



Office of County Commissioners
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Recognition of Mr. Hugh Rucker

On behalf of the Habersham County Board of Commissioners, it is both an honor and a privilege to recognize a very special member of our community today.

Mr. Hugh Rucker has been a part of the Habersham County family since May 7, 2018, serving in our Recreation Department. In this role, he has assisted countless members of the public with warmth, kindness, and patience. Those who know him best will tell you that he is always smiling, always welcoming, and always willing to lend a helping hand. His dedication has touched not only our recreation programs but also the lives of many young people through his work with youth sports.

But beyond his service to our county, Mr. Rucker's life is also a testimony of courage, sacrifice, and resilience. As a young man, Hugh Rucker answered the call to serve his country in the United States Army, where he served in the Infantry Division and achieved the rank of Sergeant E5 during the Vietnam War. During his service, the half-track vehicle carrying his unit struck a landmine. Many of his fellow soldiers did not survive that day. Mr. Rucker himself was severely injured, requiring months of recovery in a German hospital. For his bravery and sacrifice, he was awarded the Purple Heart.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Mr. Rucker's exemplary service was further recognized through numerous military honors. He received the Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation Badge, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device and 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster. His skill and discipline were also acknowledged with the Marksman Qualification Badge with .45 Caliber Pistol Bar and the Sharpshooter Badge with Mortar Bar. These commendations stand as a testament not only to his courage under fire, but also to his steadfast dedication and exceptional ability as a soldier.

We stand here today deeply grateful—not only for his military service and the sacrifices he made in defense of our nation—but also for the joy, commitment, and compassion he continues to bring to Habersham County each and every day.

At 80 years young, Mr. Hugh Rucker is a shining example of service, perseverance, and community spirit. We are proud to honor him today for all he has given—to his country, to our county, and to the people who are fortunate enough to know him.

Please join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Hugh Rucker for his extraordinary service, his unwavering kindness, and the inspiration he provides to us all.