

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED



Veteran Volunteer Program

Serving Veterans by Veterans

Many of our patients are military veterans who have made sacrifices for our country. Through our Veteran Volunteer Program, we connect veteran volunteers with veteran patients to provide companionship, understanding, and recognition of their service.

Why Veteran Volunteers Matter

Veterans often share unique life experiences and a special bond that can create meaningful connections. Veteran volunteers help ensure that fellow veterans receive the respect, appreciation, and support they deserve.

Volunteer Opportunities

Veteran volunteers may:

- ☒ Visit veteran patients for companionship and conversation
- ☒ Participate in Veteran Recognition Ceremonies
- ☒ Share military experiences and stories
- ☒ Provide emotional support to patients and families
- ☒ Assist with special events and commemorative programs
- ☒ Help honor patients at end of life through meaningful veteran-to-veteran interactions

Program Benefits

For Patients:

- Increased social connection
- Recognition of military service
- Opportunities to share memories and experiences
- Enhanced emotional and spiritual support

For Volunteers:

- Opportunity to continue serving others
- Meaningful connections with fellow veterans
- Personal fulfillment and purpose
- Chance to give back to the veteran community

Who Can Volunteer?

We welcome:

- Veterans from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Active-duty military members (when permitted)
- Reservists and National Guard members
- Military retirees

No previous volunteer experience is required. Training and ongoing support are provided.

Make a Difference Today

Join our Veteran Volunteer Program and help us ensure that no veteran's service is forgotten.

"Veterans caring for Veterans."

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Thank you for helping us honor those who have served our nation.

Heartland Hospice briefed Post 658 on the need for volunteers to spend time with veterans in their hospice care. Veterans serving veterans.

These are veterans who are entering the last part of their life's journey, and they need veterans to spend time with them to give caregivers a break and time to "recharge."

One of the hospice care needs is located in Milledgeville. Sometimes veterans receive in-home care; volunteers could spend time with a vet receiving care at home. Heartland will provide training to help volunteers respond in an emergency, but there is no expectation to provide care.

Some of the patients will have a DNR, or Do Not Resuscitate. Volunteers will be trained on what to do if a patient dies or is in need of help at that time.

Essentially, as a volunteer, the main expectation is to be present and listen. Swap "war stories" and connect in a way most people are unable to.



st dance

-old Walter was a Navy veteran
ved in World War II. He told
st wish was to "dance with
iful woman one more time."
ial work intern and her sorority
a final dance for Walter and his
Valter, despite being confined
d, was able to enjoy the music
eive the appreciation of a
r generation whose freedom
cated his life to preserve.

s a symbol of remembrance and is worn as a show
or the Armed Forces community.



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A member of the Gentiva family of home care services providers.



**Dedicated to our
nation's heroes**



Veterans have dedicated their lives to the service of others, so it is an honor to serve them – and their families – during their greatest time of need.



Specialized care for veterans' needs

Feeling truly cared for starts with being understood. Our clinicians are trained to recognize and address veterans' unique physical and psychosocial needs. This specialized care begins with our very first interaction and continues throughout bereavement care with their loved ones.



Proud partners of the We Honor Veterans program

The majority of our locations participate in the We Honor Veterans program. This national program provides resources and insights to help our teams guide veterans to a more peaceful ending.



Celebration of service

Pinning ceremonies give us the opportunity to publicly acknowledge the military service and sacrifices made by a veteran and their family. We also perform a Veteran Stand Down ceremony for the homeless veteran population, when we offer a few moments of restored dignity by recognizing them for their service.



Veteran-to-veteran volunteers

No one understands a veteran's experience better than another veteran. Their shared service to our country can create a powerful bond. So we actively engage veterans to volunteer their time and companionship to their fellow service members and their families.



Community outreach

We believe that by nurturing relationships with the veterans in our communities we can do our part to help heal old wounds. We do this in many ways, including active participation in memorial breakfasts, Walks of Remembrance, Veterans Day parades and Honor Flights.



End-of-life planning

End-of-life planning can be a difficult process. We are here to help our patients and their families through these challenging decisions – and ensure their final wishes are carried out.



The Final Salute

We offer veterans in our care the honor of a Final Salute, a ceremony during which the American flag is draped over the veteran who has passed. The flag remains as the veteran is transported to the funeral home and then released to the family as a keepsake.



A celebration of life and service

Mr. Vinson is a highly decorated Army veteran who flew more than 30 missions during World War II. He received the French Legion of Honor medal, the Medal of Liberated France and the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight. We hosted a 100th birthday party for Henry and his family, where we presented him with a plaque celebrating 100 years of life and completed a pinning ceremony with 30 of his family members in attendance.

Patient names have been changed to protect their privacy.