



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

Seward Pays Tribute To Fallen Ulster County Soldier

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ACCORD, 05/08/14 -- State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I – Oneonta) today presented the family of Sergeant Shawn Farrell II with the state senate's Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the New York State Senate.

“The Liberty Medal is conferred on a select few, those who have distinguished themselves by meritorious action against hostile odds. Sergeant Shawn Farrell II was that type of individual,” said Senator Seward. **“He served with courage, bravery and valor, and made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of his country.”**

The Liberty Medal is the highest honor bestowed by the New York State Senate, recognizing those who were willing to sacrifice their lives, or did so, in defense of America and the cause of freedom and world peace.

“Shawn’s unwavering allegiance to his country and his fellow soldiers cannot be overstated. A true American hero, he fully embodied the values and spirit of this prestigious decoration,” concluded Seward.

Sgt. Shawn M. Farrell II, 24, of Accord, New York, died April 28, in Nejrab District, Kapisa province, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when enemy forces attacked his unit with small arms fire. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light), Fort Drum, New York.

Senator Seward also sponsored a special senate resolution (J.4858) honoring Sergeant Shawn Farrell II. The complete resolution, and Senator Seward's comments on the floor of the New York State Senate can be seen on-line at: <http://www.nysenate.gov/video/2014/may/06/resolution-honoring-sergeant-shawn-farrell-ii>.