October 31, 2011

We want to know what students believe is significant about the Vietnam War

The arrival of the traveling Vietnam memorial wall, this Veterans Day weekend in Cupertino provides an opportunity to reflect on a controversial war and the men and women who fought in it, and the more than 58,000 who died. How do we teach our children about this war? What have you learned about it? How did it affect our country? What does it mean to today’s youth?

Maybe a relative fought in Vietnam and has shared their dog tags and medals. Maybe a student has seen the permanent memorial in Washington, D.C., or maybe students have learned about the war in school.

Tell us what you believe is significant about the Vietnam War.

Get creative and show us through a visual presentation. It could be a slideshow with a series of pictures of Vietnam War statues, medals, people, tributes or memorials.

Or maybe the story could be told in a video of interviews with a Vietnam War veteran. Or maybe a sketch or a painting is the way to best illustrate feelings about the meaning of the war.

Photos of all entries will be posted on Cupertino Patch (www.cupertinopatch.com) and the winner will be selected through readers' votes and a panel of judges. The Grand Prize winner will take home a $100 iTunes gift card, and two First Prize winners will each get a $50 iTunes gift card.

The contest is open to students ages 13 to 18; no more than two entries per student please. Slideshows and videos should last no more than two minutes, and any artwork submitted should be done through a digital photo of the art emailed as an attachment to the Editor at anne.ernst@patch.com (arrangements for the display of original artwork will be made at a later date.)

Deadline for submissions is Sunday, November 13, 11:59PM. Winners will be invited to a city council meeting for a presentation of their winning entry.

For more information visit: www.cupertino.org/vereransday

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