

Veteran Appearances by Game

2018 Season

Date (Opponent) - Rank & Named of Sentinel (Hometown, Branch, Combat)

Sept. 1 (Akron) - Hospital Corpsman 1st Class James Varejcka (Hickman, Navy, Vietnam)
Sept. 8 (Colorado) – Lt. Col. Steve Fisher (Bellevue, Army, Air Force, Afghanistan)
Sept. 15 (Troy) – Second Lieutenant Floyd Zobel (Lincoln, Army, WWII)
Sept. 29 (Purdue) - First Lieutenant John Hallett (Omaha, Army, Vietnam)
Oct. 20 (Minnesota) – Chief Warrant Officer Michael Moeller (Loup City, U.S. Marine Corps, Global War on Terror)
Oct. 27 (Bethune-Cookman) – Master Sergeant Vern Schaecher (Lindsay, Army, Korea)
Nov. 10 (Illinois) – Master Sergeant Leonard Chinn (Booneville, Ind., Honored Posthumously, Army, Korean)
Nov. 17 (Michigan State) – Sergeant Dennis Pavlik (Elba, Army, Korea)

9/1/18 vs. Akron----Hospital Corpsman 1st Class James Varejcka (Hickman, NE, Navy, Vietnam)

TONIGHT'S POW/MIA CHAIR SENTINEL EARNED TWO PURPLE HEARTS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR AND ALSO SERVED IN OPERATION DESERT STORM. WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME RETIRED HOSPITAL CORPSMAN FIRST CLASS JAMES VAREJCKA TO MEMORIAL STADIUM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

9/8/18 vs. Colorado----Lt. Col. Steve Fisher (Bellevue, NE, Army, Air Force, Afghanistan)

TODAY'S POW/MIA CHAIR SENTINEL SERVED A COMBINED 30 AND A HALF YEARS IN BOTH THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE AND EARNED A PURPLE HEART DURING THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN IN 2011. WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME RETIRED AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEVEN FISHER TO MEMORIAL STADIUM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

9/15/18 vs. Troy----Second Lieutenant Floyd Zobel (Lincoln, NE, Army, WWII)

TODAY'S CHAIR SENTINEL SERVED IN THE ARMY DURING WORLD WAR 2 IN THE 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION. WHILE FIGHTING IN NEW GUINEA AND THE PHILIPPINES, HE SUFFERED COMBAT WOUNDS FOR WHICH HE WAS AWARDED TWO PURPLE HEARTS. FOR GALLANTRY IN SAVING THE LIVES OF TWO OF HIS COMRADES WHILE UNDER HEAVY ENEMY FIRE, HE RECEIVED A BATTLEFIELD COMMISSION AND AMERICA'S 3RD HIGHEST MILITARY HONOR, THE SILVER STAR. WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME RETIRED ARMY 2ND LIEUTENANT FLOYD ZOBEL TO MEMORIAL STADIUM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

9/29/18 vs. Purdue----First Lieutenant John Hallett (Omaha, NE, Army, Vietnam)

TODAY'S CHAIR SENTINEL IS A LINCOLN NATIVE WHO SERVED IN THE ARMY FROM 1966 TO 1968 WHICH INCLUDED A TOUR OF DUTY TO VIETNAM WHERE HE WAS AWARDED A PURPLE HEART... BRONZE STAR... SILVER STAR... AND THE VIETNAMESE CROSS AND MEDAL. AFTER RETURNING HOME FROM THE WAR, HE BECAME AN INSTRUCTOR AT THE U-S MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT. WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME RETIRED ARMY 1ST LIEUTENANT AND VIETNAM WAR HERO JOHN HALLETT TO MEMORIAL STADIUM. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

10/20/18 vs. Minnesota---- Chief Warrant Officer Michael Moeller (Loup City, NE, Marine Corps, Global War on Terror)



