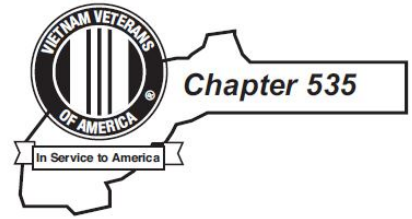




**INCOMING**  
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA  
**CHAPTER 535**

Website: [www.vva535.org](http://www.vva535.org)



Volume 28 Issue 3

March 2018

Dear fellow veterans,

Saturday we had a graveside memorial service for Harold Graves. It was a very somber moment for myself as it makes me realize that our time on earth is short. I am glad that Harold is in a much better place.

I don't ever remember Harold saying a terse word about anyone and he knew when to stop a discussion in its track and move on. I learned a lot from him as a leader and a human being. Just not enough!

Reading his obituary is just a short story on his life. It speaks to his approach to life and his dedication to all aspects to what he was involved in and doing his best at each task. I am fortunate to know more of his exploits and how fortunate we are that he was with us at all. He was a great example that most humans could just wish to attain.

My best wishes to Patricia and her family.

Chuck Holmes

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**Upcoming Events**

- General Meeting .....March. 1, 2018
- NCCVC meeting. 10:00 a.m. March 1, 2018
- Director's Meeting .....March 15, 2018
- April 14, 2018 – Celebration of Life: H. Graves
- CSC Full Council - April 27– 29,2018,Fresno
- August 24 – 26, 2018, Fresno
- Rhythm Riders* Concert – April 28, 2018
- VVA Leadership Conference, Palm Springs, CA
- July 22 – 30, 2018
- Nevada County Fair – August 8 – 12, 2018

**Chapter 535 Officers**

- President  
Chuck Holmes (H) 478-1126; (C) 263-6968
- Vice-President  
Dave Chaix ..... 269-1431
- Treasurer  
Ralph Remick .....559-7716
- Secretary  
Dave Johnson ..... 887-8297

## Directors

Craig Johnson ..... 575-3576  
Dave Johnson ..... 887-8297  
Ralph Remick ..... 559-7716  
Ric Sheridan ..... 274-1413  
Dave Chaix ..... 269-1431  
Bill Holman ..... 265-8387  
Bart Ruud ..... 823-1368  
Dale Epps ..... 368-6156  
Kent Hawley ..... 432-3551  
Chuck Holmes ..... 478-1126

## Committee Chairs

Finance ..... Ralph Remick & Dave Johnson  
Parade and Honor Guard ..... Dick Corn  
Membership Affairs ..... Ric Sheridan  
Newsletter ..... Interim editor Bart Ruud  
Victorian Christmas ..... Chuck Holmes  
Nominations ..... Dick Corn  
Christmas Year Round ..... Harold Graves  
NCCVC ..... Dick Corn  
Web Master ..... Ralph Remick  
Quartermaster ..... Kent Hawley  
Facebook Master ..... Mike Laborico  
Nevada County Fair ..... Chuck Holmes  
VSO Liaisons ..... Don Bull & Gary Oliver  
CA State Council Rep. .... Chuck Holmes

## Nevada County Veterans Affairs Rep.

Kevin Edwards ..... (530) 273-3396  
[ncvso@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:ncvso@co.nevada.ca.us) Tuesday & Thursday,  
8:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 – 4:00 are “Walk-In” days.

## Matters of interest as outlined at Board Meeting of February 15, 2018

The Board actively seeks a Chapter member who will represent VVA 535 at California State Council meetings held quarterly in Fresno, CA.

A slate of potential VVA 535 Officers and Directors for 2018-2019 is being developed. Nominations for VVA-535 positions will gladly be received at the General Meeting of March 1, 2018. Elections are in April 2018.

Gary Barnes is developing organizational strategy for meeting needs to effectively present the *Rhythm Riders* concert at the *Center for the Arts* on April 28, 2018.

Four additional Booth Captains for the Nevada County Fair, August 8 – 12, 2018 are needed. Booth Captains and Booth Sitters to be solicited at upcoming General Meetings.

An order has been placed for VVA caps that will cost approximately \$7.50 each. The caps might be available at the meeting of March 1, 2018.

