

## LHS Vietnam Era Veterans Monument

Greetings to the Loveland High School alumni. As most all of you know, a group of your former classmates have been actively pursuing an LHS Vietnam Era Veterans Monument. This group includes Doug Margheim, Ed Hart, Jack Crow, Pam Speka, Ron Albers, and Gary Hausman.

It has been a long journey which started out with the idea of improving the monument started by the Jr ROTC at the Loveland High School campus. After some deliberation, we made the decision to look for a more appropriate location. After numerous meetings with the City of Loveland Parks and Recreation, we were invited to do a presentation for their planning commission. Upon completion of that presentation, a vote of the board was taken and a unanimous decision was made to work with our group. This was a major hurdle and gave us a reason for hope that we were going to succeed. After weeks, months, and now years, we are moving forward!!

Many locations were offered for the monument. During the meeting to make a selection, we were greeted with a new twist. A new location was added, as well as the idea of not just a monument, but a Loveland Veteran's Plaza. We were all in a state of shock to say the least but received the news with great enthusiasm. Not only was Loveland High School going to have a monument, Loveland veterans were going to have the plaza they deserved.

The location selected is at the entrance to the Loveland Sports Park, which offers great visibility. We will share with you a couple of concepts that that Parks and Rec have provided for us. Keep in mind these are simply concepts just to provide an idea of what it can look like. This monument will include the 12 inch tiles that were located at LHS which were engraved with the names of our Vietnam era Veteran classmates. These tiles will be mounted on large stone panels. At this time we have 450 plus names that will be on our monument. Most of the tiles are complete and have been paid for with LHS classmate donations. The plaza will feature a proposed bronze sculpture by our own Pat Kennedy (Loveland High School class of 1966). This is the culmination of a lot of hard work and, believe us, a lot of patience.

Now comes the hard part, fundraising. No matter how much the donation is, it all adds up. We have set a goal of \$80,000 to fund the bronze sculpture and our portion of the Veterans Plaza. We are reaching out to all of you, to ask for your help and support. Please, talk to family and friends, business people you may know, investment counselors you may use and anyone you know that supports our veterans. If you know someone you feel would be a potential donor and are uncomfortable with approaching them, feel free to contact any one of us and we would be happy to do that for you or with you.

The City of Loveland needs to recognize our Veterans with this plaza and our monument. We want to show our community veterans, their families, and their friends, how much we truly appreciate their dedication and service to our country. It provides a place of remembrance and a place for reflection and healing for our veterans, their loved ones and our classmates. This is going to take a joint effort, so your ideas, thoughts and leads will be greatly appreciated.

We need your help to make this happen. Thank you for your support, it is greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to call any one of us with questions:

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Tax deductible donations may be sent to:

Loveland Veterans Plaza  
1917 Riverview Dr.  
Berthoud CO 80513

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