



## A Special Invitation The Flame of Liberty Memorial Dedication, SAT., JUNE 15

By Ellen Manzo

To paraphrase  
a quote from  
John F. Kennedy, "A  
nation reveals itself not  
only by the individuals  
it produces but also by  
the people it honors,  
the individuals it  
remembers."

- John F. Kennedy



Lieutenant General H.R.  
McMaster U.S. Army (Ret.)

Very seldom does one have the opportunity to create history and be part of a legacy that will continue to live on in Silicon Valley. Saturday, June 15th will be the capstone of a seven-year journey for the Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation. On that day, the Foundation will unveil the Flame of Liberty Memorial, a memorial intended to deliver honor, respect, gratitude and healing to America's military service members and veterans, first responders and two 9/11 heroes aboard United Flight 93, who prevented the terrorists from completing its intended mission which targeted the U.S. Capitol Building. For some, their heroic contributions were their last act of devotion.

Since breaking ground on January 4th of this year, the Foundation has been busy sharing the Foundation's mission with patrons in support of its capital campaign. Anyone passing the Los Gatos Civic Center has noticed the fencing and construction vehicles from Devcon Construction who are building the memorial.

The Foundation invites you to be its guest to celebrate and pay respect to all those who have given so much to America. The day's events will include a military concert by the 191st Army Band, guest speakers, dignitaries, military vehicles, a celebratory barbecue with the Summit Sisters band and most importantly, the unveiling of The Flame of Liberty Memorial.

The event's keynote speaker is the Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster U.S. Army, Retired who served as the 26th National Security Advisor to the United States. Prominent guest speakers also include the parents of local 9/11 heroes Todd Beamer and Mark Bingham, David Beamer and Alice Hoagland respectively.

Foundation President Major General Kent Hillhouse U.S. Army, Retired, the Honorable Francis J. Harvey, 19th Secretary of the U.S. Army, the Honorable William E. Peacock Former Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs and Marine Corps Reserve Colonel, Retired, Mayor Steve Leonardi, and memorial artist and Master Designer for the U.S. Mint, Frank Kocian Morris, will also be at the podium.

As the Foundation stated in their introductory "Save the Date" video "Your participation is voluntary, however your presence is vitally important and will send a message that delivers honor, respect, and gratitude to America's heroes. Please join us!"

To RSVP or learn more about The Flame of Liberty Memorial Dedication and the mission of the Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation, please visit:

[www.honorAvet.org](http://www.honorAvet.org) and view their Flip Book at <https://simplebooklet.com/theflameoflibertymemorial>.

Lieutenant General H. R. McMaster United States Army, Retired served as the 26th National Security Advisor to the United States. He is best known for his experience and roles in the Gulf War, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. After the Persian Gulf War, McMaster served as a military history professor at the United States Military Academy from 1994 to 1996, became a Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Consulting Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). He held a series of staff positions in the United States Central Command. In 2004, he took command of the 3rd Cavalry Regiment and fought the Iraqi insurgency in Tal Afar. He became a top counterinsurgency advisor to General David Petraeus before serving as the Director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center. He also served as the Deputy to the Commander for Planning of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan and, in 2012, became Deputy Commanding General of the Army Training and Doctrine Command. General McMaster is a recipient of three Distinguished Service Medals, the Defense Superior Service medal, two Legion of Merit awards, two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and the Silver Star which he earned as an Army Captain for his valor at the Battle of 73 Easting, often referred to as the "last great tank battle of the 20th century."

General McMaster is a West Point graduate and completed his MA and PhD at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill where his thesis was critical of American strategy and military leadership during the Vietnam War. His Ph. D. thesis later became the frank basis for his book, the widely read *Dereliction of Duty*, published by Harper Perennial, 1997, which continues to gain significant popularity.