Those inclined can make donations to VVA Chapter 535 in memory of Harold Graves. Those funds will be dedicated to a special project, yet to be determined.

## **Guest Speaker March 1, 2018**

Originally scheduled for February 2018, our guest speaker at our General Meeting of Thursday, March 1, 2018 will be Lt. Col. David Moyer, USAF retired LCSW, retired. Colonel Moyer will address matters related to mental health, an issue that is of broad concern in our complex world.

Licensed Clinical Social Workers work with clients in order to help them deal with issues involving mental and emotional health.

Col. Moyer, a resident of Lake Wildwood, is the author of three books of the *Transformation Trilogy*. These include *Too Good to be True? Nutrients Quiet the Unquiet Brain*, *10 Ways to Keep your Brain from Screaming “Ouch!”* and *Beyond Mental Illness*. Moyer has provided clinical social work services and consultation at the federal, state and county levels.

Thank you, **Tom Woollard**, for coordinating and arranging Col. Moyer’s presentation.

## Corruption at 13,000 feet: Afghanistan struggles to maintain a treacherous mountain trade route

By Max Bearak January 22 The Washington Post



The Salang Pass connects the capital, Kabul, with northern Afghanistan, in particular the commercial hub of Mazar-e Sharif but also important provinces such as Baghlan, Kunduz and Badakhshan. (Andrew Quilty)

**SALANG PASS, Afghanistan** — The road that traverses this lofty mountain pass is the only direct route between Kabul and Afghanistan's northern provinces. Since the age of Alexander the Great, it also has been the main trade route between South and Central Asia.

Crossing it in 2018 will leave you both shaken and stirred. Shaken because despite hundreds of millions of dollars spent over decades on improvements, most of the road is now little more than a dirt track. And stirred because despite the bone-rattling journey, the sight of the snowy peaks of the Hindu Kush is

breathhtakingly beautiful.

But the road can also leave you angry, especially if you've been driving it week in and week out for decades, like Sayid, a trucker who like many Afghans uses just one name. "Nothing has changed in all these years," he said, while tucking a blanket around his old Russian-made truck's engine to protect it from the subzero cold at the top of the pass. "If anything, it has gotten worse."

Sayid is accustomed to abysmal roads, as he is to rampant corruption in his country — the latter often being the invisible force behind the former. Nowadays, his patience is running thin. When Sayid hears of President Ashraf Ghani's plans to transform Afghanistan into a transit point for regional trade, he scoffs.

Foreign donors have poured billions of dollars into road-building here since the toppling of the Taliban in 2001. But much of that money has gone to roads of strategic importance for the ongoing Western military intervention. Some of Afghanistan's most economically vital roads are in utter disrepair.

The 1.7-mile-long tunnel near the top of the Salang Pass is a case in point. Completed in 1964 by Soviet engineers and thought of at the time as a marvel of engineering, it now has an unpaved road running through it. There is little by way of ventilation or illumination, and dust and fumes often reduce visibility to a couple of yards. The tunnel was built for a daily use of 1,000 to 2,000 vehicles, but now as many as 10,000 traverse it each day. Without offsetting maintenance, traffic has torn the pavement to shreds.



Traffic in the Salang Tunnel comes to a standstill as winter weather turns the road to ice.

Gen. Mohammad Rajab, a Defense Ministry official who oversees the road's security, recounts many past incidents when fires have broken out in the tunnel and drivers have asphyxiated. More than 100 people die on the road to the tunnel each year, too — in rock slides and avalanches, in collisions while rounding the road's 180-degree hairpin turns, or by falling into the Salang River's steep ravine (guardrails are unheard of).

"The tunnel still needs just about everything: basic resurfacing, maintenance machinery, ventilation. And with everyone driving old cars and trucks, it's a gas chamber in there," Rajab said. "In all its years, it has just been repaired once. For the answer why, you have to ask the Ministry of Public Works."

Back in Kabul, Deputy Minister Abdul Rahman Salahi's first answer is terrain, climate and altitude. "The Russians were good at this, and we are not," he said. "We are still learning." But

when asked why, nearly 60 years after the Russians began building the Salang road and tunnel, those attempts at improvement haven't borne fruit, Salahi offered another explanation. "Corruption is undeniable. Construction contracts are granted, then they get subcontracted and maybe even sub-sub-contracted, and at each stage of transfer, a cut of the money is taken," Salahi said.

