

News and stories

Memorial bricks' purpose: Remembering the fallen

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Ellen Miller-Goins | [Sangre de Cristo Chronicle](#)

ANGEL FIRE — The sun is blazing as a cadre of volunteers from Run For The Wall install more than 400 memorial bricks bearing the names of fallen military personnel at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire Saturday (Sept. 2). Others watch from under the shade of nearby trees, under a tent or in the sun as memorial volunteers formally recognize every soldier whose name appears on a brick in a solemn ceremony that began at 8:45 a.m. with a Blessing of the Bricks and continued throughout the day as family members and friends gathered to honor deceased active-duty service members or veterans from any war with a brick to be placed along memorial walkways. Over 3,000 memorial bricks bearing the names of fallen service members and veterans line the sidewalks and pathways at the Memorial.

The day-long ceremony includes recognition for two living recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor—our nation's highest combat award: Hershel "Woody" Williams, for his heroics during the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II, and Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, for his bravery in the Korean War.

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