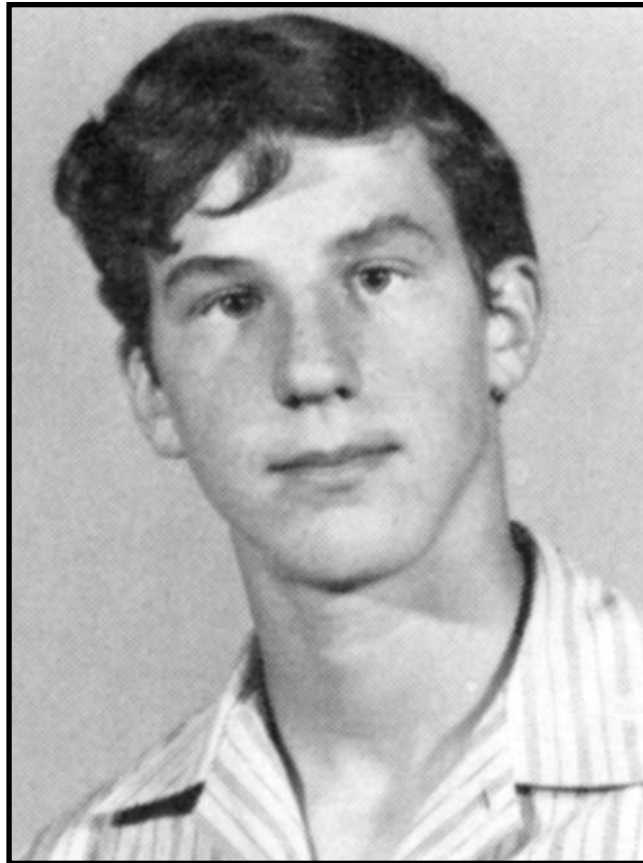


Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame



Barry Thomas Sullivan
National Park Service Manager / Resources Planner
Class of 1972

Although Barry Thomas Sullivan was awarded the Future Teachers of America Scholarship when he graduated in 1972, he never actually spent his days in front of a class. However, in more than one way he did “educate” millions of people.

Barry used his degrees in Biology and Outdoor Recreation (Kean University) and his Master’s degree in Environmental Education (South Connecticut State University) in the most meaningful ways during his 34-plus years with the National Park Service.

In July 2010, he retired from the post of General Superintendent of Gateway National Park Area, the 26,000 acre parkland that surrounds the entrance to New York Harbor, an area of diverse cultural, natural and recreational features that attracts over ten million visitors annually.

He began his NPS career at the Edison National Historic Site in New Jersey and spent the next 26 years in diverse geographical regions of the United States, including Theodore Roosevelt National Park (ND), Blue Ridge Parkway (NC), Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Fire Island National Seashore. In these venues he directed science/resource management operations, law enforcement, search and rescue, wild land fire operations, museum/cultural preservation facilities, education/interpretive operations and maintenance and construction operations.

He received numerous awards for his achievements in park management, resources stewardship and developing outstanding community relations, and in 2010 received the prestigious “National Park Superintendent of the Year Award for Natural Resource Stewardship.”

Barry’s extreme interest in, and outstanding devotion to, the issues of climate change and ocean initiatives still continue. He was named a “visiting professor” by Rutgers University and produced a report for the Secretary of the Interior suggesting what steps be taken to restore the greater Hudson-Raritan Estuary (NY Harbor and its tributaries). He is also working on reports on climate change and resource-related issues, subjects with which he is well acquainted, having led, chaired, or served on Northeast Region’s Ocean Park Task Force and its Climate Change Task Force. He served also on the Secretary of the Interior’s Climate Change Committee and the New York City Climate Change 2030 Committee.