

## MRC Volunteer Highlight: Bill Tady received the 2024 Shelby County Outstanding Senior Citizen Award



Teri Heath, Director of Nursing, Sidney-Shelby County Health Dept.  
Bill Tady, Shelby County MRC Volunteer  
Roberta Mangen, Sidney-Shelby County Health Dept.

On May 22, 2024 Bill Tady received the 2024 Shelby County Outstanding Senior Citizen Award at the Shelby County Senior Center in Sidney, Ohio. Bill Tady is long standing member of the Shelby County MRC and we appreciate all of his hard work, volunteerism, and contributions over the years to our Shelby County MRC Unit. Below is the article that was submitted by Joann Scott, Director of Wilson Health Home Care & Hospice for his nomination for this award.

Background: Mr. Bill Tady's background includes 23 years of service in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsman and 13 years of that attached to the Marine Corps as a combat medic achieving the rank of Chief Petty Officer. He built his home in Russia to put down roots just shortly before retiring from the Navy. He stayed very active in several jobs, including being a school bus driver, after leaving the Navy. Bill has been a Member of the Russia Catholic War Veterans since 1983 and is still a member. He has been a member of St.

Remy's Catholic Church in Russia since 1976. He is a senior server and a Eucharistic Minister taking Holy Communion to the homebound. Bill was one of the first members of the Shelby County Medical Reserve Corps in 2004 and still active. With the Community Blood Center Bill has donated blood since 2004.

Outstanding Contributions: Bill has been a hospice volunteer for Wilson Health Hospice since April of 1997. During his 26 years of service he has performed a variety of services from patient and family care and support, fund raising, to assisting with veteran pinning's. Bill particularly enjoys working with the veterans in hospice. He is always willing to go above and beyond to help others.

Wilson Health Hospice had a pinning ceremony for a patient who served in the Korean War. The entire family was present plus 5 staff members and Ron Leininger, a veteran, who did the pinning. The patient had just been assigned Hospice Volunteer, Bill Tady, who was visiting for the first time. After receiving two pins, one from Wilson Health Hospice (We Honor Veterans) and one from the State of Ohio Veterans and while the National Anthem was still playing, the patient was asked if there was anything else we could do for him. In his weakened condition he was able to say my caduceus. The family explained he was a medic in the Air Force and had lost his pin. He wanted to know if we could get him another one. Ron said, "I believe I can do that." Bill Tady spoke up and said, "I can do it quicker. I was a medic in the Navy." He proceeded to take the pin off his hat and pinned it on the patient. Bill said, "This is the one I was given in the Navy over 50 years ago. I hope it's okay." Glowing, the patient said, "That will be just fine!" A lasting bond was formed with the patient and volunteer over having both served as medics in the military many years ago.

That pinning was in February of 2020, the last one before COVID-19. The Pandemic changed many things. Hospice was only allowed to send essential caregivers into homes and facilities. Patients and facilities staffs were afraid of caregivers and volunteers bringing COVID into their homes and facilities. Bill did not miss a beat. He turned to the Shelby County Health Department that was in need and contributed over 100 hours of community service supporting the Sidney Shelby County Health Department Corona Virus Response.

Bill's dedication to helping goes beyond his church and organizations. A friend was moving out West and Bill asked if there was anything he could do for her. She asked him to tend to her flower garden at the cemetery. That was 10 years ago and Bill is still taking care of those flowers today. Bill Tady is a caring and generous person that has touched many lives in a very positive way. He has helped many anonymously through his donations to the Community Blood Bank. He has donated life-saving blood 210 times. We are honored that he still finds time to volunteer for hospice. Bill turned 87 years old on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and still serves our community in many ways on a daily basis.