

Event in Washington on May 3rd, 2005

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On Tuesday May 3rd at 12:00 noon at the Vietnam Memorial WALL there will be a ceremony where the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 542 will place the Combat Aeromedic Badge at the base of the panels containing the names of the Fallen Dustoff crewmembers of the Vietnam War.

The badge is based on a design rendered by Billy Cunningham a medic who served with the 57th Med Det Republic of Vietnam. The badges will be contained in jewelry cases and after the ceremony forwarded to those relatives of the men on the Wall who requested them.

This ceremony will highlight the new Bills that have been placed in both the House and Senate calling for the Army to officially recognize the service of Dustoff both past and present.

Present at the ceremony to help place the badges will be Congressional Medal Of Honor recipient Mike Novosel, former Vietnam Prisoner of War for over 7 years US Navy Cpt. (Ret) Ed Davis, double amputee infantry soldier Fred Castleberry, and many other Vietnam veterans including Congressman Joseph Pitts of Pennsylvania a former B52 crewmember during the Vietnam War, and co sponsor of the new Bill in the House.

With the advent of the new "Close Combat Badge" the Vietnam Veterans of America feel time has come to bring this matter to public attention. We expect a media presence and are ready to state our case to the public. To all who can attend we welcome you to join us. To those currently serving with Dustoff we especially would love to have you attend as the new bills in Congress affect you as well.