

Sussex County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park Fundraiser

Georgetown Arts & Flowers, EIN 46-2209047

37 The Circle

Georgetown, DE 19947



On Friday, April 11, 2025, a committee meeting was held with the following people in attendance: Georgetown Town Manager Gene Dvornick, Georgetown Arts and Flowers Chairwoman Mary Lou Barmby, and Past President of Auxiliary Unit 8 Judy Lawson. Their discussion consisted of a way to secure funds for plants and shrubbery native to the area at the Memorial site. Since the March 17th meeting, Mary Lou met with a local plant and flower merchant. Judy reported \$1600.00 pledged to date. Gene stated an application has been sent for a grant to secure funding for trees.

Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1105, located in Millsboro, had the Monument moved from The Circle in Georgetown to the site located at The Village of College Park in Georgetown. Previously, Gene had worked with local authorities to have "Historical" directional signs installed. Currently, there is a walkway from the street to the Memorial and a bench. The Town of Georgetown maintains the flag and park area. The Georgetown Arts and Flowers Committee started planting flowers and plants at the site in the Fall 2024. At present, there is lighting and a water supply, and tulips are growing. Our goals are to have: shrubbery bordering the monument; trees behind the monument; 2 large, urban vases at the beginning of the sidewalk; and an underground hose installed to irrigate the plants and flowers.

We are asking mayors of the fourteen towns which have young men honored on this monument to meet a pledge by Georgetown Mayor Bill West in the amount of \$500.00. We are also asking the public to help us move the project forward by donating. Please, while this request is in your hand and on your mind, make a contribution. Checks should be made out to the "Town of Georgetown Arts and Flowers Budget."

Look for our progress as each phase moves forward. If you would like to be added to our email list to receive updates, please provide your email address. We thank you for helping us honor the 25 veterans from Sussex County who gave their lives protecting our freedom!

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Address _____

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Renewing Vietnam veterans

Sussex County ceremonies commemorate 50th anniversary of day the last troops left



Post 17 Past Commander Ed Bergen, left, and Commander Steve Barrow, center, present a certificate of appreciation from the American Legion to Vietnam War veteran Brian Marrin during a March 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day ceremony in Lewes. RON MACARTHUR PHOTOS

By Ron MacArthur • April 4, 2023

Barrow said the day has been set aside nationwide to honor the 9 million Vietnam War-era military service members who served from Nov. 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975. He said 58,281 (average age 22) paid the ultimate sacrifice and are honored at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C.

During the Post 17 ceremony, Vietnam War veterans were presented with a certificate and lapel pin, and treated to lunch. After Barrow read the names of the Sussex Countians who perished in the war, there was moment of silence and a tribute from Scottish Highland bagpiper Lani Spahr, who served for four years during the Vietnam War era.

"When they came home, there were no cheers and no parades," Barrow said. "They quietly slipped back into their lives. We need to show them the high measure of esteem we hold for them. We've been holding our applause for 50 years, so let them know how much you appreciate their service."

The Georgetown ceremony, hosted by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1105, included presentations by Mayor Bill West; Patrick Moonan, Chapter 1105 outreach chair; Walt Ellenberger of Warrior Community Connect; and emcee George Stone, a Chapter 1105 member. Members of the Sussex Central High School JROTC Color Guard presented the colors, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and also read the names of the Sussex County soldiers who died in Vietnam.

It took place at a new location for the Sussex County Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which was moved from The Circle to a dedicated memorial park at The Village of College Park, a new DRB Homes community under construction behind the Georgetown Walmart. Streets in the community will be named after the five Georgetown soldiers killed in Vietnam.

