

## GUARDIANS

Guardians are essential to the success of the Honor Flight Network Program. Without these volunteers, we would not be able to carry out the dreams of so many Veterans, enabling them to see the memorials built in their honor.

Never Forgotten Honor Flight assigns every Veteran a guardian to accompany the Veteran for the day in D.C. If a Veteran does not wish to choose their own guardian, NFHF will assign one from the guardian wait list. From the moment the Veterans are in our hands until we return them to their loved ones in the evening, guardians will be asked to treat these heroes as if they are family and ensure that every Veteran has a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience.

Never Forgotten Honor Flight's *Guardian responsibilities* include but not limited to:

- Assist in boarding/deboarding the airplane and buses, going up/down bus stairs, and in the bathrooms.
- Spending quality time with the Veteran throughout the day – listening to their stories and taking pictures.
- Additional responsibilities will be covered in guardian training

Never Forgotten Honor Flight's *Guardian Requirements*:

- Spouses or “significant others” of Veterans going on the flight are NOT eligible
- Must be between the ages of 18-69
- Must be willing to assist all Veterans as needed
- Must be physically capable of performing the Guardian role, which includes assisting Veterans getting in/out of seats, Honor Chairs and up/down stairs
- Must be able to push your Veteran in an Honor Chair for a minimum of one hour at a time including up and down inclines
- Must be capable of independent communication with Veterans, Never Forgotten Honor Flight staff, and others
- Must not require use of canes, crutches, walkers, slings, have back issues, casts, or other limiting physical strength and agility etc.
- Must attend Mandatory Guardian Training the day before the flight
- Guardian pays for their own trip. The price of the trip is \$500 and is due prior to flight day

**A completed Guardian application must be submitted and received before a “requested veteran” is called for his/her flight.**

***Because guardians play such a significant role in our program, Never Forgotten Honor Flight reserves the right to disqualify anyone based upon the requirements listed above.***

**PLEASE INDICATE ON YOUR APPLICATION IF YOU ARE A VETERAN, CURRENTLY IN THE MILITARY, OR A FIRST RESPONDER (EMT, PARAMEDIC, FIREFIGHTER OR POLICE OFFICER).**