***POW-MIA VIGIL***

***SEPTEMBER***

***14th-15th***

***2018***

***DERRY MEMORIAL VFW POST 1617***

***&***

***VFW AUXILIARY***





**POW/MIA VIGIL**

**MACGREGOR PARK**

**DERRY, NH**

**OPENING CEREMONY**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2018**

**12pm (NOON)**

Carleton Morrison, Member, VFW Post 1617

**Remains returned and laid to rest since our last vigil**

**USMC 1st Sgt David Quinn Temple, NH Hillsboro**

**Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Roy Davis Peterborough, NH Hillsboro**

**DERRY MEMORIAL VFW POST 1617**

**AND**

**VFW AUXILIARY**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Carleton Morrison, Member, VFW Post 1617

The accounting for, and the safe return of American POW/MIA is a heartfelt issue for many Americans. From WWII, there are over 73,792 service members still missing; from Korea, there are more than 7,989; and from Vietnam, 1,019 are unaccounted for.

The years that have gone by have been ones of waiting, wondering, and suffering for the families of those whose names appear on the official lists of those still missing. We are here today to honor those named on the POW/MIA lists, with special focus on those missing from our own State of New Hampshire. By our presence here today, we reaffirm to the families of our missing heroes that they are not, nor will they ever be, forgotten!

**Recognition of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Miniature Vietnam Wall**

**LIGHTING OF THE ETERNAL FLAME**

**POSTING OF THE VIGIL GUARD**

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**CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 8PM**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Patty Copson Chaplain VFW Post 1617 VFW Aux

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REMARKS**

Leonard Perkins

Commander, VFW Post 1617

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

Bill Lane

VFW Post 1617

**CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

**READING OF THE NAMES OF NH POW/MIA**

Katherine Morrison, President

VFW Post 1617 VFW Auxiliary

**MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR ALL POW/MIA**

**“GOD BLESS AMERICA”**

Sandra Hodgkins,

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Officers and Members of

VFW Memorial Post 1617 together with the

VFW Auxiliary

American Legion Post 9

Guests and members

Town of Derry and Derryfest Committee

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**CLOSING CEREMONY**

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2018, 12pm (NOON)**

**WELCOME**

Edward Hodgson, Adjutant, VFW Post 1617

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Danny Boyce

**ROLL CALL OF NH POW/MIA &**

**RELEASE OF MEMORIAL BALLOONS**

**“**Missing in action Mam”

**Robert Hodgkins**

**Edward Baker**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Edward Hodgson, Adjutant, VFW Post 1617

**BENEDICTION**

 Patty Copson, Chaplain, VFW Post 1617 VFW Aux

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE ETERNAL FLAME**

**RELEASE OF THE VIGIL GUARDS**

**“WE CANNOT FORGET!”**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Derry Memorial VFW Post 1617 and VFW Auxiliary