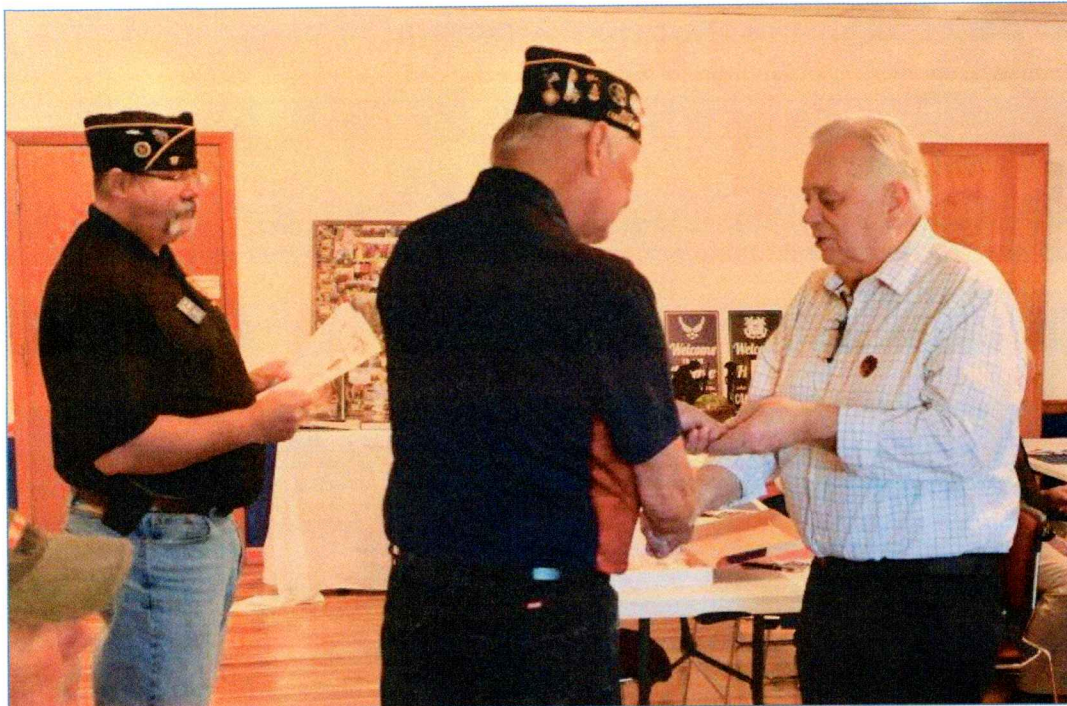
Stone said there are more than 6 million Vietnam War-era veterans alive today, with more than 275,000 suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Stone compared life to the people we come in contact with while riding a train.

"Some might be vets," he said. "Offer them a seat and offer them assistance if they need it."

Moonan has been at the forefront of informing Vietnam War veterans and their spouses about the medical services and benefits to which they are entitled.

Ellenberger said his all-volunteer organization provides recreational programs for wounded and ill veterans and their families, including pickleball, golf, cooking classes, paddleboard outings and fly fishing. For more information, go to warriorcommunityconnect.org (<https://warriorcommunityconnect.org>).

On the Sussex County Vietnam War Memorial are the following names from the Cape Region: Lt. Harry Preston McFalls of Lewes; Sgt. Howard Lee Webb of Rehoboth Beach; Pfc. Robert John Mereder and Lance Cpl. Linden Watne Brittingham of Milton; and Pfc. Donald Phillip Hamilton and Cpl. Reginald Wayne Burris of Ellendale.



Vietnam War veteran Randle Parks, right, receives recognition from Post 17 Commander Steve Barrow, left, and Ed Bergen, past commander.

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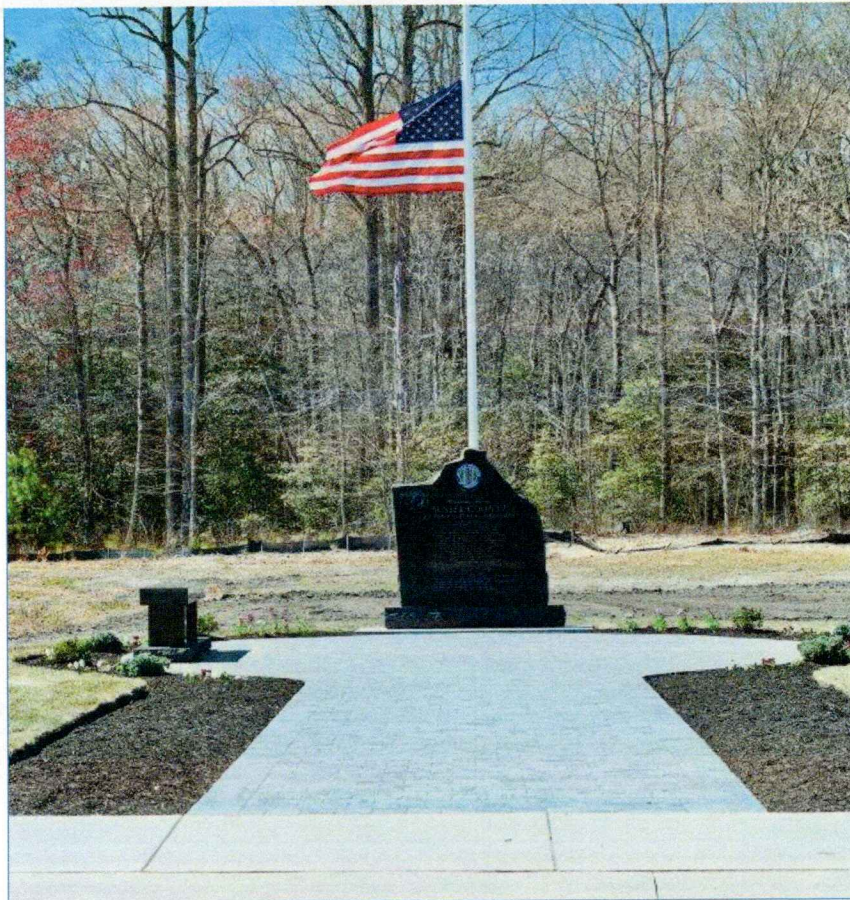


The Sussex County Vietnam War Memorial contains the names of the 26 fallen heroes from the county. Its new home is a memorial park at The Village of College Park in Georgetown.

