

## Seeking Office of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America National Region II Director.

### Bobbie Morris

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I have served as deputy region director from 2013 until present.

My husband and best friend of 47 years, Philip, was a life member of VVA, since 2001. We have a blessing of a daughter Dara Rae, who is a special needs child/adult who we believe is affected by toxic exposure. Our family has been a life-long resident of Beaver County Pa.



I come from a military background with my father (Big Red one) who served in WW II and my brother who served in Vietnam and is still suffering the effects PTSD + Agent Orange.

As a life member of AVVA I believe in our mission, to work side by side with our Veterans and their families and reaching out into our community.

As regional director I would focus on the needs of our members; be available to help in any way that I can, working with state and chapter leadership to move into a positive future for our organization.

I have been honored to receive the National Presidents Commendation medal, the V.I.S.T.A volunteer 1<sup>st</sup> place 2015, The Pennsylvania Angel Award 2009/2012/2014, and the AVVA Member of the Year Award, 2001.

#### **My Past and Present Experience:**

- AVVA member of chapter 862 from 2001 until present.
- Founder of and representative for chapter 862 - 2001-2004.
- Coordinator of the chapter incorporation process; completed and received our Charter 2010.
- President of chapter 862 from 2010 until present.
- Organizer of our chapter Agent Orange Town Hall meeting in 2011.
- Chairperson of the Tent of Memorabilia and Honor Tent for the moving wall 2002-2008 and 2014.

- Chairperson of our A/O Annual Balloon Release from 2009-2018.
- Organizing and assisting with Gold Star Mother Banquets 2002-2018.
- PA AVVA State Association treasurer from 2011-2014.
- PA AVVA State Association president 2014 until present.
- Pennsylvania Veterans Assistance Fund secretary from 2011 until present.
- Chairperson of the PA state fund-raising committee from 2009-2015.
- Chairperson and organizer of the Secondary PTSD Symposium 2012.
- Chairperson of the PA Widows Project, sending informational packet sent out to Family members 2009 - 2012.
- Organizer of our PA State Association Agent Orange Town Hall meeting 2013.
- Organized and participated in training for presidents and representatives on the procedure of chapter elections.

### **AVVA National:**

- Attended conventions and conferences 2009-2018.
- Member of the national Membership Committee from 2013 until present.
- Member of the national Agent Orange Committee from 2009 until 2015, including being a featured speaker at national conventions & A/O Town Halls.
- Member of the national VISTA Committee from 2015 until present.
- Featured in *Faces of Agent Orange*, "the Morris Story" on you tube, local news, and *Pittsburg Tribune*.
- Assisted in writing new policy and updating old policy.
- National Incorporation Committee chair from 2015 until present.
- Region II deputy director from 2013 until present.
- Participated in creating training material for online classes.

I have worked with our members promoting various events and functions for the past 18 years and will continue our mission supporting Veterans and Their families. It is my vision to see growth in membership, setting long and short-term goals to ensure AVVA remains a perpetual organization moving into the future even when VVA closes their door.

Respectfully,

*Bobbie Morris*