The Afghan government is well aware that embezzlement is a major problem. "Corruption has blocked Afghanistan from being self-reliant and free. And corruption has wasted a vast amount of precious resources that could otherwise have been spent reducing Afghanistan's crushing levels of poverty," [Ghani said last year](#).

The U.S. Congress-appointed Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction laid some of the blame on the massive amounts of money the United States has sent into Afghanistan.

"The United States contributed to the growth of corruption by injecting tens of billions of dollars into the Afghan economy, using flawed oversight and contracting practices, and partnering with malign powerbrokers," [concluded a 2016 report from the office](#).

The sole full-scale attempt at repairing the Salang road was in 2004 and was financed by the World Bank. A year after the project was completed, the pavement was mostly washed away by storms, and the road has been deteriorating ever since. Nevertheless, roughly \$1 billion in goods have traveled through the tunnel in recent years, accounting for well over

half the country's commercial trade, according to a study commissioned by the U.S. Agency for International Development. When blizzards or broken-down trucks block the tunnel, the prices of fuel and basic goods spike in Kabul.



A man begs near the northern end of the Salang Tunnel.

A World Bank representative in Kabul, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak with the news media, said corruption and incompetence doomed the earlier attempt. Contracted companies, after taking a cut of the budget, subcontracted local outfits that used cheap, inferior material that could not withstand winter temperatures and constant truck traffic.

In 2015, the World Bank announced a new \$250 million road improvement project in and around Salang. The bank's representative, as well as Salahi, the deputy minister, said they had learned from past mistakes and would break contracts into smaller segments, which they argue reduces the incentive for subcontracting. To Qayoom Soroush, a former road infrastructure researcher at Afghanistan Analysts Network, that explanation hides the

role of higher-level corruption.

"In my experience, when the ministry officials award contracts to companies, regardless of their size, the ministry takes its share," Soroush said. "The first question is: What percentage do we receive?"



The road from Kabul to the Salang Pass has 180 hairpin curves.

Soroush, echoing Rajab, said that the bribery and embezzlement stretch from the ministry all the way to local strongmen who provide protection for construction workers. "If you ask any Afghan, they will tell you that road-building is one of the most profitable [ventures] in the country for corrupt people," Soroush said. Salahi acknowledged that corruption exists even within his own ministry. "We are aware of our shortcomings," said Salahi, himself an engineer. "We are ensuring far greater oversight in this new round of contracting."

If everything goes according to Salahi and the World Bank's plan, the road over and through the Hindu Kush will be properly paved by 2022. That would mean another four years of

grindingly slow and bumpy back-and-forths across the mountains for Sayid and thousands of other truckers who know all too well how their businesses could boom with a better road. These days, it takes a fully loaded truck almost 24 hours to cover the 100 miles between Kabul and Mazar-e Sharif, northern Afghanistan's biggest city.

Sayid's truck full of hay was already late making it to Kabul. He didn't have any time for optimism: "Only Allah knows if my sons and my grandsons will drive on a better road."

### **Writing Your Story for INCOMING**

(Ongoing repeat solicitation)

Ideas for your story:

- Think about what you appreciated about the Vietnam experience. There is surely a means to segue into that with very little reflection on the negative aspects of war.
- What did you appreciate about the Vietnamese people during your deployment?
- Can you steer away from the bad stuff and reflect on the best experience you had

in the Nam?

- Surely you had a close buddy and you supported each other. Maybe there is a story in that.
- What really got you through the day-to-day anxieties and fears? There might be a positive recollection in that regard.
- How did your experience instill in you a sense of patriotism that you possibly express every day of your life.

So far we have heard from Ruud, Epps, Chaix, Hamer, current Marine LCpl. Jesse Hernandez, Kent Hawley, and Mike Laborico. (Thank you!)

No writer needs to dwell on the negatives of war. Each of us who was there lived the negatives, and all of us are better people for having served, especially when we look at how we matured as a result of our experiences. Each of us has derived a sense of being and an energy that is different from what it might have been had we not been sent across the pond.