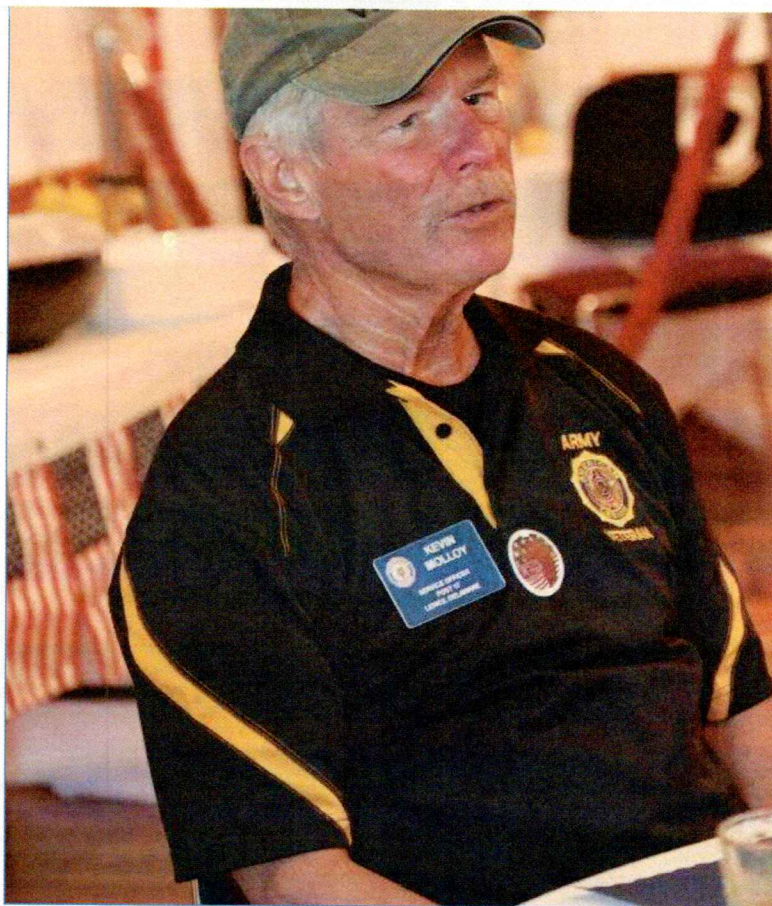


Vietnam War veterans stand as they are applauded during a National Vietnam War Veterans Day ceremony at American Legion Post 17 in Lewes.

SUSSEX COUNTY



The Village of College Park is the new home of the Sussex County Vietnam War Veterans Memorial.



Kevin Molloy, an Army Vietnam War veteran, is also service officer at American Legion Post 17.



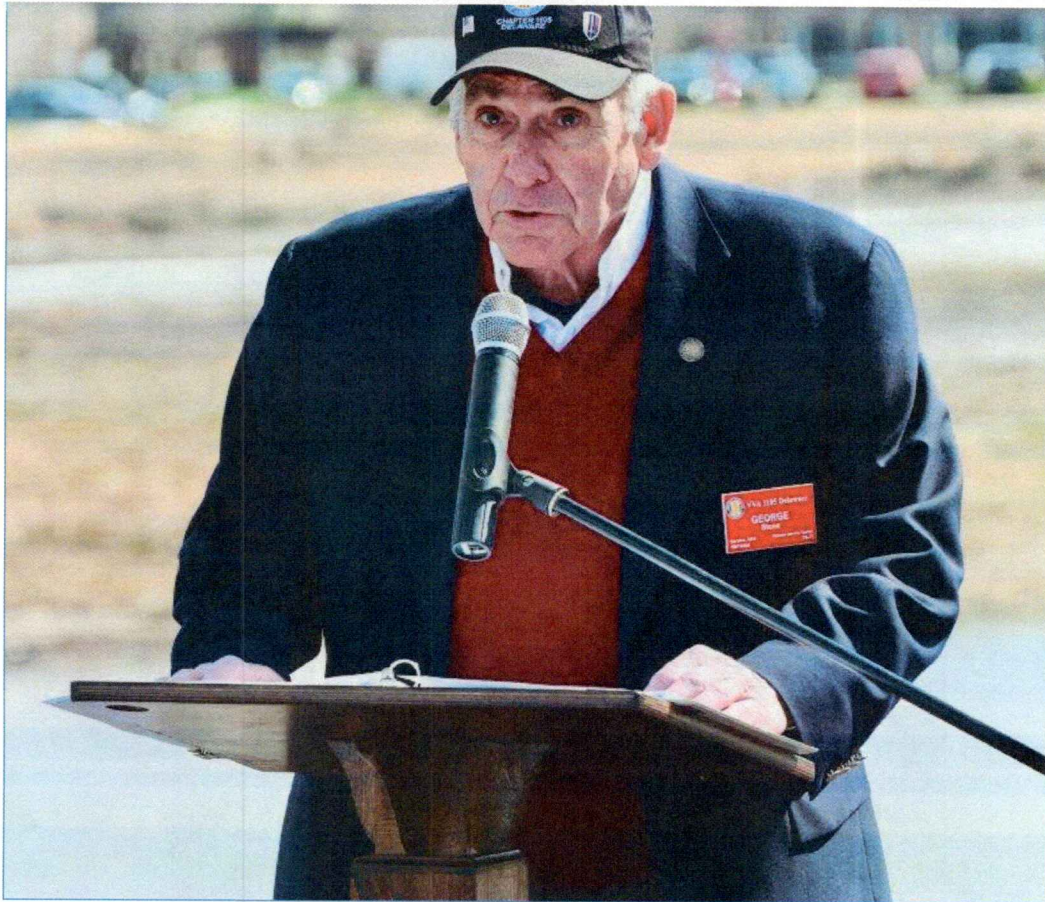
Vietnam War veterans gather for a group photo during an appreciation luncheon and ceremony at American Legion Post 17 in Lewes.



