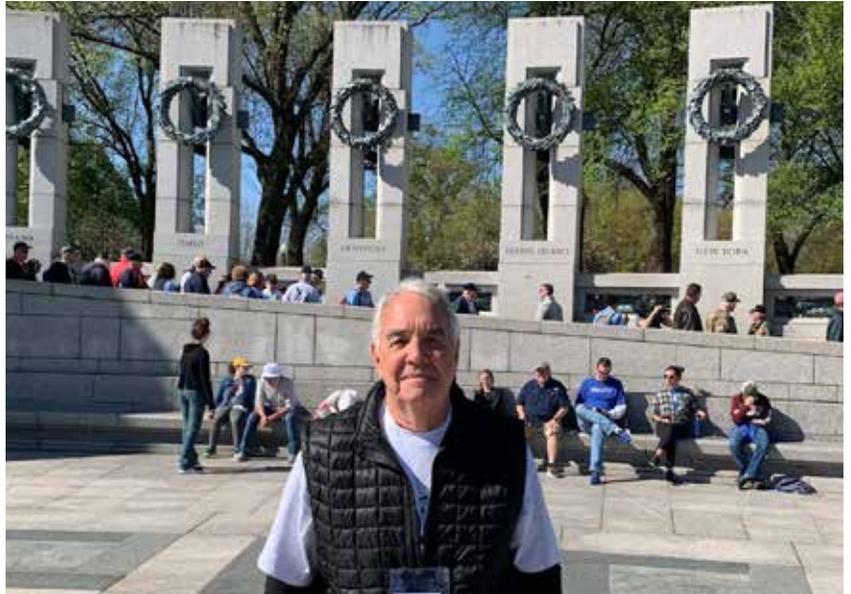


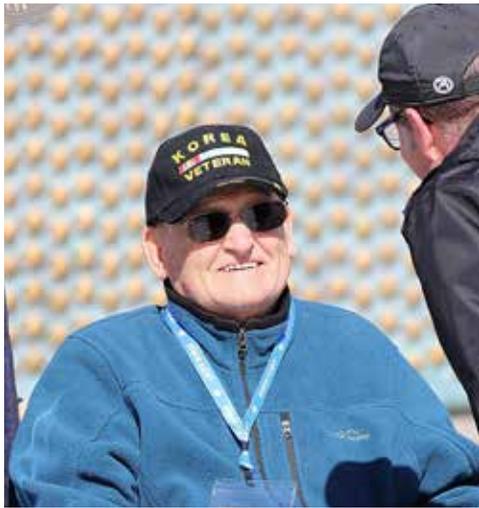
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THE WALL OF HONOR

APRIL 20, 2022 FLIGHT

Our first flight of the year was April 20th and we proudly flew 75 Veterans including 9 Korean War Veterans and 66 Vietnam War Veterans. We had the opportunity to capture so many stories and witness true healing on this trip. The “touch” of the Vietnam Wall connected several Veterans to the ones they had lost and brought reflection, tears, and closure. Thank you to all who flew with us and allowed us to be a part of your big day!





JUNE 2, 2022 FLIGHT

Our second flight of the year kicked off June 2nd and we flew 81 Veterans including 1 World War II Veteran, 7 Korean War Veterans, and 73 Vietnam Veterans. From the WWII Memorial to the Welcome Home Celebration, we witnessed so many smiles and new friendships in the making. Thank you to all who flew with us and allowed us to be a part of this special trip of a lifetime!





2ND ANNUAL CAR SHOW

We kicked off our 2nd Annual Car Show at Mike Linnig's in Louisville on July 9th with over 90 cars in attendance. The crazy weather didn't stop our true fans from coming out and supporting our cause...flying Veterans to Washington D.C. We want to thank our sponsors Coldwell Banker McMahan, Karl Truman Law Office, AllTerrain Paving and Construction, and Prestige Healthcare. These events cannot happen without your generosity!





