



# **SSG Patrick D. Hamburger**

**Living Memorial Dedication Service  
Monday, September 18, 2017 at 11:00 A.M.**

**Wyuka Cemetery  
3600 "O" Street, Lincoln NE, 68105  
402-474-3600**

## **Program**

Presented by Vietnam Veterans of America  
Nebraska State Council

## **Welcome**

Nebraska State Council President, Tom Brown

## **Presentation of Colors**

US Army National Guard NeARNG (US)

## **Invocation**

Norm Jelken, VVA NE Chapter 279

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Anthony Weathers, VVA NE Chapter 279

## **Introduction of Key Note Speaker and Guest**

Tom Brown

## **Key Note Speaker**

John Hilgert, Director,  
Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs

## **Unveiling of Plaque and Dog Tags**

Rod Burdorf



## **Laying of the Wreath**

Ron Haase  
VVA NE Chapter 279

## **Salute by Chapter and All Veterans**

Howard Ball  
VVA NE Chapter 279

## **Prayer of Remembrance and Benediction**

Norm Jelken

## **Retire Colors**

US Army National Guard NeARNG (US)

## **Dismissal**

Tom Brown



## **Sponsored by**

**Vietnam Veterans of America  
Nebraska State Council  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Tennessee State Council  
Veterans of the Midlands Foundation**



## **John Hilgert**

John Hilgert has served after leaving the State Legislature in 2001 as the Director of the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs having been appointed by then Governor Mike Johanns. Governor Heineman retained John as Director and assigned him additional duties as a Division Director of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services with direct oversight of the Veterans Homes Division. Governor Pete Ricketts reappointed him on January 8, 2017. On July 1st the Veterans Home Division was merged into the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs. He was an Army veteran of the Gulf War serving with the Army's First Infantry Division.

## **SSG Patrick D. Hamburger**

Staff Sergeant Patrick Douglas Hamburger was 30 years old when he gave his life with 30 other American Heroes in the service of his Country on August 6, 2011, when their CH-47 Chinook helicopter, call sign Extortion 17, was shot down in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. Patrick was the Flight Engineer and one of two Gunners on the mission. Pat resided in Grand Island, NE with Candie Reagan his future wife and their daughters Veronica Reagan and Payton Hamburger. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa on Memorial Day, May 25, 1981. Pat moved to Lincoln, NE in 1985 with his parents, Douglas Hamburger and Joyce Peck and his twin brothers, Michael Hamburger and Christopher Hamburger. He graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School in 1999.

Pat enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1998, when he was a junior in high school. He worked as a plumber until 2008 when he was promoted to be a full-time Chinook Flight Engineer with the NE Army National Guard Aviation Support unit in Grand Island. Pat met Candie in 2005, moved to Grand Island with her and Veronica in 2008, and welcomed Payton into the world in January of 2009. Pat was a mechanical genius who loved his Country immensely. Pat loved being with his Family and Friends. He took great pride in maintaining his Chinook, or the V-Day Express as he called it. He loved being a soldier and took great pride in his 13 years of service.

Pat is survived by his girls, Candie Reagan, Veronica Reagan and Payton Hamburger of Lincoln, NE, father and step-mother Douglas and Shaune Hamburger of Knoxville, TN, mother and step-father Joyce and DeLayne Peck of Lincoln, NE, brothers Michael Hamburger of Summit, NJ and Christopher Hamburger of Saint Louis, MO, grandmother Jacque Hamburger of Omaha, NE, step-siblings Jessica Francis, Jeremy Francis and Joshua Francis of Knoxville, TN and aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and brothers in arms.