

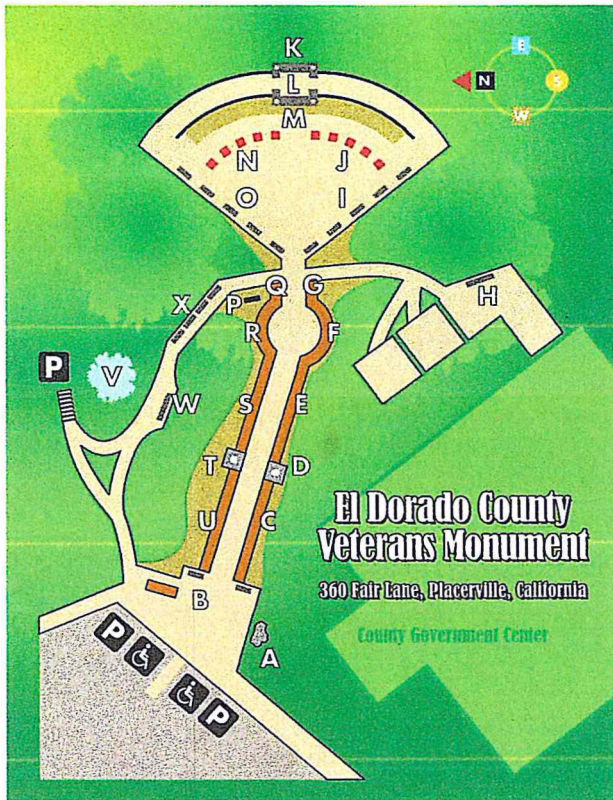
### WELCOME HOME

Welcome Home portrays a joyous return from duty for two El Dorado County members of the U.S. Armed Forces. It is the welcome that every service man or woman looks forward to receiving and should receive upon returning home from duty.

Standing is a life-sized male figure dressed in early 2000s fatigues similar to those worn by the U.S. Army, Air Force and Coast Guard. Kneeling is a female figure dressed in fatigues similar to those worn by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Rating and warfare patches are obscured intentionally, so that the figures can represent anyone.

Running joyously toward them is a Labrador retriever, symbolic of the joy that family and friends have over the return of their service man or woman from duty. It also represents the welcome that some service members never got, but which through the statuary will never end.

The bronze statuary was conceived by members of Friends of the Veterans Monument (a 501.c3 charitable organization) and designed by famed sculptor of military themes and figures, Rip Caswell.



It is designed to be placed on the lawn to the left of the entrance walkway at the El Dorado County Veterans Monument in Placerville (above "W" on the map at left). This site is visited by many thousands each year.

Memorial bricks, stones, benches and plaques at the EDC Veterans Monument identify veterans from the French and Indian Wars to present day. Several of these memorials recognize extraordinary valor in the defense of liberty. However, "Welcome Home" will be the first personification of the veteran experience at the EDC Veterans Monument.

It is estimated that it will cost \$200,000 to cast and place the statues. A multi-year fund-raising effort is planned by Friends of the Veterans Monument.

For more information about "Welcome Home" and how you can help fund its creation, visit [eldoradocountyveterans.org](http://eldoradocountyveterans.org) or email [memorials@eldoradocountyveterans.org](mailto:memorials@eldoradocountyveterans.org).