

HONOR FLIGHT THANK YOU

Mike Thompson,

We hope that this letter can help me convey to you how YOU and the BOARD made our trip an exceptional experience.

It was a success beyond words that can only be called priceless. Nancy, Darcie and I had high expectations, and we were still overwhelmed. I feel like one of the Seven Dwarfs going to work singing their song "I owe, I owe," and you can call us and it will be honored at any time.

A visiting author at our library said you must first set the "Landscape" before you write. So here we go.

Try to imagine being in our Nation's Capital with sirens blaring and lights flashing. People waving, stopping in their tracks to shake your hand, grabbing you in a bear hug, going to the front of the line, and that was just getting on the buses. It was a humbling and exhilarating experience that I would rate as one of the most memorable adventures in my life. Our hosts (121 of them) ensured that this was about US from breakfast at 5:30 am until 10:30 that nite, all we had to do was ask and they would deliver. And deliver they did.

We started with an escorted three Bus group led by a light flashing siren blaring motorcycle cop, and a big SUV chase car with a SWAT driver bringing up the rear.

Our first stop at the World War II memorial had a rousing and startling walk thru of a couple of hundred school kids and tourists. They were waving banners and signs with our names on them. A young man called out my name.

Today in your mail call you will have a letter to Branson that I hope will give you a sense of what we felt on our trip. As the sign on our wall in our home says "You've reached out for our hand and touched our heart."

For the rest of the story you will have to come to the house and see the images and feel the joy that you gave to a couple that can't THANK YOU enough.

*Mike
Thank you for
inviting me
along for the ride!
It was sensational!
Kula*

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Branson,

The day we meet you in the Capitol, was one of the most memorial adventures of my life. The words that go thru my mind are Humbling, Priceless, and full of surprises that left me over whelmed.

Your groups school and the others that crowded the entry to the World War II tribute was outside of my preconceived notions. I had prepared myself to be relaxed and not to show outward emotions.

When we followed our Veterans in wheelchairs into the narrow walk way we were blow away to see hundreds of people welcoming us. The cheering and applauding made it hard to concentrate and make sense of what was happening. I heard my name called out and was astounded. There you were with a sign Thanking Me.

In my home I have a saying that tells what you did. ' You reached for my hand and touched my heart'. It is very hard to write this with out the tears starting to flow again. You touched me deeply.

You and your Teacher are to be commended for doing all that you did. Planning, making the individual signs, taking time out of your day, and greeting us. She is a great Teacher who encourages you to be curious and respectful. The day became even better when you found me and we had time to talk. Thank you for directing her to my daughter and I so we could personally thank her, you are very lucky to have such a great person in your life.

It was a great pleasure to meet and talk to you. I THANK YOU for who you are and how you treat your fellow man.