

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2022

**THE HONORABLE NORMAN Y. MINETA TO RECEIVE
BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. MCGEE UNITY AWARD
FROM FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL**

Annual award bestowed on an individual that exemplifies the spirit of unity and shared values that were prevalent during WWII, when Americans were at their very best and most unified.

Washington, D.C. - The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) will publicly present its UNITY Award to the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta on February 14, 2022, the 78th anniversary of Gen. McGee's first mission during World War II.

Named for a true gentleman, Air Force Brigadier General Charles E. McGee, who just recently passed away but who embodied and lived by the highest American ideals during his 102-years. Gen. McGee was an original Tuskegee Airman, this award is a significant recognition of those actively working for the betterment of their community and beyond, and for living up to the moral integrity exemplified by Gen. McGee and his fellow members of the "Greatest Generation."

To highlight this spirit of unity and Gen. McGee's enduring values and noted accomplishments, Friends of the National World War II Memorial is proud to present the Brigadier General Charles E. McGee UNITY Award to Norman Mineta, for his lifelong public service as a military veteran, Congressman, Cabinet member, and advocate for noble causes in the pursuit of educating our youth about democracy and what it means to be an American citizen.

"Norman Mineta has lived a life of public service and leadership and is an exceptional advocate for unity and for faith in American democracy," said Josiah Bunting III, chairman of Friends. "Much like Gen. McGee, Mineta has suffered, sacrificed, persevered, and inspired. But they both overcame adversity and they inspire us to greater heights as communities and individuals, both sacrificing so much and yet persevering while staying unwaveringly true to the American ideals of unity and hope."

When we search for positive role models, we can look to the World War II Memorial, and we can look to the lives of Gen. McGee and Norman Mineta for inspiring examples of honor, integrity, and unity.

Friends of the National World War II Memorial is proud to honor Norman Mineta with the Brigadier General Charles E. McGee UNITY Award.

The Brigadier General Charles E. McGee UNITY Award presentation video will be released on Monday, February 14 at 10 a.m. ET and will be available on Friends' website and social media channels ([YouTube](#), [Vimeo](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)).

About Friends of the National World War II Memorial (www.wwiimemorialfriends.org):

Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends), based in Washington, D.C., is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to teaching the lessons of yesterday to unite the generations of tomorrow. Founded in 2007 by the creators of the National World War II Memorial, Friends brings visitors together for national ceremonies and experiences at the Memorial and for educational programs centered around the themes of unity, shared values and ideals, and the spirit of community.

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For media inquiries:

Friends of the National World War II Memorial

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