



Proposal for a Hmong-Lao Vietnam Memorial

Proposed Location: Veterans Freedom Park

North Side, La Crosse, Wis

Estimated Price: \$40,000.00 - Money shall be raised by the Hmong-Lao Veterans with the guidance of Louie Ferris, President of the Korean War Asso. In La Crosse.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE A SPECIAL HMONG-MEMORIAL

The young Hmong need to know and be reminded of their history and understand how and why they are here.

Above all, Americans need to know and be reminded of the sacrifices the Hmong-Lao veterans made for our freedom.

The Hmong-Lao, once an agrarian community from the mountainous regions of northern Laos, were recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency to fight American interests, and thousands of Hmong-Lao men and young boys fought alongside Americans.

The primary missions of the Hmong-Lao were to rescue downed American pilots, gather intelligence, safeguard U.S. radar installations, and conduct both guerilla and conventional combat.

When the Americans withdrew from Vietnam in the early 1970's, the Hmong-Lao were left to the vengeance of the Vietnamese governments, who sought to destroy Hmong-Lao in retaliation for their support of the United States.

Many Hmong -Lao fled Laos to live in refugee camps in Thailand and then settled in the United States and other countries, of which more than 250,000 are living in the United States.

General Vang Pao and other Hmong-Lao soldiers and people in Laos first fled Laos on May 14th, 1975, to Thailand and then resettled in the United States and other countries. There are estimated to be 500,000 Hmong and Lao Americans in the United States in 2002. These numbers include the refugees who come from Laos and Thailand and the subsequent children born to these refugees in the United States in the past 26 years.

After the conclusion of the Vietnam War, thousands of Hmong and Lao soldiers were arrested, imprisoned, and killed by the communist Lao and Vietnamese governments.

MAKE CHECKS TO: HMONG-LAO VIETNAM MEMORIAL

MAIL TO: LOUIE Ferris
1519 GEORGE ST.
LACROSSE, WI - 54603



We don't want America to forget the sacrifices that were made for American Freedom. The memorial will be around for at least 100 years, long after we are all dead. We are not thinking of this memorial for ourselves, but rather for our children, grand-children, and their children. Let them always be proud of their heritage and history.

Our goal is to raise the money, build and dedicate it before the end of the year 2019. Also, Mr. Louie Ferris is 88 years old and his experience and contacts are extremely important. Delays are not an option.

La Crosse will be a trend-setter. Once they accomplish it, others will follow across the U.S.