

Apache Junction's All American Veterans Parade 2017

There's nothing that matches a hometown Veterans Day Parade. And this was a beautiful day for it. Morning temps were in the 60's. The sky was clear and the sun was warm.

Apache Junction's Veterans Day Parade travels Apache Trail on both sides, between Phelps & Gold Drives. There was a large turnout of people lining the Trail to show respect to our Veterans and lots of American Pride.

There were two flyovers... 4 jets in formation followed shortly afterward by the B-17 bomber 'Sentimental Journey'. Her home base is the nearby Commemorative Air Force Airbase Museum, on Greenfield in Mesa. With Bruce having served in the Air Force, we are rather partial to jets & planes {:o) Both displays were beautiful and impressive to watch.

There were 60 parade entries, making it their largest parade so far. Entries included a marching band, Veterans organizations, Scout troops, ROTC units, service organizations, local businesses, various dignitaries, car clubs, horseback riders, and {of course} motorcycles.

The distinctive rumble of motorcycles announced the arrival of the American Legion Riders of Apache Junction's Post 27 and their guests...

including riders from HOG {Harley Owners Group} and CMA {Christian Motorcyclists Association}. Eagle Riders from the local Eagles Aerie also had a motorcycle entry.

Veterans Day is one that can generate mixed feelings in some people. It is observed in many ways. This was a heartwarming opportunity to extend Respect & Appreciation for our Veterans. It was particularly good to see the respect and interest we observed from the youth during the day. Despite feelings one may have for or against our military activities, it is our Veterans ~ our Warriors ~ who are Honored this day, for their Service to our Country.

We are glad we could be there.

Betsy & Bruce

