

Mail Call

Among the many highlights of the trip is when the Mail Call announcement is made. Veterans receive a large envelope reminiscent of their service days. We have a special way of recreating this experience on the flight back to St. Louis.

After a glorious day of visiting the monuments and being honored and thanked for their service by total strangers, the Veterans are resting in their seats for the flight back home. Then, the announcement of Mail Call is heard. Each Veteran's name is called and that person is handed an envelope of cards, letters and drawings 'from home'. Oh, the tears, delight and emotion they bring.



Mr. John Eise, with daughter, Kathryn Muehlrath, reading a mail call letter from his son.

The envelopes are stuffed with letters, notes and drawings from friends and family, service groups, school children, scouts, etc. The Veterans' eyes light up when they receive their envelopes because it was always a good memory of their service days.

We always like to have full envelopes for the Veterans and for those that do not have friends and family we supplement the envelopes with notes from others. This is where your group can be a HUGE help. I usually have a list of the Veterans' names a week to 10 days before the flight if you want to address them individually. If not, Dear Veteran works fine. These don't need to be long letters just 2-3 sentences thanking them for their service, acknowledging their sacrifice, bravery, etc. We receive a large number of drawings from children so actual notes and letters are extremely touching to the Veterans.

Please do not date the letters as we may need to use them for future flights. There are usually 22-25 Veterans per flight.

We can NEVER thank our Veterans enough!

If you are able to provide letters, I need to have them completed at least a week before the flight so the packets can be put together.

When collected, please arrange for mail call to be delivered to:

Michelle Ludwig Lovell

1317 Weatherby Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63146 (314) 606-4252

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Your help on this would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.