



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin Presentation Guidelines

Lapel Pin Presentations

- Commemorative events and activities should be dignified, memorable occasions that show a sensitivity and appreciation for the solemnity of war, the losses suffered by many and the sacrifices of all who served.
- When presenting a lapel pin to a Vietnam Veteran:
 - **Shake their hand.**
 - Say **“On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your service.”**
 - Inform them that the message “A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You” is embossed on the back of the pin, closest to the heart of the wearer.
 - Ask the veteran if they would like you to **pin the lapel pin on his/her lapel** OR you may hand the lapel pin to them following the handshake.
- **Provide each Vietnam Veteran with supporting material** that explains the symbolism and significance of the lapel pin (Lapel Pin Fact Sheet) and include a copy of the Presidential Proclamation.



Lapel Pin Eligibility

- **Living** United States veterans who served on **active duty** in the **U.S. Armed Forces** at any time during the period of **November 1, 1955** to **May 15, 1975**, regardless of **location**, are eligible to receive **one** lapel pin.
- If you encounter a Vietnam veteran who **does not meet the above criteria**, or who has **already received their lapel pin**, please thank them for their service and sacrifice.

Additional Notes

- If any attendees have questions or concerns about Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin eligibility or the Vietnam War Commemoration, please provide them with a brochure and advise them to visit the Commemoration’s website at www.vietnamwar50th.com or call the Commemoration’s office at 877-387-9951.

