

The Town of Manchester
is proud to host *The Wall That Heals*paying tribute to the 2.7 million men and
women of the armed forces of the United States
who served in the Vietnam War. The Memorial
honors the more than 58,267 who gave their
lives or who remain missing.

\* \* \*

## Welcome Home

Thank you for visiting The Wall That Heals in the peace and tranquility of Manchester's Center Memorial Park. The Wall serves to honor the American men and women who answered the call of their country, did their duty, and sacrificed their all in the name of freedom during the Vietnam War. The names on the Wall are our grandfathers and grandmothers, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, uncles, aunts and cousins, best friends and neighbors from not so long ago.

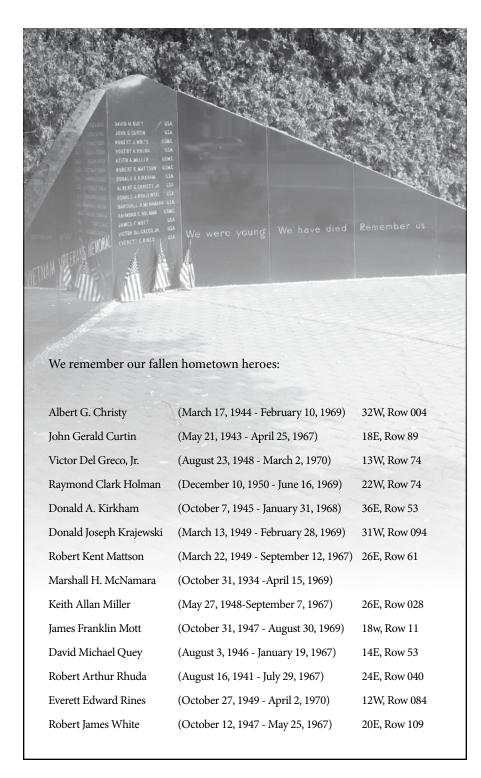
Two and three quarter million men and women of the armed forces of the United States served in the Vietnam War and over 58,000 died while doing so. Six hundred twelve of these brave souls called Connecticut home. Fourteen young men were from Manchester. We honor these soldiers and all who died – and to the warriors who returned home we say "Welcome Home Brother and Sister."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of America's combat involvement in the Vietnam War. It's also the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon which represents the end of the war for America. There are many former service men and women who have their own anniversaries in respect to the war. These are not anniversaries that are easy to celebrate. American society was torn apart over America's involvement in the Vietnam War. Many veterans continue to endure the sad anniversary of their return to the States where they did not get the respect they deserved and were treated harshly. Now is a chance for all communities to finally say to these brave men and women that returned: Welcome Home and Thank You for Your Service.

On behalf of the Manchester Committee that brings The Wall That Heals to you this week, I enthusiastically welcome you and thank you for coming to this very special event.

Bob Bycholski

Chair, The Wall That Heals Manchester



## OPENING CEREMONY | Thursday, October 8, 2015

Introduction | Bob Bycholski

Welcome | Mayor Jay Moran

Master of Ceremonies | Nate Agostinelli

Color Guard | Antique Vets of America, Riderless Horse

America the Beautiful | Manchester High School Roundtable Singers

Opening Prayer | Fr. Cavanaugh

Pledge of Allegiance | Boy Scouts Troop #25

National Anthem | Sandra Lee

Reading of the Names of the Fallen

Wreath Laying
Amazing Grace | Dennis Nevin
Paul Petersen on Bagpipes

Keynote Speaker | Rob Simmons

POW/MIA Reading | Rev. Dana Lee Hallenbeck

Chaplain's Address | Fr. Cavanaugh

Closing Prayer | Rev. Dana Lee Hallenbeck

Posting of the Flags

God Bless America | Manchester High School Marching Band

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

# POW CEREMONY | Friday, October 9 • 7:00 p.m.

National Anthem | Trinity Covenant Church

Poem Reading | Julia Paul

Remembrance Ceremony

Speakers | Pastor Frank Riley, Trinity Covenant Church Mary Beaulieu

# CANDLELIGHT VIGIL | Saturday, October 10 • 7:00 p.m.

Introduction | Gerry Gallo and Beth Stafford

Pledge of Allegiance

Amazing Grace | Full Gospel Interdenominational Church Choir Speaker | Reverend Salvatore Mancini,

