#### **Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee**

**Established:** 2008 as the Southern Middle Tennessee Honor Flight, renamed and incorporated in Tennessee as the Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee in 2013.

Mission: Fly World War II and Korean War Veterans to Washington, D.C. for a FREE tour of their War Memorials

**Annual Flights: Two - Spring and Fall** 

Cost per flight: \$18,500- \$20,000 / Guardian cost: \$400 Chairman: Claude Morse, USAF Retired, (931) 247-5151

m\_code@bellsouth.net

Vice Chairman & Guardians Scheduling Coordinator: Lana Bradford (931) 455-3488 (office)

Veterans' Scheduling Coordinator: Sgt. Maj. Larry Williams, U.S. Army Retired, (931) 924-3000 (home), (931) 224-3226 (cell) tennesseans2@blomand.net

IRS Status: 501c3 Tennessee Non-Profit Corporation

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS TO CONTINUE THESE FLIGHTS

**DONATIONS:** Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee

PO Box 1926

Tullahoma, Tennessee 37388-1926



# Honor Flight

## Of Middle Tennessee





### **Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee**

Honor Flight is a nation-wide program that takes eligible World War II and Korean War veterans on a free trip to see their war memorials in the nation's capital.

World War II veterans get top priority followed by Korean War veterans. Terminally ill veterans from those wars who are well enough to fly with a doctor's approval go to the front of the line.

Flights include veterans from all the armed services. On a recent flight one of the veterans had served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

The oldest veteran on a recent trip was 99. Most are Tennessee residents, but we often have veterans from other states.

Southern Middle Tennessee Veterans are picked up on a bus with American Legion Riders, police and sheriffs department escorts. Veterans from other areas meet the group in Nashville.

Members of the Patriot Guard Riders greet the veterans at the Nashville Airport with an American flag arch when they arrive around 5 a.m. and when they return usually around 9:30 p.m.

The group flies out of Nashville, Tenn. on Southwest Airlines, the official airline of Honor Flight, to Reagan National airport and back from Reagan or Baltimore Washington airport the same day.

During the day the veterans get to spend time at the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial and The Vietnam War Memorial.

They also drive by the Air Force Memorial, the Marine Corps Iwo Jima Memorial and the Pentagon.

The afternoon concludes with the solemn changing of the guard ceremony at the tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. This is usually followed by supper in the base dining hall at Fort Meade Md. or Fort Myer Va.

The Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee is a Tennessee 501c3 non-profit cooperation.

It was originally formed as the Southern Middle Tennessee Honor Flight in 2008 with Milton Schafer of Winchester as its chairman.



Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns

The name was changed in 2013 to reflect the larger area it covered and it was granted 501c3 status in 2014.

Since 2009 the group has made two flights per year for approximately 50 veterans and their guardians on each flight.

Veterans pay nothing for the trip, all airfare, meals and incidentals are covered by donations.

Each veteran gets a distinctive ball cap, polo shirt. They also get a backpack donated by Harton Hospital in Tullahoma. Guardians pay their own way.

At least one doctor and one nurse accompany each flight.

A member of the board of directors who is a nurse, contacts each veteran and their families before each flight to make sure it is safe for the veteran to fly.

Wheelchairs are loaned to Honor Flight by Middle Tennessee Respiratory, Decherd, Tenn.

It cost approximately \$18,500 - \$20,000 to put on each flight.

Fundraising is underway for the next flight, as the group will have to spend \$13,000-\$14,000 in advanced payment for airfare and buses to reserve the date 3-4 months before the flight.

All donations are tax deductible.

One hundred percent of the funds
donated go to putting on the flights.



## Donations can be sent to <u>Honor</u> <u>Flight of Middle Tennessee</u> at P O Box 1926, Tullahoma, TN 37388.

Veterans, family members or friends of a World War II or Korean War veteran should contact retired Army Sgt. Maj. Larry Williams at (931) 924-3000 or at tennesseans2@blomand.net for information and the application for a flight. It pays to get on the list early, as the seats are filled on a first come – first served basis.

Persons interested in serving as a guardian on the next flight should contact Lana Bradford at (931) 434-5664.

For more information and photographs or our most recent flight visit our Facebook page - Honor Flight of Middle Tennessee thank you for your support.

