

CUSTOMIZED GUIDANCE

FOR Gold Star Families

If you are a [Gold Star Family member](#), defined by [legislation](#) as a parent, spouse, sibling or child (over age 18) whose loved one “became missing in action or died as a result of their service during a period of war,” you may contribute an audio- or video-recording of yourself, or a written account, sharing reminiscences about your veteran, and how losing them to war has affected you and your family.



STEP ONE – Email vohp@loc.gov to request special Gold Star Families guidance and print this list of [sample Gold Star interview questions](#) (PDF, 148KB)

STEP TWO – Provide your interviewer with a link to the Veterans History Project website (loc.gov/vets), and ask them to follow the steps listed in the “**How to Participate**” section.

STEP THREE – Complete the following forms you received from our staff:

- *Gold Star Release Form*
- *Interviewer’s/Volunteer’s Release Form*
- *Interview Notes Form* (if applicable)

Consider anchoring the recording with original photographs or letters to provide a fuller story of the veteran’s service. If applicable, complete the following forms:

- *Photograph Log*
- *Manuscript Data Sheet*

Once your interview is complete, link to the Veterans History Project website (loc.gov/vets), and follow the directions for “**Step 3 – Submit**” found under “**How to Participate.**”

Congress created the Veterans History Project (VHP) in 2000 to collect, preserve and make accessible the firsthand remembrances of United States veterans from World War I through the more recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

View our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for answers to the most common questions about the Veterans History Project.

For more information visit loc.gov/vets, call (202) 707-4916 or email vohp@loc.gov

Subscribe to receive periodic updates of VHP news loc.gov/subscribe/#veterans

Follow us on Facebook [@vetshistoryproject](https://www.facebook.com/vetshistoryproject)