

Proclamation
By Mayor and Council - Township of North Brunswick

WHEREAS, the Township of North Brunswick's **Veteran Street Sign Program** allows Township residents who were Wartime Veterans to be recognized by adding their name on a secondary street sign to an existing Municipal Road; and

WHEREAS, by adding names of local Wartime Veterans to public street signs, we hope to promote public awareness of these individuals and show our appreciation for their outstanding contributions and service to our country as a member of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, eligible military candidates for this honor include honorably discharged Veterans having served in Military Departments as defined under Department of Defense which include Departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS, Wartime Veterans are individuals who served in the active military forces, during a period of armed conflict or who received the armed forces expeditionary or other campaign service medals during an emergency condition, including those who died in the line of duty in the active military forces; and

WHEREAS, **Daniel P. DiStefano** has been selected to be recognized in the Veteran Street Sign Program; and

WHEREAS, **Daniel P. DiStefano** was born on July 13,1948 in Metuchen, New Jersey. He lived in Florida, Virginia and spent forty – three years of his life as a resident of North Brunswick Township before moving to Monroe; and

WHEREAS, **Daniel P. DiStefano** was the grandson of an Italian immigrant Dominic and the son of Frank, both of whom were barbers. Danny started learning the family trade at the age of sixteen, the summer of his Junior year of school, commuting on a bus to New York every day to learn the trade. Once Danny completed his licensing requirements to become a barber, his Dad told him he wasn't skilled enough to cut hair at their barber shop. In turn he worked free for another barber in Old Bridge the first half of his senior year until Danny joined their family business. To be sure Danny valued and appreciated this opportunity, his father paid him less than everyone else. Danny cut hair for extra money until he was drafted into the United States Army after his high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, Danny was inducted into the Army November 6,1967 and deployed to the Vietnam War in April 1968. He spent time on guard duty at the ammunition depot. This was serious and dangerous work as it was an obvious target the enemy was constantly trying to destroy. He was also a gunner on helicopters. Service to country was important to the DiStefano family. Danny's father, Frank, served in the United States Army during WW11. His brother, Richard, was a Marine.

WHEREAS, being a barber brought many blessings, including an assignment to the driving detail. Ultimately the Colonel needed a new driver. Danny shared many fond memories of that post. Most notably driving for Bob Hope. Danny served his country proudly and received an honorable discharge on November 5, 1973; and

WHEREAS, In 1971 Danny worked during the day as a barber and put himself through real estate school at night. Long after his success in real estate, Danny continued to cut hair at the old barbershop for years on Saturdays. This was right in line with the DiStefano family values of humility and hard work; and

WHEREAS, Danny served on the North Brunswick Planning Board for twenty – five years and the September 11th Committee for twenty – one years. He remains active in the Adams AC for forty plus years. Danny loves to "Shoot the Shit" as he likes to share on Tuesday nights, loves attending the Adams AC Fish Fry, volunteering at the Youth Sports Festival and many more activities; and

WHEREAS, Danny is married to Karen. The father to Kelly, Robbie, Brent and the father – in – law to Lance. Danny is the proud Pop Pop to Kelly's three children Kyleigh, Ryan, Chase and Robbie's two girls Shannon and Addy.

WHEREAS, **Danny's** hobbies include his gardening skills, planting and tending to his flowers. He had approximately seventy flower pots in his yard last year. He loves taking trips to the Jersey Shore. He loves the thrill of the casino, a master at the craps table, loves the stock market, real estate and is an omelette maker extraordinaire. The last five years he became a wine maker; and

WHEREAS, **Danny loves his family, country and believes strongly in supporting his community. Danny is an optimist** and looks at the world with a positive mindset. He always modeled helping others and taught his children to leave the world better than they found it. Danny is loved by many of the North Brunswick Community for his kindness, loyalty and volunteer spirit:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and Council of the Township of North Brunswick, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM**, distinguished recognition to **Daniel P. DiStefano** for his service to our country ensuring freedom for all.

Francis M. Womack III
Mayor

Rajesh Mehta
Council President

Bob Davis
Councilman

Lou Ann Benson
Director
Parks, Recreation, Community Services

Lisa Russo, Township Clerk
April 3, 2023