

Local WWII Vets Take Trip To D.C. Memorial In Their Honor

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DAYTONA BEACH -- Members of what has been called the Greatest Generation were up bright and early Saturday morning to embark on a trip to a veterans reunion at the nation's capital.

The flight is the third mission to fly local veterans to Washington to see the national World War II memorial built to honor their contribution to our nation.

The group behind the trip, [Volusia Honor Air](#), is sponsored by several rotary clubs in Volusia County, and the trips are backed by private and business donations.

The veterans, themselves -- all 117 of them -- are eager to make the trip.

"I can't wait to go on this trip to Washington D.C. It's been long delayed," said veteran Patrick Tropea. "I can't wait to get on the plane, and back and forth. I got all my friends, the veterans. They're all my buddies."

"Going on a trip to Washinton, to the National Cemetery and to the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial -- and we're going with all these good veterans," said veteran George Dexter. "Good gentlemen. They've all been through the war, and it's a matter of all getting together and having a trip, because it's getting to where we don't make them much anymore."

The group is set to return to Daytona Beach International Airport just after 8 p.m. Saturday. The public is invited to welcome the group home at the airport.