

NEVER FORGOTTEN

THEIR SACRIFICE ★ YOUR MEMORY ★ OUR MISSION

CARRY ON



NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019



INDIANA WAR MEMORIAL
55 E. MICHIGAN ST. INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

WWW.DPAA.MIL

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY

Musical Prelude	38th Infantry Division Band
Flag Line	Army JROTC, Indianapolis Public School System
Greetings	J. Stewart Goodwin, <i>Brig Gen, USAF (Ret)</i>
Presentation of Colors	Joint Services Color Guard
Pledge of Allegiance	SSG Robert E. Pedigo, <i>US Army Air Corps</i>
National Anthem	Indiana National Guard Vocalist
Invocation	Chaplain Samuel Cabrera <i>Roudebush VA Medical Center</i>
Seating of Honored Guest	Rolling Thunder, Inc. Indiana Chapter One
Amazing Grace	Indianapolis 500 Gordon Pipers
Introductions, opening remarks	J. Stewart Goodwin, <i>Brig Gen, USAF (Ret)</i>
Greetings from the Governor's Office	Governor Eric J. Holcomb
Greetings from the Mayor's Office	Mayor Joe Hogsett
Keynote Speaker:	Joseph B. Stuart, MIA Son 12/20/1972 IN State Coordinator National League of POW/MIA Families
Service Medley	38th Infantry Division Band

Rain location inside Indiana War Memorial

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY

Wreath Placement, and Bell Ringers:

WWI	Daughters of the American Revolution and Salvation Army
WWII	Gold Star Mothers and USO
Korean War	VFW and Korean War Veterans Association
Vietnam War	Marine Corps League and Nat'l League of POW/MIA Families
Global War on Terror	American Legion and DAV
12:51 Taps	38th Infantry Division Band
Benediction	Chaplain Samuel Cabrera <i>Roudebush VA Medical Center</i>
Retirement of Colors	Joint Services Color Guard
God Bless America	Indiana National Guard Vocalist
Closing	J. Stewart Goodwin, <i>Brig Gen, USAF (Ret)</i>



WREATH LAYING

The laying of the wreaths commemorates those who gave their lives, prisoners of war, and/or those still listed as missing in action.

BELL RINGING

The bell from the USS Indianapolis CA35 is rung five times for the five branches of service after the wreaths are placed for WWI, WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Global War on Terror.

THE STORY OF LT. COL. JOHN F. STUART, MIA 12/20/72

as told by his son Joseph Stuart



Joseph Stuart is the youngest of five (5) children of Lt. Col. John F. Stuart, US Air Force, Missing in Action (MIA) in North Vietnam, December 20, 1972. Joe has been an active member of the National League of POW/MIA Families (League) since 2016 and was recently appointed as the Indiana State Coordinator for the League. To help educate others on the League's mission, and to raise awareness of and for the POW/MIA issue, he participates in Run for The Wall each May, including participating in the Run's outreach missions to other Killed in Action (KIA)/MIA families, VA centers and local schools. Additionally, he is a member of the Indianapolis POW/MIA Council, and an active member of the U-tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield, Thailand Alumni Group. This is the base where his father was stationed during the Vietnam War and at the time he was shot down. At the

time, it was referred to as a 'secret base'. He is a member of Sons and Daughters in Touch, a national support organization committed to uniting the Gold Star sons and daughters of American servicemen who were killed, or who remain missing, as a result of the Vietnam War. Joe is a graduate of Vincennes University, has been a private pilot/licensed Airframe & Powerplant Aircraft Mechanic for 30 years and currently works for an international air cargo company. Joe resides in Indianapolis, seeks accountability for his dad and all MIAs from Vietnam, loves to travel, spend time with family and talk about the POW/MIA issue to all who will listen. He has a son currently serving in the United States Marine Corps and has one grandson.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

In the rising of the sun and its going down
we remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and the chill of the winter
we remember them.

In the opening of buds and the warmth of the summer
we remember them.

In the rustling of the leaves and the beauty of autumn
we remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends
we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart
we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share
we remember them.

For as long as we live, they too shall live,
for they are now a part of us
we remember them.

They shall live forever in the communion of the saints,
in the arms of God
we remember them.



NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY



Until July 18, 1979, no commemoration was held to honor America's POW/MIAs, those returned and those still missing and unaccounted for from our nation's wars. That first year, resolutions were passed in the Congress and the national ceremony was held at the National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day legislation was introduced yearly, until 1996 when it was deemed by Congress that legislation designating special commemorative days would no longer be considered by Congress.

In an effort to accommodate all returned POWs and all Americans still missing and unaccounted for from all wars, the National League of Families proposed the third Friday in September, a date not associated with any particular war and not in conjunction with any organization's national convention.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies are now held throughout the nation and around the world on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, at schools, churches, national Veteran and civic organizations, police and fire departments, fire stations, etc.

At present, more than 83,000 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and the Gulf Wars/other conflicts. Out of the 83,000 missing, 75% of the losses are located in the Asia-Pacific, and over 41,000 of the missing are presumed lost at sea (i.e. ship losses, known aircraft water losses, etc).



POW/MIA TIMELINE

Highlights of our Nation's attempts to recover our POW/MIAs during the past several decades:

- 1953** During Operation Big Switch, 3,597 American Prisoners of War are returned after the Korean War.
- 1954** The remains of 1,868 American service members of the Korean War are returned home during Operation Glory.
- 1967** Several women form the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia to raise awareness about POWs during the Vietnam War. It is incorporated in 1970.
- 1971** Grahme Wilkin proposes a flag as a symbol of U.S. POW/MIAs.
- 1973** The Paris Peace Accords of 1973 lead to the release of 591 American POWs from the Vietnam War during Operation Homecoming.
- 1973** The Department of Defense establishes the Central Identification Laboratory-Thailand to coordinate POW/MIA recovery efforts.
- 1982** For the first time, the POW/MIA flag, originally designed by Newt Heisley, is flown over the White House.
- 1985** During the 67th American Legion National Convention, attendees designate a resolution for the POW/MIA Empty Chair setting at all official meetings of The American Legion.
- 1990** The 101st Congress passes a law recognizing the POW/MIA flag as a symbol of the nation's commitment to POW/MIAs.
- 2013** President Barack Obama issues a proclamation declaring the third Friday of September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- 2015** The U.S. Department of Defense creates the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to recover and account for missing service members from past conflicts. It replaces the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The Indianapolis POW/MIA Council extends our gracious thanks to those who made significant contributions to make today's ceremony possible.



Rolls-Royce



ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

And many thanks to others who generously contributed monetary donations or in-kind services.

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Indiana National Guard, Joint Forces Headquarters

Indy Campus Office Administrators
King Ribs B-B-Q
Korean War Veterans Association,
Central IN Chapter #259
Marine Corps League
Starbucks
The Salvation Army
Vanilla Bean Bakery

The Indianapolis POW/MIA Council's mission is to respectfully honor all POW/MIAs, both alive and deceased, along with their families on a day designated on their behalf.