



MERCER MEMORIAL DAY 500 PRESENTS.....

CORPORAL RICH WILDS, U.S.M.C. (RET)

Mr. Rich Wilds has been selected as one of three veterans to be honored May 30th. He will participate in the Mercer Memorial 500 parade, observance and community picnic.

He served his country from 1967 to 1968 in Vietnam, (DeNang and Con Tien). He was preparing to leave for R & R in Australia but, due to a mix-up with his shot record, he had to return to the rear area. While there he observed his company making plans for their next operation. He expressed concern to the captain about the number of young new arrivals that he would be taking to accomplish the mission. He decided to volunteer for one last assignment before heading to Australia and back to the States. While the company secured their position they received enemy fire. Many lost their lives that day. Many were wounded. Corporal Wilds suffered the loss of his right eye and received severe injuries to his legs.

He has received the Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, Vietnamese Campaign Medal.

Mercer County salutes Corporal Wilds for his valor and service to his country.