

**DANN SPEAR** started his dream of a museum for veterans at age 10. Thirty-five years later, his dream has become "The Museum of Forgotten Warriors."  
 (EDITOR'S NOTE: The museum is a wonder to behold. It is a "must see" for every veteran.)



1965 - Wearing WWI uniform with patch collection and leaflets from Viet Nam (sent by friend, Bill Buchroeter when he went to Viet Nam in 1965.)

## ***The Museum of Forgotten Warriors*** **HOW IT STARTED – AND CAME TO BE**

Dann Spear started collecting insignia patches in 1964 when he was 10 years old. He was a guest at the Flying Tigers reunion in 1965 where he was given signed cards from the flyers. Tiger Pilot Tex Hill gave him a photo inscribed, "To my young friend, Danny Spear. Good luck with your Museum."

Spear started his collection with a WWI Cavalry Saddle and WWII patches. Then when older friends went to Viet Nam, he wrote them and they sent him things from there. Dann continued his collection through high school at Nordhoff High School in Ojai, California.

When he moved to Marysville in 1977, at age 23, he had a mobile display that he took to base museums and gun shows through 1981 when he started his first building which would become the Museum of Forgotten Warriors.

In January, 1985, he officially opened the Museum of Forgotten Warriors (MOFW) with a dedication ceremony. The Viet Vet House Honor Guard raised the colors and Brigadier General Don Matson (Viet Nam - MACV) was guest speaker.

The museum is dedicated to those who served in the Viet Nam War, but has displays from the Civil War through Desert Storm along with displays of Vet groups from the GAR, American Legion, VFW, DAV, Viet Vet House and Central Valley Viet Nam Veterans. Several veteran's posts have retired their flags to the museum.

One of the newest displays is a wall of 8x10 photos, all signed to Dann from veterans in uniform during their wars.

Spear is always looking for more memorabilia to display and tell that veteran's story through their photos,

patches, artifacts and memorabilia. A new wing to the museum offers another gallery of memories to view.

Outside of the museum in static display are two helicopters, two tanks, two cannons and an equipment trailer.

Many veterans have equated the museum as a time portal that speaks to them when they visit. It is a tribute to all who served, who fought, and especially, who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us.

The Museum of Forgotten Warriors stands for a Welcome Home as well.

No admission charge or donations of money are accepted. The museum is Dann's way of thanking veterans and their families.

Dann's family, Roberta and sons Brandon and Ceder (who is now Airborne qualified), are and have supported him through his efforts to remember veterans and their sacrifices.