

OPERATION LZ

WELCOME HOME



VIETNAM VETERANS

Forest City, IA
August 26-30, 2015



Landing Zone - A designated area for the special purpose of receiving or distribution of people or cargo. Also known as "LZ"

"I am looking forward to taking my son and grandsons on a Huey ride giving them an opportunity to share some of my daily experiences in Vietnam."

"Six months after I was drafted, I was in the infantry in Vietnam. I am inviting my platoon to come and share the weekend hoping to get us all on a Huey for one more mission!"

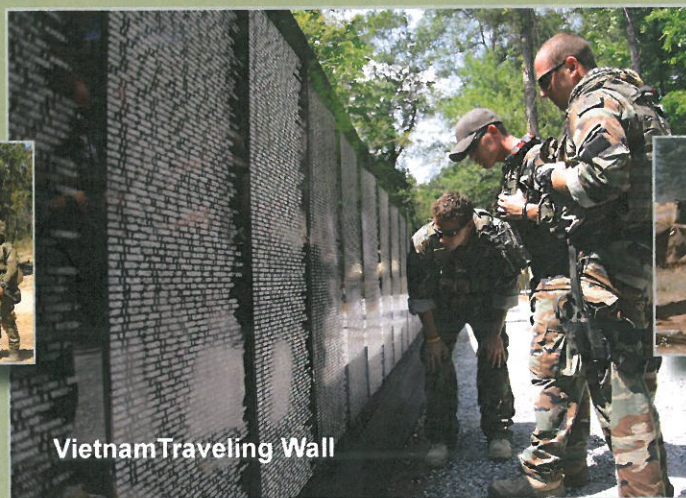
"It's hard for me to believe that someone actually wants to recognize and thank those that served in all the arm forces during Vietnam after 40+ years. Time does heal."

Facebook –North Iowa Vietnam Veterans Committee.



www.operationlz.com

"Courage is fear that has said its prayers."



Vietnam Traveling Wall



"Home of the free because of the brave."

**Friends!
Food!**

You are invited!

**Flying!
Fun!**



Next year will mark the 40th anniversary of the last US troops coming off the lines in Vietnam. For those veterans who served from 1962-1975 their return to the states and civilian life was not greeted with applause, parades or celebrations but with derision and blame. Next summer citizens, businesses and organizations from nine North Iowa counties are hosting "OPERATION LZ – WELCOME HOME." This overdue Welcome Home -Thank You event for Vietnam era veterans will be held August 26-30th at the Forest City Airport, Heritage Park and Winnebago Rally Grounds.

Events and displays committed at this time are: The Traveling Wall, two Huey and one Cobra Helicopters from the Army Aviation Heritage Group, POW – MIA hot air balloon and the T-6 Thunder Squadron Group from Minneapolis. Rides will be available for purchase on these aircraft. Also coming is a Vietnam Museum, Mobile Riverine Veterans Honor Trailer or Displays, and the Des Moines Skydivers which will give tandem jumps and presentation of colors. More exciting news is the appearance of the three member Poet Ethanol Stunt Squadron! The committee is also

happy to present The Rocky Lynne Band from Tennessee, honoring our great country and those who defend it. At this printing, an application is in process to request the display of a C-130 Transport, APC, and a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter.

The goal of this weekend is to bring our Vietnam era veterans together with families, communities, businesses, organizations and other veterans to give them their rightful honor and gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

This is a weekend to reflect, renew and restore a group of men and women who responded when their country asked for their service. It is also an opportunity for veterans to share with their children or grandchildren the service they gave for their country.

You are receiving this special invitation to be a supporter in this long overdue Thank You weekend. Ten years from now many of these soldiers will not be here or will be unable to attend an event like "OPERATION LZ – WELCOME HOME." It's never too late to thank a veteran.



