



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Catharine Young

Angelica Army Veteran Honored in Medal Ceremony

CATHARINE YOUNG July 27, 2012

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Veteran Receives Overdue Medals, Certificate During American Legion Meeting

ANDOVER – Nearly 45 years after completing his time in the military, Specialist 4 John C. Harrington received well-deserved medals earned during his service to the country.

During a ceremony at the Allegany County American Legion Committee Meeting on Thursday, Senator Catharine Young (R,C,I – Olean) presented Spec. 4 Harrington with the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal and a Cold War

Recognition Certificate.

Spec. 4 Harrington expressed his appreciation for the awards ceremony. “When you get up to 70 years old, you don’t expect to receive awards for military service in the 1960s. I was pretty excited about it. It’s an honor,” said Spec. 4 Harrington.

Walt Lindsley, a past commander for the Allegany County American Legion, commented on the importance of these awards, highlighting the nearly 30 years that Spec. 4 Harrington has served as treasurer for the American Legion. “It’s a good thing. He’s just an all-around good guy, very dedicated,” said Lindsley.

“John is still working to help other veterans with their problems. This is a great honor for him,” said Richard Homuth, a past district commander in the American Legion.

“Spec. 4 Harrington not only served in the United States Army, he has provided years of leadership to veterans organizations. It is an incredible privilege for me to present these medals and certificate to him. Our veterans deserve the utmost respect, and I am thankful for the opportunity to recognize Spec. 4 Harrington for his courage, dedication, and years of service to our country,” said Senator Young.

A graduate of Angelica Central School, Spec. 4 Harrington enlisted in the Army, beginning his service on August 25, 1961.

Spec. 4 Harrington received training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, as a motor vehicle/transportation supply/parts specialist, where he worked in aviation supply.

He was deployed to Korea for a year-long tour of duty. His time in Korea was extended an additional month while his ship, which had been rammed on the way out, was repaired.

After he returned to the United States, he was assigned to the 539th Transportation Company, New Cumberland Army Depot in Pennsylvania.

Spec. 4 Harrington completed his military obligation on August 24, 1967, and he returned to Angelica. He took a job with Dresser-Rand where he worked for 39 years until his retirement.

Spec. 4 Harrington has been a member of the Angelica American Legion Warner Hill Post 414 for 46 years. He continues to dedicate his time and leadership to the American Legion, serving in a variety of positions and committees. He previously served as Allegany County Commander and has held a position as Budget and Finance Officer for 26 years.

Veterans with questions about medals or other issues should call Senator Young's office at (800) 707-0058 or email cyoung@nysenate.gov.

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