




THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



Welcome Home Honor Concert Screening Guide Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin Presentation Addendum

Following the Screening:

- **Invite** all United States veterans present, who served on **active duty** in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of **November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location**, up to the front. All were called to serve, and none could self-determine where they would serve, and all were seen in the same way by a country who could not separate the war from the warrior as we do today. *If mobility is limited, have them raise their hand and someone will come to them.*
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- **Read** the symbolism of each element of the **Lasting Memento of the Nation's Thanks**, the **Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin**:
 - Embossed on the back and closest to the heart of the wearer are the words: "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You."
 - On the front, is the eagle emblem, representing courage, honor, and dedicated service to our nation.
 - A blue circle surrounds the eagle, and matches the canton of the American flag, signifying vigilance, perseverance, and justice.
 - Inside the circle is a laurel wreath, a time-honored symbol representing honor and victory.
 - The stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.
 - Finally, the six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed and fought alongside one another: The Commonwealth of Australia, The Kingdom of Thailand, New Zealand, The Republic of Korea, and The Republic of the Philippines.
 - **Proceed with the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin presentations** in a dignified manner to each Vietnam veteran. Pinning on their lapel is preferred, but if circumstances dictate, or the veteran prefers being handed the pin, then adjust presentation accordingly. Ensure the lapel pins are personally brought and presented to any immobile veterans.
 - **Shake their hand.**
 - Look them in the eyes and say with heartfelt response: *"On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your service."*
 - **Finally**, offer concluding remarks and **provide each Vietnam Veteran with supporting material** that explains the symbolism and significance of the lapel pin (Lapel Pin Fact Sheet).

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Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!

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