Full Gospel Interdenominational Church

Cover Me | Full Gospel Interdenominational Church Choir Closing Benediction

# CLOSING CEREMONY | Sunday, October 11 • 2:00 p.m.

National Anthem | Student Vocalist and Manchester High School

Orchestra

Speaker | Rev. Dana Hallenbeck

Retiring of Colors

#### Pantoum for the POW

(Vietnam – the first POW was captured in 1961; the last of the POWs were released in 1973)

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Before the Beatles play Shea Stadium, before *Run for Your Life* and *Nowhere Man*, before *One Life to Live, Mission: Impossible* and *The Prisoner* debuts on television, our brother, son, husband, neighbor, student, boyfriend, uncle, grandson is imprisoned at Dog Patch, Little Vegas, Dirty Bird, Rock Pile, Hanoi Hilton.

Before *Mission: Impossible, The Prisoner* and *One Life to Live* debuts on television, he leaves his Chevy Impala, *Do Wah Diddy, Diddy* record, A&W Frosty Mug Root Beer. He's imprisoned at Dog Patch, Little Vegas, Dirty Bird, Rock Pile, Hanoi Hilton, tossed down a hole, fed a handful of rice, strung up by ankles, a feast for fire-ants.

He leaves his Chevy Impala, *Do Wah Diddy*, *Diddy* record, A&W Frosty Mug Root Beer, our brother, son, husband, neighbor, student, boyfriend, uncle, grandson.

Tossed down a hole, fed a handful of rice, strung up by ankles, a feast for fire-ants, before the Beatles play Shea Stadium, before *Run for Your Life* and *Nowhere Man*.

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We watch the news, pray, protest, vote, keep silent vigil, debate, despair, hope. Sister, mother, wife, neighbor, teacher, girlfriend, grandparent, pastor, rabbi. The Beatles sing, *I Wanna Hold Your Hand* and *Help!* Janis Joplin, *Piece of My Heart*. We wait for letters, the war to end, black car to pull up, another drink, our phone to ring.

Sister, mother, wife, neighbor, teacher, girlfriend, grandparent, pastor, rabbi. At the beach on a summer day or shopping for food; grief tugs at our shirt sleeve. We wait for letters, the war to end, black car to pull up, another drink, our phone to ring. Cronkite signs off: *And that's the way it is.* We cry: *It cannot be. It cannot be.* 

At the beach on a summer day or shopping for food; grief tugs at our shirt sleeve. The Beatles sing, *I Wanna Hold Your Hand* and *Help!* Janis Joplin, *Piece of My Heart*. Cronkite signs off: *And that's the way it is.* We cry: *It cannot be.* It cannot be. We watch the news, pray, protest, vote, keep silent vigil, debate, despair, hope.

Julia Morris Paul Manchester Poet Laureate



Sgt. David Michael Quev, U.S.A. (August 3, 1946 - January 19, 1967)

David had the rank of Sergeant in the U.S. Army when he was a Small Arms Fire casualty in 1967. This occurred during the Vietnam Conflict, South Vietnam. Sergeant Quey was enlisted as Infantryman through Selected Service in the Army. 14E, Row 53



John Gerald Curtin, U.S.A. (May 21, 1943 - April 25, 1967)

John was a Private First Class for the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He died on April 25, 1967 at the age of 24 from an explosive device. 18E, Row 89

"Nobody called him John, we called him Jack. He grew up in Manchester and had friends with names like Donny, Johnny, Joe, Skip, Zeke, and Frostin. He was a friendly, quiet kid, who kept his feelings to himself. He was optimistic and he used to say, "everybody is the best at something."

In the summers he was never far from his baseball glove. When he was young he learned to play baseball at the ball park on Valley Street, played basketball at the East Side Rec., softball for the Westside Barbers, and football where they could find a field, including our living room where the rug was the field and anything off the rug was out of bounds.

He was a Red Sox fan. I remember he caught a ball at Fenway Park one summer, brought it home and he threw it around so we could look at it. The next thing I knew we were playing a ball game with it. I asked him if he wanted to use another ball and he said "Why?, Whats wrong with this one?" He was not sentimental.

In his early teens he had a morning paper route that ran between Center Street and Valley Street near the Center. His first part time job was at Cavey's Restaurant, not counting summers working on tobacco.

