



For Immediate Release

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Village of Glenwood Honors Veterans At Third Annual Lunch

Special recognition for the late "BJ" Thomas at November 14 event

Glenwood, IL – It was only nine short years for Bobby James "BJ" Thomas, but his military service strongly defined who he was for the rest of his life. He earned the Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, four Bronze Service Stars and other honors, and then stayed involved in veterans organizations until he passed away in March. On Friday, November 14, the [Village of Glenwood](#) will honor Thomas – and all veterans - at the [Third Annual Veterans Luncheon](#).

"He was a super guy and will be missed," said Senior Director JoAnne Alexander. Mrs. Carol Thomas will attend the luncheon; Thomas' medals and honors will be on display. "This is not sad by any means. It's a celebration for all our veterans."

The celebration at [Glenwoodie Golf Club](#) will begin at 11:00 am with an Honor Guard from Glenwood's own Amvets and the Air Force. Colors will be presented by [Glenwood Academy](#) students. The Veteran's Garage will be on hand with a unique and stirring display of privately owned military vehicles. "The vehicles were very much enjoyed by our veterans last year and I know many who are looking forward to seeing which vehicles they bring this year."

Alexander, with her co-coordinator Ray Schmelzer, has been working on this lunch for weeks. "Because of the generosity of our Mayor and Board of Trustees, we are able to offer this luncheon to our veterans free of charge. We provide a full, hearty meal, complete with dessert and tea or coffee, a very small part of saying 'thank you' for their service."

Past Luncheon Honorees include Tuskegee Airman Virgil Poole and WWII Veteran John Wrana. Glenwood veterans, servicemen and women of all ages and seniors may attend the Veterans Luncheon, but guests must make a reservation. "With over 150 people at last year's luncheon, we want to make sure everyone has a seat," smiles Alexander.

Glenwoodie Golf Club is located at [19301 State Street in Glenwood](#). To make the required reservation, contact JoAnne Alexander at 708-753-2438 or jalexander@villageofglenwood.com. For more information, visit www.villageofglenwood.com.

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