



Paul V. Ciarelli named 2023 Hometown Hero of the Year

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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KENOSHA – The Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission is pleased to announce Paul V. Ciarelli as the 2023 Kenosha Hometown Hero of the Year. Ciarelli was honored during the January 17, 2024 Common Council meeting.

The Kenosha Hometown Heroes Commission created this program to identify and recognize as Hometown Heroes worthy men and women, who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces, for their outstanding personal achievements and the positive contributions they make to the Kenosha community. Those honored must be born in, currently reside in, or have previously resided for ten years or more at any time, in the City of Kenosha.

The 2023 Kenosha Hometown Hero of the Year award winner was in the ROTC at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania from September 1974 until May 1975. Ciarelli served in the United States Navy from January 24, 1977 until January 31, 1997, retiring at the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer (E8).

Ciarelli's notable duty assignments/tours of duty include Senior Enlisted Advisor (Command Senior Chief) Personnel support Activity, Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Field Team Leader, Navy Management Systems Support Office (NAVMASSO) Oceana NAS, VA, Division Officer, S7 Division, USS Theodore Roosevelt, CVN-71, Leading Petty Officer, S7 Division, USS America, CV-66, and Crew, S7 Division, USS Independence, CV-62.

He was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3rd); Joint Meritorious Unity Award; Navy Unit commendation; Navy "E" Ribbon (2nd), Good Conduct Medal (4th); Navy Expeditionary Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal (2nd); Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (4th); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait); Navy Pistol Marksmanship Ribbon; and Enlisted Surface Warfare.

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Ciarelli is a member of the VFW Post 7308, Navy Club Ship 40, and is the Current Correspondent (secretary) of the Forty and Eight, Voiture 410. He has held numerous seats at the American Legion, Post 21, and is one of the first associate members of the Kenosha Area Vietnam Veterans (KAVV) Honor Guard who carry on the work and traditions of the KAVV.

Ciarelli is tireless in helping other people and volunteers with many organizations. He is in training to become a Hospice Volunteer; develops and maintains numerous veteran related websites; is a member of the Kenosha Garden Railroad Society; and served a two year term on the American Legion, Department of Wisconsin's Marketing and Communication Committee. He worked with a "Leadership Kenosha" team that contributed a Social Media project to American Legion Post 21; created and presented a "Fundamentals of Information Technology" Class at TAL, Department of Wisconsin Conventions; and currently serves as the American Legion, Department of Wisconsin District 1 Communications Officer.