American Legion Post 9 and VFW Auxiliary

Other Participating Veterans Service Organizations

Derry Parks and Recreation Department

Derry Community Service Organizations

Derry Community TV

Daughters of the American Revolution

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**WW I: Records Not Kept**

**WWII: 30,312 Unaccounted For**

**Remains returned and laid to rest since our last vigil**

**USMC 1st Sgt David Quinn Temple, NH Hillsboro**

**Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Roy Davis Peterborough, NH Hillsboro**

**KOREAN WAR: 7,989 Unaccounted For**

**NH KOREAN WAR POW/MIA**

E3 Phillip Ackley Hillsboro 03 Paul Jordan Hillsboro

E4 Francis Ashey Grafton E4 John Kelley Merrimack

E3 Phillip Balch Claremont E4 Warren Kendall Manchester

E4 Philip Botsford Hillsboro E2 Arthur Labonte Manchester

E2 John Brennan Groveton E3 Roland LeBlanc Hillsboro

E5 Arthur Buckley Cheshire E7 Theodore Ledoux Grafton

E5 Madison Charles Carroll E4 Robert Malloy Keene

E3 George Curley Belknap E4 James Mayo Strafford

E2 Joseph Demers Manchester E8 Albert McCarthy Belknap

E7 Myron Dick Hillsboro E4 Bruce Mills Strafford

E4 Gerald Dubay Rockingham E5 Fernand Morin Hillsboro

O5 Leland Dunham Grafton E5 Edward Morse Merrimack

E7 Henry Flanders Grafton E4 Joseph Pelletier Coos

E7 Frederick Fleming Sullivan E3 Elmer Richard Rockingham

E4 Robert Fletcher Hillsboro E4 Wallace Ritter Hillsboro

E3 Reginald Frazier Cheshire E3 Joseph Robillard Hillsboro

E3 Benjamin Griggs, Jr. Grafton E5 Ernest Russell Cheshire

E3 Elmer Hamlin Coos E2 Leo Paul Savard Coos

E4 Robert Hedman Rockingham E5 Alfred Sidney Stafford

O2 Richard Henson Coos E7 Harry Smith Coos

E5 Herbert Hesseltine,Jr Grafton E2 Mark Wentworth Coos

E5 George Hill Grafton

**VIETNAM CONFLICT: 1,019 Unaccounted For**

**NH VIETNAM CONFLICT POW/MIA**

 E5 Clyde Alloway Portsmouth

 E6 Frank Badolati Goffstown

 O4 Gerald Helmich Manchester

 E4 Quinten Mulleavey No. Woodstock

 O3 Albert Page, Jr. Derry

 E7 Robert Sullivan East Alstead

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POW/MIA commemoration day is set aside to honor the commitment and the sacrifices made by our nation's prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by law on which the black POW/MIA flag shall be flown over federal facilities and cemeteries, post offices and military installations.

With more than 1,019 Americans still missing in Southeast Asia, more than 7,989missing in Korea and more than 73,792 from World War II and 125 from the Cold War, the resolution of this heart-rending, humanitarian issue remains a priority issue.

The VFW remains steadfast in its commitment to the goal of the fullest possible accounting of our missing service members. For us, this issue will remain a non-negotiable matter of honor and a duty to be fulfilled for all our lost comrades. We must continue to exert the maximum effort to account for our MIAs from World War II, Korea, Southeast Asia and the Cold War and will oppose any effort to downsize the Defense Department's POW/MIA Office.

Those still missing from World War II must not be forgotten. We must continue to play an active role to recover our World War II and Cold War comrades and urge the retention of the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission to carry out this work.

For many years, the VFW and its Auxiliaries have dedicated themselves to one simple truth, ***"We Cannot Forget."***

Derry Memorial Auxiliaries, Post 1617, and Derry Memorial Post, 1617 began a Vigil many years ago and pledge to continue for as long as we can, to continue with this commitment to those on the ***"list"***from all over the country , but especially for those who are near to our hearts right here in New Hampshire. Yes, we have families right in our own neighborhoods who are no closer to answers than they were years ago. We dedicate our Vigil, once again, to the men and women listed as MIA, to their families and to those all around us who care. These heroes, from all Wars, deserve our prayers, our dedication to a full accounting and the honor we bestow on them today.

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**THE ARTICLES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

**ARTICLE I: "I AM AN AMERICAN, FIGHTING IN THE ARMED FORCES WHICH GUARD MY COUNTRY AND OUR WAY OF LIFE. I AM PREPARED TO GIVE MY LIFE IN THEIR DEFENSE."**

**ARTICLE II: "I WILL NEVER SURRENDER OF MY OWN FREE WILL. IF IN MY COMMAND, I WILL NEVER SURRENDER THE MEMBERS OF MY COMMAND WHILE THEY STILL HAVE THE MEANS TO RESIST."**

**ARTICLE III: "IF I AM CAPTURED, I WILL CONTINUE TO RESIST BY ALL MEANS AVAILABLE. I WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ESCAPE AND AID OTHERS TO ESCAPE. I WILL ACCEPT NEITHER PAROLE NOR SPECIAL FAVORS FROM THE ENEMY."**

**ARTICLE IV: "IF I BECOME A PRISONER OF WAR, I WILL KEEP FAITH WITH MY FELLOW PRISONERS. I WILL GIVE NO INFORMATION NOR TAKE PART IN ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT BE HARMFUL TO MY COMRADES. IF I AM A SENIOR, I WILL TAKE COMMAND. IF NOT, I WILL OBEY THE LAWFUL ORDERS OF THOSE APPOINTED OVER ME AND WILL BACK THEM IN EVERY WAY."**

**ARTICLE V: "WHEN QUESTIONED, SHOULD I BECOME A PRISONER OF WAR, I AM REQUIRED TO GIVE NAME, RANK, SERVICE NUMBER AND DATE OF BIRTH. I WILL EVADE ANSWERING FURTHER QUESTIONS TO THE UTMOST OF MY ABILITY. I WILL MAKE NO ORAL OR WRITTEN STATEMENTS DISLOYAL TO MY COUNTRY AND ITS ALLIES OR HARMFUL TO THEIR CAUSE."**

**ARTICLE VI: "I WILL NEVER FORGET THAT I AM AN AMERICAN FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS AND DEDICATED TO THE PRINCIPLES WHICH MADE MY COUNTRY FREE. I WILL TRUST IN MY GOD AND IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."**

