

Hoover, Brian

Good afternoon!

First, let me **THANK** each of **YOU** for such an amazing experience on Monday. I'll forever be grateful to you for allowing my dad and I to join this flight. You helped us share and experience and create memories that will be remembered forever.

Prior to this trip I only recall hearing one story about my dad's time in Vietnam, and it was mostly told by my mom. He shared stories with me on the flight over which he said had never been shared before. They were bone chilling, things I can't fully comprehend without being in his shoes. I'm astounded by the courage he and all those who served had to muster, every minute of every day. I always had a sense of pride for what my dad did for me and for our country, but these stories amplified those feelings a million times over. I credit all of you, and this trip, for opening up those communication channels, and helping me gain a better understanding of what he went through during his service.

I've volunteered for, and held numerous board positions with non-profit organizations in the Wausau area over the past 15 years. Giving back is something very important to me. It's a value instilled by my dad. With that said, I've never witnessed an organization have such an immediate and profoundly positive impact on the people they serve. What you do for our veterans.....You are the cream of the crop. My wife and I have been thinking about ways to volunteer together, and something we could get our three young children involved in as well. I spoke with her on Monday night after getting home, and we both agreed this would be a wonderful group to do that with. We want our children to learn, and observe, how our veterans should truly be treated and celebrated. Please let us know if there are volunteer opportunities in the future. We'd love to be involved.

Thank you again for everything you did for us. We are blessed to have been a part of it, and may God bless all of you!

Brian D. Hoover

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