



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Elaine Phillips

## Senator Phillips Joins Local Officials To Rename Portion Of The Southern State Parkway After Detective Steven McDonald

ELAINE PHILLIPS February 9, 2018



Senator Elaine Phillips today joined with members of the Long Island Senate Delegation, law enforcement personnel, local officials and community and family members to rename a portion of the Southern State Parkway after the late New York City Police Detective Steven McDonald.

“Detective Steven McDonald was a husband, a father and a friend, but he was also a public servant who dedicated his life to protecting and serving others with grace and humility,”

Senator Elaine Phillips said. “Through his resilience and strength, Detective McDonald showed the world that tragedy would not define him, that forgiveness is stronger than revenge, that life can go on, and that a legacy can last forever.”

Detective McDonald, who was born in Queens Village and grew up on Long Island before serving in the Navy for four years and joining the NYPD, was shot and paralyzed in 1986. In 1987, while still recovering, he publicly announced that he forgives the shooter. He had to breathe with a respirator and used a wheelchair his entire life, but found strength and support in his family and Catholic faith.

On January 11, 2017, Detective McDonald passed away after suffering a heart attack.

“For years to come, this highway designation will serve as a powerful reminder of Detective McDonald’s life as a public servant, and will forever honor the humility he possessed and his power to forgive,” Senator Elaine Phillips said. “I am truly honored to have been part of this dedication ceremony.”