

Honor Flight Arizona



We learned about the Patriot Guard Riders October 17 Honor Flight Mission from Bob Block. He is a Patriot Guard Rider as well as a Superstition H-D HOG member.

We are so appreciative that he was able to share some information about this landmark event with our readers. B&B

The Honor Flight has been taking WWII and Korean War Veterans to Washington DC to honor them with a free trip so that the Veterans can visit all the memorials that are in Washington. The Patriot Guard Riders is always invited to stand a flag line in the terminal when the flight returns.

October 15, 2019 was the Arizona Honor Flight's Inaugural all Viet Nam Veterans Flight to Washington DC. I wanted to put the word out so there would a good size group to be at Sky Harbor Air Port when they returned to give them the Welcome Home they never got.

Superstition HOG had 15 bikes with 19 people leave Superstition HD and ride to Sky Harbor to meet up with the Patriot Guard Riders at the Special

Events Parking Lot. After a short briefing they all rode into a reserved parking area at Terminal 4. They gathered the flags and went into the terminal where the families were waiting for their loved ones to return.

According to Honor Flight Arizona, there were 24 Viet Nam Vets plus their Guardian escorts on this trip.

The three-day trip for the Veterans is a very busy time. It's hard to imagine but this is the schedule. It goes something like this:

Oct. 15 - Fly out of Sky Harbor to Baltimore. Bus ride to the BWI Hilton Hotel. Dinner at the Hotel and receive room assignments.

Oct 16 – 7am breakfast at the hotel. 7:45 board a bus to Washington DC. 9am arrive at the National Archives for a private tour. 11:15 Tour the FDR Memorial. They are given a box lunch to eat. 12:20 Viet Nam, Lincoln, and Korean Memorials are visited. 1:50 the WWII Memorial. At 3:20 it's on to Arlington for the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown. 4:35 they visit Iwo Jima Marine Corps War Memorial. 5:15 they are taken to Fort Myer for

dinner. 7pm it's off to the Air Force Memorial. 8:30 back at the hotel.

Oct 17 - 7:30 Breakfast at the hotel. 8:45 Fort McHenry. 11:00 back to the Baltimore Airport. Lunch is served at the airport after they go through security. Fly Home to a great Welcome Home and their waiting families.

I am so glad we had a great turn out for the return and they got the Welcome Home they deserved.

*Bob Block
Superstition HOG & PGR*

Honor Flight Arizona was started in 2008. Twelve Veterans flew on the first trip in November 2009. To date, more than 2,000 Veterans have taken the journey from Arizona to Washington, D.C. {from the HFA webpage <https://honorflightaz.org/about/> }

Learn more about Honor Flight Arizona and how you can participate and/or support their efforts, by visiting these links..... <https://www.facebook.com/honorflightaz/> and <https://honorflightaz.org/>