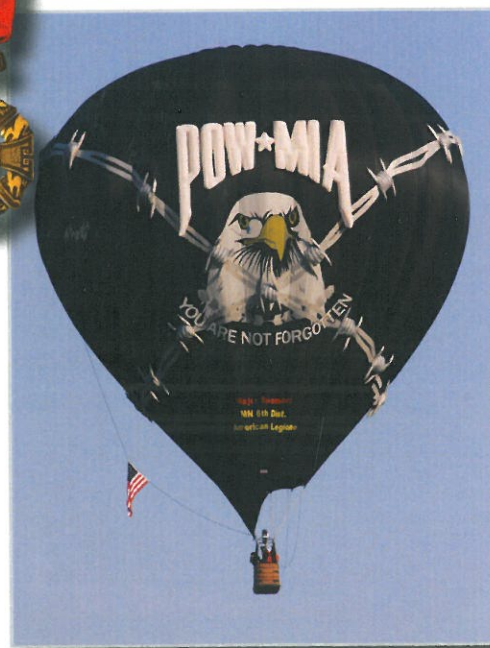
Come join us!
Welcome to all veterans
who served
from 1962-1975

Vietnam Veteran
Gary Pearson
of Little Cedar, IA will be
presenting his motor pool
collection and other
interesting memorabilia that
he has collected.



91% of Vietnam Vets were glad they served.

74% enjoyed their service and would serve again.



72% agree they fought a war political leaders wouldn't let them win.

87% of Americans hold Vietnam vets in high esteem.

General Schedule for "OPERATION LZ – WELCOME HOME"

www.operationlz.com

Wed., Aug. 26th - Arrival of the Traveling Wall

Thurs., Aug. 27th - Arrival of Sky Soldiers Helicopters

Thurs., Aug. 27th - Fri., Aug. 28th - Education Days - Area high schools are invited to view The Wall and hear from veterans and history teachers.

Sat., Aug. 29th - OPERATION LZ - WELCOME HOME

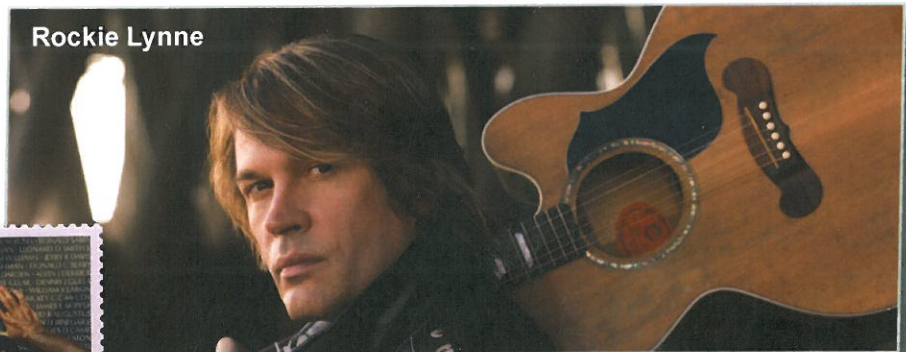
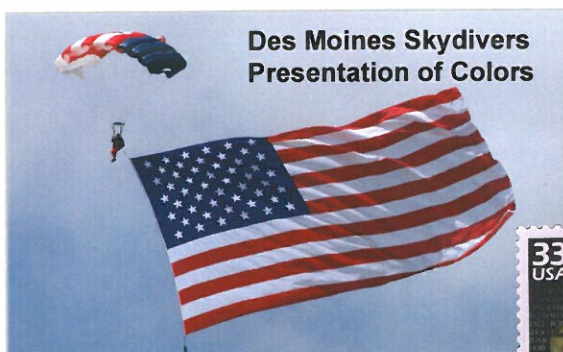
- Mid morning service for vets and families at The Wall - Speaker: Larry Spencer
- Special speaker at Winnebago outdoor theatre
- Airport activities open with skydivers presentation of colors
- Rides, demonstrations, Poet Ethanol Stunt Squadron show, many static displays
- Governor Terry Branstad
- Rockie Lynne Veterans Tribute Concert

Sun., Aug. 30th - Flight breakfast

Helicopter, T-6 Thunder, balloon rides
Poet Stunt plane show

Rain or shine • Free admission • Camping

Camping will be available in the event area at the Winnebago Industries Campground from Aug. 28-29th – Details later.



