# "Field of Heroes" Memorial Day Empty Boot Display

May 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 through May 29<sup>th</sup> 2023

Located

Veterans Park 1028 E 6<sup>th</sup> St. Tulsa OK 74210

Point of Contact
Joshua Starks
918-510-2164

Joshua.d.starks@gmail.com



In conjunction with Oklahoma Outreach Services (Gold Star Families), Tulsa Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 577, AARP of Oklahoma, Spirit AeroSystems Veterans Committee, United Aerospace Workers Local 952, Eagle Ops, BSA Troop 2222, numerous additional organizations and individual citizens who dedicate hundreds of volunteer hours and funds to present the "Field of Heroes" in Veterans Park Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The Display consisted of 410 empty boots representing those Oklahoma Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen or Coastguardsmen who have perished in combat operations since 9/11. Fallen Service members from previous conflicts are added by request from their survivors or fellow service member. Each empty boot is represented with a US Flag, Name, Photo, Branch and date the service member made their ultimate sacrifice.

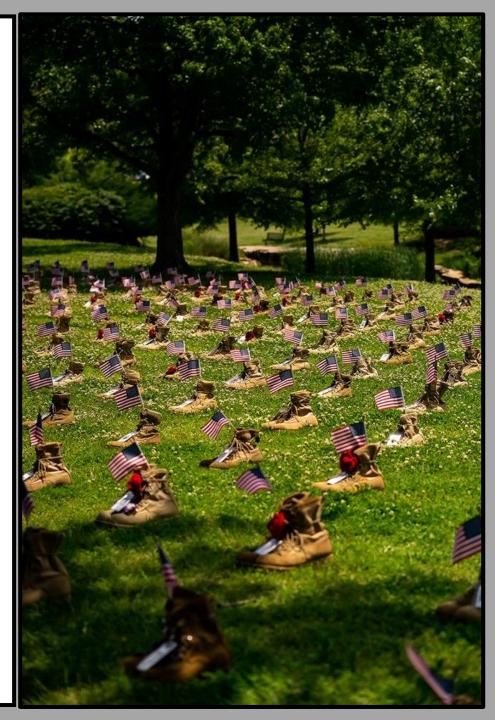
The display began in 2019 and exponentially grown every year following. This year the display will be open to the public from Saturday May 28th 2023 06:00AM and last until the evening of Monday May 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 04:00PM.



There were numerous moments during the event that include a Tulsa Police Officer stepping out of his patrol car in the driving rain on Sunday morning at 03:00AM to play Amazing Grace on his bagpipes in remembrance of a fallen friend represented by a pair of boots within the display.

In 2019 during the Memorial Day flooding, Fort Gibson National Cemetery was unreachable due to flooding conditions. Our "Field of Heroes" Memorial became the only location so many families could conduct a graveside remembrance.

Every year Gold Star Mothers are found sitting for hours adjacent to the boots representative of their child and for some Gold Star Children this display has been the first representation of their parents sacrifice as well as our Tulsa communities remembrance of that sacrifice. Each Gold Star family is given a crocheted Poppy to attach to the boot in remembrance of their fallen Hero. By the end of the display hundreds of those poppies have been attached to the boots, representing number of families that have attended.



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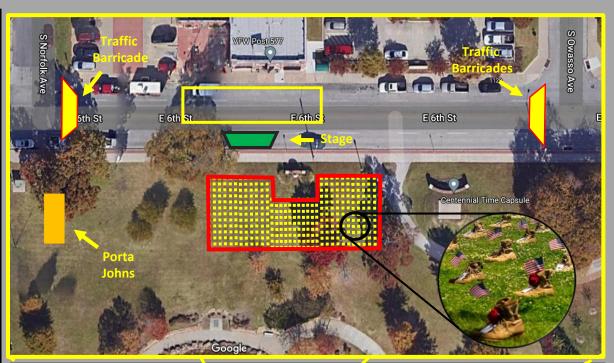
#### **Timeline:**

May 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 06:00PM through May 29<sup>th</sup> 2022 04:00 PM

May 26<sup>th</sup> 06:00 PM Site setup: Installation of lights, Porta Johns, Signs, Hand Sanitizer and Boots.

