



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George Latimer

## Vito Pinto

GEORGE LATIMER May 20, 2016

| ISSUE: **VETERANS HALL OF FAME**



Whether defending our country, educating our children, or passing legislation to better our lives, Vito Pinto has always been a person to rely on. A Vietnam veteran, Mr. Pinto served in the United States Navy as a Naval Flight Officer/RIO in Fighter Squadron VF-96 in the F4 Phantom aboard the carriers USS Ranger and USS Enterprise in the Tonkin Gulf. He flew combat missions in both South and North Vietnam. Mr. Pinto has been a strong advocate for veterans throughout his lifetime and is a member of the Lt. Col. Sam DiRienzo VFW Post 2285, The Leroy Gregory American Legion Post 979 and the Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 49 and Military Officers Association.

Mr. Pinto has demonstrated care and concern for community through his involvement as a teacher and guidance counselor, coach and student government advisor in the Tuckahoe School District. He is a strong supporter of the DARE Program in the Tuckahoe and Eastchester School Districts, and is known for “never leaving home” without displaying his DARE pin on his suit or sport jacket lapel. Coach “Beans” thoroughly enjoyed coaching – varsity wrestling, volleyball and basketball – where his teams won many league titles and sectional championships, and made it to the State finals. Mr. Pinto has always believed in getting students involved, and led by example, coordinating fundraisers, clothing and food drives and other activities to benefit those in need, especially senior citizens and veterans.

Mr. Pinto served his community well during more than 27 years in elected office as a Village Trustee, Town Councilman and County Legislator representing District 10. He has been instrumental in local and county partnerships in recreation fields and programs, parks, public works projects, environmental issues, public safety-safe gun storage and social host law, and senior citizen programs and housing.

Mr. Pinto recently served for five years as Director of Westchester County Veterans Service Agency, partnering with multiple community organizations to serve as an advocate and leader for both the veterans and youth of Westchester.