



National Vietnam Veterans Day 2026

Please join us at the **Rhode Island State House** in the **House Chamber** on **Friday, March 27 at 10:00 am.** as Rhode Island recognizes *National Vietnam Veterans Day.*

Parking *will be available* in the lower lot adjacent to the State House. Please bring yourself and invite family members and any Vietnam Veteran that you know as we **advocate for our Vietnam Memorial in Providence.** Time is slipping and we need to support the efforts of the Vietnam Memorial Commission in the successful completion of this project. Light refreshments will be available afterwards.

Hosted by:
Rhode Island State Council



Vietnam Veterans of America



Rhode Island State Council

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One Capitol Hill, Level G

Providence, RI 02908

Friday March 27, 2026

10:00 AM Opening ceremony

Coventry High School JROTC to present the colors.

Opening prayer by Fr. Phil Salois

Pledge of Allegiance led by Brian Carn Vice-President Rhode Island State Council
Vietnam Veterans of America

National Anthem by a Coventry High Student

Opening remarks by Ernie Boisvert President Rhode Island State Council Vietnam
Veterans of America

Remarks by Governor Dan McKee/Lt. Governor Sabina Matos

Remarks by Senate and House Chairs of Veterans Affairs representatives

Guest Speaker Francis Xavier Flaherty, former Associate Justice of the [Rhode Island Supreme Court](#). Flaherty is a graduate of [Suffolk University Law School](#) and [Providence College](#). Between college and law school, he served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1970. His service included deployment to Vietnam where he earned the [Bronze Star for Valor](#) as a platoon leader.

Poem by Gretchen Verling-Cutlip

POW/MIA Table by Sharron Zapor

Taps

Closing remarks by Ernie Boisvert President Rhode Island State Council Vietnam
Veterans of America

Closing Prayer by Fr. Phil Salois

Refreshments in the House Lounge