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U.S. Senator Blunt Tours Missouri's National Veterans Memorial

MARCH 11TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

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U.S Senator Roy Blunt (Mo.) toured Missouri's National Veterans Memorial in Perryville.

"We owe a debt of gratitude to those who made the ultimate sacrifice serving our nation in the Vietnam War," said Blunt. "This memorial is a powerful tribute to the more than 1,400 Missourians and thousands of Americans whose memories are forever etched in our nation's history. I'm grateful for Jim Eddleman's service to our nation and his tireless efforts to build this memorial so families, friends, and veterans have a place close to home to honor their loved ones."

Prior to touring the memorial, Blunt discussed his efforts in Congress to honor veterans in Missouri and across the nation. Blunt mentioned his [Veteran PEER Act](#), bipartisan legislation that expanded veterans' access to peer counseling specialists to better combat the risks of suicide and treat associated mental health conditions. Blunt also discussed a recent [letter](#) that he and the entire Missouri Congressional delegation sent to President Trump urging the administration to designate a state funeral for the last Medal of Honor recipient from World War II.

Blunt continued, "While we can never fully repay our veterans for their sacrifices, we must do our part to ensure they have the benefits they have earned and deserve. From improving and expanding access to quality mental and physical health treatment to supporting our heroes in every step of their career, I'll continue advocating for policies that help us fulfill our obligations to those who served."

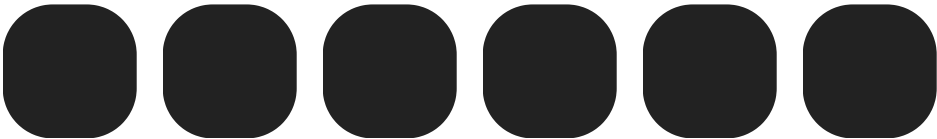
In September 2017, Blunt participated in a [ceremony](#) at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. that marked the start of a cross-country trip where an American flag and POW/MIA flag, each of which was flown over the memorial, made their way to the site of the Missouri's National Veterans Memorial Park.

Missouri is also home to the nation’s first Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which was dedicated on Dec. 2, 1967 in Wentzville.

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