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Avow Honors Veterans at 8th Annual Armed Forces Celebration May 17

NAPLES, Fla. (May 1, 2024) – Avow Veterans Committee invites Veterans from all branches to a free event Friday, May 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Avow's Dick Lee & Mary Martha Tonra Waterview Room in the Ispiri Community Center, 1205 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples.

Keynote speaker for the event is author Robert Fulton, who served in the First Cavalry Division in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. He flew more than 300 combat missions as a Cobra Gunship pilot. After Vietnam, Fulton embarked on a nearly 50-year career, reinventing himself as a helicopter fixed-wing pilot who faced drastic changes in missions and equipment, accumulating more than 22,000 flight hours. Robert has written and published two books - *Up in the Air*, a pilot's journey aviation memoir, and novel *Shadow Children of Saigon*. The script of his novel was picked up by a major studio for production.

Plans also include special readings to honor veterans, patriotic songs, gun salute, playing of Taps, and Missing Man Table recognition. Avow recognizes veterans in this way during ceremonies throughout the year, distributing approximately 2,000 pins for recognition of service annually.

The event is free, but seating is limited. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to 59minutes@avowcares.org.

Avow is a Level 5 Partner with We Honor Veterans, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) in collaboration with the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). In 2023, nearly 25% of all hospice patients admitted to Avow were identified as Veterans.

About Avow:

Avow was founded in 1983 as Collier County's original, nonprofit hospice. Today, Avow's nonprofit companies provide palliative care consultations for adults facing chronic or serious illness and hospice care and bereavement support services for children and adults. To learn more about the scope of services provided by Avow, call 239-261-4404 or visit avowcares.org.

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