His musical taste ran from Dylan, The Drifters, The Ronettes, and The Beatles, or he would steal melodies from the radio and make up his own songs. They were not very good but always funny." Curtin Family



Pfc. Robert James White, U.S.M.C.

(October 12, 1947 - May 1967) Robert was a Private First Class for the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. Robert was killed when his group was conducting an operation in Dong Ha and came under artillery fire. 20E, Row 109

"Robert had just graduated from Manchester High School and had bought a 59 Chevy that he loved. He signed up because two of his other brothers were already in the service." Ken White



**Po3 Robert Arthur Rhuda, U.S.N.** (August 16, 1941 - July 29, 1967)

Robert joined the Navy and served as an ABH3 (Aviation Boatswain's Mate). He was killed at sea in North Vietnam.

24E, Row 040

"My brother was the type of guy that enjoyed good friends and a good time and loved to tease both of his sisters. You might say he lived for the day and worried about tomorrow when it came and some how it always worked out for him.

My fondest memory - our first Xmas as a married couple my brother and husband decided that it would be great fun to have an old fashion Christmas and surprise me by bringing home a Xmas tree they cut down in the near by woods. Well the tree they brought back was at least 6 ft tall and not a bad looking tree. So, that night the three of us preceded to decorate the tree while my husband and brother kept patting themselves on the back bragging about the great job they did in picking out this tree. The next morning we woke up to our surprise to a Charlie Brown Xmas tree with the floor draped in pine needles.

I also remember how he was always bringing home stray animals. He had a white rabbit he found that he trained to stay in the yard and two baby squirrels. But, once my mom found the squirrels he had to give them up. I know he brought home a few dogs too but, I can't remember exactly what happen to them.

I would say his Hobbies growing up were hunting and fishing."

Nancy Mitchell



Pvt Keith Allan Miller, U.S.M.C. (May 27, 1948-September 7, 1967)

Keith was a Private for the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He died on September 07, 1967 at the age of 19 from small arms fire.

26E, Row 028

"My brother Keith was killed in action on 7 September 1967 in Quang Nan Province, South Vietnam. His name is listed on Panel 26E-Line 28.

Since that day there has hardly been a day that I have not thought about him and paused to reminisce about our life together and miss him all the more. To me he will always be a hero.

Keith, was a proud Marine, who faced life head on with his captivating smile and a glint in his eyes. He lived life to its' fullest every day, but always on his terms.

He had no pretences and was always himself regardless of the circumstances.

At heart he was a free spirit, with touch of the rebel, he had little regard for the fads and customs of our generation in our time and place.

He was unique and quite irreplaceable. There will never be another like him. Our world is far lesser place for his loss.

My greatest regret in this life has been that my children never had the opportunity to know how very special their Uncle Keith was."

Kipp O. Miller



Robert Kent Mattson, U.S.M.C. (Mar 22, 1949 - September 12, 1967)

Robert was serving as a scout with Company 1, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Division, in Quang Tri Province when he died from injuries sustained from a hostile explosive device.

26E, Row 61

"My brother Bob was an avid outdoorsman at an early age. He was always in the woods hunting and fishing. Before moving to CT. We lived in VA. (The Shenandoah valley) This is where Bob learned to hunt very well in the mountains. I can remember after school he couldn't wait to grab his rifle and head deep into the woods and come home at dark. He always came back with some sort of wildlife over his shoulder or in his hands and a big smile on his face being so proud of his marksmanship. His trophy was an eight point buck during the early morning hours on the first day of hunting season (parents let him take the day off from school) at age fifteen with a shotgun using oo buck shot (not an easy task). Aside from being an outdoorsman Bob loved to box and enjoyed sparring with others of like mind."

Bill Mattson



Donald A. Kirkham, U.S.N. (October 7, 1945 - January 31, 1968)

Donald grew up in Manchester. He was a U.S. navy Corpsman whose responsibilities included caring for injured Marines during the Tet offensive. He was injured and offered evacuation during that campaign, but he declined and was killed in action. 36E, Row 53

## I'm the One Called "Doc..."

I shall not walk in your footsteps, but I will walk by your side. I shall not walk in your image, I've earned my own title of pride. We've answered the call together, on sea and foreign land. When the cry for help was given, I've been there right at hand. Whether I am on the ocean or in the jungle wearing greens, Giving aid to my fellow man, be it Sailors or Marines. So the next time you see a corpsman and you thing of calling him "squid", Think of the job he's doing as those before him did. And if you ever have to go out there and your life is on the block, Look at the one right next to you...I'm the one called "Doc". Harry D. Penny, Jr. HMC(AC)USN Copyright 1975



