



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrew J. Lanza

Senator Andrew Lanza Honors Veteran James Kennedy For The 2018 Veterans' Hall Of Fame

ANDREW J. LANZA May 16, 2018

| ISSUE: **VETERANS HALL OF FAME, HONORING VETERANS**



Senator Andrew Lanza said: It is a great honor to stand here with these heroes as we pay tribute to their service. James Kennedy courageously risked his life in support of our freedom. I had the great privilege of standing here to induct James Kennedy into the Veterans' Hall of Fame for the New York State Senate. He possess the qualities of bravery, courage, and strength, and deserves an endless amount of honor and recognition.

Albany, NY- Senator Andrew Lanza inducted World War II veteran James M. Kennedy into the New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame. Each year, local residents and veteran

posts are asked to nominate veterans from their community. This year's nominees were outstanding.

James M. Kennedy enlisted in the Army in 1943, at just twenty years old with a wife and newborn daughter at home. He began his Army career with the Boston Port Battalion before joining the 101 Airborne division. Though he was injured in battle, James Kennedy returned to the front lines and was reassigned to the 94th Infantry where he was a member of "Patton's Golden Nuggets." While serving with the 94th Infantry he was a forward scout and a demolition expert until the end of World War II. During his time as a soldier, Mr. Kennedy fought for 195 consecutive days, which included the Battle of the Bulge. He served in the military until January 9, 1946, returning home on his twenty third birthday.

Due to his courageous and honorable acts, James M. Kennedy was awarded two Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star, European-American Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Medal, Marksman Medal and Army of the Occupation ribbon. In addition to these honors, the United States and Czech Republic awarded him a Certificate of Recognition for Service during the Cold War and he was appointed as a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor.

The New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame was established to honor and recognize outstanding veterans from the Empire State who have distinguished themselves both in military and civilian life. Their meritorious service to our nation deserves the special recognition that only a Hall of Fame can provide, as a fitting expression of our gratitude and admiration.

Distinguished veterans throughout the state were honored at a ceremony in Albany. James M. Kennedy, along with other honorees, had their photographs and biographies displayed in a special exhibit that proclaims their contributions and exemplary work during their time in

the military.

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