



Borough of Glen Ridge
825 Bloomfield Avenue
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028
www.glenridgenj.org

May 18, 2020

Dear Glen Ridge Residents,

On May 14, 2020 the Borough and its residents joined together to memorialize and celebrate the life and legacy of Sergeant Charles "Rob" Roberts and thereafter to accompany him to his final rest. His untimely passing was, and is, a tremendous loss to all of us as the following four examples of the broad-based outpouring of support for him and his family clearly demonstrate.

First, virtually every municipal police department in Essex County, the State and County Police Departments as well as police departments from several other counties participated in Rob's memorial service and tribute,

Second, possibly the most moving aspect of the memorial were the literally hundreds and hundreds of Glen Ridge residents who showed their respect and love for Rob as they silently lined the procession route, festooned in orange and blue, with their hands over their hearts. That communal gesture spoke reams about the manner in which Rob lived his life and served the residents of Glen Ridge,

Third, in less than one week, over 2,000 people have already contributed to the Roberts Family's Go Fund Me page, and

Finally, those wishing to show their support for Rob literally spanned the globe as we were able to live stream his memorial service. One Glen Ridge resident, who was on a ship off the coast of Panama in the Pacific Ocean 2,300 miles away wrote to me to thank the Borough for giving him the ability to witness the service.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and the Borough Council, to especially thank and express our appreciation to Borough Administrator Michael Zichelli, Police Chief Sheila Byron-Lagattuta and her command staff as well as our Department of Public Works for their monumental accomplishment in planning and executing this extremely memorable and moving tribute in less than three days. I am still in absolute awe of their achievement.

In thinking about the sad events of the past week, I believe that the best way for us, as a community, to remember and honor Rob is to stay the course, continue to practice strict social distancing, including wearing masks to protect others, and to do everything possible to help prevent any more of our residents from contracting this insidious disease.

In conclusion, I personally have been extremely moved by the way our community has come together and the tremendous love and support it has demonstrated, and continues to demonstrate, for Rob and his family. I could not be any prouder to be both a Ridger and your Mayor.

Please continue to keep Rob and the Roberts family in your hearts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Stuart K. Patrick
Mayor Stuart K. Patrick