



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

Ritchie Honors St. Lawrence County's John Halford at Capitol Ceremony

PATTY RITCHIE May 21, 2014

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State Senator Patty Ritchie honored St. Lawrence County's John Halford as her 2014 inductee to the New York State Veterans Hall of Fame from the 48th Senate District at a special ceremony held Tuesday at the State Capitol.

Entering the US Marine Corps at age 17, John Halford served in the Raider Battalion that was part of the daring raid on Makin Island during World War II. After his honorable discharge, he returned to Gouverneur, finished high school, and went on to SUNY Canton—which at the time, was known as the Agricultural and Technical Institute. Since retiring, John and his wife have played an active role in helping to improve the lives of people in the North Country, especially through his work as a member of

the SUNY Canton Foundation Board of Directors.

“It’s a remarkable thing for a person to put defending our nation—and our freedom—above all else by serving as a member of the United States Armed Forces,” said Senator Ritchie.

“That’s what makes John Halford so deserving of this special honor. For years, he sacrificed so much for his country and even after his honorable discharge he has continued to give back; working tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of people in our region.”

Mr. Halford was one of more than two dozen veterans nominated for the program who were recognized at a ceremony held last week at the USO Fort Drum. To learn more about this year’s honorees, please [click here](#).