

A replica of one of the sculptures at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., will be unveiled at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. A smaller version of "Three Soldiers" will stand on a black pedestal in front of a wall mural of an Associated Press Vietnam combat photo in the Hall of Honor at Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex. The bronze replica, poured and cast in a New York foundry, will be unveiled at 3:15 p.m. Saturday, June 18th, in the Hall of Honor during Freedom Fest. The dedication is open to those attending the Freedom Fest concert. The sculpture was funded by the Don and Roxanne Weber Family through the UW-La Crosse Foundation. The Webers have been key supporters of the stadium and the Hall of Honor.

Frederick Elliott Hart created the sculpture. In 1980, the American master sculptor submitted a proposal to design the Vietnam Veterans Memorial but came in third among 1,421 entries. After completion of the wall, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund commissioned Hart to create a sculpture in 1982. The life-like bronze sculpture located in a grove of trees depicts three servicemen, a Caucasian, Mexican-American and African-American, in Vietnam era uniforms carrying infantry weapons.

Dedicated by President Reagan in 1984, Three Soldiers is part of one of the most visited monuments in Washington, D.C. Hart received the Presidential Award for Design Excellence for Three Soldiers in 1988.