

Bangor VFW Dedicates Their Grove to Donald Jones On His 75th Year as Member



L-R VFW Post commander Nick Alfero Jr., Donald M. Jones with his Granite plaque for his 75th year of membership

By Michael Ortoski

BANGOR - This past Sunday The Bangor VFW took the day to honor a WWII veteran and the longest serving member of the post of 75 years, Donald M. Jones.

Jones who will be 99 years old on September 5 of this year said "when I came home from my service in the Army joining the Bangor VFW was on the top of my list. I wanted to help Veterans and I love doing it. I was one of the lucky ones who made it back alive and in one piece, I owe it to the Veterans."

Jones has always been a volunteer to help run the Post and was Commander from 2000-2001.

Current post commander Nick Alfero Jr. said they wanted to have his name remembered for many years to come. The idea of dedicating the 'Grove' in honor of Jones was overwhelmingly approved by the members.

The 6 inch granite plaque craftfully mounted on a black walnut stump that reads 'This Grove Dedicated in Honor of Donald M. Jones VFW Member Since Feb. 4th 1946' and placed at the entrance of the Grove.

Alfero in his speech praised Jones for service to his country, his dedication to the post and the kindness in his heart to all the Veterans who sacrifice for our freedom.

There were over 50 people that came to honor Jones, Post members, Family and friends who each sat with Jones to reminisce his stories and dedication not only to the post but to his community.

I have known my good friend Donald Jones for over 15 years and consider him a 'man of the people', "how can I help" are usually the first words out of his mouth when a situation arises in his community. I feel lucky to know this Veteran who puts people who have or who are serving to protect our freedom number one priority.

Some of best times we have is when he says "come on over, lets share some wine together and talk." We will sit there for hours while we talk about his time in the service, his wife Ruby and the trips around the world with her, and what community projects he is working on now. His current project is the mural program in Bangor directed by Faith Sarisky who was in attendance for the event.

Donald my friend you are a great friend, community leader and an asset to the Bangor VFW Post.

Note: Jones is on the national VFW register as one of the oldest Veterans of WWII and VFW members.

Donald a Bangor historian also has been writing a column in the my Blue Valley Times for Over 10 years.



Blue Valley Times

Serving The Slate Belt, Lower Poconos And Northern N.J.

Visit Our Daily Media Online At:

www.bluevalleytimes.com

www.facebook.com/BlueValleyTimes

Phone: 610-452-9234
Email: bvtimes@rcn.com

News / Advertising Deadline
12 noon Fridays

900 N. Main Street., Bangor, PA 18013

Owner - Michael Ortoski / Michele Hanna
Publisher - Michael Ortoski
Sales - Michael Ortoski
Asst. Editor - Anne Brown
Graphic Design / Photography - MM4 Corp
Feature Writers - Peg R. Berger
Interns from Pen Argyl, Bangor and Stroudsburg H.S.

All submissions become property of
Blue Valley Times