


# NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY



REMEMBER  
HONOR  
TEACH  
17 DEC 2022

SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS CEMETERY



# WREATHS *across* AMERICA

## South Dakota Veterans Cemetery

*Wreaths Across America Day*  
*Ceremony & Wreath Laying*  
**1100 – 17 DEC 2022**

Welcome & Moment of Silence

*Aaron Van Beek, South Dakota Veterans Cemetery Wreaths Across America Director*

Presentation of the Colors\*

*National Anthem\**

Pledge of Allegiance\*

Invocation

Wreaths Across America Address

South Dakota Veterans Cemetery Address

*Erin Brown, South Dakota Veterans Cemetery Director*

Armed Forces Wreath Presentations

*Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard*

POW/MIA Wreath Presentation

Guest Speakers

Final Address

21 Gun Salute & Taps\*

Retirement of the Colors\*

\* = *please stand if you are able*

**GRAVE SPECIFIC requests have been marked with a BLUE flag. We ask that these wreaths be left for the families that sponsored their loved ones.**

# THINGS TO KNOW FOR TODAY'S WREATH PLACEMENT:

1. Remembrance Wreaths are in boxes throughout the cemetery.
2. Please do not drive your personal vehicle through the cemetery until all wreaths have been placed.
3. Please start with only one wreath to allow all those in attendance the opportunity to honor a Veteran today.
4. The red bow should be at the top of the wreath when placed against the stone.
5. **BLUE FLAGS** indicate a Veteran whose family has sponsored and requested to place that wreath. Please take a moment to say the name of that Veteran but refrain from placing a wreath to allow the family time with their loved one.

*We thank you for your cooperation and for helping us Remember, Honor, and Teach through today's ceremony and wreath laying.*

# INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY SPONSORS

Betty Albright	Richard Geraets	Jodie Pederson
Jim & Jan Ashmore	Frances Getz	Yvonne Perkins
Jim Bacon	Brittany Glanzer	Kathy Peskey-Fink
Family of Wright Bailey	Ryan Gnesda	Ira Petersen
Judy Barringer	Lynn Harrington	John Pierson Family
Joann Beaner	Tom Henle	Diane Pinkelman
Pam Beckman	Don Hericks	Leroy & Brenda Polreis
Michelle Boelter	Dick & Judi Hinz	Stacey Polreis
Sharon Brink	Eileen Hohn	Nancy Potts
Nancy Brown	Rick Hoogendoorn	Randy Rath
Rodney & Kathryn	Daniel Horkey	Regan & Tami Ronning
Brudvik	Colby Jensen	Mary Sandve
Rhonda Caton	Ron & Bev Johnson	David Schaefer
Amber Chapman	Megan Jonker	Melissa Schoneboom
Deb Christofferson	Jody Kimball	Mary Schrader
Denise Clement	Jeanie King	Becky Sehr
Brad Colby	Marcia Kittelson	Sally Sisk
Clare & Carlotta Colby	Kaley Krause	Charity Small
Sheryl Curl	Jill Kuper	Sue Smith
Cara Lee Davis	Michelle Larsen	Mindy Smykle
G Day	Linda LeBorgne	June Staggers
John & Marlys DeGroot	Carole Lee	Julie Steinbeck
Peter Dennis	Larissa Lindemann	Laurel Stringer
Bill Dreyer	Dennis Macklem	Sheri Thomas
Kathy Dunn	Cindy Maffei	Judith Thompson
Sharon Dvoracek	Audrey Marsh	Aaron VanBeeK
Lamer/Dykstra Family	James Matthews	Randy VanDerVorst
Philip Ellerbroek	Patricia McLean	Terry & Vickie Vellek
Nancy Engebretson	Janet Mehlum	Barbara Williams
John Etrheim	Daryl & Anne Mello	Elizabeth Zielenski
Ethelyn Fey	Debbie Menzel	Anonymous Sponsor
Leslie Feyerherm	Camie Merry	
Beth Finzen-Przybys	Renee Nicks	
Henry & Barb Fisher	Barbara Opp	
Paul Fiskum	Tara Padilla	

*\*Sponsorships were current as of December 1, 2022. We apologize if we inadvertently missed or misspelled a sponsor.*

