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MORGAN’S AND LAKELAND FUNERAL HOMES IS PARTNERING TO HOST VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, *THE WALL THAT HEALS*

Paducah, KY— *The Wall That Heals*, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, along with a mobile Education Center, is coming to Paducah, KY on October 25-28, 2018 at Carson Park and will be open 24 hours a day and is free to the public. *The Wall That Heals* is being brought to Western Kentucky by Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah partnered with Morgan’s and Lakeland Funeral Homes. Only 40 sites, nationwide, are chosen to host The Wall each year from over 100 applicants. As part of their mission to “Honor Lives,” the funeral homes believe The Wall honors communities, honors veterans and honors lives.

This year, *The Wall That Heals* replica has been newly constructed. The new wall is a three quarters scale version of the memorial and is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. With a replica of this size, visitors will be able to experience The Wall rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of The Wall in D.C. For the first time in the history of *The Wall that Heals*, visitors will be able to do name rubbings of individual service members’ names on The Wall.

The Wall honors more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and bears the names of more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

“As a Paducah Vietnam veteran who made it safely back home, it is an honor and a privilege to welcome *The Wall That Heals* to Paducah as we remember those who did not make it home. I am thrilled and honored to be of service once again,” states Robert Worden, Department Service Officer for the Disabled American Veterans.

The Wall That Heals also provides an educational aspect to student of all ages. The Wall comes equipped with a mobile Education Center that will be utilized by area schools for field trips. The mobile Education Center is comprised of: digital photo displays of “Hometown Heroes”—service members whose names are on The Wall that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF’s *In Memory*

program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of The Wall and of the collection of items left at The Wall in D.C.; educational exhibits told through items in the collection; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam Memorial is one of the most visited memorials in our nation's capital, with more than 5.2 million visitors each year. Last year alone, more than 250,000 people visited *The Wall That Heals*. Hosting The Wall provides a community with a multiday experience.

Volunteers are also needed in order to make this event possible. If you or your organization is interested in volunteering, please contact Mary Beth Orr at Milner & Orr Funeral Home. A meeting will be held for representatives of various Veterans' organizations and civic groups on Thursday, March 29 at 10:00 am at Milner & Orr of Lone Oak in order to receive initial information and ask questions. For the organization representatives in the Princeton and Eddyville area, there will also be an informational meeting at Lakeland Funeral Home on March 30 at 10:00 am.

Local sponsors are needed as well. If your business is interested, please contact Mary Beth Orr.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that built the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C. in 1982. VVMF is dedicated to honoring and preserving the legacy of service in America and educating all generations about the impact of the Vietnam War and era through programs, ceremonies and education materials.

For more information on *The Wall That Heals* visit www.vvmf/twth or Morgan's and Lakeland Funeral Homes visit www.morgansfuneralhome.com and www.lakelandchapel.com. Stay connected to this event via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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