

Vietnam War Commemoration "SITREP"

2019 - Issue 8



"Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!"

Tuesday, September 17

Dear Commemorative Partners,

Since 1936, the last Sunday in September has been a special day ... *Gold Star Mother's Day*. Established by a joint resolution of Congress and enacted in <u>36 United States Code § 111</u>, Gold Star Mother's Day falls on *Sunday*, *September 29* this year, and while not a public holiday, it is a designated *national observance* to honor and recognize those who have lost a son or daughter while that child was serving in the United States Armed Forces.



According to this U.S. Code (<u>Public Law 105-225</u>), each sitting president is "... requested to issue a proclamation {annually} calling on ... the people of the United States to display the flag and hold appropriate meetings at homes, churches, or other suitable places, on Gold Star Mother's Day as a *public expression of the love, sorrow, and reverence of the people for Gold Star Mothers*." The most recent proclamation by President Trump can be found by <u>clicking here</u>.



Apropos to this national observance is our recognition of the *58,236* families represented on The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. and the *Gold Star Mother* associated with each.

American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. is an organization of mothers whose sons and daughters served and died while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, or died as a result of such service or remain missing in action. This private organization maintains its own membership rules, was incorporated in 1929 under District of Columbia laws and was Congressionally chartered on June 12, 1984. We are honored that 21 chapters of American Gold Star Mothers, and of course, the national organization, are *Proud Partners with The U.S.A. Vietnam War Commemoration*!

These remarkable ladies choose to serve others just as their sons and daughters chose to serve our Nation. To date, they have hosted 78 commemorative events during which more than 6,000 Vietnam veterans and their families were thanked and honored before nearly 22,000 friends, neighbors and community members.

Truly, they each deserve our Nation's *deepest respect and gratitude* for their enduring sacrifice, and steadfast support and service to their respective communities and our active duty service members and veterans. We encourage you all to locate an event in your community and take time to honor them on *Sunday, September 29!*