



# VETERANS

★★★ HALL OF FAME ★★★

## DAWN SAMUEL

Dawn Samuel enlisted in the United States Air Force after graduating high school to serve her country, obtaining the rank of E-6 Technical Sergeant.

As a Mechanic in the Air Force, Ms. Samuel worked primarily with men. Being 100 pounds and 5'1" presented challenges — until one of her colleagues opened a panel on the wing and accidentally dropped his tool into the aircraft engine. Since Ms. Samuel was petite, the men held her by her feet and lowered her into the wing of the aircraft to retrieve the tool. Ms. Samuel often reflects on this story with her students while teaching them about overcoming obstacles.

Ms. Samuel later joined the United States Air Force Reserve while attending college, earning a Master's degree in Education from Columbia University. For the past 29 years, she has worked as a teacher, and currently teaches at P.S.14Q in Queens, New York.

She is an active member of the American Legion Malverne Post, Secretary of the Elmont Legion Riders, and past Nassau County Auxiliary President. Ms. Samuel currently serves as Children and Youth, and Oratorical Chairperson for the Nassau County American Legion, working with families of the Garden City Marine Base.

Ms. Samuel is passionate about involving kids in the service. In 2018, her school established the New York Naval Cadet Corps program, teaching children the customs and courtesies of the military. With the help of the Elmont Legion Riders and American Legion volunteers, children can attend an annual formal "Military Ball," place flags at the graves of veterans, and participate in four chaplain's events.

As a 20-year Air Force Veteran, Ms. Samuel has earned numerous awards and recognitions including: Commendation Medal, Meritorious Achievement Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Medal, War on Terrorism Service Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Outstanding Unit Ribbon, Longevity Ribbon, and Training Ribbon. Ms. Samuel was also "step promoted" to the rank of Technical Sergeant for creating additional training in her field.

Happily married for 25 years, Ms. Samuel has three children and has lived in Lynbrook for the past 10 years. She is an outstanding citizen who has dedicated her life and career to serving not only her country, but her community too.



DAWN SAMUEL WAS SELECTED AS A 2021  
VETERANS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE BY  
**SENATOR TODD KAMINSKY.**

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