The number 38 is very important in understanding the memorial. As you walk around the memorial, you will see 19 stainless steel statues. On a sunny day you can see the reflection on the wall of the 19 statues. If you count the 19 statues and the reflections on the wall, you get 38. The 38th parallel is the demilitarized zone. 38 months is how long the war lasted.

There are 19 statues of soldiers marching through what looks like a rice field. These are in proportion to the number of U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines who served in the Korean War.

There are 36,574 names of American service members and 7,114 members of the Korean augmentation to the U.S. Army names on the Wall of Remembrance.

There are 24 panels of privates and 29 panels of Private First Class which make up 53% of the memorial.
THE 8 YELLOWWOOD TREES THAT SURROUND THE MEMORIAL SYMBOLIZE THE EIGHT WOMEN WHOSE NAMES ARE ON THE VIETNAM VETERAN’S MEMORIAL WALL

11,000 FEMALE SERVICE MEMBERS SERVED IN COUNTRY DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

ARTIST GLENNAGOODACRE COMPOSED A SCENE OF A “MOMENT IN CRISIS” TO CAPTURE THE RANGE OF EMOTIONS WOMEN FACED IN FULFILLING THEIR DUTIES

THE WOUNDED SOLDIER’S FACE IS HALF-COVERED BY A BANDAGE, CREATING AN ANONYMOUS FIGURE WITH WHICH VISITORS CAN IDENTIFY
The three servicemen statue is located approximately 150 feet away from the wall. It is positioned so it looks as if the three figures are emerging from a grove of trees.

The 3 figures represent a Hispanic man, an African American man, and a Caucasian man – ethnic groups that were heavily represented in the war’s combat forces.

The balance between childhood and manhood is the essence of this sculpture. The average age of a service member who was killed or MIA in the Vietnam War was 22 years old.

The uniforms are representative of all branches of the military and each figure wears a variety of gear.
Nearly 17,000 service members were killed in the war in 1968 alone. Their names stretch from panel 33 east, line 11 to panel 35 west, line 14.

The largest panel has 704 names, and the shortest panel has 5 names.

There are 58,318 names of men and women who died in combat or listed as MIA are etched into the 2,246-feet long walls.

Polished black granite was used to create a mirror-like surface that would reflect the images of the living visitors in the names of those who died for our freedom.
There are 4,048 gold stars on the Freedom Wall. Each star represents 100 American soldiers who lost their lives in the war.

On each side of the monument, a 43-foot Northern “Atlantic” arch and a 43-foot Southern “Pacific” arch climb triumphantly towards the sky.

The words 'Kilroy was here' etched on the granite is an American symbol from World War II. American soldiers would inscribe those words and the doodle at numerous locations during the war.

The 56 columns represent the US states, Commonwealths and territories that sent men and women to serve under the U.S. flag during WWII. The states are arranged in order that they became part of the United States and alternate from side to side.