

## JEAN MARTIN CHRISTIE CLASS OF 1979

Jean was born and raised in Point Pleasant. While in high school, Jean was a member of the marching and concert bands, and was a member of the pit orchestra for several of the musical productions. Other activities during high school included Girl Scouts and working at the Townhouse Senior Living Facility. After graduating from PPBHS, Jean attended Douglass College (Rutgers University) where she majored in Sociology with a certificate in Criminal Justice. Upon graduation from Douglass College in 1983, Jean enrolled at Rutgers University School of Social Work where she earned her Master of Social Work (MSW) in 1985.

Jean is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the State of New Jersey. Since 1985, Jean has worked as a social worker in various settings residential care for adolescents with severe emotional issues; residential care for adults with chronic and persistent mental illness; inpatient psychiatric hospital; and out-patient behavioral health and addictions In 2011, Jean began working as a Military Family Life programs. Counselor (MFLC) with the New Jersey National Guard. The goal of this program was to provide counseling services to geographically dispersed members of the National Guard on issues related to military lifestyle and deployment. In this position, she provides individual, family and couples counseling to members of the NJ National Guard and their families. In addition, she provided psycho-education to service members and their families before, during and after deployment through the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. Jean works closely with Family Readiness Groups during deployments to help spouses, partners and family members while their soldier or airman is deployed. In addition, and sometimes the best part of the job, she works with children

of the service members at the annual National Guard Child and Youth Program Youth Camp every summer at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girl, NJ. For her work and dedication to the families of the National Guard, Jean was awarded the Civilian Meritorious Service Medal from the Adjutant General in August 2014. The Civilian Meritorious Service Medal is the highest award a civilian can receive from the NJ National Guard.

Jean has been a member of the Girl Scouts of the USA for 33 years, beginning in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, when her mother was her leader. As a young girl, she earned her First Class award, the highest award a Girl Scout could earn at the time. She was a leader with her sister Jane for her niece Amanda for several years and later went on to lead a troop for her daughter Monica. As a troop leader, she assisted her troop in earning their Bronze award, as well as mentoring 4 girls to their Silver Award and 3 girls to their Gold Award. Jean is currently the Service Unit Manager and Registrar of the East Brunswick Girl Scouts, as well as being a Trainer for the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey. As an adult volunteer, Jean has been awarded the Outstanding Volunteer Award from the Girl Scouts of East Brunswick, Volunteer of Excellence, and Helping Hands Award from the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey.

In addition to her work with the Girl Scouts, Jean also volunteers in other community programs. She has been a Site Director for the FastBreak Basketball Association in East Brunswick and is a member and current chairperson of the East Brunswick Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. She also helps her husband, Wayne, as advisor of the Temple Shalom of Aberdeen youth groups.

In 1987, Jean married Wayne Christie and together they have two children – Nicholas, a 2008 graduate of East Brunswick High School and a 2013 graduate of Drexel University; and Monica, a 2013 graduate of East Brunswick High School and a soon to be graduate of Philadelphia University. Mrs. Christie currently resides in East Brunswick, NJ.