

Arizona Silent Service Memorial



Public Dedication Ceremony
Saturday April 17th, 2021 at 1000
Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ

*To perpetuate the
memory of our shipmates
who gave their lives in the
pursuit of their duties
while serving their coun-
try, and to honor those
sailors who are serving
our country beneath the
world's oceans today*

Dedication Ceremony Agenda

Welcome

Invocation

Parade the Colors – NTAC SW Color Guard

Anthem

Pledge

Tolling Ceremony – Perch base Commander/COB

Guest Speaker Introduction

Guest Speaker Remarks – Vern Parks

Chairman Remarks

Benediction

Vernon J. Parks Jr
Captain, USN, Retired
Senior Professional Staff, JHU APL

Vern Parks, a native of New Jersey, is a career Naval Officer, serving as a Submarine Officer and as a Joint Officer in various and diverse assignments over the course of 30+ years. He recently retired as a Captain from the US Navy and started a second career as a Senior Professional member of The Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU APL).

Vern graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 1989 with a B.A. in Political Science and holds advanced degrees in Business Administration from Brenau University and National Security Strategy from the National Defense University.

He is leading JHU APL's work in SSBN Operational Analysis as well as providing Naval and Joint Military subject matter expertise in several study projects including Anti-submarine Coordinated Operations, Lethality and Kill Chain effectiveness, and sea-bed operations.

In the Navy, Vern commanded Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE (DEVRON 12) from May 2012 – June 2014, where he was responsible for leading tactical development and the center of excellence for the US Submarine Force as well as manning, training, and equipping 9 front-line Los Angeles-class and Virginia-class fast attack nuclear-powered submarines. He also commanded USS SANTA FE (SSN 763) from January 2007 – January 2010, during which time his crew completed a Depot Modernization Period, conducted a homeport shift and interfleet transfer from Portsmouth, NH to Pearl Harbor, HI, deployed to the Western Pacific and was awarded the COMSUBRON SEVEN Battle Efficiency "E" award for calendar year 2009, as well as several other ship and department awards.

At-sea, he served in USS BATON ROUGE (SSN 689), USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709), PCU/USS LOUISIANA (SSBN 743G), and USS HELENA (SSN 725).

Ashore, his Naval and Joint Military staff assignments included Assistant Operations and Exercise Officer for Commander, Submarine Force, Atlantic; Material and Engineering Training Officer at COMSUBRON SIXTEEN; Executive Assistant to Commander, Submarine Forces; Deputy Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Management; Assistant Deputy Director for Regional Operations and Global Force Management (ADDRO) on the Joint Staff; Director of Navy's Future Strategy; Executive Assistant to the Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Chief Strategist for the Chief of Naval Personnel, and Director of Innovation, Results Delivery Office for the Chief of Naval Personnel where he was directly responsible for transforming the Navy's MPT&E enterprise.