

Mr. Ken Moberg

May 20, 2023

Never Forgotten Honor Flight

225780 Rib Mountain Drive #234

Wausau, WI 54401

Dear Mr. Moberg,

Thank You notes are supposed to be short, poignant and directly related to the event or gift. I could not say what I want to say in just a few words, so bear with me, this may be a little longer than most notes you'll read.

The Honor Flight cannot and will never be forgotten and I must address all the dedication and hard work of so many volunteers. Words cannot express the overwhelming sense of support and thanks for all who made this experience memorable. I received heart felt greetings from so many volunteers who I did not know that I ran out of words to express my thanks to each of them for their long hours and dedication to support veterans they did not know. How wonderful is that?

It didn't take very long to see how much planning and attention to the smallest of details that it took to make this a flawless flight. And, you did this now 44 times. That's incredible!

I've just finished sending a personal thank you note to each of the school children who left me a card or letter in my "Mail Call". I wanted to be sure they heard from the veteran before school let out for the year. Their letters will be part of my "scrapbook" collection of this flight. I still have more thank you notes to write, but in some manner, I wish I could talk to them personally. I must ask that you pass along my thanks to all the schools since some letters and notes had no names or organizational addresses. I will cherish each and every one.

I especially want to thank Jeni Hinz who more than anyone else made me feel part of the group. As my "Gold Bus" commander, she seemed to be everywhere helping, guiding, directing, explaining and, of course, smiling at all of us. She deserves a salute! She took the function of the Honor Flight organization and turned it into an individual unique personal experience.

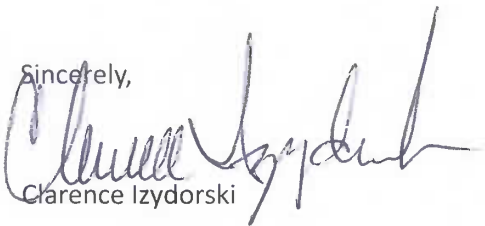
As my mind replays every detail of this flight over and over, I cannot fathom how much time and dedication it took to work out the details, prepare for all contingencies, having the right person in the right spot for any problem including your medical team and I am absolutely amazed at each individual's contribution to support the veterans. I felt humbled and that I did not deserve all this attention and was not worthy of all their time and talent. It seemed that my service time a long time ago did not merit today's gratitude from all these people.

I am still processing the feelings I have for how lovingly you cared for my wife, the evening dinner, the entertainment, the multitude of gifts, the airport reception including an escort for my wife, the complimentary breakfast, the guardians, transportation to the airport and the post flight party. It was amazing!

It's nearly impossible to duplicate the enthusiasm of all those at the airport when we returned. There was music, flags, VFW and American Legion uniforms, the Knights of Columbus, patriotic citizens, the patriotic motor cycle riders, and more outstretched hands to shake than I could count and of course my family. Bless them all.

I guess I've said only a small portion of what I would tell you in person. I will tell you that I and my family will be in the cheering sections at the airport for flight 45. And, it's nearly impossible to thank all the major contributors. I probably missed lots of others who made this possible, but in some way please tell them that at least one veteran says "THANK YOU".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clarence Izydorski". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Clarence Izydorski

LTC, United States Army.