



National Patron
RADM Neil Ralph AO
DFC RAN (Ret)

VIETNAM VETERANS
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA®
VICTORIAN BRANCH INC.

ABN 34 750 672 219

50th ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE



"The well being of history lies in its telling for unless the story is transmitted across the generations it is lost" Michael McKernan

Dear Sir/Madam,

REMEMBERING AND HONOURING YOUR LOVED ONE

On behalf of the members of the Victorian Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, I am writing to you to advise you of our intent to remember and honour the service and sacrifice of your loved one who died on active service during the Vietnam War. I respectfully extend an invitation to you, family and friends to join us at **noon on Sunday 21 February 2016** for a grave site service of remembrance and commemoration at the site of your loved one's grave site or memorial.

Vietnam veterans will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 2016. This is a significant anniversary for us and we will be conducting a number of commemorative and community activities during 2016 to mark this special occasion and to recognise the service and sacrifice of Vietnam veterans throughout the entire Vietnam War.

In line with our motto that says in part "*Honour the Dead*", we will start the year with commemorations on Sunday 21 February, when our members will gather at 35 cemeteries across Victoria at the grave sites or memorials of the 98 Vietnam veterans who died on active service and are interred in Victoria. At noon at each site we will conduct a service of remembrance to honour the service and sacrifice of your loved one and our fallen brother or sister, and we would take great comfort and support if you were able to attend.

A light luncheon will be provided following the Services, and to ensure that we are able to ensure adequate catering and to acknowledge your presence, we request that you notify Ken Baker Chair of our Commemorative Committee of your attendance by no later than 31 January 2016, and at which site you will attend: email ken.baker69@gmail.com or SMS to 0409 586 669.

The activities we have planned for 2016 will provide the opportunity for the whole community to join with us in paying respect to the war service and sacrifice of all Vietnam veterans. We will carry the spirit of your loved one with us throughout the year. Further information can be found on our website www.vvaavic.org.au.

Yours sincerely,
R W Elworthy

R W (Bob) Elworthy AM
State President VVAA Victorian Branch

Saluting Their Service