



Town of Sharpsburg
106 East Main Street
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<http://sharpsburgmd.com/>

January 2, 2024

Greetings Viet Nam Veteran!

The citizens of Sharpsburg are proud to recognize the service of our military veterans, in addition to honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country, during our annual Memorial Day Commemoration. This event serves as a lasting tribute, as well as a testament to the sacrifices made by so many, that has endured in our town since the dedication of Antietam National Cemetery on September 17, 1867, the 5-year anniversary of the Battle of Antietam. For our town, the importance of this occasion and the reverence we have for our brave service members cannot be overstated.

For our 2024 observance of Memorial Day, we recognize the service of those who served in the Viet Nam War. The brave men and women who struggled valiantly in the sweltering, hazy environs of the dense jungles of Southeast Asia and beyond, only to return to a war-weary and ambivalent populace whose failure to render their appreciation for your service left an indelible memory for so many of you whose lives were impacted by this conflict.

Sharpsburg recognizes the honorable service that you rendered to our Nation, and we invite you to participate in our annual parade as a representative of your era of military heroes who sacrificed so much for our country. All Viet Nam Veterans are invited to march or ride with us in the parade, or to attend as a spectator. Regardless of how you choose to participate – as part of the parade or as a spectator – your service will be recognized and appreciated by a grateful community. The parade will be held on **May 25, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in being a participant in our 2024 Memorial Day Parade, and in so doing, helping to perpetuate our time-honored tradition of honoring our military service members, simply fill out and return the attached RSVP form by **April 15, 2024**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Jacob Martz
Vice Mayor & Memorial Day Committee Chairman

2024 Memorial Day Parade Veteran Participant RSVP Form

Important Reminders:

- **Participants should plan to arrive no later than 1:00 p.m.**
- Allow plenty of time to arrive, park and check in with the Parade Marshal.
- The parade will begin promptly at **2:00 p.m.** Veterans attending as spectators should plan to arrive early to obtain parking.
- Main Street will be closed between Church and Potomac Streets beginning at approximately 10:45 a.m., and reopen following the morning ceremony.
- Participants will be provided with their staging number prior to parade day. **Please have this information handy when checking in with the Parade Marshal.**
- Veteran parade participants should report to **Sharpsburg Elementary School**, located at **17525 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD.**
- To ease congestion at the staging area, veterans who choose to walk the parade route, or who are otherwise able to walk, may be dropped off at **Sharpsburg Bible Church**, located at **5134 General Stuart Ct., Sharpsburg, MD**, and thereafter proceed to the Sharpsburg Elementary School parking lot to check in with the Parade Marshal. Those with disabilities may be dropped off at Sharpsburg Elementary School, located at the address listed above. Parking in town is available on a first come, first served basis, and will be limited. Limited handicap parking will be available for veterans at the elementary school.
- The parade route is **approximately 1 mile** beginning at Sharpsburg Elementary School, and ending at Antietam National Cemetery. For those unable, or who do not wish to walk, vehicular accommodations will be provided. Please do not forget to indicate your preference on the attached RSVP form below.
- If you are interested in participating, please complete the below RSVP form and return by email to **townofsharpsburg@comcast.net**, with "Memorial Day Parade Veteran" in the subject line, or mail to the address shown at the top of the first page. If you have any questions, please contact Town Hall at (301) 432-4428. **Submissions must be received by April 15, 2024.**

Please complete all fields below, and indicate if you would like your name and service information to appear in our annual Sharpsburg Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book.

Please print your name **exactly** how you would like it to appear.

Name of Participating Veteran: _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Point of Contact Name (if different than participant): _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

I will (select one): Walk Need vehicular accommodations Wheelchair? Yes No

I would like my name, rank and branch of service to appear in the commemoration book: Yes No