



New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus

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West Orange, N. J. 07052
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James E. Stoever, State Secretary



February 12, 2020

Worthy Grand Knight,

The State Council is thrilled and honored to have as the guest speaker at its convention banquet Mr. Frank DeVita. Frank is a member of Our Lady of the Hills Council in Martinsville. He is also a Coast Guard veteran of World War II who participated in the D-Day landing on the beaches of Normandy, France on June 6, 1944. On that date over 130,000 allied forces stormed the beaches to begin the liberation of France and Western Europe starting the defeat of Nazi Germany. At age 19 Frank controlled the opening and closing of the landing ramp of a Higgins boat enabling the ground troops to wade through the water to take the beaches. Over 18 hours Frank made 15 trips back and forth that day ferrying these brave men from the relative safety of the ships to a very unfriendly landing on the shore of Normandy. For his heroic efforts he was awarded the French Legion of Honor, the highest award given by the French government. For 70 years Frank did not speak of the horrors he witnessed on that day so long ago. It was only recently, at the urging of his son, that he ended his silence to honor his fallen brothers in arms to tell the tale so future generations knew the sacrifices made in the name of liberty and freedom.

This will be an evening that you will not want to miss. Please plan on attending as we thank and honor Frank for his gallant service to not only our country but to the people of France and Europe. Please send in your reservations for the Saturday night banquet promptly as seating is limited.

All documents related to the 124th Annual New Jersey State Convention will also be posted, as they become available, on the Convention tab on the state website at www.njkofc.org.

As convention activities are completed, details will be sent to you via email. Enjoy the Convention.

Fraternally yours,
James E. Stoever
James E. Stoever
State Secretary

Patriots Protecting All God's Children