



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph E. Robach

## Frank Nicolazzo

JOSEPH E. ROBACH May 20, 2016

| ISSUE: **VETERANS HALL OF FAME**



Frank Nicolazzo was born in Calabria, Italy, in 1931. He immigrated to the United States with his family in 1936 and settled in Newton, Massachusetts. Mr. Nicolazzo courageously joined the United States Army in September 1952, and served as a member of the 700th Ordnance Company, 45th Infantry Division.

Mr. Nicolazzo was honorably discharged in 1954 with the rank of Sergeant. While in the service, he earned the Korean Service Medal with two battle stars, the United Nations Korean Service Medal, and the National Defense Ribbon. Most importantly

to Mr. Nicolazzo, however, was receiving his U.S. citizenship papers.

In 1967, Mr. Nicolazzo and his growing family moved to Rochester, New York, where he opened a family bakery. Since that time, he has demonstrated his expertise in baking at a number of well known locally owned bakeries. Even in his retirement, Mr. Nicolazzo continues to work as a part-time baker at Tops Supermarkets.

Mr. Nicolazzo joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1988, with membership in the Thomas F. Healy Post #16. His steadfast leadership gained him a two-term tenure as VFW County Commander, and 8th District Commander, an area that encompasses Monroe and Wayne counties, as well as the Finger Lakes region.

In 1989, 36 Korean War veterans, including Mr. Nicolazzo, formed Monroe County #1 Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association. One of the missions of this group was to create a lasting memorial for all those who served and died during the Korean War. A few years later, Mr. Nicolazzo was part of the creation of the Commemorative Park alongside a well-traveled highway on Monroe County's east side. A final step in his efforts to make sure the lives lost during the Korean War, "The Forgotten War," were not forgotten was the renaming of NY Route 441 as "The Korean War Memorial Highway".

Mr. Nicolazzo and his wife Judy live in Greece, New York. When he is not involved with activities at Post #16, he enjoys spending time with his four children, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.