TODAY'S CHAIR SENTINEL IS RETIRED MARINE COPS CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER MICHAEL MOLLER, A LOUP CITY, NEBRASKA NATIVE WHO WAS HELD AS A P-O-W IN IRAN FOR 444 DAYS. ON NOVEMBER 4, 1979, HE WAS IN CHARGE OF MARINES AT THE U-S EMBASSY IN TEHRAN, IRAN WHEN IT WAS OVERRUN BY TERRORISTS WHO HELD 52 AMERICAN PRISONERS FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. FOR HIS CALM AND STABILIZING LEADERSHIP UNDER EXTREME DURESS, HE WAS AWARDED THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL. JOINING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER MOLLER IS FORMER NEBRASKA GOVERNOR, SENATOR AND NAVY SEAL WHO WAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR AND MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HIS ACTIONS IN VIETNAM... HUSKER FANS, PLEASE WELCOME BOB KERREY AND MICHAEL MOLLER TO MEMORIAL STADIUM! THANK YOU BOTH FOR YOUR SERVICE!

10/27/18 vs. Bethune-Cookman----Master Sergeant Vernon Schaecher (Lindsay, NE, Army, Korea)



TODAY'S POW/MIA CHAIR SENTINEL IS A LINDSAY, NEBRASKA NATIVE WHO WAS A MEDIC IN KOREA. HIT BY SHRAPNEL AND UNDER HEAVY FIRE, HE PUT THE WOUNDS OF OTHERS AHEAD OF HIS OWN DURING THE 4-DAY BATTLE OF HILL 281. FOR HIS BRAVERY, HE WAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR WITH 'V' FOR VAOLR AND THE PURPLE HEART. HUSKER FANS, PLEASE WELCOME ARMY STAFF SERGEANT VERNON SCHAECHER TO MEMORIAL STADIUM! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

11/10/18 vs. Illionis----Master Sergeant Leonard Chinn (Booneville, IN, Army, Korea)-Honored Posthumously



TODAY'S CHAIR SENTINELS ARE RANDY AND GAY CHINN AND BECKY COULTER AND TODD CHINN, SON, DAUGHTER IN LAW AND GRANDCHILDREN OF ARMY MASTER SERGEANT LEONARD CHINN, WHO WAS TAKEN PRISONER IN KOREA, AND DIED OF MALNUTRITION WHILE IN CAPTIVITY. HIS FAMILY SPENT NEARLY SEVENTY YEARS TRYING TO LEARN HIS FATE. FINALLY, THROUGH DNA TECHNOLOGY, MASTER SERGEANT CHINN'S REMAINS WERE IDENTIFIED AND RETURNED LAST JULY. IN GRATITUDE FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORT TO BRING THIS AMERICAN HERO HOME, WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME THE CHINN FAMILY TO MEMORIAL STADIUM.

11/17/18 vs. Michigan State----Sergeant Dennis Pavlik (Elba, NE, Army, Korea)

OUR FINAL POW/MIA CHAIR SENTINEL IS AN ELBA, NEBRASKA NATIVE AND SERVED IN THE KOREAN WAR AS AN ARTILLERYMAN. WHILE EXCHANGING VOLLEYS OF ARTILLERY FIRE WITH SEVERAL CHINESE GUN



POSITIONS ALONG THE 38TH PARALLEL, HIS BATTERY WAS TRAPPED IN A CONVERGENCE OF THREE BATTALIONS OF CHINESE ARMOR AND INFANTRY. HIS UNIT HAD BEEN ORDERED TO HOLD THEIR GROUND AT ALL COSTS, BUT ONCE THEY WERE SURROUNDED BY SUCH AN OVERWHELMING FORCE, HIS CONTINGENT REALIZED THAT THEIR UNDERSTRENGTHED COMPANY HAD ONLY ONE OPTION. HE WAS AMONG 40 U-S SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER WHILE ABOUT 25 OTHERS HAD BEEN KILLED IN ACTION THAT DAY. HUSKER FANS, PLEASE WELCOME U-S ARMY SERGEANT DENNIS PAVLIK TO MEMORIAL STADIUM. THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING OUR FREEDOM.