Do share with us, in your own words, something of that chapter of your life. And, thank you for your service.

Forward your story to Bart Ruud at [bruud45@gmail.com](mailto:bruud45@gmail.com) or hand deliver to Bart.

### **In Tribute to Harold Graves**

Compiled by Bart Ruud

It is an honor to share a partial story of the life of Harold K. Graves, Jr.

We knew Harold Graves as a dedicated, vibrant, and optimistic man. Duty, Honor, Country. The man, the father, the husband, the brother, Harold exuded that adage and lived by that axiom. Laced within those qualities, Harold was a gentle soul who had an uncontested desire to help others make a difference in our world. In that light, his legacy lives on.

Harold was born in Louisville, KY, May 15, 1941 and passed peacefully on January 30, 2018. Harold seemed to be a natural leader from an early age. He may have possessed that trait because he grew up the son of a leader. His Dad was the President of the Golden Gate Theological Seminary in Marin County, CA. It's also a certainty that Harold capitalized on his military training and experiences to further

develop his leadership skills. Additionally, the quiet counsel and support he received from his beloved wife, Patricia, helped to refine his organizational and leadership capabilities.

Harold had a legion of friends who admired him, not the least of whom is his wife, Patricia, and his extended family. That admiration was embedded in a litany of characteristics that described him. He was accountable, honest, and strong of character. He had a subtle sense of humor, and he had a confidence that strangers he met would recognize at first meeting. All of his traits coalesced, and all who knew him, and worked with him, knew he was a man to be trusted.

Harold and Patricia came to Nevada County in 2001. It's fair to suggest life on Robinson King Road likely proved far less frenetic than Marin County life had been for Patricia and Harold. When they lived in Marin County, Harold was deeply involved as a broker in real estate management and sales. But, he was also President of the Mill Valley, CA Jaycees, President of the Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce, President of the Mill Valley Rotary Club, and President of the Marin County Board of Realtors. Harold also served on the Marin County Grand Jury in 1971-72. Is it any wonder that all these organizations capitalized on Harold's leadership tendencies? Harold lived by the tenets of the Rotary Four-Way Test: Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Prior to Harold's professional calling in civilian life, he had a distinguished career in his service to our country. As a December 1963 U.S. Army draftee, he received a Certificate of Achievement as Fort Ord's *Outstanding Soldier* for the first half of 1964. At the time, he was an acting Sergeant, but not long after that, he headed to Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Later he went through Airborne School and Ranger School. Harold was proud that he served for a time with the instructor cadre in the Ranger School. Still later, he was assigned to the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Cu Chi, Vietnam.

But I digress. I can only imagine Harold, in anticipation of his Jump School and Ranger training, might have been known to sing in the shower. "I want to be an Airborne Ranger, I want to live a life of danger, all the way, gotta go, Airborne, Ranger, danger, all the way, gotta go..." Those words are lyrics from an Army marching song, and they were sung to a double-time-march cadence.

Harold had several notable assignments in Vietnam. His first assignment was as the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Leader of Alpha Co. with the 2/27 Infantry Battalion Wolfhounds. Later, he became the assigned leader of the Battalion's Reconnaissance Platoon. Subsequently, he was an Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General Edward M. Flannigan, the Special Assistant to General William Westmoreland, and still later he became the Aide-de-Camp to General Donnelly P. Bolton, Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Assistance, MAC V.

Harold was the recipient of the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star, the Air Medal with 11 Oak Leaf Clusters (with each Cluster representing 50 hours in the air), the Combat Infantry Badge, the Vietnam Service Medal and the U.S. Army Good Conduct Medal.

Taking from a citation, "First Lieutenant Harold K. Graves, Jr. United States Army, was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy during a search and destroy mission on 5 November 1966, near Dau Tieng, Republic of Vietnam. Lieutenant Graves distinguished himself while leading his men in an attack against a strong North Vietnamese Army force

after being pinned down by intense enemy fire. Though wounded, Lieutenant Graves continued to advance, leading his men in an assault on an enemy bunker, all the while directing the fire and encouraging his men to follow him. When the enemy was overrun and routed, Lieutenant Graves directed the evacuation of other wounded to the rear. His gallant actions and dedicated devotion to duty, without regard for his own life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army Air Forces. “

That horrific battle was a part of the so-called “Operation Cedar Falls,” and the battle lasted 28 hours. In that epic battle, our U.S. forces suffered 43 KIA and 85 WIA, one of whom was Harold, who sustained shrapnel wounds to his back.

