

Los Lunas did itself proud in hosting veterans group

EDITOR:

Thank you, Los Lunas. As I stood at the podium and looked out at not only the residents but all the veterans and veterans organizations who came to Saturday July 12's memorial and tribute to the Fernandez family and the Village of Los Lunas by the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division, it made me very proud. Not only were these fine heroes pleased, but so should the citizens of Valencia County be. The program was exceptional due to the professionalism of all who participated. Thank you:

- Village of Los Lunas, Mayor Louis Huning, Michael Jaramillo, Cathy Martinez, Herman Garcia and parks crew.

- Cabinet Secretary Department of Veteran Services for the State of New Mexico, Mr. John Garcia.

- Singers 2008 Junior Miss New Mexico Mayela Alejandra (National Anthem), Miss Linda Julian ("God Bless America"), Eddie Benavidez ("Battle of Daniel Fernandez").

- Daniel Fernandez Intermediate School, Principal Angela Griego, teachers Mrs. Laurie Kasetelic and Mrs. Terri Duncan; DFI students.

- Los Lunas High School JROTC, Tiger Battalion Color Guard and Drill Team, Commander Maj. Mike Lloyd.

- New Mexico Patriots Motorcycle Club, Julian Martinez.

- 21-gun salute and "Taps," New Mexico Volunteers Honor Guard, 1st Bn. NM Regiment, Capt. David R. Vigil.

- Daniel Fernandez Military of Purple Hearts Chapter 1966, Commander Roger Newell.

- Veterans of America Chapter 574, El Paso, Texas, Lucio Moreno.

- Patriotic display, Lee Roy Lucero.

- Lt. Col.-House Rep. Elias Barela, donation.

- *Valencia County News-Bulletin*, editor Sandy Battin and reporter Clara Garcia.

- Daniel Fernandez Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9676 veterans.

- Cooks: Mr. and Mrs. Gene Carbajal, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Trujillo, Gino Garcia, Cheo Trujillo, David Valenzuela and Randy Castillo.

Members of the 25th added that, in all the states they have been to, the people of Los Lunas were the nicest, kindest, proudest they have ever met and they send their thanks.

James Garley
Commander
Daniel Fernandez
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Los Lunas

