VETERANS DAY MEMORIAL



In Cupertino Memorial Park

Veterans Day Ceremony

Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

THANKS: City of Cupertino, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Dept, Central Fire, De Anza College, Office of Assemblyman Patrick Ahrens, Cupertino Rotary, The Scouts of America, De Anza Veterans, Kennedy Middle School, West Bay Community Band, American Legion Post 642, VFW Mission 3982, VVA Chapter 201, MOAA, Reyna Padron (Violin), Mike and Susan Hennessy, Zip2Print, Brenna Bolger, PRX Digital and Sal Pizarro

HONORING ALL VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY, AND FIRST RESPONDERS

WE GATHER TO HONOR THOSE WHO HAVE STOOD UP FOR THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY EVERY DAY. WITHOUT YOUR SACRIFICE WE WOULD NOT EXIST AS THE LIVING EXAMPLE OF FREEDOM FOR NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD.

"National Anthem"

Çhoir from the John F. Kennedy Middle School
conducted by Hannah Sun

Placement of the Flags

SCC Sheriff's and Fire Fighters
Combined Color Guard

Invocation

Chaplain Richard Veit,
US Army Viet Nam Combat Veteran

Welcome and Recognition of Veterans

John Swensson & Dennis Whittaker

Greetings:

Lee Lambert, J.D. ; Chancellor,
Foothill--DeAnza Community
College District

The Honorable Kitty Moore;
Mayor, City of Cupertino

who will also accept the Memorial from
Hon Sandy James, former Mayor of Cupertino and
the Axelsons, assisted by Hon Francis J. Harvey, 19th
Secretary of the Army

Musical Interlude

"Amazing Grace"
Bag Piper Vince Guinnane

Speakers

Rear Admiral John Bitoff, USN, Ret.
"Profiles in Courage"

Major General Stephen Hager , USA Ret.
"Impact of Viet Nam on the US Military"

Flowers Placed

At The Sculpture "The Guardians"
By the Axelson Family and the Suh Family
Music: "When I get Where I'm Going."

Plaque Presentations

The Honorable Patrick Ahrens
State of CA Assembly Member

"Taps"

SGT Sam Grinels, USMC Ret.

followed by the Recovery of Flags and a march to the VN Memorial Wall led by ADM Bitoff, MG Hager, & Dennis Whittaker and Corky Axelson representing VN Veterans. ALL ATTENDEES ARE INVITED TO JOIN

Musical Performances:

by West Bay Community Band
Conducted by Erinn Washburn

THE CUPERTINO VETERANS MEMORIAL AND DE ANZA VETERANS

The Cupertino Veterans Memorial continues the legacy of Matthew Axelson and James Suh and the 18 SEALS and Soldiers in Operation Red Wings by supporting the over 400 Veterans who attend De Anza College.
De Anza works with its Veterans to ensure that they receive a great education in the field of their choice and that they receive the VA and other benefits to which they are entitled by virtue of their service. But needs far exceed available monies as textbooks are needed. Often before benefits start, family and other educational expenses must be met for a veteran to become a successful student. The CVM is the largest donor to the needs of De Anza Veterans, last year contributing $5,000 to meet the needs of the Veterans. The CVM is proud to continue the support. To make a donation to the De Anza Veterans Fund, call Donna Axelson at 408-821-9436 with your credit card information or send a check with “De Anza Veterans Fund” on the memo line.

Cupertino Veterans Memorial
P.O.Box 1375
Genoa NV 89411-1375

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIP

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING:

DONNA AND CORKY AXELSON
THE SUH FAMILY
HON. SANDY JAMES

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IN CUPERTINO MEMORIAL PARK