Albert G. Christy, Jr., U.S.A. (March 17, 1944 - February 10, 1969) Albert was killed in action on February 10th in 1969, during the Vietnam War. He was a SGT in the U.S. Army. 32W, Row 004

"What I remember is his healthy and unselfish attitude toward things. He was a popular track and cross country runner in high school. A scholarship was awarded in his name for many years for the outstanding all-around member of the track and cross country team at Francis T. Maloney High School in Meriden, CT. Al's credo was "make the best with what you have" before we were married and he had no car. He invested in a sleek Italian bicycle which he rode everywhere - a 90 mi. round trip just to see me at our summer house was nothing. He later traded in the bike for his first car – a late 50's Austin Healey Bugeye Sprite, Granny Smith apple green. He loved that car even though we froze in it during the winter - convertibles were pretty drafty in the early 60's. He bought the car with the help of his best friend who already had a sports car and we would "double date" in the two cars. Food baskets on the luggage racks, and dodging the raindrops by pulling into old gas stations to wait out the showers. It was great fun!

Al and I were married in May of 1967 – he had finished a year at UCONN and I was a registered nurse having graduated in 1966. Because he was working to save up for another year of school he was not considered an active student but "one A" and was drafted in Sept. of 1967. While I was only making a weekly salary of \$98.00 a week and getting a stipend from the army, somehow I managed to visit him on various bases from Ft. Dix in NJ to some others in Alabama and Georgia. The dollar went a lot further in those days. He went to Vietnam in Oct. of 1968 and of course died in Feb. of 1969. *I did speak to him by radio around Christmas – the sound so poor and his voice so* distorted I almost refused to believe that it was really him but nonetheless it was a live communication. Today it would be called blogging but I would write something to him everyday and sent my "diary" to him about twice a week as he only received mail once a week and he would get lots of mail at once." Janice



Sp4 Donald Joseph Krajewski, U.S.A. (March 13, 1949 - February 28, 1969)

Donald was drafted into the Army and attained the rank of Specialist Fourth Class (SP4). He died when his camp in South Vietnam was overrun. 31W, Row 094

"My best memories of Donnie are related to what has become a lifetime passion and hobby for me...CARS! Donnie had a '65 GTO that he and his friends worked on at our house. When he came home from boot camp, he blew up the engine and asked me to work on it. He used to call me and tell me what to take out so we could fix it after he got home. When Donnie died, my parents sold the car despite my protests. I think it was too hard for them to look at it. I searched for the car by VIN number for almost a year but was unable to locate it. Those friends of Donnie's were always kind to me and encouraged me to continue to build cars. They came to my parents' 25th wedding anniversary in Donnie's honor." Stanley

"Donny was especially fond of his many friends, eating at McDonald's and his beloved GTO. He was quiet and unassuming, close to his family and a loving son and brother." AnnMarie Grottke



Marshall H. McNamara, U.S.N. (1934 - April 15, 1969)

Marshall, a Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate, was a member of the crew of an EC-121 surveillance aircraft, serving with the U.S. Navy. On April 15, 1969, while on a surveillance mission over the Sea of Japan in support of the Korean truce, his aircraft was shot down. All 31 crewmen were reported missing. He was presumed dead on May 2, 1969. Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate McNamara was awarded the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean Defense Service Medal.



Lcpl Raymond Clark Holman, U.S.M.C. (December 10, 1950 - June 16, 1969)

Raymond was a Lance Corporal for the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. At the age of 19, he was killed by artillery rocket mortar fire.

22W, Row 74

"Raymond marched in the Memorial Day Parade down Main Street in Manchester during grade school. He wore his Boy Scout uniform and assembled along with the troop from South Methodist Church. His older sister Barbara marched with her Girl Scout Troop in the same parade. In 5th and 6th grade, Raymond delivered the Manchester Evening Herald and collected 50 cents per week. Usually, Barbara helped with the paper route. His younger sister Joyce remembered one time when Raymond asked for her assistance. Joyce delivered 2 papers and then stood by a large bush as Raymond instructed. Joyce spied a twenty dollar bill in the bush and was able to reach it. When Raymond returned to take her to the next houses, he asked Joyce where she had found the bill. Raymond was shocked-and decided to split the bill, ten dollars for each of them. What a find! Raymond's youngest sister Betty recalls that Raymond joined the Marine Corps to be like his dad who served in the Marine Corps in WWII." Barbara Lynn

