

Mr. Michael Thornton
16856 Falcon Lake



April 14, 2006

Mr. Michael Thornton
345 Harbor Circle
Montgomery, TX 77356

Dear Mr. Thornton:

It is with a deep sense of pride and respect that the South Boston Vietnam Memorial Committee extends this invitation to you to be a Guest of Honor at the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial on Sunday, September 17, 2006. We have invited all of our past speakers to join us for this Special Weekend.

Twenty-Five years ago, the people of South Boston dedicated a memorial to their 25 sons who fought and died in Vietnam. In paying tribute to our own, Southie set an example for the rest of the nation to follow.

We were guided by those few words inscribed below the names of our friends and loved ones, "If you forget my death, then I died in vain." And so we have vowed never to forget the sacrifice they made for us. It is a committee of love we renew each year.

Southie has never forgotten its brave sons... our friends. Not only did this community of some 30,000 suffer a loss in Vietnam five times greater than the national average; we were the first spot in the country to honor its Vietnam dead as the heroes they truly are. Our memorial was completely financed and built through the love, spirit and support of this community.

The weekend activities will start on Friday, September 15, 2006 with a reception in honor of all our past speakers and a dinner on Saturday evening September 16, 2006. A Memorial Mass will be held at St. Brigid's Church at 10:30 AM and the Re-dedication Ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2006 at Medal of Honor Park.

The families of those men, whose names are carved on the monument, as well as our entire community, would be deeply honored to have you with us on this special day.

Please note: the committee will cover all travel and accommodations for you and a guest. Please RSVP my office by calling (617) 854-1075 as soon as possible, if you are interested in attending.

Sincerely,

Tom Lyons
Chairman