

# LZ PEACE MEMORIAL

## VIETNAM VETERAN'S HONOR SOCIETY

**Working to honor Vietnam veterans and all others who have served. Let the healing begin.**

Founded in 1989, in Rockford, Illinois, the Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society honors veterans who served and who have helped other veterans since the war.

Nick Parnello and Joe Falzone, two Rockford natives, met while in Vietnam during 1969, and vowed to get together on a regular basis when they ever made it back home. Their regular meetings led to the founding of a new organization for Vietnam veterans – VietNow – which has grown into a national organization with 40 chapters throughout the country since 1979.

In 1983, after the formation of VietNow, Parnello had a dream and came to the conclusion that there was a need for another organization – an organization that would pay special tribute to those from Winnebago County who had died in Vietnam or were among the missing.

He joined forces with three other Vietnam veterans from Rockford: Tony Bove, Paul Cassioppi and Tony Circelli to form the Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society.

The Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax-deductible. For more information about us or the LZ Peace Memorial visit us at [www.lzpeace.org](http://www.lzpeace.org) or call us at 815-968-1040.

### AMAMINI

*Founders of the Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society  
Paul Cassioppi, Tony Circelli, Tony Bove, and Nick Parnello*



# LZ PEACE MEMORIAL

## VIETNAM VETERAN'S WALL OF HONOR

John Charles Alberts, Army  
James Allan Ascher, Army  
Melvin Ballard, Army  
Ralph Anthony Barcelona, Army  
Norman Elmer Beck, Marines  
Larry Dean Bell, Marines  
John H. Berg, Army  
Wayne Valgeen Blake, Marines  
Alan Lee Boyer, Army  
George Richard Butler, Marines  
Arnoldo J. Cardenas, Army  
Curtis Paul Chalberg, Army  
Eldon Dean Coldren Jr., Army  
Daniel Coleman, Marines  
Michael Lee Collins, Army  
Michael Erwin Dagnon, Army  
John C. Davis, Army  
Earmon Ray Derrington, Army  
Martin John DiMarzio, Army  
John Paul Didier Jr., Army  
Curtis Lee Duckett, Army  
George N. Fanis Jr., Army  
Patrick Dale Finch, Army  
David Eugene Flaningam, Marines  
Thomas Duane Glawe, Marines  
Thomas A. Goebel, Marines  
Ray Lonnie Gonce, Marines  
David Arlin Gulbrantson, Army  
Richard F. Hawks, Marines  
Ronnie L. Hawks, Marines  
Daniel Robert Hoffman, Army  
John R. Hornsby, Army  
Michael Joseph Ingrassia, Army  
John Jeffrey Jensen, Army  
Daniel Gene Johnson, Army  
Henry L. Johnson, Army  
Gerald Dennis Kiesling, Army  
Larry William Knight, Navy

Terry Lee Larsen, Army  
Steve Donald Lee, Army  
J. L. Lyles, Army  
Notley Gwynn Maddox, Air Force  
Larry Dale McGhee, Army  
Michael John McGlothlin, Marines  
Michael James McKinson, Marines  
Donald L. Meehan Jr., Army  
Gary Lee Mizner, Army  
Phillip Gwyn Nichols, Army  
David Donell Nicholson, Marines  
Lawrence E. Orsborn, Navy  
James H. Owens Jr., Army  
Stanley F. Patterson, Army  
Wallis Gilbert Patterson, Army  
Robert Verner Pearson, Army  
Feliz Perris, Marines  
Roderick James Rodenbeck, Army  
Henry Clyde Sanders, Marines  
Kris Edward Shaw, Army  
Lora William Snyder, Marines  
Gordon William Stark, Army  
Charles Stanley Tarbert, Army  
A. W. Tripplett, Marines  
Ronald A. Van Wambeke, Marines  
Marcelino Vargas Jr., Marines  
John Wesley Vowles, Marines  
Harold Francis Werle, Marines  
Kenneth Leroy White, Army  
Jerry Wayne Wickam, Army  
Lonnie Williams, Army  
Robert Earl Williams, Marines  
John Wayne Woolbright, Marines  
Kurt Frederick Zimmerman, Marines  
Lester "Lek" Vance, Army  
Craig Walter Anderson, Navy  
David Lawrence Lyons, Navy



