



Memorial Day Program

Monday, May 30, 2016
10:00AM
Borough Hall Monument





2016 Borough of Riverdale Memorial Day Parade

**GRAND MARSHALL
Bruce Dickerson**



About Bruce . . .

Bruce enlisted in the army in his junior year of high school. He always knew he wanted to go into the service. His dad served in the Navy and two of his uncles served in the Navy and were part of the Battle of Midway during WW2. Hearing their war stories made him have a love for flying and at first headed to the Air Force but his vision would not allow him to fly so he turned to the Army.

In June 1978 he headed off to basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky and then to Fort Rucker in Alabama for training as a tactical transport helicopter repairer. His final destination was Fort Campbell, Kentucky the home of the 101st Airborne.

For a little more than 5 years Bruce served at the 101st Airborne. In the early years he served as a crew chief on a Huey and then as the Crew Chief on the Black Hawk Helicopter where his career took an interesting turn. In its infancy, the 101st spun off a specialized unit known as Special Operations Aviation Unit; their tag name: Black Widows. Bruce flew in more than 20 covert missions alongside Special Forces, Delta Force and the Navy Seals doing insertions and extractions all over the world. Bruce doesn't share too much about these top secret missions and they remain close to his heart.

A proud parent, Bruce's daughter, Vicki served in the Air Force, her husband Chris serves in the Air Force and his step-daughter Elizabeth currently serves in the Army at Fort Riley in Kansas.

Bruce always makes time for meeting veterans. He always walks up to them and thanks them for their service and asks where they served. Some of those conversations have developed into friendships. In 2012, Bruce joined the Patriot Guard and in 2013 was one of 20 soldiers recognized by Passaic County with a Military Commemorative Medal highlighting his career in the 101st Airborne.



**Memorial
Day**
*Never Forget
Ever Honor*

CEREMONY

Welcome

Mayor Paul M. Carelli

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem

Pompton Lakes High School Band

Invocation

Pastor Timothy Flynn—Riverdale Baptist Church

Introduction of Grand Marshall—Bruce Dickerson

Mayor Paul M. Carelli

Lowering of Flag

Placement of Wreaths

Lieutenant James McIntosh - Riverdale Police Department

Chief Daniel Sturm—Riverdale Fire Department

Taps

Pompton Lakes High School Band

Memorial Day Roll Call

Councilman Garrett Astarita—Vietnam War Veteran

“Freedom is not Free”

Read by Mayor Paul M. Carelli

God Bless America

Performed by John Carelli

Benediction

Pastor Timothy Flynn—Riverdale Baptist Church

Closing Remarks

At the conclusion of the ceremony, all are invited to the 911 Memorial for a ceremony conducted by the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department

IN HONOR OF RIVERDALE VETERANS
ROLL CALL



CHARLES W. BARNETT
World War II

AUGUSTUS CHRISTAKOS
World War II

HOWARD DE GRAW
World War II

HAROLD DREW
World War II

JACK KIRKWOOD
World War II

ARNOLD RAFKIND
World War II

EDWARD J. SEARLES
World War II

JOHN WILLIAMS
World War II

JOHN DALTON
Vietnam War

JAY THOMAS DANDURAND
Vietnam War