"My personal Remembrance of my brother is his white Chevy car he spent numerous hours on with my father's knowledge of mechanics. His artistic sketching ability, spending countless hours on, would put many artists to shame! I recall my mother always sending gift packages to him over to him in Vietnam." Betty A Landino (Holman)



Sp5 James Franklin Mott

(October 31, 1947 - August 30, 1969)

James Franklin Mott from Campfield Road, Manchester, Connecticut. Enlisted in the Army. Served during the Vietnam Conflict. Rank of Specialist Fifth Class. Served with 1st Aviation Brigade, 205th Aviation Company. He died as a result of a helicopter crash in Bien Hoa, South Vietnam. Panel 18w, Row 11

"Jim had the bluest eyes and the brightest smile. He was a drummer since the 6th grade, and enjoyed entertaining his friends. He loved cars – tearing apart engines and rebuilding them in the blink of an eye. His younger brother remembers sitting on a fender, watching him put together an old engine." Mott Family



Victor Del Greco, Jr., U.S.A. (August 23, 1948 - March 2, 1970)

Victor was a Sergeant for the United States Army. he served as an Infantryman and began his tour of duty in 1969. He was killed by small arms fire in Binh Dinh, South Vietnam. 13W, Row 74

"Vic was the only son of the late Victor and Grace Del Greco."

Vic was originally stationed in Germany but he put in a transfer for a tour in Vietnam. Before going to Vietnam he was given leave to come home to see his family. Traveling home he called Mom from everywhere he stopped telling her that "he was almost home". The family got to celebrate Vic's 21st birthday!!

Vic was a natural leader and made Corporal in less than two years of service. He belonged to the Airborne Paratrooper Rangers and was also a sharpshooter in this company.

Our brother loved to play his guitar and get together with some friends to just jam. He was also a practical joker as his four sisters could certainly attest to!

Vic's goal was to study to be an architect when he returned home. He studied drafting and carpentry when in High School.

Our brother was to complete his tour of service in June of 1970. He received his "short-timers stick" and in his letters home he said he loved to poke his buddies with it!!" Ian

"Vic grew up in Manchester. He was such a good brother always looking out for his four sisters. He was especially close with our sister Jan and her boyfriend Kevin Connolly; now Jan's husband. Vic was well liked by his friends, loved playing guitar, enjoyed drafting and carpentry in school and wanted to become an Architect after graduating college." Dee



Pfc Everett Edward Rines, U.S.A. (October 27, 1949 - April 2, 1970)

Edward, from Manchester Connecticut, had the rank of Private First Class in the U.S. Army, and served as an Infantryman. He was killed by small arms fire in Long An, South Vietnam. 12W, Row 084

"I remember our times of laughter and all our dreams we shared. Those times young men share as we looked to the unknown future. We left to join the service of our country only a month apart and we wrote each other with thoughts of meeting again. I will forget the day in April when the rain poured from the heavens and tears from my face as I read the post I received from your commander that day, the day i too received my orders. It was the day I lost a true friend a friend I have never forgotten. You may not be physically present but you are and have been in our hearts and minds and forever missed." Roy R Sanden

# Events of Interest In Conjunction with The Wall That Heals

## October 1 - 16, 2015 | 9 am - 4 pm

Pop-up Museum of Vietnam War Artifacts and Memorabilia

Anne Miller Real Estate, 975 Main Street Open to the public from 9-4 daily.

### Wednesday, October 7 | 6:30 pm

Film Showing at the Whiton Branch, 100 No. Main St.

Sponsored by Mary Cheney Library Maya Lin: a strong clear vision (no rating, 83 min.) http://library.townofmanchester.org or call Reference and Adult Services at 860-645-0821.

## Friday, October 9 | 9:30 am - 4 pm Mary Cheney Library Howroyd Room

A Veteran's Services Fair will be held at Mary Cheney Library in the Howroyd Room on Friday, October 9, 2015 from 9:30am to 4pm. Various providers who offer programs and services for veterans will be on hand with information about eligibility and access to those programs and services. No appointments are necessary.

