

VVA Chapter 1069 Memorial Service 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 18, 2015, El Campo, Texas



The Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall will be coming to El Campo, Texas, July 16-20, 2015. It will be setup behind Myatt Elementary School on 2600 Blossom Meyer Drive. You are invited to attend the 5-day event; a special Memorial Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

VVA Chapter 1069 has organized this Memorial Service to honor the 28 service members from the Wharton County area whose names are on the Wall because they either died in Vietnam or are still missing. Before the Memorial Service begins, crosses will be placed at the base of the Wall, directly in front of each of the 28 service member's names. A military ID dog tag bearing each individual service member's name will hang from each cross.

During the Memorial Service, 28 of our Chapter members will be marched in front of the Wall. As each of the KIA/MIA's names is read by the speaker, a designated Chapter member will step forward and place a rose at the base of the cross. Afterwards, there will be a 21-gun salute and Taps will be played. After the Memorial Service is concluded, Chapter 1069 members will present the KIA/MIA families with the cross, dog tag and rose.

This Memorial Cross ceremony has been an ongoing project for VVA Chapter 1069 since Fall 2014. The crosses themselves are handcrafted. A local machine shop donated the material and fabricated the 12" aluminum crosses. Chapter members hand finished and painted the crosses and bases. Vietnam Veteran Don Dorsey of Austin stamped each individual name on the dog tags that will hang from each cross. Additionally, Flowers Etc of El Campo has offered to donate the long stemmed roses that will be placed at the foot of each cross that morning.

We are honored to have Vietnam Veteran Robert Floyd of Austin as our guest speaker for the Memorial Service. Mr. Floyd is the chairman of the Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which was dedicated at the state capitol grounds on March 29, 2014. VVA Chapter 854 from Hallettsville, Texas, will provide the Firing Detail for the 21-gun salute. After the Memorial Service, Vietnam Veterans and their families are invited to join Chapter 1069 for a pay-as-you-go lunch at Mikeska's BBQ, located at 22730 S. Hwy 59, El Campo.

For more information and details regarding the 5-day event, the Saturday morning ceremony and the guest speaker's biography, please visit the VVA Chapter 1069 website: <http://www.vva1069.org>