

Township of Verona

Proclamation

National Vietnam War Veterans Day

WHEREAS, America's involvement in Vietnam began in June 1954 with military advisors, escalated into 11 years of military combat involving more than 3 million servicemen and servicewomen, and officially ended on May 15, 1975, with a Joint Special Operations Squadron rescuing the crew of the U.S. Merchant Ship "Mayaguez" on the island of Koh Tang near Cambodia; and

WHEREAS, More than 212,000 of N.J.'s bravest sons and daughters wore the uniforms of our nation's Armed Forces during this most turbulent time in U.S. history, enduring the war's unpopularity and risking their lives fighting for the democracy of a foreign country. We reflect on the life-changing combat wounds of so many of our Verona residents and the suffering and sacrifice felt by the families of those Missing in Action; and

WHEREAS, Since the unveiling, Vietnam War memorials across the country and here in our State at Holmdel, have helped heal a nation deeply divided by paying eternal tribute to the 58,286 American service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. Of the names listed on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., 1,487 are from the State of N.J.; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam Veterans were awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest distinction that can be bestowed by the President of the United States in the name of the U.S. Congress, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepid actions as they risked their lives and went above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, On Vietnam Veterans Day, we remember and appreciate with grateful hearts the contributions of the Vietnam veterans now living in N.J., as well as the extraordinary bravery; and

WHEREAS, Verona residents, 1st Lieutenant Gerald D. Geoghegan, Cpl. Anthony V. Hein and Lance Cpl. Robert Allen McCloskey were killed in action and today are listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam Veterans Day affords us the opportunity to recall, with pride and gratitude, the selfless military service, patriotism, battle courage and personal sacrifice of these service men and women who answer their country's call to duty to fight for another nation's peace and democracy.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Township Council of the Township of Verona does hereby acknowledge March 29, 2022 as National Vietnam Veterans Day and invite all citizens, both in public ceremonies and in private thoughts and prayers, to gratefully acknowledge our Vietnam Veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the great seal of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey, to be affixed on this 21st day of March 2022.



Alex Roman
Mayor



Christine McGrath
Deputy Mayor



Jack McEvoy
Councilman



Cynthia Holland
Councilwoman



Christopher Tamburro
Councilman