## Friday, October 9 | 6-8 pm

MCC on Main, 903 Main Street

# 6pm-7pm: Wellness Workshop with Dr. Christopher Colby

Dr. Christopher Colby is a wellness consultant and is dedicated to helping veterans live healthier lives. He will talk to vets about wellness in every day lives.

### 7pm-8pm: Reading from "Letters from Vietnam"

Letters from Vietnam is a collection of readings of letter from the war. The excerpts from the play will be performed by local actors.

### Saturday, October 10 | 9 am - 12 noon

#### **Veteran's Art Foundation Art Exhibit & Veteran Speakers**

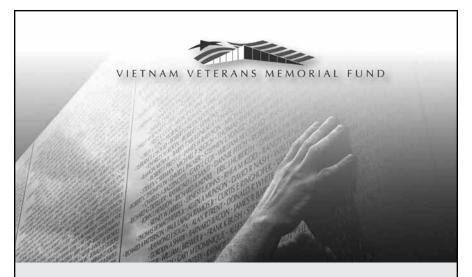
Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center, 153 Spruce Street, Manchester CT Art Exhibit featuring eight Veteran artists and members of the Veteran's Art Foundation. Veteran speakers who will share their experiences serving in the armed services. Open to the public and will feature Veteran Art Foundation Speaker/s. The show will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and the speaker event will take place from 10-11 a.m.

# Saturday, October 10, 2015 | 1 pm - 4 pm

## **Veterans Return Trip to Vietnam**

Manchester Historical Society, 175 Pine Street, Manchester

Manchester Historical Society is hosting a presentation by Bill Johnson, a former Marine and Manchester native, on his humanitarian trip to Vietnam along with other veterans in 1989 to discuss the hazards of unremoved landmines. This trip was planned after veterans became aware of 3,000 deaths that occurred from explosive landmines that were left behind after the war. The documentary, filmed by Fox News, will cover their two-week trip back to Vietnam. A guestion and answer session will follow the short film. This event is free and open to the public.



### The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

In 1980, the U.S. Congress authorized the VVMF (the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund), to build a national memorial dedicated to all who served with the U.S. armed forces in the Vietnam War. Incorporated on April 27, 1979 by a group of veterans led by Jan C. Scruggs, this nonprofit organization sought a tangible symbol of recognition from the American people for those who served in this war.

The result was the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (commonly referred to as "The Wall"), which has become one of the most visited memorials in Washington, D.C. with an estimated 4.5 million annual visitors.

Since the dedication of The Wall, VVMF's ongoing mission has been to preserve the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to promote healing, and to educate the public about the impact of the Vietnam War. Related Memorial Fund initiatives include educational programs for students and teachers, a traveling half-scale replica of The Wall that honors our nation's veterans, and annual ceremonies at The Wall.

#### The Wall That Heals

The Wall That Heals exhibition features a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

It is approximately 250 feet in length, and like the original Memorial is erected in a chevron-shape. The replica is constructed of powder-coated aluminum, supported by an aluminum frame, and is made up of 24 individual panels

As on The Wall, the names on The Wall That Heals are listed by day of casualty. Beginning at the center/apex, the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex, joining the beginning and end of the conflict at the center.

#### The Wall That Heals Manchester Committee

#### Bob Bycholski, Chair

### Mark Barzottini, Treasurer

Nikki Arel Mary Roche-Cronin

Bob Burgess Paul Scappaticci

Neal Duggan Gisele Schochet

Gerry Gallo Sal Sena, Sr.

Scott Garman Lynn Sottile

Rod Goodale Beth Stafford

Rudy Kissmann John Tarantino

Rusty Meek Jana Tierney

Barbara Mozzer Mark Tweedie

The Wall That Heals Manchester Committee gratefully acknowledges the support of the Town of Manchester and our generous sponsors



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#### BRONZE SPONSOR









#### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Capitol Equipment | Vietnam Vets of America Chapter 120 | Full Gospel Interdenominational Church Rudy & Gloria Kissmann | Trinks | P&P Auto | State Farm Agents Mike Esposito & Kristian Ager UNICO | AFSCME Local 991 of Manchester

#### Special Thanks to

Landmark Cafe, Top Shelf Brewery, VFW Post #2046, Illing Middle School, and Manchester Police Benevolent Association for their fundraising efforts on behalf of The Wall That Heals

We also thank the many individuals and businesses who donated in support of veterans and this event.

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