

HERE ARE SOME OF THE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS VETERANS HAVE BEFORE FLIGHT:

WHY DO YOU NEED AN UPDATED MEDICAL FORM AND WAIVER? WHY A DD-214?

In the event of a medical event this gives our medics a quick glance at what could be going on. If for some reason you would need further medical attention we would be able to get this information to the appropriate medical personal for timely care. Disclosing this medical information does not disqualify you from our trip but helps our medics be able to serve you and ensure you have a safe and enjoyable trip. We also need to verify for our insurance that you are in fact a Veteran from the era that you are representing. Both your medical information and DD-214/Discharge Papers will be destroyed after flight.

HOW LONG OF A FLIGHT IS IT TO DCA?

From Sioux Falls Regional Airport to Reagan National Airport, it's a direct flight of about 2 hours and 30 minutes gate to gate. Your family can watch our flights by visiting www.aa.com and searching for Flight "9470" or search for "FSD to DCA". This will show them our departure and return flight segments.

HOW MANY PEOPLE COME ALONG?

We charter an Airbus 321 through American Airlines with a direct flight from Sioux Falls to Reagan National. We will have 186 people associated with Midwest Honor Flight on board. This included 83 Veterans, 83 Guardians, and 20 of the Midwest Honor Flight Volunteer Crew to assist you on your day.

WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO WEAR?

If you join us for the banquet, it's up to you - some dress up and other come more casual. We don't have a dress code for this, we're just happy to have you and a guest join us if you'd like.

For flight day however, you will be required to wear a blue Midwest Honor Flight shirt that we will provide for you at the banquet the night before or the morning of flight. You will get a lanyard also when you check in at the airport - this is your boarding pass for the day. As far as what to wear with it, that's what ever you'll be comfortable traveling in for the day. Our recommendation would be to go for comfort.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING ALONG FOR FLIGHT?

You'll need a government ID along for flight. This can be your state issues driver's license (highly recommended), passport, or military ID. A light jacket may be something you'd like for our time on flight - you'll need to take it off the plane and keep it with you but may be left on your bus for the day. You may certainly take snacks along as well if you'd like. Drinks are not allowed through security, but an empty water bottle can be filled inside the terminal. We will also have water and drink packets provided at each stop in DC. We also ask that you bring an additional two sets of medication along for flight day in case we should be delayed anywhere during our trip. If you need our permission to get these medications along, please have your provider contact our Medical Coordinator Chris Van Beek at (712) 463-2060.

WHAT IS A GUARDIAN?

Guardians are essential to the success of the Midwest Honor Flight program. Without these volunteers we would not be able to carry out the dreams of so many Veterans like yourself, enabling them to see the memorials built in their honor. Guardians are volunteers and are asked to make a minimum donation sent to Midwest Honor Flight before our final flight payment is due. Guardians *may NOT be the spouse or significant other of a veteran* and must be at least of the age of 16 at the time of the flight. Because they play such a significant role in our program, we will provide training sessions for all guardians prior to participating in one of our trips. Training will be conducted at two locations with two dates announced to the Guardians after they are confirmed on flight. We reserve the right to refuse any guardian application.

**WHY DO I NEED A GUARDIAN? WHY DO THEY HAVE TO MAKE A DONATION?
AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT DONATION?**

It's our policy and recommended by the National Honor Flight Network to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable time in Washington, D.C. They make a donation to Midwest Honor Flight to help us with the cost of our flight charter. By doing this, they help us ensure that the majority of the donations we receive for Missions are used to fly our American Heroes like you out to our Nation's Capital. You are never responsible for this donation - that lies solely on the Guardian that you choose or that's assigned to you.

WHY IS MY SPOUSE OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER NOT ALLOWED TO JOIN ME AS A GUARDIAN?

This is a National Honor Flight Network policy that we are required to follow. In past experiences of the Network, other hubs have had couples disappear at the National Mall and held up the other Veterans on flight while they were being searched for. They also want the day to be about the Veterans bonding together with one another. Your spouse and significant other is invited to join us for the banquet the night before for \$25 but is not allowed to join the shuttle or the flight.

WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO GO ON THE MORNING OF FLIGHT?

If you are going to book your stay through us for the Sioux Falls Sheraton, we ask that you are in the lobby by 3:45 AM to ensure that we can board the shuttles for an on-time departure at 5:55 AM. If you are not staying at the Sioux Falls Sheraton, we ask that you still come to the Sioux Falls Convention Center parking lot and come to the lobby of the Sheraton no later than 4:15 AM to join us for a shuttle to the airport. This will ensure that your vehicle is not sitting in airport parking all day. We will also shuttle you back that evening per the request of the Sioux Falls Airport.

WHAT TIME ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET BACK?

WHERE CAN MY FAMILY MEET ME ONCE WE RETURN?

For our May flight, we are scheduled to come back into Sioux Falls at 8:30 PM. This gives us a total of 8 hours in DC to see all the major sights and memorials that have been dedicated to you and your fellow Veterans. Due to incoming flights at the same time as our return, the Sioux Falls Airport has asked us to shuttle you back to the Sioux Falls Convention Center/Sioux Falls Sheraton area. Your family should plan to meet us there at 8:30 PM to ensure they don't miss you if we arrive a little early. We will take care of the shuttle and ask that they respect the wishes of the Sioux Falls Airport to ensure future Honor Flights have the same experience you do.

WHAT IS THE COST?

The only costs that are associated with this trip for you are all optional. It costs \$97 per night at the Sheraton when booked through Midwest Honor Flight, \$20 for a preordered hat that you can pick up at the banquet and is \$25 for a guest (other than your Guardian) to join you at the banquet the night before. The only expense on flight would be if you wish to purchase souvenirs while out in DC. Otherwise, we've got your flight, travel, and meals covered as well as your flight day shirt.

WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR ACCOMMODATIONS FOR BEFORE AND AFTER MY FLIGHT?

You may have filled out the reservation sheet and send back to Midwest Honor Flight with your prepayment for a rate of \$97 (taxes and fees included) at the Sioux Falls Sheraton. We recommend staying here if you need accommodations as the banquet is just down the hall, the shuttle leaves from the hotel lobby area, and your family will be meeting us back here as well rather than the airport. This is certainly not required but rather an option that has been heavily discounted by the Sioux Falls Sheraton.

HAVE OTHER QUESTIONS NOT LISTED HERE?

CALL AARON AND LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 712-463-2020