



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Terry Gipson

Jacquemae Perrotta

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Jacquemae Perrotta

Award: Honoring Our Veterans

Year: 2013

In October 1951, 16 months after the start of the Korean War, Jacquemae (Tucker) Perrotta enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. After Basic Training, Airman Tucker was transferred to Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming for training as a Communications Center Specialist. Upon completion of her training, Jacquemae was assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio and in November of 1953, she was assigned to Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii as a Senior Communications Specialist.

In April of 1954, Airman First Class Tucker married Sergeant Anthony Perrotta of Poughkeepsie, NY. Jacquemae was discharged in September of 1954, and in November she and Tony returned to Poughkeepsie.

When Jacquemae returned to civilian life, she worked for Western Union Telegraph and raised three children. Jacquemae decided to serve veterans as a member of Lafayette Post #37 of the American Legion. She has been a prominent member of this post for the past 54 years.

In the 1980s, she was elected the first woman Commander of Post #37, the first woman Commander of Dutchess County and the second woman commander of the 9th District American Legion. She headed committees in the Department of New York American Legion network (Membership, Boys State, and WINAL) and is still active in these committees. She also served as National Director 20/4 Honorary

Society Women Legion.

Jacquemae currently serves on the Director's Advisory Committee at Castle Point Veterans Hospital and also works as a VAVS Representative and 20/4. She frequently visits the hospital and has become a regular face. She heads the Pernell Christmas Party and on Valentine's Day she distributes American flags to each veteran's bedside.

On Veteran's Day each year, Jacquemae helps others obtain flags for the local VFW and Jewish War Veterans to place at their cemeteries.

Jacquemae has a great love for her country and her fellow veterans.