



BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL

HONORING ALL
WHO SERVED



Veteran's Wall- Facts at a Glance

Question: What is the Veteran's Memorial Wall?

Answer: The Veteran's Memorial Wall is a monument dedicated to the perpetual celebration of men and women who have served our country through the military. It consists of black granite panels, mounted on solid concrete, on which names of veterans are inscribed. The walkway in front of the wall is constructed of brick. The center section of the Memorial is constructed of a concrete base for the four flagpoles that fly the National, State, City, and POW-MIA flags. Also, included in this area will be granite pylons mounted on solid concrete for inscribing names of veterans killed in action and are illuminated during the hours of darkness. The Wall is 100 feet long with two 32 feet tapered sides angling towards 5th street. It has 89 black granite panels, ranging from 2' X 7' in size down to the smaller tapered panels along each angling side. All panels will contain names. There are 43 large panels, which will contain approximately 132 names each, and there are 16 half-size panels that will contain approximately 66 names each.

Question: Who provides care for the wall?

Answer: The Veterans Memorial Wall is administered and cared for by the Veterans Memorial Wall Committee, an incorporated non-profit agency created to raise funds for the completed construction and maintenance of the project. The committee, through its Board of Directors, administers the program for receiving donations, requests, and funds for inscriptions of names on the wall.

Question: How many names are on the wall?

Answer: There are currently over 2100 names on the wall, and a record of the names and locations on the wall is held at the Black River Coliseum.

Question: How many bricks are located in the floor of the monument?

Answer: The brick walkway surrounding the monument consists of almost 4000 bricks, occupying about 9400 square feet. That's almost 2 entire basketball courts! Each brick can be engraved with the name of a supporter of the project.

Question: How much granite was used to create the wall?

Answer: The finished monument will contain over 60 tons of Granite, weighing about 120,000 pounds, or roughly as much as 40 mid-size cars! The Seating area surrounding the flagpole, as well as the caps on the tops of the pylons are made from Missouri Red Granite. The Grey granite used in the rest of the monument is made from a combination of Georgia and Virginia granite.

Veterans Memorial Wall- 2009 Construction Update

Estimated Costs of Remaining Construction:

Item	Cost
Granite for Pylons	\$70,000.00
2500 bricks and pre-cast dividers	\$5,000.00
Labor for installation of Bricks and Pylons	\$50,000.00
Total Cost	\$125,000.00
Funds Raised as of 12/31/2008	\$65,000.00
Remaining Fundraising Goal	\$60,000.00

Estimated Timeline for Remaining Construction:

The remaining construction will take place in 2 stages. The first stage will be to complete the installation of the bricks on the floor of the display. This phase will begin in March, and will hopefully be completed by June. The second phase will be to obtain and install the marble face plates for the pylons. This stage has already begun through procuring of the marble, and installation is set to begin Mid-April, with completion of this phase will coinciding with the timeliness of the necessary fundraising.

2009 Engraving Schedule

Brick or Wall Engraving Purchase Date	Date engraving will take place
January 1 st through February 28 th	Week of March 2 nd through March 6 th
March 1 st through April 30 th	Week of May 4 th through May 8 th
May 1 st through June 30 th	Week of July 6 th through July 10 th
July 1 st through August 31 st	Week of September 1 st through September 4 th
September 1 st through October 31 st	Week of November 2 nd through November 6 th
November 1 st through December 31 st	March 2010
January 2010 through February 2010	March 2010

PRIVATE BILLIE G. KANELL



On the 7th of September, 1951, near Pyongyang, Korea, Private Billie G. Kanell, of Poplar Bluff, MO, while serving with Company I, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division gave his life in the service of his country.

A numerically superior hostile force had launched a fanatical assault against friendly positions, supported by mortar and artillery fire. When Private Kanell stood in his emplacement exposed to enemy observation and action, he delivered accurate fire into the ranks of the assailants. An enemy grenade was hurled into his emplacement and Private Kanell threw himself upon the grenade, absorbing the blast with his body to protect two of his comrades from serious injury and possible death. A few seconds later another grenade was thrown into the emplacement and, although seriously wounded by the first missile, he summoned his waning strength to roll toward the second grenade and used his body as a shield to again protect his comrades. He was mortally wounded as a result of his heroic actions.

Billie G. Kanell's indomitable courage and selfless sacrifice reflect the highest tradition of the U.S. Army, and resulted in the posthumous award of this nation's highest decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor.