



DEDICATION OF THE CONNECTICUT GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MONUMENT

The Connecticut Gold Star Families Memorial Monument Committee, in conjunction with the Woody Williams Foundation and the Town of Berlin, is proud to announce details for the dedication of the Connecticut Gold Star Families Memorial Monument. The dedication ceremony and unveiling of the memorial will take place on April 23, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park located at 51 Lower Lane, Berlin, Connecticut.

All Gold Star Families and the public are invited to attend the dedication ceremony. The special guest speaker will be Hershel "Woody" Williams, WWII Medal of Honor Recipient. Additional speakers, singers and participants include Gold Star Families and a ceremonial Honor Guard, Rifle Salute and TAPS. A reception will follow at the VFW Post 10732 at 152 Massirio Drive, Berlin, CT 06037. Visitors can park at the VFW.

A Gold Star family is one who has sacrificed a Loved One while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. The title is meant to honor the service member's ultimate sacrifice while enduring their family's loss, grief and continued healing.

This black granite monument features two sides. One side bears the words "Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, a tribute to Gold Star Families and Relatives who sacrificed Loved Ones for our Freedom".

The other side tells a story of Connecticut's Gold Star Families and their fallen heroes through scenes on four granite panels: Homeland, Family, Patriot, and Sacrifice. At the center of this tribute is the most distinct feature of the monument, the cut out which represents the Loved One who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of Freedom.

The Woody Williams Foundation is a nationwide organization Co-founded by Hershel "Woody" Williams, a veteran of the World War II Battle of Iwo Jima and today's only living Medal of Honor recipient from WWII. Williams was inspired to honor and recognize these families after delivering many telegrams notifying families of the death of their loved one while in service to our country. His vision for each memorial is to provide a place of permanence for Gold Star Families and the general public to gather in honor and recognition of the sacrifices which have been made for our freedom and to ensure that we never forget.

For more information about the Connecticut Gold Star Families Memorial Monument or to make a donation, visit <https://woodywilliams.org/monuments/ct-monument.html>. You can also get updates and follow progress of the memorial on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GoldStarFamiliesMemorialMonumentConnecticut>.

The Woody Williams Foundation is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that pursues specific endeavors and goals through the vision of Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams.