

MANATEE COUNTY VETERANS COUNCIL

2023 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

RHONDA DAILY

It is an honor to nominate Rhonda Daily for Civilian of the Year for 2023. What she has contributed to the community in job-related activities, as a volunteer, and to Veterans over the years is truly remarkable.

During many years of employment, she volunteered for 11 years as the coach for the Braden River Soccer Club and raised over \$30,000 annually for local and national non-profits. For several years she worked for companies that dealt with brain and neurological injuries and developed several programs that improved the patients' quality of life significantly.

Despite the merits of these volunteer activities, Mrs. Daily has stood without peer as a volunteer for Veterans, their organization, and their activities. If there was a title of "Mrs. Veteran", she would win it hands down. Some examples:

Veterans Foreign Wars (VFW)--she is the biggest supporter of VFW Post 12055, more than most members:


- She accompanies her husband on almost every fund-raiser.
- At a recent garage sale, she was on site at 6:30 AM and stayed until it was almost over.
- She joins Post members in reading hundreds of essays for VFW programs.
- She also joins Post members in reading the applications for the Post's scholarships.
- She "works" the Post booth at all fund raisers and "Poppy Drives".
- She helps her husband organize countless Post social functions.
- She is an active recruiter.

Wreaths Across America: she has volunteered at Sarasota National Cemetery every year the program has been in existence.

Covid: she assembled "goody bags" for elderly neighbors and distributed them.

The Council honored her husband, Dave Daily, with selection as Veteran of the Year in 2020. As much as he has accomplished to deserve that honor, he would not have been as successful in his endeavors without her undying support.

In my opinion, no "civilian" supports veterans more than she does, and I can't imagine anyone more deserving of this honor.



Gill H. Ruderman  
Trustee, VFW Post 12055

