

# Seneca Nation of Indians

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## PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### *Proclamation of Vietnam Veterans Day on March 29, 2023, and Each Year After*

- Whereas,** it was 50 years ago, on Much 29, 1973, that the United States withdrew its last 2,500 troops from the battlefields of Vietnam and, since the end of that war, a generation of the Seneca people has come of age and come to understand its significance and the heroic contributions and sacrifices of those who served; and
- Whereas,** the Vietnam War was one of our Nation's longest, with the first American soldiers arriving in the 1950s and the last Americans evacuated from the United States Embassy, with the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975; and
- Whereas,** like other wars, the Vietnam War was a difficult experience for the Seneca people, especially for our Warriors and their families, at its end after more than a decade of involvement, the statistics were staggering: over 3.4 million were deployed to Southeast Asia; 2.7 million served in the designated war zone; over 58,000 were killed in the theater of operation; 153,000 were non-mortally wounded; and today, nearly five decades later, at least 1,600 service members are still unaccounted for; and
- Whereas,** of the names listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington DC, 4,119 are those of courageous young warriors from the United States who went off to fight half a world away, only never to return; while many more did return from the war, they sadly did not receive the welcome home and respect they deserved; and

**Whereas,** we will never forget the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who went off to Vietnam to honorably defend our Nation and its principles of freedom and democracy, and are forever thankful to all of our Seneca Nation's Vietnam Veterans for their service-those who made the ultimate sacrifice, those who came home physically and emotionally scarred, and those who returned home safely to their loved ones; and


**Whereas,** like so many others who answered the call to serve throughout the centuries, our Vietnam Veterans are inspiring reminders of the patriotism, spirit, and courage of all who serve in our Nation's Armed Forces; Seneca people everywhere pay tribute to them, extending our admiration and heartfelt gratitude for such meaningful contributions to our Nation and their home communities.

**Now therefore let it be known that I,** Rickey L. Armstrong Sr., President of the Seneca Nation of Indians, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2023, and each year after as

### **VIETNAM VETERANS DAY**

**Given** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the Seneca Nation of Indians this twenty first day of March in the year two thousand and twenty-three.



  
**Rickey L. Armstrong Sr., President  
Seneca Nation of Indians**