



News Release

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Vietnam veteran touched after receiving lost medals

Arapahoe County's Veteran Service Office helps veterans access military medals

Littleton, Colo. --- An Arapahoe County Vietnam vet received a surprise gift from his wife this Christmas – a case beautifully displaying his military medals.

Steven Conway enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1967 and received four medals during his active duty including the Purple Heart, National Defense, Vietnam Service and Vietnam Campaign accolade. Years ago he lost them all. It was a disappointment that still weighed heavy on his heart.

“Just trying to find out where and how we could reorder the medals was such an ordeal until I was put in touch with the Arapahoe County Veteran Services Office,” said Linda Conway. “They were really responsive to our needs, went the extra mile and helped us get through all roadblocks to make this happen. I really appreciate their hard work.

“When Steven unwrapped the medals box, he was really choked up,” continued Conway. “He never imagined he’d get them back again.”

The military will replace lost medals or provide a second set of medals for free but finding out how to order them on your own can be difficult, and the process can take from six months to a year. The County Veteran Services Office provided the Conways with the appropriate forms and helped them through the ordering process.

“Medal replacement is just one of the services we provide,” said Joanne Turner, Arapahoe County Veteran Services Officer. “We also help veterans apply for disability, medical care and pension benefits from the VA. Studies have shown that veterans using an advocacy service such as ours receive almost three times the compensation than those who go it alone.”

Conway said she looks forward to having the medals as a family heirloom.

“Our son will be deployed to Iraq in the spring and another is looking to enlist,” she said. “It will be so nice to have these medals showcased and serving as a reminder of our family’s military commitment.”

For more information about the Arapahoe County Veteran Services Office, call 303-734-5222 or visit www.co.arapahoe.co.us.

To download photos click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CA/>

Photo captions: Linda Conway picks up a very special gift, her husband’s military replacement medals, from Joanne Turner and the Arapahoe County Veteran Services Office.

Vietnam Veteran Steven Conway receives military replacement medals through the help of the Arapahoe County Veteran Services Office.

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