

Dear friend of the Never Forgotten Honor Flight,

The 2004 movie, "Miracle," starring Kurt Russell, is an absolute clinic for leaders when it comes to the subject of developing teamwork, another of our core values. Russell plays the legendary coach Herb Brooks, who led the USA Olympic hockey team to victory over the Soviet Union in the gold medal round of the 1980 winter games. If ever you're looking for a good movie, that one is worth the rental.

Brooks cuts some of the best hockey players at the tryouts as he puts his team together. When the chairman of the US Olympic committee points this out to him, Coach Brooks replies, "I'm not looking for the best players – I'm looking to build the best team."

Later he reminds those who made the cut that they're a team now, not a bunch of individuals looking for glory. He tells them, "*The name on the front of your jersey is more important than the name on the back!*" What an incredible statement.

The selflessness I see in the Never Forgotten Honor Flight team tells me they understand that principle. Whatever it takes to get the win for the team, whatever it takes for the mission to exceed expectations, whatever it takes to honor our veterans, they're ready to do.

- Keep track of hundreds of people in a complex database and be available to answer their questions? No problem!
- Create a USO environment where veterans can go after check-in to the Hilton Garden Inn and get to know their guardians over snacks? Absolutely!
- Set up flags, table decorations, staging, and a sound system for a first-rate banquet? Sure!
- Show up at the airport before 4 in the morning? Got it!
- Honor the spouses with a luncheon and stage show while the vets are in DC? Of course!
- And do it all with a smile that says, "You matter to us"? Yep!

In my relatively short time as president, I've seen the depth and complexity of this organization in a way I hadn't seen as the logistics officer. And I can tell you, it takes an amazing team working together to pull this whole thing off. Thanks for being a part of it. Your contribution – whether in time, effort, funding, or all of the above – makes it all possible.

Here's a look at our Scoreboard:

Veterans flown				Waiting list			
WWII	Korea	Vietnam	Total	WWII	Korea	Vietnam	Total
1,045	1,242	1,899	4,186	0	1	651	652

For the heroes,



Ken Moberg
President
Never Forgotten Honor Flight