Ever a pragmatic and thoughtful leader, Harold submitted recommendations for the Medal of Honor for his Company Commander, Capt. Robert Foley and for one of his squad leaders, Sergeant John F. Baker, Jr., both of whom were involved in the Nov. 5, 1966 battle. Then Captain Foley and Sergeant Baker were each awarded the Medal of Honor. Captain Foley advanced his career to become Lieutenant General Foley, and he remained a lifelong friend to Harold.

There were other achievements during his period of military service, but let me simply close further sharing about those years. Harold picked up the charge when he came to Nevada County, and in 2002 to VVA Chapter 535. He cherished his association with the VVA because it was a place where he could relate to other Veterans and where he once again took on a leadership role. Harold was our VVA – Chapter 535 President four times, the most recent being 2015-2016.

As time passed, one of Harold’s favorite hobbies included motorcycling. He did long road trips and he even attended the immense motorcycle rally in Sturgis, South Dakota. For riders, hitting the annual Sturgis rally is almost a rite of passage. He loved riding and often rode his Honda Gold Wing trike in local parades.

Harold was a man’s man, a leader of men, a man who proudly wore his service cap, a man who faced illness with great courage, and a man who has left a legacy of memories for all who knew him. The VVA’s Victorian Christmas project was a passion, and it was his work with Patricia’s support that made the project a success, year after year. Harold never shirked from volunteerism and he relished lending a hand so that every project he undertook met with success. Local parades, VVA woodcutting projects, the VVA booth at the Nevada County Fair, and Victorian Christmas are just four of the activities that were smothered with Harold’s fingerprints and loyalty. He and Patricia also proudly supported the Vinh Son Orphanages in Kontum, Vietnam.

His wife, Patricia, his daughters Jennifer and Kerry, his sister Nancy J. McLaughlin, four grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews survive Harold.

Saying farewell to Harold is hard. All who knew him feel sorrow, but in testament to Harold, we know he would not want us to dwell on his transition. He would want us to remember him as a man who lived his life with purpose.

We give thanks, now, to a man who was a true patriot, a true American hero. Harold, may you be at peace, and God bless you.



Harold was laid to rest, with full Military Honors, on Saturday, February 17, 2018 in the New Elm Ridge Cemetery, Grass Valley, CA. A strong contingent of VVA-535 was with Harold and his family as he was committed. Dick Corn served with the Honor Guard, and Ralph Remick rendered TAPS on his bugle. The graveside commitment service included prayer, reading of passages from the bible, the reading of Harold's obituary, and the sharing of heartfelt words by Patricia Graves.

#

Photos, below, courtesy of VVA member Mike Laborico, were taken March 5, 2017 at the Armed Forces Pavilion and Garden, Auburn, CA . The occasion was a proud moment for Harold and the VVA because our presence there was for the dedication of the VVA-535 plaque.





Harold and Patricia, seated.  
L to R: Enrique Vasquez, Dave Chaix, Dave Johnson, Mike Laborico



Leading the way: Al Hernandez and Harold Graves



L to R: Tom Eberlein, Dave Chaix, Mike Laborico, Enrique Vasquez, Ralph Remick, Bart Ruud, Harold Graves



# 2018

## Please consider becoming a volunteer with the We Honor Vets Program



For more information,  
contact Diane Barlow at  
Hospice of the Foothills

(530) 274-5108

[dbarlow@hfofo.org](mailto:dbarlow@hfofo.org)

### Serving those who have served US!

Hospice of the Foothills has implemented an innovative model for service Veterans at the end of life - the Veteran-to-Veteran Volunteer Program. The purpose of this project is to recruit Veterans and provide specialized hospice volunteer training focusing on Veteran's needs. This program aims to pair Veteran Volunteers with hospice patients who have also served in the military.