# LZ PEACE MEMORIAL

## MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS



## LZ PEACE MEMORIAL

VIETNAM VETERAN'S HONOR SOCIETY

[WWW.LZPEACE.ORG](http://WWW.LZPEACE.ORG)

815-968-1040

AT MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM

6799 GUILFORD RD., ROCKFORD, IL 61107

[WWW.MIDWAYVILLAGE.COM](http://WWW.MIDWAYVILLAGE.COM) 815-397-9112

"LET THE HEALING BEGIN"



# LZ PEACE MEMORIAL

## VIETNAM VETERAN'S HONOR SOCIETY



The LZ Peace Memorial\* at Midway Village is a place of honor for those veterans who served our country, in war and in peace. This memorial stands as a testimony to those soldiers from Winnebago County who made the ultimate sacrifice at a time of great conflict. Four Vietnam veterans, Tony Bove, Paul Cassioppi, Tony Circelli and Nick Parnello spearheaded the building of this memorial which took over 20 years to complete.



The Wall of Honor pays special tribute to those soldiers from Winnebago County who paid the ultimate price in Vietnam. The names of these veterans are etched into the wall, forever reminding us that their courage was our greatest triumph and their sacrifice was our greatest loss. Also, in this peaceful setting, a Huey helicopter that served in Vietnam rests above the Wall of Honor.

Every Memorial Day and Veterans Day at 11 a.m. members of the Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society hold a memorial service honoring those who died in Vietnam and in all other American wars.



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Featured speakers have been parents and family members of those killed in Vietnam: Dorothy Boyer, mother of Alan Lee Boyer; Mike Lenker, a former POW; Sheriff Dick Meyers; Paul Logli, former States Attorney; and many others.

Gino Cuppini's band plays patriot music to set the stage featuring the *Star Spangled Banner* and *America the Beautiful*.

In the past several years a Vietnam-veteran Huey helicopter has flown overhead and landed in a field of tall grass. When it happens again you're welcome to climb aboard and touch this angel of mercy that came bringing food, ammunition, medical supplies, and hope. Then the Hueys lifted out the dead and wounded, and for many it would be the last time they ever saw an old friend. A Marine who fought in Vietnam said, "There's no other sound like it. To us it meant we might get outta here alive, as opposed to, we don't have a 'bleeping' chance."

Be here when flags are flown and songs are sung. Mothers talk of their sons and fathers beam with pride. Old friends meet and Hueys fly one more time. Patriotic music fills the air. Prayers are said and tears are shed.



So bring your flag and your family and spend the day. There's so much to see and do at Midway Village. There are benches for relaxing and remembering the sacrifices made. Come to the LZ Peace Memorial and find an old friend on the wall.

On a quiet night you might hear the sound of Hueys overhead or it could be angels' wings fluttering in the wind. The Wall of Honor and the Huey are waiting for you to visit. They're here rain or shine, day and night, still serving their country, at the LZ Peace Memorial, a place of healing.

In addition to the LZ Peace Memorial there will be a Veterans Wall where, for a tax-deductible donation, any veteran from Winnebago County who served honorably between 1959-1975, can have their name inscribed on this wall. This new wall will be dedicated on Memorial Day 2011. For more information about the LZ Peace Memorial or the Veterans Wall, call 815-968-1040 or visit us at [www.lzpeace.org](http://www.lzpeace.org).

\*The LZ Peace Memorial is located at the northwest corner of the Midway Village Museum campus; or just to the east of the Central Christian Church parking lot. Or you may go outside and follow the signs.

A special thanks to Lonna Converso, Midway Village Director of Marketing for her assistance on this brochure. Photo credits: Helicopter on front: Rod Schwandt. Aerial view, Tom Clabough Photography. Graphic design and other photos by Kendall Nelson. Copyright 2010 Vietnam Veteran's Honor Society.

