

Colorado Springs Chapter, CO Article for Officer Review Magazine

TITLE: COS MOWW Supports Honor Flight

On 4 October 2025, Honor Flight #21 of Southern Colorado returned to Colorado Springs. Almost 100 World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, along with their sponsor escorts, participated in a three day journey to Washington, D.C. from 2-4 October to visit the National Memorials to their service in our Nation's wars. For some, like Sgt T.J. Ramos, a Vietnam War Veteran, this journey was both cathartic and cleansing, providing camaraderie with his peers as well as replacement of bad memories with good ones. He returned to the United States in the 1970s from service as a B-52D Tail Gunner in the Air Force and met both dissent and disdain from those opposed to the war. This time, he was welcomed with open arms by hundreds of cheering admirers from local Scouts, Students, Family, Colorado Springs Community Members, and Military Service Groups including COS MOWW Treasurer, LTC Mike Berendt, USA (Ret).

Honor Flight of Southern Colorado is part of the Honor Flight Network, a national organization with a mission of honoring our nations' veterans by bringing them to Washington DC to visit the memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice. Honor Flight of Southern Colorado takes veterans from the World War II, Korea and Vietnam eras on a three day, all-expense paid trip to our nation's capital. These excursions, free to Veterans and funded solely by Non-profit Honor Flight Societies, have provided an everlasting "Thank-You" to Veterans whose service and sacrifice has been largely unrecognized or forgotten through the passage of time. The Honor Flights and their organizers, sponsors, and escorts truly represent the MOWW motto, that it is Nobler to Serve than to be Served!



LTC Mike Berendt, USA (Ret), COS MOWW, meets T.J. Ramos, Vietnam War Veteran, at the conclusion of Southern Colorado Honor Flight #21.