

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A GUARDIAN



An Official Hub of the
Honor Flight Network®

- 1) Being a guardian requires a total focus on and dedication to the “care and feeding” of the veteran assigned to you. Honor Flight is the thank you and the welcome home that so few of our veterans, of any wars, ever got. It is about comradery and sharing of the experiences of the day with their brother and sister veterans, and it can be a life-changing day for many of them. It is the guardians’ sole duty to make sure the veteran is safe and fully experiences all that Honor Flight offers.
- 2) Spouses and significant others are not allowed to be guardians for their veteran spouses or significant others. We do not want any familial or spousal problems, issues, or concerns to interfere with or influence in any way the veteran’s experience of an Honor Flight. Other family members will be considered on a case by case basis.
- 3) You must be physically fit enough to be able to care for your assigned veteran all day. It is a very long day, beginning with form-up at the Brunswick-Golden Isles Airport at 5:00AM. We don’t return until around 9:00PM that night. We make 8 stops after we first board our buses at the BWIA airport. We reserve the absolute right to reject any guardian application if we feel the guardian is not able to meet this requirement.
- 4) Caring for the veteran assigned to you includes helping them in and out of their seats on the aircraft, the buses, and their wheelchairs (if any) all day. You will need to insure the veteran gets to where they are to be on time, that they get their meals, drinks, and bathroom breaks, and that they take whatever medicines they may need. At no time are you to allow your veteran to wander off alone.
- 5) Most importantly a guardian needs to very quickly establish themselves as a trusted companion for the veteran. Many of these veterans have not spoken about their military service for years, even many decades. A big part of your job is to help them get those bottled-up thoughts and feelings out in the open. You need to encourage them to talk about their experiences, what they’re feeling, comfort them when they need it, and assure them that it is not just OK to express their emotions, but desired. The key word is encourage, not push.
- 6) Your veteran may want to have some private time because Honor Flight can be a highly emotional experience, so you have to judge how close they want you to be—but never let them out of your sight. You are responsible for this individual all day. Sometimes, they can be overcome with emotion, and you need to be there to physically support them.
- 7) Be aware that many of these veterans are quite elderly—the WWII vets will all be in their 90’s, most of the Korean War vets in their 80’s, and even the Vietnam vets up into their 70’s in many cases. They will all need at least some amount of patience and understanding on your part.
- 8) There will be a Guardian training session, followed by a Meet and Greet luncheon with your veteran, two to three weeks before the flight. At that session you will be issued all your gear for flight day so it is important that you make every effort to attend. Advance notice as to date, time and location will be provided.
- 9) Have no convictions for violence of any kind; no felony convictions; not a registered sex offender.
- 10) Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc Board of Directors reserve the right to deny any application at the Board’s discretion.

IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH ALL OF THE ABOVE, PLEASE SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION AND
YOUR CONTRIBUTION. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT IT.
THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO ASSIST OUR VETERANS.

GUARDIAN APPLICATION



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Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc. would not be successful without the generous support of our guardians. Guardians play a significant role on every trip, ensuring every veteran has a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience. Duties may include physically assisting mobility-impaired elderly veterans all day long. Spouses and significant others are NOT allowed to be guardians for their spouse veterans. Guardians MUST be at least 18 years of age. We reserve the right to approve or disapprove any guardian.

This application and a \$500.contribution is required of all guardians. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CONTRIBUTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. Your application will *not* be considered without payment. If for some reason you are not accepted as a guardian or cancel your participation, you will have the option of having your contribution returned, or leaving all or part of it with Honor Flight as a donation.

Please *print* clearly (Name MUST be exactly as it is on your license/photo I.D. for airport security reasons).

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST: _____ MIDDLE: _____

NICK NAME (if any, for your name tag): _____ Please circle your T-shirt size: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE(S): WORK: _____ HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____

MUST HAVE

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ WEIGHT: _____ AGE: _____ D.O.B. _____

DRIVERS LICENSE#: _____ STATE: _____ (PHOTOCOPY MUST BE INCLUDED)

OCCUPATION: _____ HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT HONOR FLIGHT: _____

FAMILY/EMERGENCY CONTACT (someone who will NOT be on the flight and will be available on flight day):

NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP TO YOU: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

MUST HAVE

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONES: WORK: _____ HOME: _____ MOBILE: _____

Some of our veterans are in need of a lot of physical assistance getting around. Do you think you are able to help a 200+ pound person in and out of a wheelchair several times and/or assist them up and down stairs several times over the course of the day? Yes: _____ No: _____

Do you think you are you able to push that person up or down a moderate incline, over a curb, etc.? Yes: _____ No: _____

IF YOU ARE A VETERAN, BRANCH : _____ CONFLICT(S) DURING WHICH YOU SERVED: _____

FROM: _____ TO: _____; HIGHEST RANK ACHIEVED: _____
Month/Year Month/Year

ALL OUR VETERANS ARE ASSIGNED A GUARDIAN TO ACCOMPANY THEM THE ENTIRE TRIP. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE THE GUARDIAN FOR A *SPECIFIC* VETERAN, PLEASE IDENTIFY:

NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP TO YOU: _____

Please list any other volunteer person-to-person experience, if any: _____

Please list one personal reference:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phones: Work _____ Home: _____ Mobile: _____

Please indicate if you have any medical credentials or training:

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A COMMEMORATIVE PHOTO BOOK OF THIS YEAR'S FLIGHT FOR \$35.00, PLEASE CHECK HERE: _____; Please include the \$35.00 with your application and contribution. All designated flight Veterans will receive their book for free. Delivery expected between 60-90 days post-flight.

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY AND SIGN AND DATE WHERE INDICATED:

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that:

1. As photographic and video equipment are frequently used to memorialize and document *Honor Flight* trips and events, his/her image may appear in a public forum, such as the media or a website, to acknowledge, promote, or advance the work of the *Honor Flight* program. I hereby release the photographer, *Honor Flight*, and *Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc.* from all claims and liability relating to said photographs. I hereby give permission for my images captured during *Honor Flight* activities through video, photo, or other media, and any photos or video I may post to social media, to be used solely for the purposes of *Honor Flight* promotional material and publications, and waive any rights or compensation or ownership thereto.
2. I further state that medical insurance is the responsibility of the guardian and I understand that neither *Honor Flight* nor the provider of private aircraft ("Flight Provider") provides medical care. I understand that I accept all risks associated with travel and other *Honor Flight* activities and will not hold *Honor Flight*, the Flight Provider, *Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc.*, veterans, volunteers, *Honor Flight* Support Members, or any person appearing or quoted in any advertisement or public service announcement or on behalf of *Honor Flight* responsible for any injuries incurred by me while participating in the *Honor Flight* program.

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM AND YOUR CHECK FOR \$500. TO:

Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc. Please note on check "Guardian Application"
Attn: Guardian Application
P.O. Box 20466
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Questions? Call James Vivenzio, Vice-President at 912.222.1063

Email: info@coastalgeorgiahonorflight.org

HONOR FLIGHT WILL SCHEDULE A SATURDAY 3-4 WEEKS BEFORE THE FLIGHT
for a Veterans Briefing/Meet 'n' Greet Luncheon
Confirmation and details will be mailed to you.

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Coastal Georgia Honor Flight, Inc.
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St. Simons Island, GA 31522
www.coastalgeorgiahonorflight.org