



**City of Everett**  
Office of the Mayor  
**Carlo DeMaria, Jr.**  
484 Broadway  
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Monday, May 29, 2017**

### **CITY GATHERS TO OBSERVE MEMORIAL DAY**

On Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, the City of Everett gathered at Glenwood Cemetery in observance of Memorial Day. Hundreds of residents, City and State officials, and the Veterans community joined together to honor and remember those who served in our armed forces.

The service also honored one of Everett's own, US Navy 2nd Class Petty Officer Christopher D. Brienza, who died on March 2, 2017 while serving on Active Duty in Pensacola, Fla.

Mayor DeMaria stated, "Our community and country have suffered a tremendous loss and we are all proud to call Chris one of Everett's own. Today's Memorial Day Service is dedicated to this hero and to all those who have sacrificed so much in order to protect our freedom and democracy."

Prior to gathering at Glenwood Cemetery, attendees assembled at Everett High School where Mayor DeMaria and Superintendent Foresteire laid down two wreaths in memory of Chris and those who served in our armed forces. The wreath ceremony was created to reflect and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Mayor DeMaria addressed the audience and explained the significance of recognizing the sacrifice made by Chris Brienza, and the heavy weight of the sacrifice that will be borne by his family each and every day. He was pleased to announce that in the coming months he will work with Senator DiDomenico and Representative McGonagle to introduce legislation that would make the Brienza family, and other families like theirs, eligible for Gold Star family recognition.

Right now, Massachusetts is one of only 20 states that doesn't recognize the families of soldiers killed on active duty while stateside with Gold Star status.

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