

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **NVMM Announces Memorial Day Weekend Events**

FREE Admission on Memorial Day; Numerous opportunities, in person and virtual, to honor and remember our fallen service members

COLUMBUS, Ohio - The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) today announced a Memorial Day Weekend full of distinctive experiences, events and ceremonies designed to honor, remember and share the stories of our country's brave servicemen and women who sacrificed their lives protecting our freedoms. Events range from a CrossFit Hero Workout, "The Murph," and the annual Memorial Day 5K Run, Walk, Ruck and Roll (in person and virtual), to a Memorial Day motorcycle ride and culminating with the NVMM Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony (in person and online).

"Memorial Day is our opportunity to remember and honor all who have fallen while serving our nation," said Lt. General Michael Ferriter, president and CEO, National Veterans Memorial and Museum. "Please help make it a tradition to take time and remember those who gave their all for our country by joining us for events here at the NVMM or online."

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum's generous annual partners make it possible to provide free admission for all on Memorial Day including the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony at 10 a.m. Guests are asked to pay it forward, by donating in person or making a memorial gift online to allow the NVMM to continue to provide programming and events for Veterans, Families of the Fallen and our communities.

#### Saturday, May 27

CrossFit Hero Workout - "The Murph" (Heats at 8 a.m., 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.) | \$25 Join the NVMM and CrossFit Clintonville for a traditional Memorial Day workout honoring Medal of Honor recipient and Navy SEAL, Lieutenant Michael Murphy. The Murph is guaranteed to make participants feel the sacrifice but don't be intimidated. A team approach and assistance such as bands or modified movements of the runs, pull-ups, push-ups and squats allows for broader participation and promotes teamwork. CrossFit registration includes a limited-edition T-shirt honoring all the men of Operation Red Wings, free parking and free museum admission for the remainder of the day.



#### Memorial Day Ride (9 a.m.) | \$25

Motorcyclists are invited to honor our fallen service members with a Memorial Day Weekend ride starting at Farrow North Harley-Davidson in Sunbury. The ride will have a police escort to the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. Registration includes a limited-edition T-shirt, free parking and free museum admission on ride day.

#### Sunday, May 28

Jiu Jitsu Seminar with Dustin Ware (9 a.m.) | FREE

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu 3rd-Degree black belt Dustin Ware joins us for a special Jiu Jitsu Seminar over Memorial Day Weekend. As a sports administrator for the Ohio School Athletic Association and Subject Control Consultant for the Franklin Country Sheriff's Office Training Academy, Dustin is excited to bring his technique and skill to this special class at the NVMM.

#### Memorial Day Run, Walk, Ruck and Roll 5K (9:30 a.m.) | \$50

The NVMM annual Run, Walk, Ruck and Roll honors all servicemen and women from across all military branches who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Whether you join in person at the museum or run virtually on May 28, you will do #MoreThan5K. Your support helps share more stories, honor more Veterans and educate more about the impact of service. Registration includes a 2023 5K T-shirt, a specially designed coin and two admission tickets to the NVMM.



### Gold Star Family Candlelight Vigil (8 p.m.) | FREE

During Memorial Day Weekend, we honor the sacrifices of families who have lost a loved one in service to our country with a Candlelight Vigil that consists of a procession from the museum rooftop down to Memorial Grove where guest speaker, Major General (Dr.) Sharon Bannister, U.S. Air Force (Retired), a Gold Star daughter, will share remarks. Her father, U.S. Air Force Captain Stephen Rusch, was shot down over Laos in 1972. Sharon was six years old, and her sister, Rebecca, was just three when their father was declared missing.

## Monday, May 29

Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony (10 a.m.) | FREE and Virtual We invite you to reflect on the the service and sacrifice of our fallen service members and their families with our annual Remembrance Ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. (ET) on the NVMM rooftop. The keynote message will be provided by General Michael Garrett, U.S. Army (Retired) who spent 37 years commanding units in combat operations. Tune-in online on YouTube or Facebook.

Additionally, the two winners of the "We (Heart) Veterans Pin Design Challenge," a national STEM contest for fourth through twelth graders will be at the NVMM on Memorial Day. Daniel Grinman Rivera, a seventh grade student from San Antonio, Texas, and Harrison Rothschild, an eleventh grade student from



Copley, Ohio, will be presenting pins to visiting Veterans at the museum. A joint effort of the Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP) and Future Engineers through Battelle, the STEM contest gave students a chance to test their creativity and engineering skills to design a 3D pin that gives thanks to our U.S. military Veterans.

#### Editor's Note: Link to online press kit with photos and details

#### About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. The National Veterans Memorial and Museum pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.

