

Our annual ceremonies continued to strengthen our relationships with the Veterans community, legislators, and the NJ Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

## Vietnamese American Community Association



Vietnamese American Community Association

In April, the Vietnamese American Community Association commemorated the fall of Saigon with their annual Ceremony. Members of the community remembered the impact of the Vietnam War on their families, community and country while celebrating the resilience of that community.

## POW, MIA & Gold Star Mothers Recognition Ceremony

In September, we were honored to hear Gold Star Sister, Susan Barker Rilliet speak about her brother, Lance Corporal Jedh Colby Barker, USMC. Trustee and Blue Star Mother, Kim Guadagno also spoke about her son Kevin, serving in South Korea. In a very touching ceremony, members of the Blue and Gold Star Family communities, POWs, those missing in action and their families were remembered and thanked for their sacrifices.

## New in 2019: In Memory Ceremony

In March of 2019, we will be adding a ceremony to our annual calendar focused on the In Memory Program. At our In Memory Ceremony, we will honor twenty Vietnam Veterans and their families through induction into our In Memory Program. The event will be held each year on March 29, National Vietnam War Veterans Day ensuring that these sacrifices are never forgotten.



Leonard Mueller, President VVA Chapter 200 escorts an In Memory Family at our Memorial Day Ceremony

## May Ceremonies

In May, Colonel Mark PETERSKI, Deputy Adjutant General, State of NJ spoke at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Remembrance Day Ceremony. Thirty nine Veterans received their New Jersey Service Medals during this touching event. The month concluded with our Memorial Day Ceremony where Chuck Sevola, Vice President, Veterans Initiatives for Prudential Financial spoke about his service and the meaning of Memorial Day. We also inducted six Vietnam Veterans into our In Memory Program.



NJVVMF Office Manager Gerry Appel with family members during the induction of their father into the In Memory Program