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God Bless our Veterans & God Bless the USA

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DURING NOVEMBER FOR  
OUR VETERANS

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We Honor & Thank  
All the Veterans



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PHOTO BY NATASHA BARBER

Allen Brisse (left) and Ralph Katka stand near a granite monument Oct. 13 in Foley. The two used their skills and knowledge of the granite industry to create a monument for the Veterans Memorial in Foley.

**Memorial**  
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He first plotted the words by hand on a piece of thick rubber before using a bridge press to create a stencil. The rubber adheres

to the face of the granite and protects the polished stone where engraving is taking place.

Brisse performed the hand etching using an air tool with a reciprocating point that pecked at the stone and another power tool with a diamond point

for marking.

Whether engraving, etching or moving the stone, the job was stressful.

“People who are not in the stone business have no idea what it’s like to work with a piece like this,” Brisse said. “If you bump that with another piece of stone, you have a chip in it. You have to be so careful. Usually we’re working with monuments (headstones) where you can lift them and stand them up, but this you’re not going to lift by hand, obviously.”

When the final stone was set in place, relief and reward set in. Just as military men and women are memorialized by this monument, so too are those who contributed to its development.

“It’s quite an honor to be a part of this,” Katka said. “So many good people came forward to help make this possible. Everybody had a little part, and it all came together really nice.”



PHOTO BY EVAN MICHEALSON

Jerome Katka (left) and Ralph Katka, owner of Katka’s Monuments, install one of six benches at the Veterans Memorial in Foley Oct. 29. Engraved on the six benches are the words duty, integrity, honor, strength, courage and victory.



**HELENA**



Happy Veterans Day to our soldiers, both past and present. We owe you our thanks, but more than that, we owe you our freedom.

**HELENA AGRI-ENTERPRISES, LLC**

**(320) 584-5520** 16250 HWY 10 NW Royalton, MN