



## Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Charter Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Headquarters: 1400 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park, Florida 32789-5662 Telephone: (407) 647-7016

September 24, 2020

In the effort to support the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. and their mission is to establish a National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum, the Garden Clubs of Northeast Florida, District IV are asking for your help. We, as members of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, have donated a Gold Star Families Memorial Monument and are working to surround it with a complimentary environment. The National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum itself will be located at the former Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Master Jet Base (1941-1999) in Jacksonville, Florida, and the Gold Star Families Memorial grounds, will be at the historic Chapel of the High-Speed Pass.

The mission of the organization is to establish a future National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum complex at Cecil Field to honor the more than 95,000 Missing in Action personnel from World War II to modern day. We feel certain that "why" is not needed concerning the importance of this undertaking, knowing you already hold our military and their families in high regard.

Your donation will contribute toward landscaping, irrigation, lighting, a memorial brick area, a generous concrete walkway with bench, and a lighted flagpole featuring the Gold Star flag. The National Garden Club (NGC, INC) in 1945 originally created a Blue Star Marker program to honor, in a visual way, those serving in WW-II. Garden clubs all over the United States, have and still are, installing beautiful Blue Star Markers honoring veterans from all eras, and now the recently created Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments are being dedicated along highways, National Cemeteries, other worthy civic locations and gardens.

The enclosed brochure illustrates the plans for the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum project, their mission statement and contact information. We humbly thank Prosser, Inc. and the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial organization for creating a place to honor these special families.

As you can imagine, it requires considerable funding to complete this sacred project.....and here are four (4) opportunities. Tree Sponsorship: Three (3) large Crepe Myrtle trees (\$750.00 each) including a sponsor plaque at each tree base. Sponsorship of the flagpole and Gold Star flag, with a sponsor's plaque. (\$1,500.00)

Please contact Lynn Vernon, info below, to confirm availability of sponsorship items before donating.

As well as sponsorship choices, donations of any amount are sincerely appreciated. Additionally, commemorative bricks will also be available through the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc. and shown in the trifold. (bricks for the Gold Star area will be available for purchase once it is completed at [www.powmiamemorial.org](http://www.powmiamemorial.org)). All donations are tax deductible and will be gratefully acknowledged. It is our hope to complete the Gold Star Families Memorial garden by the end of November.

Please remit all donations to:

**Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.....6112 POW-MIA Memorial Parkway.....Jacksonville, FL 32221**  
(Subject Line: District IV-Gold Star donation) Extremely important to include.

Additionally, please send your contact information (individual plus organization name, mailing address, phone number and email address) to Lynn Vernon at RV2370@bellsouth.net, or phone (904) 269-3233, so we may recognize you at our District meetings and dedication ceremony. The dedication date is yet to be determined, but Spring 2021 is likely. District IV represents the garden clubs in the counties of Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns and Union and feel free to contact Lynn Vernon with any questions.

We appreciate and thank you for your donation to make the Gold Star Families Memorial garden a reality.

With respect and gratitude,

All District IV Garden Club Members of Northeast Florida

Lynn Vernon - Gold Star Families Memorial - Chair  
Joy Elrod - District IV Director  
Jackie Host - Committee  
Kalia Baillene – Committee

