

Chaplain of the Year Awarded to Gene Staudt

Rev. Peter R. Hook, State Chaplain



The Chaplain of the Year Award recognizes a District or Post Chaplain who demonstrates a commitment to the ministry and duties of a Chaplain, and who exhibits exemplary performance above and beyond normal expectations.

The recipient of the Chaplain of the Year Award for 2018 is Mr. Eugene J. Staudt. Gene serves as Chaplain at All-American VFW Post 914 Intrepid, in West Mifflin, PA.

During the award presentation Gene stated, "This is such a great honor for me, and I am truly humbled to receive this award. I have really been honored to serve the post in the position of chaplain for ten years and have grown into the office."



According to Post 914 Commander, Jake Bradich, "Chaplain Staudt's service as a Chaplain is exemplary, and winning this award shows every member of our organization that we hold two things very dear – God and Country. Gene Staudt demonstrates this not only in his duties as post Chaplain, but also in his personal life. I am very proud as commander to have him in our post."

As Post Chaplain of VFW Post 914, Staudt is the primary agent for developing a post that truly cares for veterans and their families. He is the point of contact for bereavement ceremonies, and he participates in the unit's regular hospital visitation program at Southwest Veterans Hospital located in Pittsburgh, PA.

Gene also volunteers two days each week at Jefferson Hospital, which is part of the Allegheny Health network, and is located in Jefferson Hills, PA?

At Holy Spirit Parish in West Mifflin and Saint Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church in Jefferson Hills, Gene is an active member of the church music program. He is also an active member of the Knights of Columbus. In addition, he organizes local car cruises, as well as the annual West Mifflin Memorial Day services.

Staudt served in Vietnam from (1970-1972) with the United States Army. During combat operations with the 23rd Infantry Division, he served as an artilleryman, fire direction control specialist, and radio telephone operator. He was also attached, during his tour, to the 101st Airborne Division.

Gene and his wife, Linda, have been married for 45 years. They have one son, Chris, daughter-in-law Valerie, and three grandchildren, Hannah, Josh, and Evan.

It was truly an honor for me to present this award to Gene Staudt, a true servant and model for those of us who are called to serve those who served. The Chaplain of the Year receives a framed certificate and an engraved watch. He also gains possession of a framed picture to be displayed at his Post for the coming year.

On the Department Website <http://www.vfwpahq.org> you will find my Chaplain's Page which has information concerning the award, the Monthly Chaplain's Report, and various resources to help comrades.

Blessings as you serve.

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