

United States House of Representatives Congressional Record

CONGRESSMAN DAVE LOEBSACK (IA-02)
HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2013 EASTERN IOWA
HONOR FLIGHT

OCTOBER 16, 2013

Today, over eighty Iowa veterans of World War II and the Korean War have traveled to our nation's capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful nation. At a time of great division in our capital, our veterans of the World War II and Korean War generations remind us not only of the best of our great nation but also the unity with which our nation responded to great challenges.

For many of these heroes, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I am humbled to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes on behalf of every Iowan I represent for their service to our nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude and the Honor Flight demonstrates that we will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our nation's uniform. Our World War II and Korean War veterans rose to defend not just our nation, but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. Their generation and our country did not seek to be tested but when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and sacrifice not only defined their generation – they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation and the American people. Their legacy endures today.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War and the Korean War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.