My name is David Boda and I had the honor and privilege to participate in the 31st Never Forgotten Honor Flight on April 23, 2018. Words cannot describe this humbling and emotional journey.

The Vietnam War was dividing our country when I was asked to serve. I was proud to go as my grand-Father and father had before me. I had no idea how much my life would change.

So, fifty years later here I am, with the opportunity to go on the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. I truly felt honored, from the moment we arrived at the Hilton Garden Inn. Everything was so well Organized and the volunteers so helpful. The dinner, entertainment and speakers were wonderful. The hi-lite of my day was meeting my guardian, Brian "Doc" Nelson. As it turned out, Brian was my Rock and my leaning post thru that fabulous trip to Washington D.C.

At the Vietnam Wall, I was able to locate my best friend. All gave some, some gave all was never more Meaningful. At Brian's urging, I had written a letter that I was able to read to my friend. With Brian's Help and lots of tears and emotion I was able to get the words out that had been inside for 50 years. I think this plus seeing all the monuments with all the veterans brought peace.

The mail call on the flight home brought tears to many. I noticed that the date on my envelope was Stamped 1968. The details, wow. I couldn't read my letters on the plane. I needed to process Everything that I had seen and experienced that day. Little did I know that when we landed all Hell was about to break loose.

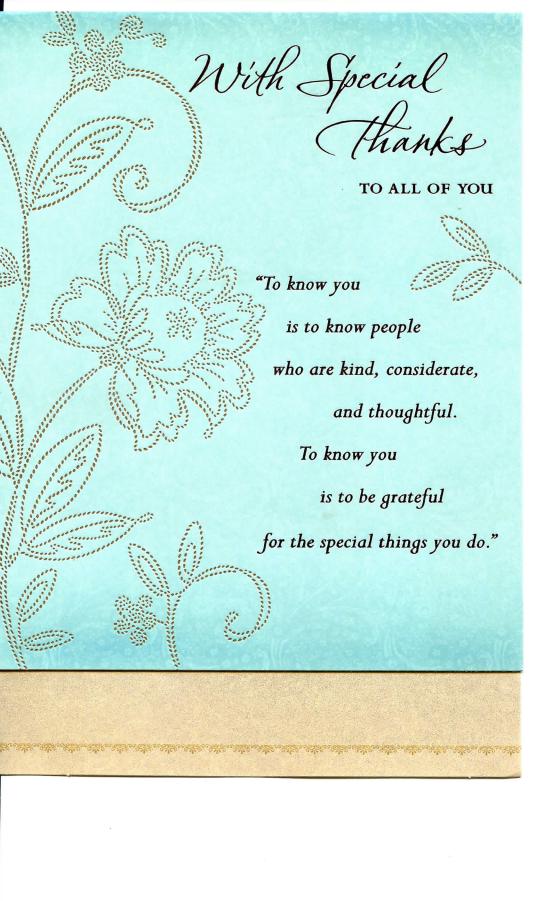
I couldn't believe all the people that came to welcome us home. My wife I knew would be there But not all the kids, grandkids, family, friends and even two of my army buddies whom I Haven't seen in years. The welcome home was over the top!!!

I hope that all the veterans were able to experience some closure from this incredible Opportunity. I know I did. I feel very humbled, honored and thankful and can proudly say that I Have been on the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. I will be there to welcome the next Flight home.

With Gratitude,

David Boda

US Army Veteran - Vietnam Era



For everything you've done...

for being the special people
that you are...
thank you so very much.

JAUIO BOOA 31st NFHF