



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Flanagan

## Robert Mandel

JOHN J. FLANAGAN May 16, 2014



Petty Officer 1st Class

Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Mandel

**Award:** Honoring Our Veterans

**Year:** 2014

Robert “Bob” Mandel enlisted in the United States Navy in 1951, during the Korean War, and was assigned to Transport Squadron VR24 and then to Flight Crew status as Radio Operator. Mr. Mandel then joined Fighter Squadron VF44, and was sent to Cuba to support their mission aboard the USS Intrepid.

Mr. Mandel was honorably discharged in 1955 with the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class. He is the recipient of the Navy Good Conduct Medal, the Navy Occupation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Mr. Mandel has continued his service to his community as Scoutmaster of VFWsponsored BSA Troop 70 in Setauket. For more than four generations, he has led the Scouts and has played a vital role in their lives by teaching them the virtues he learned during his service. Many of these young men have become caring family men with successful professional careers who have a clear awareness of their role in their community.

To help the Scouts better understand our nation’s proud history, Mr. Mandel works with them to organize Sunday Mass at the Long Island State Veteran’s Home in Stony Brook. Every year before Memorial Day, he joins the Scouts to assist in placing flags on every grave at the Calverton National Cemetery.

In addition, Mr. Mandel honors his service by ensuring that a United States Flag is placed on the grave of every veteran buried at the St. James Roman Catholic Church cemetery.

Mr. Mandel married his wife, Lorraine, shortly after returning home from service. They are the proud parents of Ann and Robert, and grandparents of five.