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Dear Phelps County Friends,

As chairman of the Holdrege Veterans' Memorial Committee, I'd like to provide some background on this exciting project and introduce you to the volunteers who will make it happen.

I am honored to serve in this volunteer position just as I am honored for the privilege of service to my country in the United States Marine Corps. Many other members of the committee have also served in the military while others offer their time and energy as an act of community goodwill.

The idea for this memorial was originated by members of the Holdrege Disabled American Veterans' and this committee continues their early work. Represented on the committee are the City of Holdrege and Palmer Bros. Granite who have generously contributed to the project's development. None of the committee is compensated and all are working to establish a memorial that recognizes contributions of military veterans of the United States Armed Forces from past, current and future generations.

As you might imagine, the cost of development and construction of the memorial will be substantial. This is not a government funded project; it is entirely dependent on donations from the private sector and individuals. Aside from the contributions of land and basic, everyday maintenance from the City of Holdrege, all other costs will be contingent upon fundraising and donations which can be accepted at the Phelps County Community Foundation as well as an engraving fee for each name on the monuments.

The engraving fees of \$200 are comparable to the costs imposed by similar projects across Nebraska. The committee is actively researching and has submitted for other potential funding sources for the remainder of construction costs and will work to keep expenses as low as possible.

We are confident the Holdrege Veterans' Memorial will be a first-class facility and fill a void in our community. All Phelps County veterans that have served honorably are eligible to be included on the black granite slabs. Moreover, in addition to a solemn place to pay respects and reflect, we envision this memorial being used as a venue for community gatherings including Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

Information on the criteria, application instructions and color renderings of the design can be found on the website: www.holdregeveteransmemorial.com We encourage you to visit and donate if you can.

Sincerely,

Mark Kraus IV - Chairman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mark Kraus IV, Chairman, Lost Way Brewery (Serving) Dan Dealy, Founder, Retired (Veteran)
Doug Young, Mayor, City of Holdrege Kara Faber, Phelps County Community Foundation Ron Tillery, Phelps County Development Corporation (Veteran)
Micah Huyser, Nebraska Prairie Museum Doug Stevenson, Olsson Tom Nutt, Phelps County Commissioners (Veteran)
Fred Diedrichsen, Retired (Veteran) Travis Homer, Phelps County Veterans Service Officer (Veteran) Dudley Kardell, Palmer Brothers Granite