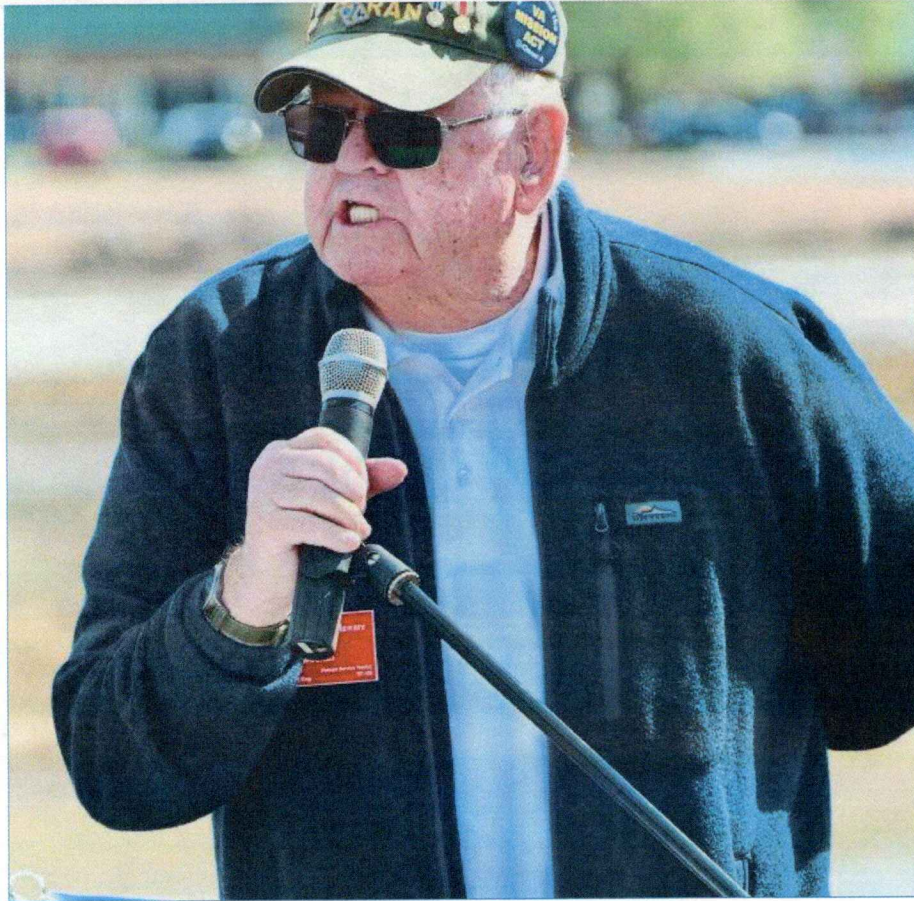
Steve Barrow is American Legion Post 17 commander. He said it's time to stand up and applaud Vietnam War veterans.



Vietnam War veterans and their families and friends gather at the new memorial park at The Village of College Park March 29 in Georgetown.



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1105 member George Stone serves emcee of the Georgetown ceremony.



Patrick Moonan is Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1105 outreach chair who has been working to make veterans aware of the benefits they are entitled to.



Georgetown Mayor Bill West read the lyrics to "The Ones That Didn't Make it Back Home" by singer Justin Moore.

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Grotto hotel site being prepped for...	(3,241)
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