

Traveling Display Brought Memories and Memorabilia to Vero Beach

by Brenda Silva | Photos: J.R. Williams, Indian River Photo Club



"Oh My God, There's His Name!"



"Never Forget"



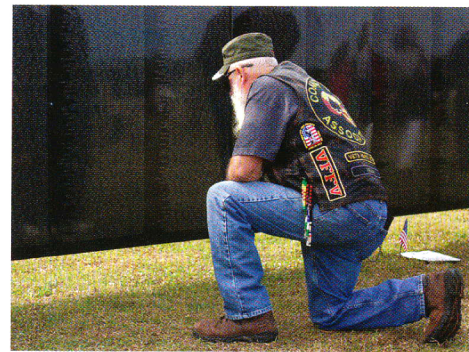
"58,315 Gave All"

A traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial arrived in Vero Beach with local motorcycle clubs and law enforcement as its escort, much to the honor of the fallen heroes whose names cover the wall.

Entitled *The Wall That Heals*, the 300-foot wall is a half-scale replica of the original Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. The replica contains 58,315 names, and spans from the technical start of the Vietnam conflict in 1959 to the technical end in 1975. Located at the IRC Fairgrounds from January 25-29, the wall was available to view 24 hours a day at no charge.

Along with the wall, the exhibit included a mobile education center; as well as some memorabilia left at the wall in Washington, DC, such as letters from soldiers. In addition, three digital screens showed photos of local hometown heroes who served in Vietnam and died. Also, an "In Memory" program detailed the men and women who served in Vietnam and came back, only to die of war-related issues.

The wall replica will be displayed in 43 communities across the country this year, with its stop in Vero Beach the only time the wall will be displayed in Florida during 2017.



"Visit with An Old Friend"



"All Gave Some"



"It Helps To Touch Their Name"