May 27<sup>th</sup> 06:00AM Open to Visitors continuing operations until May 30<sup>th</sup> 4:00PM

May 27<sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM Barricades emplaced at intersections S. Norfolk Ave / E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. and S. Owasso Ave / E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.





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#### **Timeline:**

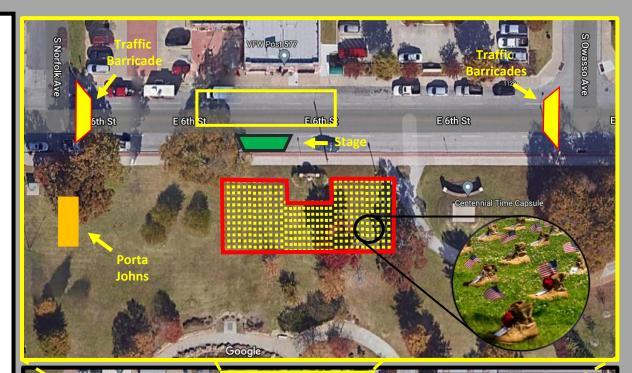
May 27<sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Stage emplaced on 6<sup>th</sup> Street in front of Tulsa VFW.

May 27<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Opening Ceremony with guest speakers, media, and public.

May 27<sup>th</sup> 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Stage removed from 6<sup>th</sup> Street in front of Tulsa VFW.

May 27<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM Barricades removed from intersections S. Norfolk Ave / E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. and S. Owasso Ave / E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.

May 29<sup>th</sup> 4:00PM Breakdown of Boots, Display, Porta Johns, Lighting and Signage.





#### Field of Heroes Memorial Display

#### **Area Staging Plan**

Porta Johns / Hand Sanitizer stations will be emplaced near 6<sup>th</sup> Street May 26<sup>th</sup> NLT 6:00PM and removed May 29<sup>th</sup> NLT 06:00PM.

Volunteer / Reception Table located at the North West Corner of the display will have a first aid kit, water and volunteer chairs placed six feet apart.

Two Fuel Generator Lighting units will be emplaced for night time viewing.







### Porta Johns / Handwashing / Sanitizer Stations:

Porta Johns will be cleaned and sanitized hourly.

Hand washing stations will be cleaned and sanitized hourly.

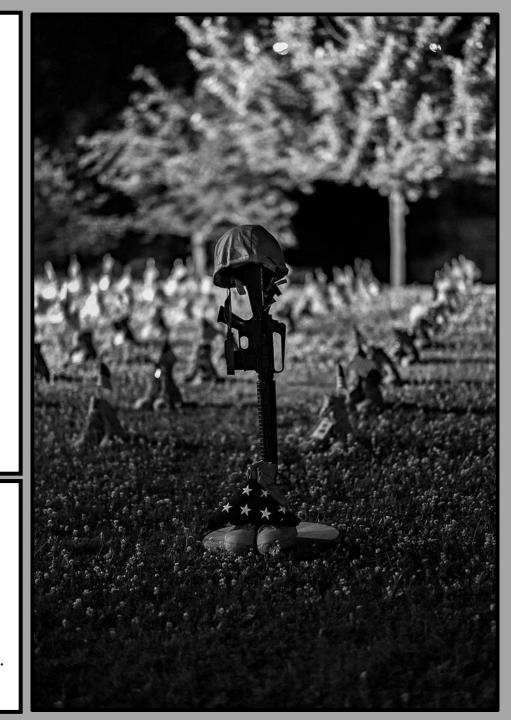
Strategic placement of approved hand sanitizers for volunteers and visitors in communal spaces and touch points.

Volunteers will wear gloves appropriate for the chemicals being utilized during routine cleaning and disinfecting.

#### Food / Vendors / Drinks / Waste:

Volunteers can bring food and closed containers for non-alcoholic beverages.

Due to possible heat exposure continual water consumption to stay hydrated is highly encouraged. Bottled Water will be on site for use as needed. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed at the Memorial. Trash receptacles will be provided on site.



"Field of Heroes"

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Oklahoma Outreach Services and Tulsa VFW Post 577 hope that this Memorial Display will offer a place for our Gold Star Families, Veterans, and Citizens of Tulsa a place to honor the sacrifice of our fallen during the Memorial Day Weekend.

We are so grateful for the Volunteers and Donors who continue to make this a respectful and impactful event.

