

## **PATRIOTS FROM THE BARRIO**

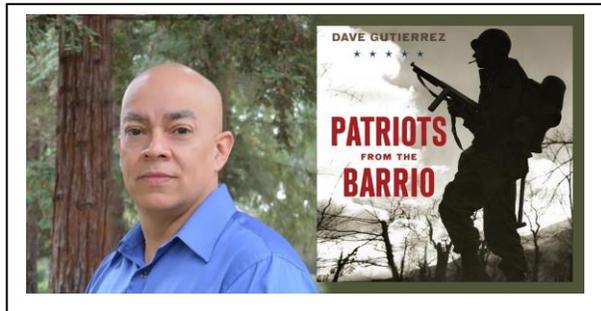
*Date with History speaker will discuss the distinguished record of the U.S. Army's only Mexican American unit in World War II*

**Wheaton, Ill., June 23, 2022** – The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park continues its acclaimed Date with History series with author Dave Gutierrez on **Thursday, July 7, at 7 pm CT**. He will discuss his 2018 book, “Patriots from the Barrio.”

The presentation is offered in person and online. For the in-person program at the Cantigny Park Visitors Center (free with paid parking), registration is not required. Online viewers must register in advance at [FDMuseum.org](https://www.FDMuseum.org) to receive a Zoom link.

Gutierrez tells the inspiring true story of a segregated unit whose heroic exploits underscore the forgotten Latino contribution to the Allied victory in World War II. The author learned of the unit through his father, whose cousin Ramon Gutierrez was a member of Company E, 141st Infantry, a part of the 36th “Texas” Division that was comprised entirely of Mexican Americans—the only such unit in the entire U.S. Army. “Patriots of the Barrio” tells how the soldiers of Company E distinguished themselves as rugged and resilient fighters against some of Nazi Germany’s best troops.

**Dave Gutierrez** is a professional researcher, historical presenter, writer, and author. His articles have appeared in publications including *American Legion* and *War History Online*. His groundbreaking work on Company E, 141<sup>st</sup> Infantry, was recognized by both the Texas Military Forces Museum in Austin and the National WWII Museum in New Orleans. He serves on the Medal of Honor Museum Advisory Panel.



The First Division Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm, with extended hours on Tuesday evenings in the summer. Admission is free with paid parking (\$5 per car weekdays; \$10 weekends). Visit [FDMuseum.org](https://www.FDMuseum.org) for additional details.

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### **About the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park**

The [First Division Museum](https://www.FDMuseum.org), part of the Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundation and located at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Illinois, promotes public learning about America’s military heritage and affairs through the history of the “Big Red One”—the famed 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. The museum’s main exhibit hall, First in War, transports visitors to the trenches of World War I, the beaches of World War II and the jungles of Vietnam. A second exhibit hall, Duty First, explores the 1ID’s history in more recent times. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum’s library, archival and photo collections. Outside, tanks from every

era are interpreted, along with artillery pieces and a personnel carrier. Solemn memorial markers and commemorative statuary also command visitors' attention. The museum's "Footsteps of the First" travel program, in partnership with Academic Travel Abroad, will explore Normandy and other key sites in Western Europe, October 6-15, 2022. Full details, including the itinerary and registration, are on the museum [website](#).

**Media Contact:**

Jeff Reiter  
Cantigny Park  
630.260.8218  
[jreiter@cantigny.org](mailto:jreiter@cantigny.org)