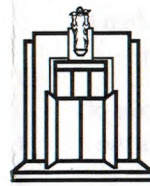




The Cardinal Hayes High School family would like to give special thanks to John Shea '65, Frank Meagher, Joseph Meagher, Gene DiGiacomo, Frank Russo, Nicky Castoro and the members of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Thomas J. Tori, Chapter 421 Honor Guard: Captain - Nicky Castoro, Gene DiGiacomo, Richie Martin, George Sullivan, Mary McLoone, Dennis McLoone, Frank Sansone, and Frank Russo for sharing their strength, experience and expertise.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE



CARDINAL HAYES HIGH SCHOOL

"UP HAYES AND ALL ITS LOYAL MEN!"



The Vietnam war – called officially the Second Indochina War – began in 1954 when Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Viet Minh party came to power in northern Vietnam.

Vietnam had been ruled by France since 1880, but by the mid-20th century, a wave of nationalism had gained a foothold, and, behind Ho, the French were forced out of the country.

The peace accord that followed the war called for Cambodia and Laos, which were part of France's holdings in the region, to receive their independence. Vietnam was split into two regions at the 17th parallel. Ho led the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in the north, Ngo Dinh Diem led the new Republic of South Vietnam in the south. After a plan for elections was derailed, Ho moved to topple Diem's government and war between the two Vietnams had begun.

U.S. advisers first came to the country in 1955 to aid the South Vietnamese in their fight against the Viet Minh forces. From that point, the American involvement in the conflict grew with the United States eventually sending some 9,087,000 troops to the country.

In 1973, the United States withdrew the last American troops. Two years later, the war ended when Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, fell to the North Vietnamese.

Here are some of the statistics from one of America's longest conflicts:

- One-third of the Americans who participated, were drafted to fight. Two-thirds volunteered.
- Whether they volunteered or were drafted, 1 out of every 10 soldiers were injured or killed during Vietnam.
- 11,000 of those who served were women.
- 85 percent of those who served were white.
- 12.2 percent of those who served were black.
- The average age of soldiers in Vietnam was 21 – five years younger than the average for the men who served in World War II.
- In Vietnam, the average infantryman saw 240 days of combat in a year.
- 79 percent of those who served in Vietnam had a high school education or better.
- 58,220 Americans were killed in the war, according to the National Archives. In some places, the number is higher by 70 or so. In 1995, the Vietnamese government released estimates of the number of its citizens killed in the war.
- More than 1,600 American who served in Vietnam are listed as missing.

Sources: *The National Archives; United States Army Center of Military History; history.com; "No More Vietnams," by Richard Nixon; National Vietnam Veterans Foundation*

PROGRAM

PRE CEREMONY MUSIC:	CARDINAL SINGERS
POSTING OF COLORS:	HONOR GUARD, VVA CHAPTER 421
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:	ALL
NATIONAL ANTHEM:	MARY MATHIEU
INVOCATION:	FR. JOSEPH TIERNEY
WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:	TOM FIKE
REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OF VVA CHAPTER 421	GENE DIGIACOMO
MUSICAL INTERLUDE #1 – "THE WALL"	
REMARKS BY BROTHER OF FALLEN HAYESMAN:	JOE MEAGHER
MUSICAL INTERLUDE #2:	CARDINAL SINGERS
ROLL CALL OF THE FALLEN HAYESMEN:	HONOR GUARD CAPT. NICKY CASTORO
TAPS	
UNVEILING OF PLAQUE	
MUSICAL INTERLUDE #3 – "HONOR THEM ALL"	
BENEDICTION:	FR. JOSEPH TIERNEY
AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL	MARY MATHIEU

RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING IN 4TH FLOOR
DINING ROOM