

Vietnam Veterans Day March 29

New York State Honors Vietnam Veterans

A Day to Remember the Sacrifices We Made

Everyday, Ordinary American Men
A Vietnam Veterans Tribute

SOLDIER, SAILOR, AIRMAN, COAST GUARD, MARINE,
FROM ALL ACROSS THE LAND THEY CAME, EVERY RACE, EVERY CREED.
AS THEIR FATHERS AND FOREFATHERS BEFORE THEM,
WHEN THEIR COUNTRY CALLED THEY STEPPED FORWARD.
ALBEIT AT A TIME WHEN THE NATION WAS EMBROILED IN BITTER DISCORD,
AT THE PRIME OF THEIR YOUNG LIVES, THEY DID NOT SHIRK FROM THE SPECTER OF
WAR.

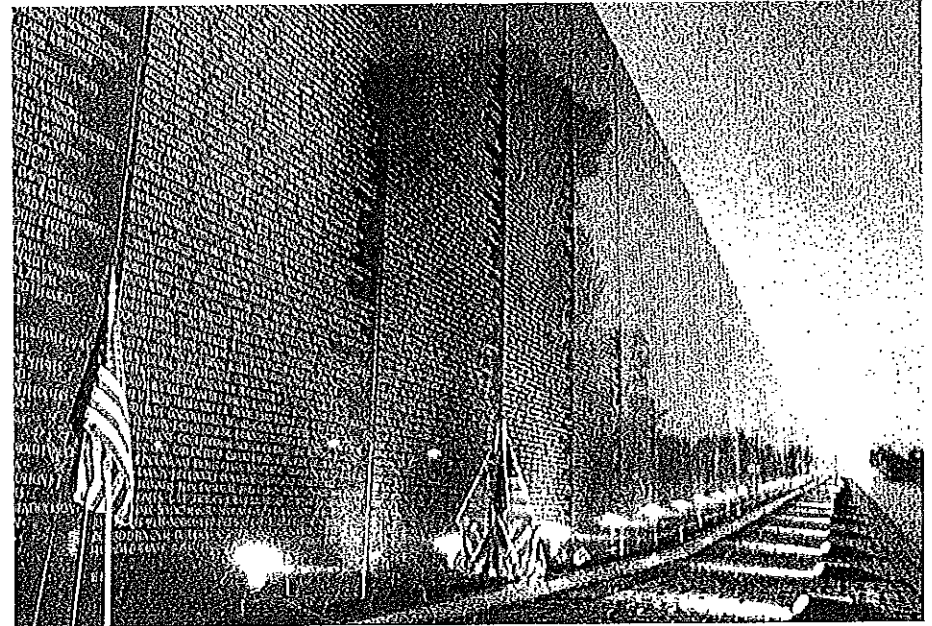
CAUGHT UP IN A POLITICAL MAELSTROM NOT OF THEIR MAKING,
THEY WERE HURLED ONWARD TO A RENDEZVOUS WITH HARDSHIP AND STRIFE.
EVERYDAY, ORDINARY AMERICAN MEN

THIS MONUMENT NOW STANDS BEFORE US,
ITS' BOLD AND IMPOSING BEAUTY BESPEAKS A SOLEMN AND SILENT TRIBUTE.
BUT NO STRUCTURE, NO MATTER HOW GREAT, TRULY PAYS JUST TRIBUTE,
TO THE HONORED DEAD WHO'S NAMES ARE INSCRIBED THERE.
TO THE MAIMED, THE DISABLED, THE EMOTIONALLY SCARRED, THE MISSING IN ACTION,
THE SCAR OF THE VIETNAM WAR WILL NEVER HEAL.
TO THE YOUNG LIVES BARELY LIVED, TO THE YOUNG LOVES HARDLY LOVED,
TO THE WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THAT WE WILL NEVER KNOW,
DEAR GOD, LET THEIR HALLOWED MEMORY FOREVER BURN BRIGHT.
THE "WHY", OF VIETNAM MAY NEVER BE ANSWERED, THE SACRIFICE NEVER
VINDICATED;

BUT LET NO ONE DARE QUESTION THE FIBER OF THE MEN AND WOMEN,
WHO ANSWERED THE CALL OF THE UNCERTAIN TRUMPET.
THEY RISKED AND LOST, LIFE AND LIMB TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY.
THEY ARE THE MARK AND CALIBER BY WHICH GREAT NATIONS ARE MEASURED.
LET US NEVER Demean THOSE WHO HAVE CARRIED THIS COUNTRY'S BANNER INTO
BATTLE.

THEY GAVE TO US THEIR VERY LIVES AND THEIR FUTURES,
WE COULD NEVER HOPE TO REPAY TO THEM THEIR JUST DUE.
LET US ALL NOW JOIN HANDS AS UNITED AMERICANS,
AND AS ONE VOICE, REACH OUT, AND LOUDLY AND PROUDLY PROCLAIM:
"WELCOME HOME-AT LAST TOGETHER WE WILL HEAL THE WOUND"
AND IN A SPIRIT OF LOVE AND THANKSGIVING, EMBRACE THESE,
EVERYDAY, ORDINARY AMERICAN MEN

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall



Vietnam Veterans Day Services
Saturday, March 29, 2014 at
Court House Park, Hudson

Master of Ceremonies: Richard Morris
United States Marine Corps 1968-1970

Invocation: Jerry Wright
United States Army 1968-1970

Pledge of Allegiance: Joe LaPorta
United States Army 1965-1967

Introduction of Guest Speaker:
Command Sergeant Major Gary Flaherty
United States Army 1961-1984

Guest Speaker: Colonel & Congressman Chris Gibson
United States Army 1981 -2010

The reading of the names of those Columbia
County Vietnam Veterans who made the ultimate
sacrifice and gave their lives in defense of our
great Nation in a time of war: Randy Staats
United States Navy 1967—1969

Laying of the Wreath: Terry Vogel
United States Army 1965-1968
Ed Waldron
United States Army 1963 —1966

Benediction: Joe Drabick
United States Navy 1965-1968 1979-1981

Rifle Salute Hudson American Legion Post 184

Trumpet/Taps: Fred Stark
United States Navy 1951-1954

Color Guard
Veterans from All Organizations

Columbia County Vietnam Veterans Killed in Action

PFC Albert "Jimmy" Darling
Lance Corporal Richard Kirk Gillingham
Staff Sergeant John Joseph Malloy
PFC Paul David Grasso
PFC Jerry Allan Sweet
Corpsman Ronald Edward Rockefeller
Staff Sergeant Adrian Edward Sigler
Corporal Roger James Mazal
SPC 4 Class Carlton F. McCagg Jr.
SPC 4 David Franklin Decker
PFC Peter Klotz, Hudson
PFC Bradley Joseph Simmons
Lance Corporal William Anthony Brown
SPC 4 Class Reginald Lasher Jr.
PFC John C. Pfeiffer
Corporal and Medal of Honor Recipient Frank Rocco
Fratellenico
Corporal Gary Edgar Field
SPC 4 Daniel Eugenie Goodin
Commander Henry Albert Coons

Please come and join us for refreshments which
will be served immediately after the ceremony at
the Hudson American Legion Post 184 located at
7 Fairview Ave.