

**ANGEL FIRE**  
**VIETNAM MONUMENT**  
STATE MEMORIAL PARK

**Annual Brick Laying Ceremony, 2013**  
**Angel Fire, NM**

**Jean (the late Mrs. Orr) and I first visited the Memorial in 1996. We were returning from Taos, NM. We saw the sign "Vietnam Memorial" and decided to stop and visit. We had the pleasure of meeting Dr Westphal (Originator of the Memorial). Truly a fine man and a father who was still grieving over the loss of his son. We both shed tears as we talked. A wonderful man and a friend.**

**Dr Westphal built the memorial in honor of his son, a Marine, KIA in Nam. When Dr Westphal ran out of funds, the VFW took over until they also ran out of funds. Then the State of New Mexico stepped in and took responsibility and made it a State Memorial Park. Dr and Mrs Westphal are buried on the grounds there.**

**I was invited to Angel Fire by Bill Kull to attend the annual brick laying ceremony. There is a Vietnam motorcycle club that starts a run across the nation starting in California each year enroute to DC. It is called "Run to the Wall." They are joined all along the way by other cyclists and arrive at the Vietnam Memorial. The group is often called the "Rolling Thunder." By the time they get to the Wall, their numbers exceed 8,000 bikers. They lay and maintain the bricks at Angel Fire each year as they make their "Run to the Wall" and conduct an incredible ceremony in handing out and setting the bricks.**

**The white building houses the museum. Collections donated from VN Vets and their families. We presented our 2/9th FA coin which was added to the coin collection. They have amassed an incredible display of VN items, letters, picture, VC and NVA items.**