

**- MEDIA ALERT -**

## **Local WWII Veterans Headed to DC for V-E Day Commemoration**

*Vets to Join 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition on National Mall*

Four local World War II veterans are traveling to Washington, D.C., on May 7-8 to join the national recognition of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of V-E (Victory in Europe) Day. Of the 16 million U.S. service members from WWII, about 850,000 remain – and only about 300 will make it to the V-E Day event.

In addition to attending the official recognition event on the National Mall, the local veterans will dine at the Army-Navy Club, receive a tour of Arlington Cemetery and visit other significant sites in our nation's capital.

The participating local veterans:

- Noah Switzer, age 89 of Taylor Mill, Ky. – the last surviving member of the 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Division of the U.S. Navy; he spent 36 days at the battle of Iwo Jima.
- Walter Kraus, age 94 of Ft. Mitchell, Ky. – U.S. Navy submarine division, survived the sinking of the USS S-36 off the coast of Indonesia.
- Howard Requardt, age 89 of Edgewood, Ky. – U.S. Marine, fought in the Battle of Okinawa.
- Gerald Bente, age 90, of Milan, Ind. – U.S. Army, stationed in Naples, Italy.

### **WHEN**

**Thursday, May 7**

**10:00 a.m.**

Official Send-Off Ceremony

### **WHERE**

**Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG)**

Hebron, KY

2<sup>nd</sup> floor Honor Flight area between Delta ticketing and general security gate

Event will include:

- Singing of the National Anthem by Skyler Groves, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Grant County Middle School
- Words from Earl Walz, CEO of The Urology Group

### **WHY**

Many patients of The Urology Group are members of this age group - "The Greatest Generation." As a gesture of respect and tribute, The Urology Group has coordinated and underwritten all expenses for this trip.

### **QUOTE:**

"These men represent the courage and sacrifice of an entire generation. It's been a pleasure to get to know them as patients and as people, and it's our honor help them enjoy this national recognition." Gary Kirsh, President of The Urology Group

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