

Bio

Clyde Rabideau was born a Marine Corps dependent in Miami Beach, Florida, and grew up in West Plattsburgh, New York, working in the building trades with his extended family from an early age.

He lettered in five sports at Saranac Central School and was the school's first All-State athlete, medaling in the state's wrestling championships, and was an All-Conference football player at middle guard. He also became the school's first NCAA Division I athlete, earning a varsity letter on the Army Wrestling Team.

Clyde later graduated from Clarkson University's School of Management and was named to the university's Phalanx Leadership Society. He also was the artist for university's weekly newspaper, *The Integrator*, garnering a top rating for his work from a national college newspaper rating service.

Clyde formed what became *Rabideau Corp.* within weeks of college graduation, building single-family and multi-family projects with commercial and Industrial buildings soon following.

He founded the regional chain of *Checkout Convenience Stores*, developing and operating ten units in Clinton and Essex Counties, later selling the company to Sugar Creek Stores.

Clyde was elected Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh in 1989 and served in that capacity for ten years; five two-year terms. During this tenure, he was elected President of the New York Conference of Mayors and won the 1998 NYS Democratic Convention for the post of Lt. Governor, and was endorsed by the editorial board of the *New York Times*. In his last days in office, Plattsburgh's daily newspaper, the *Press-Republican*, in an editorial, called Clyde, "the greatest mayor Plattsburgh has ever seen."

Clyde and former Governor Mario Cuomo are credited for bringing the Bombardier rail car manufacturing facility to Plattsburgh soon after the closure of Plattsburgh Air Force Base, spurring the highly-acclaimed re-development of the former military installation.

After this political era, Clyde re-located his contracting operations to the Tri-Lakes, where the company built a diverse portfolio of residential, commercial and institutional projects as well as historical restorations.

In 2010, Clyde was elected Mayor of the Village of Saranac Lake declaring "sustainable job creation" as his number one priority.

Fourteen months later, in June 2011, with his Board of Trustees, Clyde announced the move of two bio-tech firms to Saranac Lake and the formation of a bio-tech cluster in *The Capital of the Adirondacks*, teaming with Trudeau Research Institute and Bionque already in place. He also initiated the village's Walk of Fame, honoring national and world-renowned former residents with bronze plaques along Main Street and Broadway.

Clyde was re-elected in 2014 with 80% of the vote after creating the award-winning Saranac Lake 6er program, spearheading the million-dollar "Re-build Saranac Lake" bond issue to replace inferior sidewalks and helping to gain the funding for two new resort hotel projects. He also started the village's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

"The Mayor" ran unopposed in 2018 and went on to spearhead the effort to win a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Award, DRI, from the State of New York.

Clyde, a Journeyman Inside Wireman, is a brother in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local #910.

He is married to Janie Bevilacqua Rabideau and they have 7 children and 7 grandchildren and counting.