

vietnam War Memorial Garden

Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Portland, Oregon
Vancouver Division
1601 East Fourth Plain Blvd
Vancouver, Washington 98661

**Garden of Harmony and Contrast
A Place for Reflection, Remembrance, and Healing**



Honor Those Who Served

Pass Through With Honor

Fact Sheet

- ❖ Founding Donors: Gustave and Lore Baak

The garden was made possible by a generous donation from Gustave and Lore Baak. The purpose of the garden is to create a symbolic journey, beginning in the Pacific Northwest through Southeast Asia, and back home.

In the Friends of the Garden area, you will find a plaque inscribed to honor Mr. & Mrs. Baak. In Mrs. Baak's own words, "The defense of one's home nation is a heroic goal and these young men and women who engage in the fight for freedom without any resistance and hesitation are in need of special attention. Reaching my hand out to these young heroes to say thank you is also something very special for me."

- ❖ Ground breaking ceremony: June 15, 2001
- ❖ The dedication of the garden: November 15, 2002
- ❖ Brick Installations and number of bricks installed:

November 15, 2002 — 156 bricks
September 19, 2003 — 334 bricks
September 17, 2004 — 87 bricks
September 16, 2005 — 52 bricks

- ❖ Bricks installed as of September 2005: 629
- ❖ The Honor Plaza will hold 900 bricks.
- ❖ Brick dedication ceremonies are held on POW/MIA Day to pay tribute to POW/MIA veterans as well as Vietnam Veterans
- ❖ First garden work party: Earth day, April 17, 2004
- ❖ Garden work parties in 2005: 5