Todd Family Scholarship Veterans Interview Project
Suggested Questions for a Veteran of the Vietnam War

Use these suggestions as a starting point and make your own outline for the interview. Remember, each interview will be different and not all questions will apply.

**Introduction**

Begin your interview by stating the following:

- Date
- Location (city, state)
- Your name
- Interviewee’s name

Example: Today’s date is August 1, 2019. My name is John Smith and this is an interview with Jane Doe in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**Early Life**

- Where were you born?
- When is your birthday?
- Who was your father?
- And your mother?
- What was her maiden name?
- Where did you start school?
- What type of work did your parents do?
- Who was your favorite teacher?
- Tell me about your school.
- Describe your house where you lived when you were in school.
- Was there a movie theater in your town?
- What was the name of the theater?
- How often would you go to the movies?
- What were the main stores in the town?
- What year did you graduate high school?
- What did you do after high school?

**Entering the Military**

- Did you enlist or were you drafted?
- If you enlisted, why did you choose the service branch you joined?
- Where did you go for boot camp?
- How did you travel there?
- Tell me about boot camp or basic training.
- What type of training did you have in boot camp?
- Did you pull kitchen patrol (KP)?
- Tell me about KP.
• What is your most vivid memory of basic training?
• Tell me about your drill instructors.
• How long did your training last?
• Where did you go after training?

Military Service

• What unit were you assigned to?
• What was your job in the unit?
• How did you travel to Vietnam?
• When did you leave the United States?
• What were you thinking when you were on the airplane heading toward Vietnam?
• Where did the airplane land?
• What was your first reaction when you got off the airplane?
• Where were you based in Vietnam?
• What did you do in Vietnam?
• Describe your quarters in Vietnam.
• How did you travel around Vietnam?
• How could you tell the Viet Cong from the North Vietnamese Army?
• Did you have any contact with the local people?
• What was their reaction toward the Americans?
• What is your most vivid memory of Vietnam?
• How long were you in Vietnam?
• Tell me about coming home.
• Where did the airplane land?
• Were there any war protestors at the airport?
• When were you discharged?
• What did you do after you were discharged?
• Would you join the military again?
• How do you want to be remembered?