Operation LZ Guests



Retired Lieutenant General
Dennis J. Hejlik, USMC



Governor
Terry Branstad



Navy Lt. Commander Larry Spencer
7 year Hanoi Hilton Prisoner



Special thanks to:

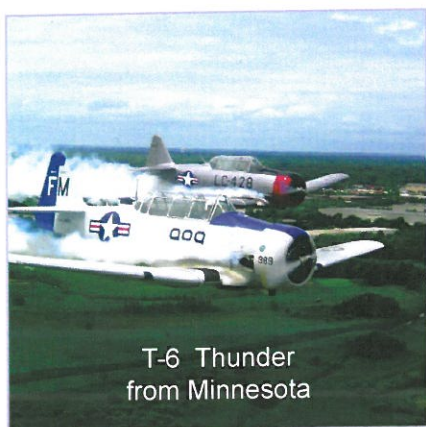
Winnebago Industries

City of Forest City

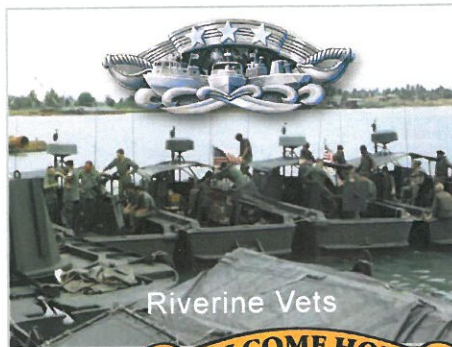
Heritage Park
of North Iowa

Forest City Airport

*An estimated 60% of Vietnam vets have passed away.
Nearly all Vietnam Vets never received a "Welcome Home –Thank You event."*



T-6 Thunder
from Minnesota



Riverine Vets



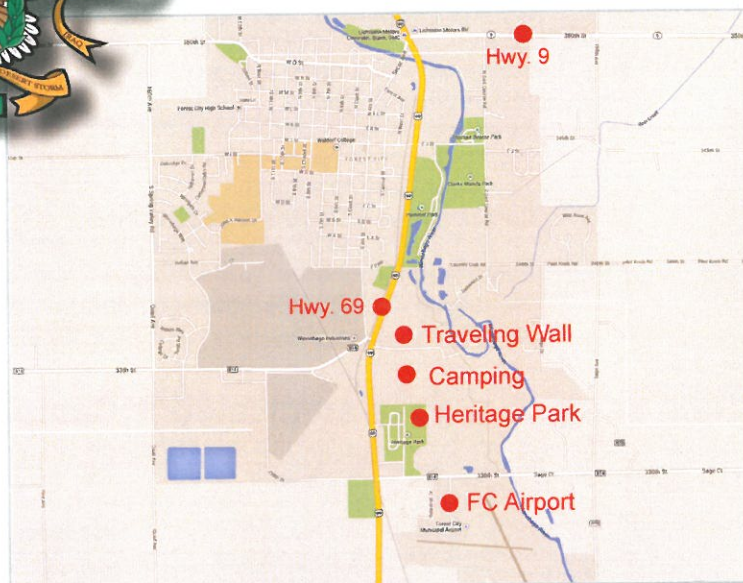
Sky Soldiers
Veteran Air Crew



SPECIAL OPS SUPPORT:

Join this Special Support Group
with a donation of \$5000 or more

All gifts of \$1000 or more
will receive Operation LZ support poster
for their use



Donations accepted to:

City of Forest City Operation LZ
216 South 4th St., Forest City, Iowa 50436

Any questions concerning event, please call:

Jack Caputo 641.590.0548; Mark Frakes 641.582.2771; Riley Lewis 641.581.3283; Dave Kingland 641.590.1949

"OPERATION LZ – WELCOME HOME"

This honorary event is planned for all those who served in the military from North Iowa during the Vietnam War years. They were called, they served and sacrificed. Your tax deductible financial gift is appreciated by Dec 1, 2014 in order to secure the events of the weekend. Thank you from the committee for your help in this endeavor to help give a "Welcome Home" to a great group of citizens.

www.operationlz.com

Nine County Operation Gratitude Committee Members

Jack Caputo	Mark Frakes	Riley Lewis	Leon Christianson	Dave Kingland	Jay Gourley
Bob Havner	Pat Galasso	Larry Weaver	Dave Haugen	Don Dixon	Tom Berry
Troy Thompson	Dave Theiss	Thomas Coffman	Linda Parmley	Tony Coloff	Jay Lee
Dick Trimble	Jerry Christensen	Leo Meitner	Bill Albert	Bill Clark	