

I propose that the name of this committee be changed to that which is shown below to reflect that this is not a City Project but a project of the Citizens and Veteran's of Redondo Beach. I believe that this will identify prospective donors with our Cause and our Need than if they think we are raising money to give to the city - which already takes a huge chunk of it.

This is a proposal. Nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. It is my expression of my most heartfelt feeling for America's Veterans and this Memorial that we are building. I am NOT attached to it's present form. I humbly offer it to the committee for your consideration.

God Bless you,
God Bless America

Reverend Bhagavan Friend
9-23-08

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**Citizen's Committee to Build a Memorial
Honoring Americas Veterans in Redondo Beach, California**

Our Fathers, our Mothers, our Sons, our Daughters, Our Brothers and our Sisters who fight for America, leave home and family and friends to travel to far & distant lands for fight and be wounded and die for our Country and our American Way of Life. These men and women, of all races and creeds and colors become bonded into a Band of Brothers and Sisters in a way that we civilians can never really understand.

When these honored men and women return home, and the speeches have all been made and the bands have quit playing; the life of a Veteran, separated from his or her Band of Brothers and Sisters can become lonely and empty. Our Veterans need and deserve a Memorial where they can go, alone and with their loved ones to Honor and keep fresh and alive the reasons for their amazing sacrifice of years, and friends and often limbs. A place that is dedicated and consecrated to them where they can remember and commune with Brothers and Sisters who fought alongside of them for America and Freedom; and those who were not fortunate enough to come home.

And we, who are civilians, also need such a Memorial so that we can reach across that invisible line into the world of the Veteran. A world that we can never truly know, but can connect with in spirit by virtue of visiting and being in the presence of a Memorial dedicated to such men and women.

Such a Memorial should not be small and nondescript and hidden away in a corner of a park called "Veterans Park" as is the present memorial. A Memorial to America's Veterans should be place proudly and proud and filled with as much dignity and honor as are the brave men and women and the tremendous sacrifices that it is built to honor.

Building this Veteran's Memorial will require sacrifice. Sacrifice on the part of we who are determined to build it. And sacrifice on the part of you, who contribute to it. Sacrifice in terms of time, energy, effort and, money. But no matter how much we sacrifice to build this Memorial, our sacrifice can never begin to match the sacrifice of those who have giving up the most precious qualities of years, life, and suffering for the sake of the America that they Love.

It is to all of our American Veterans who have risked and sacrifice so much for all of us, that we dedicate and build this Memorial. As our American Fighting Men and Women stopped the scourge of Hitler was in Europe, the Imperial Japanese aggression in the Pacific and the onslaught of Communism Korea; this Memorial will be built to honor them - and there is no force on earth that can stop it.

Will you join us in this Citizen's effort to build this Memorial by giving as much as you can, even as the men and women this Memorial is meant to Honor have given all that they could?

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p.s. If you find typos or contextual errors it is because I had only 15 minutes to type this. Sorry. B.F