



Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. **CATHY KEISTER SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE** **AWARD CRITERIA**

The ***Cathy Keister Spirit of Excellence Award*** is the second-highest award given by the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA). It is second only to the President's Commendation Medal; therefore, a recipient must meet stringent criteria.

The ***Cathy Keister Spirit of Excellence Award*** may be presented to an individual AVVA member or to any AVVA chapter that meets the criteria listed on this form and detailed in the Policies and Procedure Manual, Section 11, under this award program committee name. We encourage you to read the policy for a clearer understanding of what you need to do to nominate a person or a chapter. (www.avva.org/policy.html choose section 11 and subsection XII).

Any AVVA member or VVA member may nominate any AVVA **regular** member or AVVA chapter (unincorporated or incorporated) for this award. (*EXCEPTION: Current National Board Members are not eligible.*) You must fill out the information on the following page and attach a typed statement detailing your reasons for the nomination. Copies of any evidence you may have that would support your nomination, such as photos, news articles, or witness statements, should be attached with your statement. It is critical that we are able to support your nomination.

The chapter must:

- Have consistent programs or actions within their community, which are charitable in nature.
- Exhibit extraordinary loyalty to each other, as well as to veterans and their families, or their community.
- Be able to document their exemplary service to each other, as well as their programs or events, to veterans and their families, or to their community.
- Be dedicated to the core values of AVVA (available on the AVVA Website: avva.org).
- Be in good standing, including all of its members, with the AVVA Corporation, and have no pending disciplinary actions against them.

An individual must:

- Display a talent for or dedication to mentoring, educating, or inspiring others.
- Be an excellent leader or someone who others commonly follow in the planning and executing of charitable projects or events or display leadership qualities that inspire others.
- Be in the forefront of organizing and/or participating in the service and good works within their AVVA state, AVVA chapter, or within their community.
- Be a member, in good standing, of AVVA, with no disciplinary actions pending against them.

Please fill out the information on the Nomination Form (page 2 of this document) and send the form and your statement with copies of supporting documents to the person below: (Any documents sent will remain the property of AVVA).

Anthony Gigli
4855 Elmhurst Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46226

OR
Email: anthony.gigli@gmail.com

The recipient of this award is determined by the AVVA National Officers.

THE DEADLINE FOR THIS NOMINATION IS MAY 30, 2026
(Continue to the application page)



Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

CATHY KEISTER SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARD NOMINATION FORM

(If Chapter is being nominated:)

CHAPTER #: _____ DOING BUSINESS IN: _____
(State)

CHAPTER REP/PRESIDENT NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS FOR ABOVE: _____
(street or PO Box)

(City) (State) Zip Code

OR: (If individual person is being nominated:)

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL BEING NOMINATED: _____

MAILING ADDRESS FOR ABOVE: _____
(Street or PO Box)

(City) (State) Zip Code

CHAPTER THE NOMINEE IS A MEMBER OF: _____

ENTER YOUR BASIC REASONS FOR NOMINATING THIS CHAPTER/PERSON (Please attach a detailed statement):

NAME OF NOMINATING PERSON: _____

ADDRESS OF NOMINATING PERSON: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

MEMBER ID#: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____