



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael H. Ranzenhofer

## Harry Kreter

MICHAEL H. RANZENHOFER May 18, 2012



Harry Kreter

**Award:** Honoring Our Veterans

**Year:** 2012

Harry "Hal" Kreter entered the U.S. Marine Corps in June of 1971 and never looked back. Serving on active duty for 24 years, he was honorably discharged in 1995 as a Master Sergeant. For over four decades, Hal has provided exceptional service to our country, the military and its veterans.

During his career as a Vietnam era veteran, Hal's journey in the Marine Corps took him to Vietnam and Okinawa. He served almost two years of Foreign Service, as well as six months of sea service. Sixteen years of Hal's military service were devoted to career recruiting duties in various areas of New York State. During this time, he received numerous awards as an outstanding recruiter and as the Non Commissioned Officer In Charge of recruiting sub stations.

Upon his retirement from military service, Hal accepted a position as Genesee County Veterans Service officer, and continues to serve today as a staunch advocate for veterans. Among his duties, Hal has made a commitment to assist the transitions of veterans returning to college after having been deployed overseas. He has been Vice President for the Western New York Veterans Service Officers Association. Hal is also the Mentor Coordinator for the Batavia Veterans Court, and a board member and consultant for the Genesee Veterans Support Network on a volunteer basis.

Hal's contributions have continued with positions of responsibilities in the Marine Corps League, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Vietnam Veterans of America.

In 1996, Hal received the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross. His service awards include the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Unit commendation, Marine Corps recruiting Ribbon, Rifle Expert Badge, Pistol Expert Badge, and Sea Service

Ribbon.