# BUSINESS & ORGANIZATION SPONSORS

*American Legion Post 13 (Wakonda, SD)*

*American Legion Post 15 (Sioux Falls, SD)*

*American Legion Post 103 (Rock Rapids, IA)*

*American Legion Post 174 (Lennox, SD)*

*American Legion Auxiliary Unit 15 (Sioux Falls, SD)*

*American Legion Auxiliary Unit 103 (Rock Rapids, IA)*

*American Legion Auxiliary Unit 113 (Willow Lake, SD)*

*American Legion Auxiliary Unit 911 (Sioux Falls, SD)*

*The Barrel House*

*CRT Concrete, LLC*

*Disabled American Veterans Chapter 1*

*Paralyzed Veterans of America North Central Chapter*

*Pomp's Tire Service*

*Republic National Distributing Co*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4726 (Brandon, SD)*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6436 (Chamberlain, SD)*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6960 (Rock Rapids, IA)*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7319 (Wagner, SD)*

*Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 959*

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*We also thank the following organizations for helping gather sponsorships this year alongside their regular fundraising:*

**Elsie Honors**

**Lincoln County Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol**

# THE STORY BEHIND WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The tradition of laying wreaths to honor our Veterans during the holiday season began in 1992, when Morrill Worcester of Worcester Wreath Company (Harrington, Maine) was stuck with a number of extra wreaths at the close of the holiday season. Remembering a boyhood trip to the Nation's Capital, and the sacred grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, he donated 5,000 wreaths to be placed at the headstones of an older section of the cemetery.

What began as one man's gesture, has now grown into a national movement - when in 2007 Wreaths Across America was formed as a non-profit. Today, more than 3,600 locations participate on a Saturday in December in laying the wreaths out of remembrance and respect for our nation's brave servicemen and women. In 2021, the South Dakota Veterans Cemetery was officially opened on Memorial Day with burials beginning within the week after. Midwest Honor Flight partnered with Wreaths Across America in 2021 to bring this program to our local Veterans whose final resting place is within these hallowed grounds. Sponsorships are 100% tax-deductible allowed by law.

"It's more than simply decorating graves," said Midwest Honor Flight President Aaron Van Beek. "It's a silent message to all Veterans, their families, and those currently serving that we will REMEMBER their service, we will HONOR their lives, and we will TEACH future generations the importance of citizenship and how our freedoms have been preserved over time."

We understand we have Veterans Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring, but our service members sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year to preserve our freedoms. In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. There is no better time to express our appreciation than during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

Join us next year with a sponsorship or volunteer on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM for the 2023 National Wreaths Across America Day here at the South Dakota Veterans Cemetery. Thank you for your attendance today, safe travels wherever you go, and may God continue to bless you, our Veterans, and the United States of America.



# 2023 Wreath Sponsorship Form

*Please postmark all sponsorships by Saturday, November 18, 2023 to be received in time for this year's ceremony.*

Name or Company\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Midwest Honor Flight and Wreaths Across America do not sell, rent, or otherwise disclose any personal information.*

*\*Name or company line above will be used to list you as a sponsor in the program.*

## Wreath Sponsorship

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
Patriot Pair = 1 Wreath Shipped to you, 1 Wreath to honor a Veteran	\$50.00		
Grand Total Due Payable to Wreaths Across America:			

*If you would like to sponsor using a secure, online credit card transaction, please visit our website at: [www.midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths](http://www.midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths)*

## Remembering a Veteran at South Dakota Veterans Cemetery

Grave specific requests can be listed below. Donations without grave specific requests or if there are more wreaths sponsored than specifics will go towards other veterans. Please include their section and row below.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ We/I plan to attend the ceremony on Saturday, December 16, 2023 AND place the above wreath(s).

\_\_\_ We/I request to have a volunteer place the above wreath(s).

Make checks payable to: **Wreaths Across America**

Send form and payment to: **Midwest Honor Flight**

Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/sdveteranscemeterywaa](https://facebook.com/sdveteranscemeterywaa)

PO Box 22

Find out more about our program: [midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths](http://midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths)

Sioux Center, IA 51250

# REMEMBER

our fallen heroes

# HONOR

those who served

# TEACH

our children about the sacrifices made by Veterans  
and their families to preserve our freedoms



**WREATHS** *across* **AMERICA**  
South Dakota Veterans Cemetery



**MIDWEST**  
**HONOR FLIGHT**

*Proud Sponsoring Organization*

**PO Box 48**

**Sioux Center, IA 51250**

*[www.midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths](http://www.midwesthonorflight.org/wreaths)*

*[wreaths@midwesthonorflight.org](mailto:wreaths@midwesthonorflight.org)*