



PRESS RELEASE

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Veteran Actor Jim Beaver to be Honored at Vietnam Veterans of America's 19th National Convention

(Washington, D.C.)—Jim Beaver, an actor and writer best known for his roles on HBO's *Deadwood*, the CW's *Supernatural*, and FX's *Justified*, will receive the Vietnam Veterans of America Excellence in the Arts Award on Saturday night, July 20, at VVA's 19th biennial National Convention in Spokane, Washington.

Beaver, who joined the U.S. Marine Corps two months after graduating from high school in 1968, served in the Vietnam War from 1970-71 with the 1st Marine Division, most of the time as radio operator in the 1st Marine Regiment.

After his honorable discharge, Beaver worked a series of jobs, graduated from college, and started appearing on stage, first in Dallas and Louisville, and then in New York. Beaver moved to Los Angeles in 1983, and since then has made more than 130 appearances in movies and TV shows, including playing the part of a Vietnam War veteran in the 1989 movie, *In Country*, opposite Bruce Willis--he was the only Vietnam vet in the cast of that movie that examined the legacy of the war among those who served there. Beaver also has written a dozen works for the stage, as well as three books, including his highly praised memoir, *Life's That Way*.

More than 700 delegates from VVA chapters across the country will join hundreds of other Vietnam War veterans and guests in Spokane, along with members of the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, which also will be holding its National Convention. Medal of Honor Recipient Allen Lynch will deliver the Keynote Speech at the Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday morning, July 19. Vietnam veteran Dr. Elbert Nelson, one of the nation's foremost experts in Obstetrical Gynecology, also will be honored at the Awards Banquet. Nancy Bonetti Ray and Kathryn Kalajian -- two members of Dean Martin's *Goldiggers* who then joined Bob Hope's USO Christmas Show in Vietnam in 1968, 1969, and 1970 -- will be special guests in Spokane.