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New Veterans Museum Opens in Ohio

The national center honors vets' service through personal stories

by Rich Warren, AARP October 22, 2018 | Comments: 2



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En español | One of the many photos adorning the walls of the new National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVM) in Columbus, Ohio, depicts a woman and young girl bounding joyfully across an airfield's tarmac toward their just-retired loved one...

Ma's moving story is just one of dozens told at the NVM, set for a grand opening on October 27, and open to the general public beginning on October 31. The original concept was for an Ohio statewide veterans center based in Columbus...

Its goal is to take visitors on a narrative journey, with the stories of individual veterans meant to illustrate the universal experiences shared by men and women in the U.S. armed forces.

Exterior view of the National Veterans Memorial Museum

BRAD FERNANDEZ/2018

But visitors will be struck first by the NVM's dramatic design. Cited by Architectural Digest as one of the 12 most anticipated buildings of 2018, the circular structure features three concrete rings swiveling upward with a series of interlocking arches holding tall windows looking out on the Columbus skyline and the Social marketplace.

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Interior view of the National Veterans Memorial Museum

BRAD FERNANDEZ/2018

A similar photo of a weeping woman standing next to a flag-draped coffin reminds visitors that not everyone had the good fortune to return home. Prior to entering the building, visitors pass through a simple "Remembrance Room" honoring those who never returned.

NVM's executive director, Michael Ferriter, a retired three-star general with 35 years of service in the U.S. Army and three tours of duty in Iraq, predicts that the new building will become a vibrant gathering place for veterans to enjoy camaraderie and re-establish contact with one another.

Reserve Tickets

The NVM is located at 300 West Broad Street in Columbus. Tickets are \$10 for children, \$17 for adults 18-64, and \$15 for adults 65 and older. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information and to RSVP for the grand opening on October 27 and free timed museum passes for October 27 (open from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) and 28 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), go to www.nationalvets.org.

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