



# HONOR FLIGHT SOUTHERN NEVADA

Honoring Our Greatest Generation

Second Quarter 2017

## It's been a busy 2017

We just got back from our Spring Flight in April. This was our ninth mission, which we were able to escort 27 veterans to Washington, DC. There were 14 World War II and 13 Korean Veterans on the flight. To date, Honor Flight Southern Nevada has had the privilege of escorting over 262 veterans to Washington, DC to view their memorials.

We had some wonderful fundraising events so far this year, and have a few more planned throughout 2017. We would like to Thank all those that have been involved and support our organization. We continue to look for fundraising opportunities, if you have any fundraising idea, please contact us, send an email to Scott Majewski at [scottski@cox.net](mailto:scottski@cox.net).

Our second flight of 2017 is scheduled for October 27th-29th. The trip departs Las Vegas on the morning of October 27, 2017. We are currently fundraising for this flight. [WWII Veteran](#) and [Guardian](#) applications are being accepted for this flight. Korean Veterans are able to submit to be placed on a waiting list.

Thank you again to all of the volunteers that help make Honor Flight Southern Nevada a success. Without all of your help and dedication, our mission would not be possible.



April 2017 Honor Flight Southern Nevada

## Words from our Vets

*"I am so thankful that I got to go on the flight. Thank you all for all you guys have done. It was perfect." - Mr. Kupfer*

*"I'm overwhelmed by the attention to detail, the care the Guardians have shown. I couldn't imagine I would be treated so special" - Ms. Gloria Saucier*

## In This Issue

- Year in Review
- Honor Flight Experience
- Reflections of the trip
- Thank You Sponsors
- Upcoming 2017 Events

# THE WILL AND THE WAY—Eva Tallon

There are those that tell tall tales and then there are those that live them. Stories that are fantastic, full of adventure and humor, told through a grin and complete honesty. Eva Rider Tallon embodies the tall tale.

Her life story has the makings of an epic myth rooted in America – a full-blooded Cherokee, orphaned as a small child.

Pop culture could have taken this beginning and gone in any number of ways. But, as Eva has always done, she forged her own path.

Living in an orphanage and attending school she promised herself that she would be her best, the best, and learn as much as possible.

She has a strong will, a strong spirit, and the wiliness of Coyote to achieve anything she sets her mind towards – with a smile.

Eva has a thirst for, not just the truth, but for the honest side of life. In college, when the group that had awarded her a scholarship began insisting she become a missionary she had the self-awareness and honesty to tell them no – and she lost her scholarship.

But, Eva, not to be deterred by that found another way – three years and the GI Bill. That's one of the first things anyone who meets Eva will learn – she might not be able to see the path ahead, but she's not afraid to forge her own.



Talking with her is like taking a tour through Cherokee history, tragedy, comedy, a string of tales and quips that will keep anyone on their toes laughing.

That's the secret of Eva, though she may not outwardly say it: she loves life and fully embodies that love. That love, and hope, for life brought her to her true passion. After hoping around from office job to office job in the army, working the switchboard in Yokohama, Japan and even putting her journalism training to use putting out the battalion newspaper, she finally found her place – nursing.

Truth is, she always knew it was nursing, but she had to prove herself elsewhere, and finally, she stood tall and made a stand – she became a nurse.

Her stories of nursing are as adventuresome as any comic book or ancient epic. Celebrities and politicians, important doctors in Las Vegas and soon-to-be casino owners from Galveston, TX.

Eva can tell stories as tall as sky scrapers, but her charm comes from knowing they are all true. She tells fantastic tales, but in a humble way – an humility that comes out in a small laugh or content sigh.

It's when she talks about the Korean War and the Honor Flight that her tone truly changes. She goes from laughing to an almost awed hush when she speaks of those memories – of treating wounded soldiers, of teaching girls to be field nurses for Vietnam and not all of them coming home, of friends and family who fought in the War.

She speaks with a sadness about not being in all of the operating rooms that she could be. She speaks with a slight tightening in her throat (thought she probably will refuse it) about how her and two others were able to lay the wreath on the Korean War Monument as part of her Honor Flight Ex-

perience.

