

Submitter: Emerson Levy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SCR11

I am testifying today as a Chief Sponsor, alongside Rep. Kropf and Sen. Knopp, in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 11.

SCR 11 recognizes and honors Lance Corporal Don Edward Darnall, for his service to our country.

Lance Corporal Darnall was assigned to the 5th Marine Regiment in 1966. In his short time of service, he received: The Combat Action Ribbon, The Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation, and took part in the Vietnam War/Counteroffensive Campaign.

He took part in Operation Prairie, a military operation in northern South Vietnam. Its goal: to protect the Demilitarized Zone against North Vietnamese Army forces. Lance Corporal Don Edward Darnall died on October 22nd of 1966 at the age of 20. In his passing, he received The Vietnam Service Medal, The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, The National Defense Service Medal, The Presidential Unit Citation, and The Purple Heart.

Lance Corporal Darnall and 709 more Oregon Vietnam veterans who also died during the Vietnam War are honored by the 377 mile Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway along I-84 thanks to the Oregon Legislature, Oregon State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America and Bend Heroes Foundation. That highway has since been extended across Idaho and Utah.

Lance Corporal Darnall is 1 of 13 Vietnam veterans from Bend who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. The 13 are honored in Bend with their names engraved on a granite monument at Bend Heroes Memorial in Brooks Park, thanks to Bend Heroes Foundation, the non-profit that requested SCR 11.

There are over 50 Fallen Hero Memorial Highway road side markers installed for fallen veterans across Oregon with very few dedicated to Vietnam veterans. With passage of SCR 11, Lance Corporal Don Edward Darnall will be honored in Bend, his home town, almost 6 decades after his untimely death. A roadside sign in the Bend area honoring Lance Corporal Darnall will be deeply appreciated by the community as a whole, and especially his friends and family.

Thank you for this opportunity to honor Lance Corporal Darnall.

