## PRESS RELEASE - COMMUNITY SERVICE

December 21, 2013

WreathsForTheFallen.org Event an outstanding success

Thousands of wreaths with a big red bow now cover our country's fallen veterans' graves at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls Minnesota.

In the dark early morning hour of December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7am, three trucks full of wreaths arrived at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls Minnesota. At the same time many volunteers from WreathsForTheFallen.org arrived to begin the task of staging 3,549 fresh balsam wreaths at the seven sections and the Columbarium. As the sun's first rays appeared in the east at 7:53am, you could now clearly see the many bundles of wreaths staged at every section of the cemetery.

Meantime, inside the administration building in the rotunda, preparations for refreshments and the information area were being set up to accommodate the many people that will arrive shortly.

Many members of the Minnesota Patriot Guard were now arriving to assist with parking and most important of all, participate in the National Remembrance Ceremony that will start at 11am.

At 9am, cars started arriving and were directed to special parking areas set up by the cemetery personnel. It wasn't long before the main parking lots were filled.

The rotunda was soon filled with many families partaking in Hot Cider, Coffee and a variety of cookies. An information area was also available.

At 11am everyone assembled at the main flag ceremonial area for The National Remembrance Ceremony with the placement of 7 special wreaths honoring the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air force, Coast guard, Merchant Marines, and POW-MIA's. At 11:20 everyone dispersed to the many sections in order to place a wreath honoring our country's fallen veterans and their families.

At 12 o'clock noon all 3,549 fallen veteran's and family member's interred there were honored with a wreath.

The event was deemed a huge success due to the overwhelming support of the many veterans' organizations, civic groups, youth organizations, churches, schools and the general public.

"Our thanks and gratitude go out to everyone that worked so hard during the year to make this event such a success", said John Thomas, President of WreathsForTheFallen.org.

Many pictures and videos are available on the "Photo & Video Gallery" on the www.WreathsForTheFallen.org web site.

For additional information, call: 218-829-6622 or go to <u>www.WreathsForTheFallen.org</u> a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.