

PRESS RELEASE

July 25, 2018

First Selectman's Office

Town of Ellington

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Ellington Wall of Honor Inductee

Sherwood Merk

At the July 9, 2018 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Sherwood Merk was selected to be inducted to the Ellington Wall of Honor. Nominated by his best friend Marjorie Hill, Mr. Merk's application included references to his many years spent dedicated to the work of the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC).

Born in Rockville, Sherwood had a 40-year career as a SNET installer-repairman, but he didn't let that stop him from enjoying his other interests, including back road cross-country traveling throughout America (including Alaska), repairing clocks, hitting the slopes at Fox Hill, and spending days at the Crystal Lake Water Skiing Club.

However, his real passion was the development and growth of Ellington Rescue Post 512; this unique program allows high school students to receive emergency medical training and assist on ambulance calls during the school day. A thirty-year EVAC volunteer, Sherwood was instrumental in the reestablishment of the Post, and spent twenty years serving as the advisor, trainer and leader of the program, one of the only of its kind in the State of Connecticut. In his time overseeing Ellington Rescue Post 512, it transformed from a fledgling group to a renowned organization of exceptional youths. During the years under Sherwood's tutelage, the Post received such accolades as the IBM Give and Learn Award, resulting in Ellington High School receiving \$80,000 worth of new computers, as well as the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

First Selectman, Lori Spielman said "Sherwood had immeasurable influence on Ellington's youth. Many attribute their careers in the medical field to his guidance and mentoring, and these individuals stayed in touch with him throughout the years."

The impact of Mr. Merk's contribution to the Town of Ellington is widespread and his spirit of helping others will continue to be felt by many. His absence may be felt from his tables at the Chuck Wagon and Gerry's Donuts, but through his induction to the Wall of Honor, he will never be forgotten.

A formal induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at the site of the Wall of Honor, located in Arbor Park [off of Main Street]. The public is encouraged to attend.