B-25 BARNSTORMING

With the sponsorship of the KY Veterans Program Trust Fund, we were able to have another Barnstorming Tour with the "Show Me," WWII B-25 Twin Engine Bomber, built in 1944 and owned by the Commemorative Air Force Missouri Wing. This tour landed in Paducah, Russellville, Corbin, and Danville...and flew 23 WWII Veterans. Although the weather did not cooperate in Bardstown, it did not put a damper on those WWII Veterans who continued on with fellowship and dancing. Thank you to KY Veterans Program Trust Fund, the CAF and their staff, all the community support, and most of all...the Veterans!





D-DAY SALUTE

D-Day (June 6, 1944), is the day when more than 160,000 Allied forces landed in Nazi-occupied France as part of the biggest air, land and sea invasion ever executed. This is a day that every WWII Veteran remembers. We gathered 12 WWII Veterans at Bowman Field to honor their service and dedication to our country. Thank you to Bowman Field for hosting our event, the Ladies For Liberty for providing great entertainment and bringing back memories of songs they loved, and KILROY for bringing together a convoy of military vehicles for all of the Veterans to ride through town. Also, thank you to the Veterans and their families for coming out and giving us such a great opportunity to be with them.



VETERANS INBOUND!

WWII, KOREA AND VIETNAM VETERANS ARE COMING HOME ..again

These Honored Veterans will have spent the day visiting the World War II, Korea, Vietnam Memorials and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery.

Please plan to join us and other patriotic friends at the Louisville International Airport as we welcome them home. If you've never attended one of these events, it's a moving tribute to our veterans and an evening you will not soon forget.



WEDNESDAY - SEPT. 7 - 9:30PM

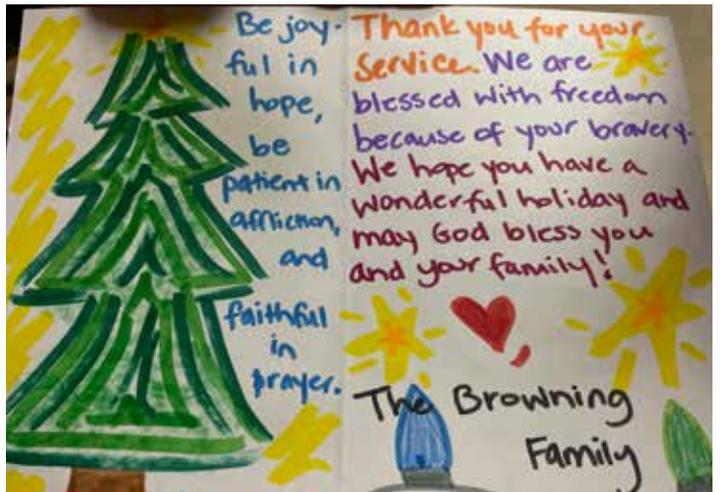
Louisville International Airport
Upper level - top of escalators



Flags and Welcome Home
signs are encouraged
Hope to see you there!

CHRISTMAS CHEER CAMPAIGN

It is never too early to start thinking about Christmas Cheer and our Veterans! We need all of you again to help us bring the "Cheer" to the Veterans' mailboxes with cards and letters of gratitude and Christmas spirit. Last year, because of so many people with a generous heart for our Veterans, we were able to collect over 30,000 Christmas cards and get them into the hands of almost 2,000 Veterans. With the help of you, our generous sponsors, and Santa, we hope to surpass that number this year and serve more Veterans with Christmas Cheer! Remember, Santa also gets on his sleigh and visits the four Kentucky Veteran facilities and spreads the "Cheer." Time for us elves to get to work! For more information email us at honorflightbluegrass1944@gmail.com.





SAVE THE DATE



November 5, 2022
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Southeast Christian Church. Blankenbaker

Your Gift

Makes it possible for OUR VETERANS
to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C.

www.honorflightbluegrass.org

Every service member, regardless of age, branch,
or duty station deserves a thank you in the style
that makes Honor Flight Bluegrass legendary.

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