

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/moorestown-high-school-honors-class-of-veterans/article_0919c1c0-a695-11e6-b8da-ff56153b5226.html

Moorestown High School honors Class of 1964 veterans

By Kelly Kultys, staff writer Nov 9, 2016

MOORESTOWN — When Bruce Deisinger returned to his alma mater about 16 years ago he was excited to show his some the veterans memorial in front of Moorestown High School.

The class of 1964 graduate expected to show his son his name on the "Lest We Forget" memorial that honors of all of the veterans from the school that served in America's wars.

Deisinger, who lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was surprised when he looked closely and did not see his name, despite the fact that he served in Vietnam and received the Purple Heart for his service.

Upon closer inspection, he noticed that many members of the class of 1964 were also missing from the memorial. In total, 18 members of the class were not listed.

Sixteen years later, Deisinger along with the 28 other members of the class of 1964 who served, even those already on the memorial, were honored at the Veterans Day ceremony Wednesday. Organizers hoped the assembly would give students a chance to honor the veterans and the values that they have helped protect throughout the years. During the event, the band and chorus performed patriotic songs, and the veterans received special entrances and exits, with escorts from students.

"Freedom is never free. Our divine and inherent values — freedom, equality and individualism that we hold so close exist and persist because of the great men and women that sit before us today and those who weren't as fortunate," senior Jack Goettle, 18, said before the entire student body and the some 30 veterans in attendance.

Six of those were members of the class of 1964 whose names were recognized for the first time.

"Not only is the plaque to grace the wall in the lobby, but those missing names have been restored," Deisinger said.

Deisinger worked along with another member of his class, Rich Calhoun, to gather all of the names from 1964 and get their records of services. The plaque was donated to the school by the class of 1964.

"It is with pleasure and honor to announce that Moorestown High School is now a part of the healing process for those of us who served in the Vietnam era," Deisinger said.

Deisinger said that he had attempted to contact the Board of Education and school district for a few years, but running into the district's media specialist, John Bishop, at the 50th class reunion helped spark the project.

The 1964 class president, Wayne Winner, came up from Dallas, Texas, to make the official presentation of the plaque to the school district.

Winner, who is not a veteran, said that it was an honor for him to be there to recognize those in his class for their service.

"I'm humbled and honored to be participating here today," he said. "It's a great honor to be part of this Veterans Day celebration."

Winner said that he was happy the school took the time to celebrate those who served, especially those in their community.

Senior Kevin Hughes, 17, said that he was glad the school stopped to recognize the veterans Wednesday, but that students should do it anytime they see a veteran, no matter what time of year it is.

"Honoring our military should not be limited to one day," Kevin said.

"Each person in the service deserves our respect and gratitude everyday."

Kelly Kultys



By Nancy Rokos / Photojournalist
Moorestown High School Principal Andrew Seibel (left) and Moorestown Class President 1964 Wayne Winner, of Dallas, unveil a plaque commemorating those from the Class of 1964 that served in the Vietnam War on Wednesday, Nov. 9. [Blue Photo](#)

Additional Resources

Video: Moorestown High School celebrates its veterans

Burlington County Times, November 9, 2016

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/news/local/video-moorestown-high-school-celebrates-its-veterans/html_084fd4b7-0b78-5ec9-a53b-29cf0b5d67da.html

Photos: Veterans honored at Moorestown High School

Burlington County Times, November 10, 2016

http://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/videos/photos/photos-veterans-honored-at-moorestown-high-school/collection_e681535a-a697-11e6-8fb0-7766d2fc01b5.html