

Korean & Vietnam War Census Program

The Fourth Degree will conduct a census of the membership to establish a record of service in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Following the World Wars, the Order documented war service by its members in the archives at the Blessed Michael J. McGivney Pilgrimage Center however similar efforts were not conducted following either the Korean or Vietnam Wars.

The Korean War commenced in 1950, making the approximate minimum age of surviving veterans ninety-one years old. The approximate minimum age of surviving Vietnam veterans serving from 1965-1973 is 68-76 years old. Both the Korean and Vietnam Wars marked a significant departure in how troops served and returned from war, as service was no longer for the duration. Gone were the hero's welcome on return. Vietnam veterans returned to a hostile and divided nation, where they were either overlooked or criticized for their service.

For Assemblies working in conjunction with their assigned councils in conducting the census of their membership please use the most current form;

Korea/Vietnam: <https://forms.office.com/r/BL1Zd93Lms>

Where possible, documented service of deceased members needs to be recorded. Inclusion in the census shall be limited to veterans meeting the requirements established by Congress for the Korean Service Medal you must have served from June 25, 1950, to July 27, 1953, and was on permanent assignment or on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days and performed his duty within the country of Korea. For the Vietnam Service Medals, you must of served from July 3 1965 to March 28 1973 and was on temporary duty for at least 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days or have served in combat with a unit directly supporting a military operation in Southeast Asia (Vietnam and the contiguous waters and airspace in Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia; or the airspace thereof and in the direct support of military operations in Vietnam.

Certificates recognizing service will be delivered to surviving veterans via their councils. District Masters, it is recommended that you reach out to all your Faithful Navigators to collaborate with their local Grand Knights to hold a party or dinner for those Veterans receiving the certificate. There should also be a 4th Degree Honor Guard present during the certificate presentation. Let us show our appreciation to those veterans in our council who served in these two wars and to let them know that their sacrifices are not forgotten.

Ron Boyce, PSD, 4th Degree Director of Programs