The vastness of Arlington National Cemetery, the tour of the monuments, the meeting of other veterans and nurses, all of this helps reconcile the War with Eva. The Honor Flight is another notch of happiness in this tall tale of a life.

Eva wants to make one person smile every day. That's her motto. But listening to her speak it's easy to realize that behind her is nothing but a wake of laughter, smiles, and Hollywood-style adventure.

## Honor Flight Experience

We are currently exploring a virtual flight experience for those WWII and Korean veterans that are not able to travel to Washington, DC.

Our goal is to make the virtual flight as close to the real flight as possible. We are still in the early planning stages. Stay tuned for more information.



Korean War Memorial—April 2017

## “Welcome Home” our Veterans

McCarran Airport—Terminal 1 on **October 29, 2017**.

Flight expected to land around **1:00pm**. Veterans will be escorted from C Gates above Baggage Claim.

## Tomb of the Unknown

Prior to every flight, we attempt to schedule to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown. The night before our bus trip to Washington, DC, we chose a veteran from each Branch of Service to represent Southern Nevada. Our veterans get a special viewing area, where they get to see the changing of the guard up close.

## Farewell to our Veterans

Since our last newsletter, we lost a few of our WWII veterans . It was an honor to escort them on their "Flight of Honor."

Thank you all for your service and sacrifices.

Ms. Irene Miller—USN

Mr. Robert Dodd—USN

Mr. Ivory Roach—USMC

Mr. Richard Vettors—USN

Mr. Mel Pliner—USAF

Mr. Mervin Yarbrough— USN



Honor Flight Southern Nevada Veterans placing wreath at Tomb of the Unknown

## Sponsorship

We could not make our trips possible without our fundraising efforts and our sponsors. Whether big or small, we appreciate every donation we receive to bring our Veterans to Washington, DC. Here are a few of our most recent sponsors:

**Englestand Family Foundation**—We received a grant from the foundation which will fund two of our next flights.

**America First Credit Union**— They will be a partial sponsor for next two missions.



**The Carolyn Siskin Gordon Charitable Foundation**—donated \$4,500 and sponsored 4 veterans for the April 2017 flight.

**Senior Spotlight Spectacular**—We received a generous donation from Palm Mortuary and Health Care Partners in late March.

**CaptionCall**—Provided a generous donation from them in late March.

**Girl Scout Troops #002, 77 & 300**—Donated \$1,000, which will sponsor one veteran. The girl scouts are also instrumental in writing letters to our Veterans for their "Mail Call."

Brownie Troup 96—Donated girl scouts cookies to our Veterans for their flight orientation.

**HMS Host**—donated lunches for our flight to Washington DC. This is the seventh time they have donated lunches.

**Yellow Star Checkered Cab Company** - provided rides for 3 veterans to the airport for the April 2017 flight.

If you buy things from Amazon, please consider using [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), when you shop and chose Honor Flight Southern Nevada as you designated charity. A portion of your purchase goes to Honor Flight Southern Nevada.

# Volunteers

Honor Flight Southern Nevada is looking for volunteers to help continue our mission.

- **Looking for someone to assist with web design and able to maintain the Honor Flight Southern Nevada webpage.**

If you are interested in volunteering time to assist with Honor Flight, please fill out an [application](#) on our webpage .

## Upcoming 2017 Events

- **September 30, 2017**

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Applebee's Boca Park  
8730 W Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89117  
Breakfast served from 8am to 10am

- **October 27-29, 2017**

Honor Flight Southern Nevada Mission 10 departs for Washington, DC

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**Honor Our Greatest Generation**

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information or visit our website:

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(702) 749-5912

[administration@honorFlightSouthernNevada.org](mailto:administration@honorFlightSouthernNevada.org)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org](http://www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org)

## Applications

Need an applications, click on the links below:

[Veteran](#)  
[Guardian](#)

**Honoring Those That Served**



**A WEEKEND TO WASHINGTON DC TO REMEMBER,  
BECAUSE WE WILL NEVER FORGET**

**WWII VETERANS  
WANTED**



**Honor Flight Southern Nevada**

**To find out more and how to help  
702-749-5912 or go to**

[\*\*www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org\*\*](http://www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org)

*"It has been years since I laughed so loud and cried so hard! What an awe inspiring experience for me and the others" - Harry H. Oct 2014 Flight*