



## Adopt a Veteran \$1000

Please look into your heart and make this dream a reality for one of our local veterans.

Your Support Keeps These Trips Completely Free for the Veterans

Honor Flight Network is a Federal Nonprofit 501(c)3 Organization. Donations are Tax Deductible.



## TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, an estimated 640 WWII veterans die each day. Honor Flight Network will continue do whatever it takes to fulfill the dreams of our veterans and help our heroes travel absolutely free.

Subsequent to the World War II veterans, our efforts will then focus on our Korean War and then Vietnam War veterans, honoring them similarly.

“We can’t all be heroes. Some of us have to stand on the curb and clap as they go by”

-Will Rogers

## Honor Flight

Of

Northern New Mexico



Benefit for Honor Flight of  
Northern NM Presented by  
Williamson Foundation:

2nd Annual Golf  
tournament

Friday, October 17th, 2014  
Isleta Golf Course

\$100 per player  
\$400 per team

Contact Brandy Smotts at  
505-814-7800



For more information about donation or  
volunteer opportunities, please contact Megan  
Cherry at [nutmegan85@gmail.com](mailto:nutmegan85@gmail.com) or Brandy  
Smotts at [brandy@williamsonfoundation.org](mailto:brandy@williamsonfoundation.org)

Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico  
2323A Aztec NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87107

## History of Honor Flight

The Honor Flight Network program was conceived by Earl Morse, a physician assistant and Retired Air Force Captain. Earl wanted to honor the veterans he had taken care of for the past 27 years. After retiring from the Air Force in 1998, Earl was hired by the Department of Veterans Affairs to work in a small clinic in Springfield, Ohio. In May of 2004, the World War II Memorial was finally completed and dedicated in Washington, D.C. and quickly became the topic of discussion among his World War II veteran patients.

Earl could tell that the majority of the veterans had given up all hope of ever visiting the memorial that was specifically created to honor their services as well as the services of their fellow comrades who had paid the ultimate sacrifice. That's when Earl decided that there had to be a way to get these heroes to D.C. to see their memorial.

In addition to being a physician assistant, Earl was also a private pilot and a member of one of our nation's largest and best aero clubs located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. And things started coming together.

In December of 2004, Earl asked one of his World War II veteran patients if it would be all right if Earl personally flew him out to D.C., free of charge, to visit his memorial. Mr. Loy broke down and cried. He told Earl that at his age he would probably never get to see his memorial otherwise, and graciously accepted the offer.

Earl posed the same question to a second World War II veteran a week later. He too cried and enthusiastically accepted the trip. It didn't take long for Earl to realize that there were many veterans who would have the same reaction. So he started asking for help from other pilots to make these dreams a reality.

In January of 2005, Earl addressed about 150 members of the aero club during a safety meeting, outlining a volunteer program to fly veterans to their memorial. There were two major stipulations to his request. The first was that the veterans pay nothing. The entire aircraft rental (\$600 to \$1200 for the day) would have to be paid solely by the pilots. The second was that the pilots personally escort the veterans around D.C. for the entire day. After Earl spoke, eleven pilots who had never met his patients stepped up to volunteer. And Honor Flight was born.

Honor Flight Network has established an aggressive goal. Through the end of 2012 we transported more than 98,500 veterans to Washington, D.C. to see their memorial.. The program presently has over 127 hubs in 41 states. Due to the senior age of our heroes, and the prediction that we are losing approximately 800 of them daily, we are committed to do all within our power to make their dream a reality. Our current focus will remain on World War II veterans and those veterans from any war who have a terminal illness. However, our vision goes beyond World War II.

In the future, Honor Flight Network will also pay tribute to America's other heroes who served during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, followed by veterans of more current wars. They, too, have given so much and it's time we show them that their efforts are not forgotten.

Please help us continue to make their dream of visiting THEIR memorial, a reality.