

October 31, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact - Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial, (952) 949-8300, EPVets@gmail.com
8080 Mitchell Rd. • Eden Prairie, MN 55344 John E. Mallo, Chairperson
Media Inquires, Kevin Rofidal

Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial Dedication Ceremony

What started as a vision has now become a reality!

Veterans Day 2008 for the community of Eden Prairie is going to be different. This Veterans Day will be the one that many in Eden Prairie have waited for several years to commemorate.

Two days before the nation observes Veterans Day, the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial will be dedicated on Sunday November 9, 2008 beginning at 10:30 am at Purgatory Creek Park. The event will include a missing man fly over from the T-6 Thunder and a key note address by (Ret.) Brigadier General Dennis Schulstad among other celebrations.

“At a time when our nation is at war, it is important to stop and remember those that have served, those who are serving, as well as those who have made ultimate sacrifice” said John E. Mallo, Chairperson of the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial.

“We could not be happier with the memorial and equally important is the support we received from the community”, said Mallo.

Fundraising began several years ago with a goal of \$421,000. The memorial has been supported with public & private donations and in particular a \$100,000 grant from Ed Flaherty of Lariat Companies. Although this is the final phase of the memorial it has been designed as a living memorial allowing additional names to be added as requested. In addition, there is a portion of the memorial called the “Honor Wall” which memorializes 17 people from Eden Prairie who have been killed in service dating back to the Civil War.

Four Eden Prairie Veterans have been selected to receive special recognition for their sacrifices: John McClay (KIA) - Civil War, Everett McClay (KIA) - WWII, Mickey Axton (Woman Pilot) - WWII, Jim Moran – Korean War.

World class sculptor Neil Brodin, a Vietnam-era veteran has designed and built the service to country and world peace bronze features of the memorial. SRF Consulting Group designed the memorial and Blackstone Contractors oversaw the project. The memorial was built out of local Mesabi Black Granite provided by Cold Spring Granite. More information on the Eden Prairie Veterans Memorial can be found at: <http://www.epveteransmemorial.org>.

Remember Your Veterans