



Allegheny County Council

County of Allegheny
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone (412) 350-6490
Fax (412) 350-6499

Legislation Text

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Title...

Proclamation honoring United States Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Joe Wadlow for being named Veteran of the Year by the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania.

Body...

WHEREAS, the Veteran of the Year Award is presented by the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania (VLPWPA) to a veteran whose military record is marked with exemplary performance and who has continued to support the United States military and veterans as a civilian. The VLPWPA has named United States Marine Corps Staff Sergeant and combat veteran **Joe Wadlow** "**Veteran of the Year**" for his patriotism, generosity, and selflessness he has shown to his fellow veterans; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, **Mr. Wadlow**, a member of Mike Company 3rd Battalion 1st Marines (1966-1969), founded the Fallen Marine Memorial Motorcycle Run to raise money for scholarships to assist families of Marines killed or disabled in action. He also created "The Wall that Moves," a tribute motorcycle honoring the 206 fallen members of Mike Company. Since 2009, the bike has been on display at the Rolling Thunder Run, the world's largest single-day motorcycle event held in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, **Mr. Wadlow** opened his first Monte Cello's Italian Restaurant in 1980 with two partners, a venture that has expanded to include six restaurants in the Pittsburgh area. The success of his business has allowed him to give back to the community in many ways. He donates food and time to the Muscular Dystrophy Association Summer Camp, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Pennies from Heaven annual fundraiser, Vietnam Veterans annual picnic, Vietnam Veterans POW/MIA Vigil, Remembering the Brave events, North Hills Community Outreach, Ross Township Kids Fishing Tournament, The March of Dimes Walk for Babies and the Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central Pennsylvania, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, **Mr. Wadlow** has helped raise funds for countless charities, he was inducted into the North Hills High School Sports Hall of Fame for his support of its athletic programs, he helped to distribute 325 bicycles to local children in need, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Wounded Heroes Hunting Camp and was personally involved in erecting the North Shore Vietnam Veterans Memorial;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Allegheny County Council does hereby honor Marine Staff Sergeant **JOE WADLOW** for being named **VETERAN OF THE YEAR** by the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, and we commend him for his contributions to the community and for his continued commitment to honoring the sacrifices of our fallen Marines, supporting those who have worn America's uniform and the families who stand alongside them.