

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

Will Rogers

Officers and Directors

David A. Smith Chairman and Co-Founder

Judy Radke Secretary

Dawn Rogers Treasurer

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Our Mission

Honor Flight San Diego is an all Volunteer Non-profit created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials.

• Top priority is given to the senior veterans - World War II survivors, along with those other veterans who may be terminally ill.

• Of all of the wars in recent memory, it was World War II that truly threatened our very existence as a nation--and as a culturally diverse, free society.

• Now, with over one thousand World War II veterans dying each day, our time to express our thanks to these brave men and women is running out. May 2012

Dear Friends,

Honor Flight San Diego is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization dedicated to honoring America's veterans for all their sacrifices by flying them at no expense to Washington D. C. for a day to visit and reflect at their memorials.

We are raising funds to send the 300 San Diego/Orange County veterans currently on our list. Due to the age of these WW II Vets, time is critical as they are dying at the rate of 900 a day.

For WWII veterans like myself, visiting the Memorial and experiencing the gratitude of the nation, as well as sharing stories from the war with other veterans of "The Greatest Generation" is life-changing. Many WWII veterans have died without the special recognition of their sacrifice, or the healing of the emotional scars they carried with them for a lifetime. Time is running out to thank and honor these brave men and women.

An Honor Flight is a small token of appreciation whereby World War II veterans are thanked for their service. Yet, they come home from Washington, D.C. personally knowing how much their country appreciates and respects them. Veterans will never forget this gratitude. The veterans and guardians alike are transformed by the experience. Veterans write moving letters of thanks upon their return, describing the experience as "deeply emotionally moving," and "the best two and a half days of my life.

Not all of us WW II veterans returned with purple hearts or silver or bronze stars. For all of us who did not, Honor Flights honors us. Honor Flight is our mobile WW II Memorial, ever in action and continuing the great work done by the USO, The Stage Door Canteen and Hollywood Canteen. This is an experience every surviving WW II veterans should be afforded.

The Honor Flight, San Diego website is <u>http://honorflightsandiego.org</u>/. Included on the site is a gallery of photos of veterans on the Honor Flight to Washington and a website for making an online donation. You may also send a donation to Honor Flight, Dave Smith at 9423 Keck Court., San Diego, CA 92129. I hope that you will assist us in making sure other veterans get to experience this memorable trip.

Sincerely,

Christopher Blake 6th Tank Destroyer Group

