



Memorial Grove May 4, 2024

Remembering Thirty-seven Honorees

Monument Fire Center

The 103rd year of planting trees at the Rocky Mountain Region Memorial Grove will take place on Saturday May 4, 2024. The program will start at 10 am and we will be honoring thirty-seven individuals including thirty-four who passed away in 2023 and three folks who will be added to the Memorial as “Not Forgotten” (see *attached list*). We have family and friends of most all the honorees coming, so we are anticipating a large attendance. If you plan to attend and have not let us know you are coming, we ask that you let us know by sending a simple email to Tom L. Thompson at thom46pson@gmail.com by **Wednesday, April 12**. By knowing in advance how many are coming, we can ensure we have enough seating and lunches. You are welcome to bring your own camp chairs, but we will have ample seating. Please be prepared for the weather of the day. It can be doing just about anything in early May. Directions and other information will be posted on the Rocky Mountaineers website at www.rockymountaineers.us and are also found below. **Again, please RSVP if you haven’t already... thanks!**

Special note for retirees and Forest Service folks attending the ceremony---

Please consider bringing something to share with the lunch, like cookies, brownies, fruit or veggies, etc. that will help supplement the lunch...i.e. fingerfood---thanks!!

Memorial Grove Ceremony Program Overview

- 9-9:30 Arrive at parking area ([see map and directions on the back page](#))
Time to walk through the Grove and view the memorial.
- 10:00 Opening Song... *America the Beautiful*
Welcome from Forest Supervisor, Pike-San Isabel N. F.s & Cimarron- Comanche N. G.s
Flag Ceremony with Forest Service Honor Guard
Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation
Welcome by Regional Forester and Overview of Memorial Grove and recognition of honorees.
Riderless Horse and Installation Brass Plates with Engraved Names, Bagpipes, and Song
- 10:45 Reading of the honoree names: first the thirty-four for 2023, then the three Not Forgotten
Please note: One family member will be invited to share a few brief comments after the reading of each name.
- 11:45 Moment of Silence, Taps, and Closing
- 11:55 Tree Planting (*Family members are invited to help with the tree planting*)
- 12:00 Ceremony completed and lunch.
- 1:00 Depart for home---Be Safe

Workday, Thursday April 25, 2023—Anyone is welcome!!!

On **Wednesday, April 25, 2024**, we will have a workday to do maintenance on the site, including some tree maintenance, improvements to the irrigation system, some trail work, and general preparation for the ceremony on May 4. If you want to participate in the workday, **plan on being at Memorial Grove by 9 am** and bring gloves and appropriate gear for the day. The road directly to Memorial Grove (via Nursery Road) will be open so you don’t need to enter through the Fire Center route. There will be plenty of tools available. We usually finish up our work by noon. A map to get you through Monument to the site from I-25 is included below:



Planning Information and Map
Memorial Grove Ceremony
Saturday---May 4, 2024---10:00 AM to 12 noon
Monument Fire Center, Monument, CO

The following is just a bit of information that may be helpful in planning your trip to Memorial Grove:

- The ceremony will start promptly at 10 am and you should allow at least 30-45 minutes to park and get seated at the Memorial. It is a 100-yard walk from the parking area to the site and if needed you can drop off passengers directly at the Memorial site and then return to the parking area.
- There are benches and chairs, but if you want to bring more comfortable folding camp chairs there is plenty of room to use them as well and quite often it is good to have an umbrella.
- During the ceremony there will be a reading of the names of all thirty-seven individuals we are honoring this year. After each name is read, **one family member** will be provided the opportunity to share **a few brief comments** about their special honoree on behalf of their entire family.
- We will be serving a light lunch with sandwiches, chips, and soft drinks after the ceremony.
- Please be alert to the weather for the day and dress accordingly...certainly a jacket or coat will likely be a good choice for early May and if it looks like rain, plan accordingly. We do have a tent for rain or for shade.
- There will be restrooms and sanitary wash stations.
- Memorial Grove is located near Monument, CO which is 20 miles north of Colorado Springs and about 50 miles south of Denver, CO on Interstate 25.
- Directions to the site and parking are shown on the attached map and again, please plan to arrive at least 30-45 minutes before the ceremony.
- *If you want to use GPS to guide you to the site, just enter **Nursery Road, Monument, CO** and it will bring you to the final few turns to the Memorial Grove...follow the signs!*

Memorial Grove Directions

Memorial Grove is located on National Forest System land on what is the historic Monument Tree Nursery and now is the home of the nearby Monument Fire Center. To reach Memorial Grove, follow
From Interstate 25, take Exit 161 and proceed toward Monument to 2nd Street.

Take 2nd Street for one mile across the railroad tracks to the T-junction. (Should be a sign with arrow to left at T-junction)

Turn south or left on Mitchell Avenue and proceed approximately .6 mile to Mt. Herman Rd. (Should be a sign with arrow)

Turn west or right on Mt. Herman Road and then proceed 1.3 miles to Nursery Rd. (Should be a sign with arrow)

Turn south or left onto Nursery Road and proceed 1 mile. Nursery Road turns into Schilling Ave (Should be a sign)

*(There is a trailhead parking area on the right side of Nursery Road... **this is not the Memorial Grove parking area.**)*

Continue on to next fork in road with Lindbergh Rd. and go to left on unimproved road through gate to the Memorial Grove parking area down the narrow road. (Should be a sign) ... Parking will be on left and then walk to site, or if needed you can drop folks off directly at the Grove on up road and then return to the parking area.

