

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HISTORIC WOODLAWN CEMETERY CELEBRATES MEMORIAL DAY WITH OVER 6,000 AMERICAN FLAGS

A Memorial Day Ceremony, Monday, May 28th at 10:00 will pay special tribute to Missing in Action Vietnam Veteran Gary Shaw along with veterans from as far back as the civil war. The Woodlawn Cemetery Memorial Day Association and nearly 100 volunteers will be placing close to 6,000 American Flags on veterans' graves Friday and Saturday, May 25 and 26th, in preparation for Memorial Day and to honor the veterans' service to our country. Continuing a tradition which spans over 80 years, the many hours of dedication, painless record keeping and involvement of eleven separate veterans' organizations, this well-orchestrated placement of flags is a testament to the American spirit.

“This is a way for the family and friends to pay tribute to Gary” stated Raymond Johnston. Mr. Johnston made it his mission that Gary Shaw received placement of a veteran's marker and will be the keynote speaker at Memorial Day event. Uniformed Veterans along with the Freedom riders will begin the honor ceremony with a march to the ceremony stage. A 21-gun salute, military music, taps, and a memorial wreath offers this ceremony an appropriate memorial to our Veterans. Marking the 84th year a tradition remembering that through the sacrifices of the men and women of our armed services that we are able to enjoy and preserve our rights and freedoms. Woodlawn's many historic features such as the Lucas County Civil War Memorial, adds a fitting backdrop for the wonderful family event. The ceremony is open to the public and free of charge.

Historic Woodlawn Cemetery and Arboretum is a National Historic Site. With more than 160 acres of scenic and rolling hills, Woodlawn, a private, non-profit cemetery, has over 40 acres of burial space available. A public mausoleum, crematory, cremation niches as well as traditional burial plots are open to people of all spiritual beliefs and ethnicities. Public programs, tours and

field trips continue the rural cemetery origin mission to share the natural beauty, and architectural significance of Woodlawn. For more information please call 419-472-2186, email: mail@historic-woodlawn.com or visit www.historic-woodlawn.com.

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