

**Honor Flight-Austin
Laredo-Flight
Douglas M. Alford-Director
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Honor Flight-Austin/Laredo Flight

Depart San Antonio Sept. 12, Return Sept. 13 to San Antonio

In 2004 the World War II Memorial was dedicated to the surviving World War II Veterans. Immediately a program was set up nationwide to transport the World WW II Veterans to visit the memorial dedicated to the Greatest Generation. The Honor Flight Program was established in the major cities in Texas and has sent more than 25 flights to this memorial from Texas. More than 2,500 have made the flight. None from Laredo have been sent on the Honor Flight, although there have been several attempts. Many of the Laredo World War II Veterans have never visited the memorial dedicated to them.

At this time there are less than 50 surviving World War II veterans out of a total of 2,200 with the number decreasing weekly. This trip is available at this time to honor our local World War II veterans and the time is running out.

I have taken the initiative to honor these few veterans by doing something that they have wanted to do for years. I am organizing a flight out of Laredo to Washington on September 12 and return September 13. We have 15 plus veterans willing to take advantage of this opportunity.

This flight is at no cost to the veteran. There will be medical personnel on board. This is necessary due to the age and physical condition of the veteran. There are supporting organizations, at the Memorial for the tour and at the hotel.

While there they will visit the WWII Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, the Korean Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, the Wall, the Reflection Pool, drive by the Pentagon, the Capitol and other

memorials.

This has been completed successfully by thousands of veterans from all across this country. We will do this but we need support. Each veteran has a cost of \$1,000. to cover the expense. Excess expense over this amount is supported by organizations all across this country. We are asking for your support to fulfill this long denied opportunity to allow the World War II Veterans to see their memorial. If this is successful it will be expanded to include the Korean and Vietnam Veterans.

The Honor Flight is a non-profit nationwide organization with hubs in the major cities. It is funded by donations and each donation is tax deductible. A receipt will be provided for each donation regardless of the amount. It will be mailed to the donor at the time of the processing of the check. It is supported by the Veteran Service Office.

If this is something you would like to participate in please make your tax deductible check payable to Honor Flight-Austin and mail in care of Douglas M. Alford, Director, 8919 Tucson Lane, Laredo, Texas 78045.