



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Owen H. Johnson

## Senator Owen H. Johnson Inducted Veteran Richard Tibbetts Into the NYS Senate Veterans Hall of Fame

OWEN H. JOHNSON June 10, 2010

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Caption: Senator Owen H. Johnson inducted Richard Tibbetts into Veterans Hall of Fame at the State Capitol on June 1, 2010.

State Senator Owen H. Johnson (4th Senate District) recently inducted a local veteran into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. Richard Tibbetts, of Lindenhurst, was honored at the State Capitol on June 1, 2010. The Veterans Hall of Fame was established by

the Senate in 2005 to honor the men and women throughout New York who served our nation with distinction and fought to ensure that freedom and liberty would be preserved for current and future generations.

“It is my honor to induct Richard Tibbetts into the Veterans Hall of Fame,” said Senator Owen H. Johnson, himself a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. “I am proud of Richard’s service in Vietnam and the sacrifices he made on behalf of our great nation.”

Richard (Richie) Tibbetts was called to duty in the United States Army in 1966. Richard received basic and advanced infantry training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and quickly found himself entrenched in the Vietnam War, serving for approximately one year in the “Big Red One” First Infantry Division.

Richard’s service continued until November, 1972, when he was honorably discharged from the Army. For his service in Vietnam, Richard was awarded The Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars; the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; the Combat Infantryman’s Badge; the Sharp Shooter Rifle Badge; and a Purple Heart.

Richard joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in 1968. Now retired from a 40 year career as an electrician, Richard is using his time to become more involved in the VFW. He founded the VFW Motorcycle Riders District Level in 2009. Richard’s dedication to the VFW is most evident in his unparalleled reigns as Commander. First elected in 1995, Richard then went on to serve 8 more successful administrations as Commander. As testament to the quality of his leadership, Richard was recently re-elected as Commander for the upcoming 2010-11 term.

Richard was selected to serve as the Grand Marshall of the 2010 Lindenhurst Memorial Day Parade. He lives in Lindenhurst with Christine, his wife of 20 years, and is proud to have been an integral and vital part of helping raise her five children.