

Finally able to post a few more pictures and comments from last weekend and Dad's amazing Honor Flight! 🇺🇸✈️

I honestly don't think I have words to express my gratitude to this incredible organization ... or to every person who was involved! Their commitment and passion was so obvious from start to finish ... and that was felt not only by the veterans but by each and every spouse, partner and family member! It truly was magical! 🌈

Watching my dad connect with some of his friends that he actually served with and hearing their stories was so fun! Even after an exhausting day, they were more than willing to reflect on their day over a few cold beers! 🍺 Their excitement of going to DC (my dad's first time!) and seeing the monuments that honor all who have served is something that will stay with them the rest of their lives. ❤️

To all of my family and friends who wrote letters for his mail call ... THANK YOU! 💕✈️ We sat down the following day and read each and every one. Needless to say, more than a few tears were shed!! 😭 He was so grateful for the appreciation and thanks for his service! 🇺🇸 But what touched me/us even more were the memories shared and love expressed for him as a PERSON ... as an uncle, brother-in-law, friend, neighbor, band member ... and as a dad. I'm beyond thankful that this Honor Flight allowed him to hear these words NOW. ❤️

A HUGE shout out to **Rob** for nominating my dad, for getting this process started and for coordinating the mail call! 🗨️ Lola ... you were a rock star the whole weekend and I'm so glad you were part of the celebration! ❤️ Thank you to my aunt, uncle, cousins, Lola's family and my dad's friends for showing up at the airport with signs and support to welcome him home! 🎉 (Can we go back and do that part again?! Too much fun!) To the Lemke sisters and family ... so great connecting with you all ... thank you for sharing pictures and I can't wait to see you all again! So glad our dads could share this experience together. 😊

Finally thank you **Patriots for Warriors - Public Page - PFW**, **American Legion Riders WI District 8** for the awesome motorcycle escort, **Otto Creative** for your amazing talent and capturing this weekend through photos and video, and **Never Forgotten Honor Flight, Inc.** for providing such an incredible experience for the men and women who deserve and have earned it the most. 🇺🇸 You have inspired me, not only to volunteer and further support our veterans, but to find something I can truly be passionate about. ❤️

Oh ... one more thing! 😊 If you have a family member, or know someone who is a veteran, PLEASE look into a hub near them and get them on a flight!!!! 🇺🇸✈️ I learned that soooo many veterans are nervous about going or don't think they deserve it. This trip can actually be a big part of their healing and often provides closure. And EVERY veteran deserves this ... no matter their role, or how or where they served. Bottom line ... they served!!! 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸 Love you, Dad! Thank you for your service and Welcome Home! ❤️