

Vietnam-Era Memorial *News Release*

Saluting Those Who Sacrificed

Vietnam Memorial Benefit Auction

March 2, 2020

FORT WORTH – A benefit auctions in mid-March is intended to raise money to build a permanent monument to Tarrant County Vietnam War era veterans, according to project planners led by Jim Hodgson, executive director of the Fort Worth Aviation Museum.

“At least 220 county residents died as a result of the conflict,” Hodgson points out. “Currently, there’s no local monument to honor those killed in Southeast Asia, but that may soon be changing.

“We’re proposing a permanent display in Fort Worth’s Veterans Memorial Park on Camp Bowie Blvd. designed by local students to honor American service members for their sacrifices, as well as commemorate the loss to the families and loved ones.”

Much of that effort includes fundraising, Hodgson notes. Event details include:

What? Vietnam War Era Memorial benefit auction

When? Wednesday, March 11, beginning at 6 p.m.

Where? Cooper’s Old Time Pit BBQ, 301 Stockyards Blvd., Fort Worth

Who? Everyone’s invited to the free event and donations are appreciated

Col. (Ret.) Elmo “Mo” Baker – a Vietnam veteran and prisoner of war – will be the guest speaker, along with Commissioner Rob Kyker of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Dinner, entertainment and the auction, hosted by “America’s Auctioneer” Myers Jackson, will round out the evening.

This proposed monumental effort is backed by a coalition of Tarrant County officials, the Fort Worth Parks Dept., national and local veterans service organizations, as well as patriotic groups and individuals across North Texas.

“The memorial is to be designed, built and dedicated by mid-September 2020,” Hodgson explains. The dedication ceremony would coincide with National Medal of Honor Society’s annual conference to be held in Fort Worth that month.

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