



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kenneth P. LaValle

Local Veteran Inducted Into Online NYS Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame

KENNETH P. LAVALLE June 3, 2010

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Senator Kenneth P. LaValle recently honored Eugene McSherry of Wading River as the First Senate District 2010 inductee into the online New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame. The site was designed to pay tribute to New Yorkers whose gallantry in the U.S. Armed Forces is complemented by their service to the community and accomplishments as a civilian.

According to Senator LaValle, the New York State Senate honored veterans selected from throughout the state at a reception held in Albany on June 1, 2010. The distinguished honorees were invited guests at a Senate session, where they were presented with a special resolution acknowledging their service to our country.

Mr. McSherry began his military career when he enlisted in the Army in November of 1962. He was sent to Berlin, Germany, where he was stationed for 3 years. During his service, Mr. McSherry received several medals in recognition of his honorable service including the Good Conduct, Berlin Occupation, and Expeditionary Medal. He served with the National Guard from 1975 to 1998 and with the

Maintenance Battalion in Riverhead from 1982 to 1996.

As Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Riverhead Post #2476 since 2003, Mr. McSherry was instrumental in restoring the Eternal Flame at the corner of Court and West Main Street in Riverhead. For the past six years, he has also been involved in the restoring the World War II Monument at the corner of Pulaski Street and Osborn Avenue. In 1946, the monument was dedicated to all Riverhead and Riverside WWII veterans. Later, plaques honoring veterans who served in Korea and Vietnam were added, but there has been no maintenance to the monument and it is in dire need of repair. Commander McSherry also supports education with awards to local school children for the Patriot Pen Program and the JROTC program. He remains active in veterans' causes throughout the state and is very involved in improving the quality of life in his community.

“Our veterans are true heroes who have demonstrated extraordinary courage and commitment in protecting the freedoms we treasure,” said Senator LaValle. “The New York State Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame is a fitting tribute that demonstrates our respect and gratitude for their patriotism and sacrifice. Commander McSherry is truly worthy of this honor.”