



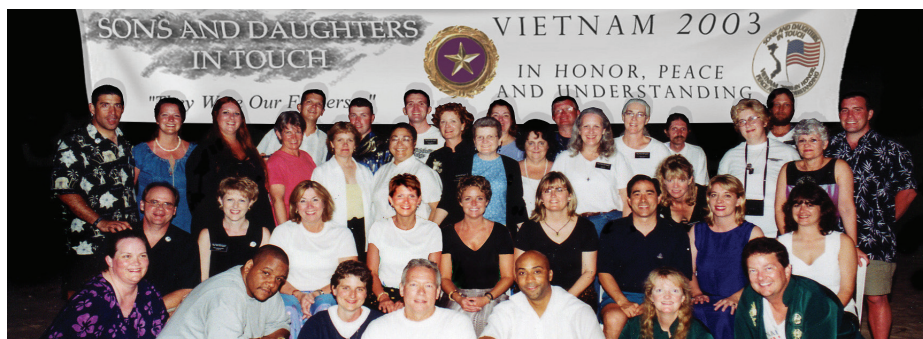
SONS AND DAUGHTERS IN TOUCH

America's Gold Star Children from the Vietnam War

Sons and Daughters In Touch (SDIT) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established in **1989** to locate, unite and support the **Gold Star Sons and Daughters** of American servicemen who were killed - or remain missing - while serving in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

SDIT envisions a future where the lessons of previous wars help provide better care, support and understanding for **Gold Star Families**. That's why we actively:

- Secure government-provided wellness services for members
- Facilitate groundbreaking research to document the **Gold Star Child** experience
- Utilize social media to foster ongoing peer support and resilience among members
- Advocate for federal and state legislation benefiting **Gold Star Families**
- Honor our fathers and all veterans at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Partner with Veteran and Military Service Organizations to educate and serve the national **Gold Star Family** community



In 2003, SDIT led the largest-ever **Gold Star Family** Pilgrimage to Vietnam to visit the locations where our fathers lost their lives



Peer-to-peer Support Provides Comfort, Care and Healing



Gold Star Families receive Lifetime Pass for free access to National Parks

More than

20,000

American children lost their fathers during the Vietnam War.

92%

of America's **Gold Star Families** were awarded the distinction from wars and conflicts occurring prior to 9/11.



1,581
SERVICEMEN

and Civilians have yet to be accounted for from the Vietnam War.

GOLD STAR HISTORY

10 US Code § 1126 instructs the Secretary of Defense to award the **Gold Star Lapel Button** as an identifying symbol to the widow(er), each parent, sibling and child of members of the US Armed Forces who lose their lives while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States; or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict.

After US combat forces left Vietnam on March 28, 1973, the instruction was expanded to include the immediate families of those who lose their lives as a result of an international terrorist attack against the United States or a foreign nation friendly to the United States, or in military operations while serving outside the United States as part of a peacekeeping force.

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