

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2014

**MEMBERS OF THE GREATEST GENERATION TO GATHER  
AT THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ON V-E DAY  
TO COMMEMORATE ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE WAR**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) and the National Park Service (NPS) will pay tribute to the Greatest Generation during a special event at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. commemorating the 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Allied Forces Victory in the Atlantic and the end of World War II in Europe.

Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security Congressman Michael McCaul of Texas will give remarks. Congressman McCaul's father served as a B-17 Bombadier Navigator in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Susan Eisenhower, the granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower who served as the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II, will read General Eisenhower's May 8, 1945 "Victory Order of the Day."

Sixteen World War II veterans visiting the Memorial with the Old Glory Honor Flight of Wisconsin will lay wreaths at the Freedom Wall, along with Congressman McCaul and Ms. Eisenhower and other honored WWII veterans and guests.

Robert Vogel, Superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks, will speak on behalf of NPS. Friends Chairman retired Army Lieutenant General Mick Kicklighter will speak on behalf of Friends. Robert Kelley, a member of the Friends Board of Directors, will act as the Master of Ceremonies.

**About The Friends of the National World War II Memorial, Inc. ([www.wwiimemorialfriends.org](http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)):**  
Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II. The nonprofit organization was established by a group of private citizens involved in the Memorial from its inception to its dedication. The National World War II Memorial honors those who served and pays tribute to the spirit of unity and shared purpose, which defined the character of our country during the war years. To support the Friends mission of preserving the legacy of the Memorial, Friends has initiated a number of commemorative and educational programs. Working in a cooperative partnership with the National Park Service, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning and staging major national commemorative events and sponsors free public performances of military bands at the Memorial. Additionally, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; provides teachers with curriculum materials; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation.

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