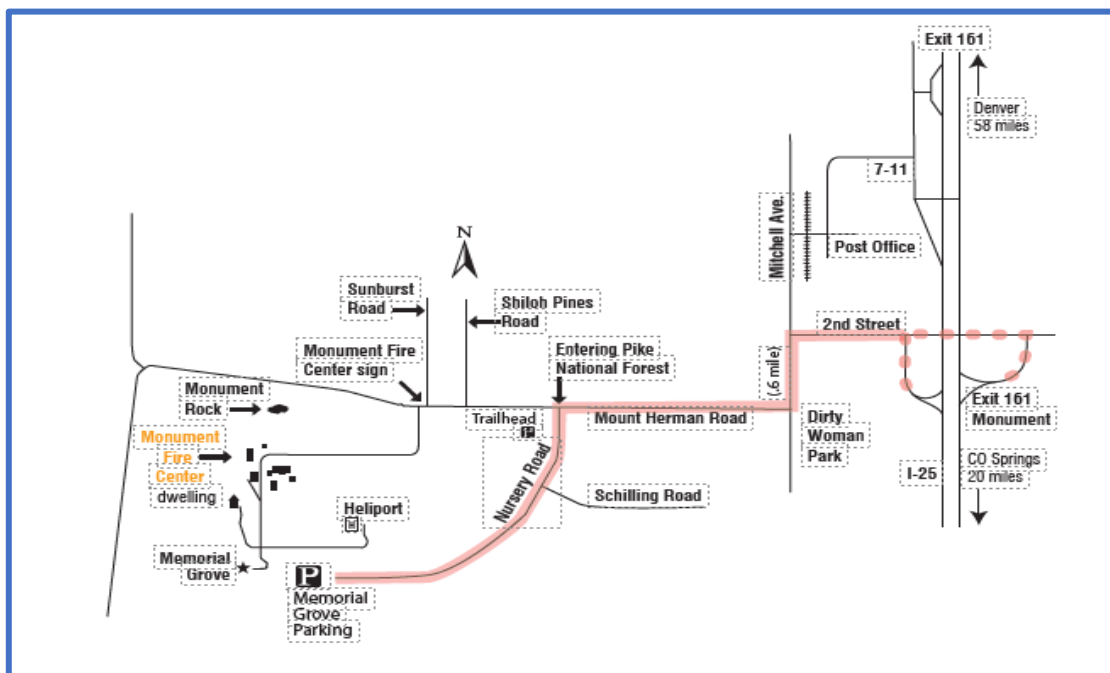
(If you have any problems getting to the site you can call my cell phone at 303-552-1711)

Remember---The I-25 exit at Monument is #161 and proceed through Monument

If you use a GPS locator, just type in “Nursery Road, Monument, CO”

and it will get you close to site!

The ceremony will start promptly at 10 am and you should allow an extra 30-45 minutes to park and get seated at the Memorial site. Traffic on I-25 can be slow on weekends and other events **so please allow adequate time to get to Monument.**



2023 Memorial Grove Honorees

Charles Joseph (Chuck) Alluisi	AR/Canyon Lakes District and R-6
Linda Austin	AR/Pawnee, Gunnison NF&NG, NPS
Linda Carol Drake Bell	PSICC NFs and NG's
Sherrel Ann Clark	Nebraska N. F.
Jackie Lee Deeds	Regional Office
Judy Dexter	Regional Office
Richard A. Dieckman	Roosevelt N. F., R. O.
James P. (Jim) Dunn	Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison N. F.
Edward R. Duran	Regional Office, Cartography
Dennis John Eckardt	Bighorn, Shoshone, Pike N. F.
Floyd Charles Fowler	Black Hills N. F., R-1
Sharon L. Green	White River N. F.
Roderick W. (Rod) Hancock	Black Hills N. F. and R-1
Bonita L. Harris	Black Hills N. F.
Ronald Lee Hassell	PSICC NFs and NGs, Salida R. D.
Gerald G. (Gary) Heath	Medicine Bow N. F. and 5 other R-1 and R-6 N. F.s
David R. W. Hoefer	San Juan, White River, Routt, and R-4
Gloria Jean Holley	Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison N. F.
Linda Kay Lanham	Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison N. F.
Paul Glenn Lans	Nebraska N. F.
Mark Douglas Lauer	San Juan N. F.
Barbara (Bobbie) Ledgerwood	San Juan N. F.
Vincent E. Maloney, Jr.	San Juan N. F.
Lloyd Clifford Newland	Regional Office, Engineering
Joseph Junior (Joe) Newton	Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison N. F.
Sigfrid George (Sig) Palm	Roosevelt, Bighorn N. F., R-3, WO
Gerald Lee (Jerry) Poe	Rio Grande N. F., R-3, R-4, R-8
Alex J. Rudney	PSICC, Salida R. D.
Gerald John (Jerry) Ryszka	Black Hills & GMUG N.F.s, Regional Office
Sandra L. (Sandy) Smyth	PSICC, Salida
Phillip Sprague Steers	White River N. F.
Samuel Leslie (Sam) Suazo	Rio Grande N. F.
Robert L Vaught, Jr.	Regional Office, R-2; R-4, R-6, R-10 and W.O.
Marilyn Whalon	Regional Office

Not Forgotten:

Lois Heinis	Black Hills N. F.	2015
Jose Robert Ortiz	Rio Grande N. F.	2004
Frances Mae Pettit	Black Hills N. F.	2018