### What is the importance of Veteran Volunteers?

- Volunteers are essential to the delivery of quality hospice care.
- Veterans are a part of a distinct culture with their own common language and experience.
- When Veterans interact, their common language and experience can form a strong relational bond.
- The camaraderie created between Veterans has proven to be supportive for all involved.

### What activities can Veteran Volunteers do?

- Take part in pinning ceremonies or distribute certificates for Veterans Day and Memorial Day and other recognition events. Orientation for these areas of volunteering is provided by Hospice of the Foothills Volunteer Services.
- If a Veteran Patient Support Volunteer is the area desired, a training class is required. Hospice of the Foothills provides two no cost training classes a year that will prepare each volunteer as a respite care or a friendly visitor for those Veteran patients.
- Spring 2018 training dates are March 13, 14, 15, and 16 from 8:30 to 12:30. Registration required. Call (530) 274-5108 .



WE HONOR VETERANS

## Volunteers needed for Johnny Cash/Patsy Clone Tribute on April 28, 2018

### Assignments

Name, phone #

Soft Drink/Ice Purchase and serving (2) Persons (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee Bar, serving, making fresh coffee (2 persons) (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Soft Drink/Dessert servers (2 persons) (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Manning table for VVA information (2 Persons) (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Cashier (2 Persons) (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers should report to theater by 6:30 p.m. and be prepared as soon as doors are open to the public. Breakdown after show estimated to be 45 minutes.

### PRE-EVENT NEEDS

Gather handouts, information about VVA, easel, display at table , business cards, etc.

2 Persons (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Acquiring sponsors (2 Persons) (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Gary Barnes with commitments or questions

Some positions, other than what is seen below, are already filled.

Nevada County Fair VVA-535 Booth Schedule V.2

August 8, 2018 - August 12, 2018

Project Chair:

Time Slot	10:00 – 2:00	2:00 – 6:00	6:00 – 10:00
Wed. Aug. 8, 2018  Booth Captain: D. Chaix	Name: D. Chaix  Phone:  Name: B. Ruud; T. Eberlein  Phone:	Name: D. Chaix  Phone:  Name: B. Ruud  Phone:	Name: D. Chaix  Phone:  Name: B. Ruud  Phone:
Thurs. Aug. 9, 2018  Booth Captain:	Name: C. Holmes  Phone:  Name: M Laborico  Phone:	Name: E. Vasquez  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:
Fri. Aug. 10, 2018  Booth Captain:	Name: C. Holmes  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:
Sat. Aug. 11, 2018  Booth Captain:	Name: D. Ferguson  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:
Sun. Aug. 12, 2018  Booth Captain:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone: 14	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:	Name:  Phone:  Name:  Phone:

**Application For Membership**  
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC., CHAPTER 535  
P.O. Box 37, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, or in **any duty location** between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) Chapter Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am already a VVA member and I want to become a Life Member. My VVA Number is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Type of Membership:** Individual \_\_\_\_\_ 1 year @ \$20. Individual \_\_\_\_\_ 3 years @ \$50.  
Life Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100. (Check type of membership)

**ATTENTION New members and new life members:** You must submit a copy of your DD-214 form along with this application and dues payment.

Payment Method: \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover)

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return your completed application, payment and a copy of your DD-214 to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Chapter 535  
P.O. Box 37  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Revised: January 2017

# February

# 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 VVA General Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Boy Scouts of America founded 1910	9	10
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 VVA Board Meeting	16	17 Graveside service for Harold Graves
18	19 President's Day US Marines Landed on Iwo Jima 1945	20	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24 Operation Desert Storm ground campaign began 1991
25	26	27	28			



# March

# 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 VVA General Meeting	2	3 Star Spangled Banner made US National Anthem (1931)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Daylight Savings Time begins	12	13	14	15 VVA Board Meeting	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19 Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003)	20 First day of Spring	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Good Friday. Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day	31

# April

# 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday	2	3	4	5 VVA General Meeting  VVA-535 Elections	6	7
8	9	10	11 Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire (1991)	12	13	14 Celebration of Life for Harold Graves
15 Income Tax Day	16	17	18	19 VVA Board Meeting	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Rhythm Riders Concert
29	30	27				