



Fact Sheet

The United States of America
Vietnam War Commemoration

Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin *... a lasting memento of the nation's thanks!*

- **Purpose:** To recognize, thank and honor United States military veterans who served during the Vietnam War period.
- **Eligibility:** Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.
- **Presentation:** These lapel pins will be presented in a dignified manner to each Vietnam veteran during public events held in their communities by Commemorative Partners. Accompanying remarks should reflect the nation's thanks for their service and sacrifice. In the rare instance when an honoree cannot attend a public event, the pin may be presented during a private ceremony.
- **Symbolism:**
 - **Eagle** - The eagle represents courage, honor and dedicated service to our nation. As one of the most recognizable and notable American symbols, it is emblazoned with distinction on numerous military insignia.
 - **Blue Circle** - The color blue matches the canton of the American flag and signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice. The circle shape and blue color also match the official seal of the Commemoration.
 - **Laurel Wreath** - A time-honored symbol representing victory, integrity and strength.
 - **Stripes** - The stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.
 - **Stars** - The six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed and fought alongside one another: Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, and the United States.
 - **Message** - "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" is embossed on the back, closest to the heart of the wearer, along with the Commemoration's name.

