

17th Annual Veterans Ceremony - May 28th, 2016

The morning was a heavy overcast scene for the final set-ups that were taking place at 7:00 a.m.

Around 9:30a.m. , the rain started lightly as participants were arriving, and continued up to 10:45a.m.

The Einar Ingman Veterans Memorial motorcycle Honor procession , led by Mike Wirth (USMC) retired - arrived at 11:03a.m. coming in from the American Legion Post 93, in Tomahawk, WI. as the preliminary music was playing.

All checks "good", last prayers were made, running on time. Introductions were made, and the Ceremony began at 11:30A.M.

Joe Miller smudging the ranks before entering,

The presentation of Colors were called, and escorted in by the Tomahawk area Veterans Honor Guard, along with the Army National Guard Units, 273rd Engineer Co., 724th Engineer BN, with the Squad Leader Sgt. Frank Mueller, S/Sgt. Erik Fritz (Squad Leader) for the USMC -Bravo Co., and representing the U.S. 7th Calvary, Tony Seaman joined, as Stephanie Schroeder played the cadence march on her bag pipes.

The girl scout troop 7091 led the audience with the "Pledge of Allegiance", and the "Never Forgotten Honor Flight" girls group called "Trillium" sang our National Anthem, as Tim Ashe was given an open window for the strategic flyover in his T-6. The 8th Veterans light artillery sounded off with their civil war period cannon with a thunderous boom!, followed by Major John Pelhams Battery ANV's blast from their cannon. Pastor Hans Juergen Heisinger gave the mornings invocation , with a calming, but uplifting message. Then 'Roll Call' by Maria Sabourin, and (retired) Sgt. Craig Lau, as Heidemarie Emmert & Cheryl ????? placed the poppy's. John Pauke and Veterans of America M.C. placed the wreaths.

The rain resumes to a steady downpour.... The group,.. Adventures in Spirit-Creative Ministries, led by Charlotte Wyles, performed "An Honor to Serve" brilliantly, receiving a heartfelt response from the audience, as one could see many wiping a tear....

Secretary John Scocos, of the WI Veterans of Affairs called in all the Military ranks, and presented the Einar Ingman family a "Rememberance Plaque" on behalf of the Veterans Ceremony Board, honoring Sgt. Einar Ingman as the last "Congressional Medal of Honor" recipient in Wisconsin of the Korean War. Sgt. Ingman received his award from President Harry Truman on July 5th, 1951. , and once stated: "he wore the medal for the men and country, and that he wears the medal , not for himself, but for everyone who has served" Sgt. Ingman passed on Sept 9th, 2015.

After BG Mark Michie (retired), finished honoring military individuals who lost their lives in the line of duty, another open window to the skies occured, as 'Sparky' gave a "Veterans Salute" with his chopper , which revitalized the crowd from being soaked to the gills, as all joined in, with the respect that was being created honoring our past veterans.

Tammy Pelzman's introduction to the POW/MIA table ceremony, with a heartfelt reading of "Don't Tell me he is Missing", gave a true meaning to this important segment of the ceremony, as Military units came to attention, veterans that joined in this ceremony included: John Mcfaddin, Mike Wirth, Tim Sanders, Phill Gauthier and Veterans of America M.C.

After "Trillium" sang there last tunes, The Pastor gave the benediction, another cannon blast or two, the rifle volleys from both the National Guard and USMC, "Taps"

was played , ending this years ceremony.

It will go down in history as one of the best ceremonies yet!!!! The people who came to this event are trully the most patriotic folks in the country. Our respect goes out to all of you!!!!

For all of our participants... The most heartfelt THANK YOU!!!, To all of our support staff, that are unmentioned and behind the scenes, and to the ladies "Veterans Memorial Monument volunteers", who served over 300 at the Town Hall of Cassian this year... THANK YOU!!!.

They will Not be Forgotten.....
God Bless...