



Appleton Airport hosts last Old Glory Honor Flight of year

Mission 65 hosts Hmong veterans

(APPLETON, WIS.) Oct. 16, 2023—The next Old Glory Honor Flight on Tuesday, October 18, 2023 will in part honor Hmong veterans who assisted American troops during the Vietnam War. The flight will take 20 Hmong veterans, along with 78 veterans who served in Vietnam, Korean and WWII, and their guardians to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials from a variety of wars and return to Appleton that evening. This Appleton International Airport has partnered with Old Glory Honor Flight since 2009, sending over 5,700 veterans on unforgettable trips to visit their war memorials.

Old Glory Honor Flight missions are free of charge to veterans and each flight travels with trained volunteers who act as guardian escorts, a volunteer medical team, professional photographers, and a host of others like the DC Park Police who ensure the veterans get the 'red carpet' treatment. Veterans are flown on a "first come, first served" basis and may apply online to go on the journey.

Hmong veterans were enlisted by the CIA to assist American ground troops but because they weren't American citizens at their time of service, they receive no government veterans benefits.

"We are thrilled to recognize another very deserving group of veterans," said Diane MacDonald, executive director of Old Glory Honor Flight. "Hosting them on a flight is one way to recognize their service to our country. If you talk to any Viet Nam Veteran, they'll tell you the Hmong bailed them out more than once."

"Our team members are passionate about this project," said Abe Weber, Appleton airport director. "We are proud to make this event memorable and we work hard to thank the veterans and their families for their service to our country."

In addition to helping facilitate travel, the airport is also a drop off site for "mail call" for the veterans. This is a surprise for each veteran traveling on the flight and is made up of cards and letters from family members expressing thanks and appreciation for their service.

The Old Glory Honor Flights are supported by donations. In addition to the airport, sponsors for this flight are Oshkosh Defense, Delta Defense, Belmark Inc., Kelley Country Creamery, the Primary Companies, HHA USA, Air Wisconsin, Schneider Foundation, and Gulfstream.

For more information, [visit the event page at this link.](#)

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About Appleton International Airport

Appleton International Airport connects our community to the world through American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, and Allegiant Air. In addition to offering nonstop service to 15 destinations, Appleton Airport connects to six major

international airport hubs from which travelers can fly to almost anywhere in the world. Using Appleton Airport, travelers can safely and more conveniently get to their destination and home again, leaving them more time for what really matters. Visit www.atwairport.com to learn more.