

# “Misunderstood”

My personal story is quite inconsequential. I first heard about Patriot Flight when Bill Peak started it in 2007. How many WWII Veterans had never seen the WWII Memorial because it was built nearly 60 years after the war ended? Mr. Peak saw the importance of helping those Veterans get to DC to see the memorial, but many of those veterans were in their 80's and 90's and would need assistance navigating the airport and Washington DC. Volunteering as a Guardian seemed like a pretty easy way to just say, “Thank You”. The Patriot Flight has expanded to include other Veterans from other wars, but the message is the same...“Thank You”. This October will be my fourth trip to DC as a Guardian (if accepted) and I am grateful to have another opportunity to personally thank another group of men and women who gave us so much and ask for so little in return. The reception and gratitude that these Veterans receive in the airport and at these monuments is overwhelmingly beautiful. I am always humbled to stand by and watch them experience it. I am also endlessly impressed with the volunteers that run the Patriot Flight organization and all the behind the scenes efforts that go into figuring out the costs and logistics of these flights. I would encourage you to support them in any way that you can.

— Joe, Halfmoon