



A Community Partnership for Veterans

VETLINX Newsletter July 2016

## VETLINX'S SALUTE TO U.S. VETERANS



Kolleen Hudgins-Atwell  
VETLINX Sr. Advisor

In 1981 Vietnam Veterans, Col. John Furgess, U.S. Army; Major Fred Tucker, U.S. Marine Corps; and Sam Bartholomew, West Point graduate, advised Nashville Mayor, Richard Fulton, that the many soldiers who had returned home from serving in Vietnam had never been publicly thanked or recognized. Because I was the Event Planner for the City, Mayor Fulton assigned me to help organize a celebration to honor these valiant men and women.

On a beautiful October afternoon in 1981 Mayor Fulton honored his commitment to those three men, and the city of Nashville threw a grand party to honor our Vietnam Veterans.

**Against the backdrop of the Parthenon at Centennial Park thousands showed up to express their appreciation.** The event featured a Fort Campbell Fly-Over, their Band and their Skydivers who unfurled American flags. Charlie Daniels surprised the audience with a concert, and local car dealer, Bob Frensley, donated a new car which was given to a Veteran as one heck of a door prize. The Salute was a spectacular occasion that has been fondly remembered for 35 years.



Mayor Fulton continued to pay tribute to Veteran groups during his 12 years in office. Mayor and Mrs. Fulton will always be remembered for their consistent support of all Veterans. I am grateful for the opportunity I've had to work with so many others to help honor our many Veterans. And after 35 years I'm thrilled to have been asked to assist VETLINX in saluting all U.S. Veterans on Sunday, October 9, 2016.

**Free Community Event!**  
Star- Spangled Salute to Vietnam Veterans  
October 9, 2016  
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
Parthenon Lawn at Centennial Park.

**FREE Event will include:** Table Displays to Recognize Veterans from All Eras of Service. Veteran outreach booths featuring local Veteran Service Organizations such as Vietnam Veterans of America, Marine Corps League, local AmVets, American Legion, VFW Posts, and many more!  
**Family-friendly activities:** live entertainment, food trucks, skydiving team, Color Guard, crafts, a memorial wall, and a patriotic salute.

For more information please go to [www.Vetlinx.org](http://www.Vetlinx.org)

VETLINX is a 501c3 nonprofit organization #46-26534. VETLINX Assists Veterans' by connecting them to community resources to meet their needs.