



CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME 2013 INDUCTION CLASS

November 1, 2013

Dear Veterans, Families and Friends:

I am privileged to represent the great state of Connecticut tonight as we honor the 2013 Induction Class of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.

These twelve special patriots, like all previous inductees, not only stepped up to defend our nation in uniform, but remained fully committed to improving the lives of others when they returned home. Every one of these men and women is a selfless leader and role model whose service should inspire all of us.

I thank all of tonight's inductees for your dedication to our country, our state, and to your communities. I know I speak for all Connecticut residents when I say you have earned our utmost respect and admiration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nancy Wyman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being particularly prominent.

Nancy Wyman
Lieutenant Governor

CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME

History

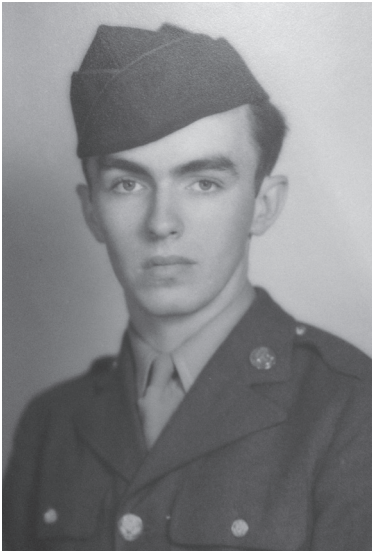
The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame was established to increase the awareness of the lifetime contributions of veterans after completion of honorable military service. The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame is not a military hall of fame. Those selected for the honor of induction are veterans who honorably served their country through military service and who continue to serve and inspire their fellow man with their deeds and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.

Each year the committee will select at least 10 inductees from applications received from across the state and nation. These veterans will be leaders in a variety of areas, such as arts, education, public service, volunteer activities, and community and business leadership to name a few. Most importantly, they will have made significant impacts on the lives of others and their communities.

To be eligible for the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame, the nominee must have served their country honorably in a branch of military service and continued to serve their communities, state and nation after discharge. Because so many of America's veterans continue to give to their communities, state and nation after honorable military service, the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame seeks to recognize them for their countless contributions to society.

The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame is administered and sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Connecticut Military Department on behalf of the Office of the Governor.

The first class of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame was inducted in November 2005 and includes the 41st President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush.



JOHN H. BANNAN
(POSTHUMOUSLY)

Simsbury, CT
US Army

WORLD WAR II SERVICE

A soldier and prisoner of war during World War II, Bannan was a 6th grade teacher for over 30 years, as well as a member of the Simsbury Board of Selectmen, the Lions Club, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. His generosity and dedication to his community were exceptional. He never forgot the time spent suffering as a P.O.W. which inspired him to create the annual Jack Bannan Turkey Drive, which collected several thousand holiday turkeys each year for families unable to afford one.



GEORGE H. BREULER
Ashler Village, CT
U.S. Army

WORLD WAR II SERVICE

In his hometown of North Haven, Breuler is known as a war hero whose community involvement included coordinating the town's annual Memorial Day Parade for fourteen years, as well as coaching in the Max Sinoway Little League. Under his command, the American Legion Murray-Reynolds Post 76 was honored as the Legion Post of the Nation in 1985. He also was selected by the Veterans Association to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C.



JOHN (JACK) G. CASEY JR.
Groton, CT
U.S.Navy

VIETNAM WAR SERVICE

A Vietnam Veteran, who has dedicated his life to honoring veterans. Casey is the Captain of the Connecticut Patriot Guard Riders, an organization which was founded to maintain the dignity of funerals of members of the armed forces, veterans, firefighters and police throughout Connecticut and New England. Casey has been a tireless and determined veteran advocate who has spent many hours documenting the history of WWII Veterans, by collecting information to register thousands of veterans in the database of the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. He has been involved with the American Warrior program and has made many trips on Honor Flights accompanying Veterans of the greatest generation to visit the memorial. He is also a volunteer driver for the New London Senior Center.



MIGUEL A. ESCALERA, SR.
Clinton, CT
U.S. Army

WORLD WAR II SERVICE

A WWII veteran of the North African, Central European and Rhine campaigns, Escalera was the highest decorated soldier in his company and is credited with heroically saving the lives of many of his fellow soldiers. For more than 50 years he has provided countless volunteer services to the elderly community in Clinton, and served as the Municipal Agent for the Elderly for more than 30 years. He was the principal architect of Clinton's Meals on Wheels program, and has served on the town's Memorial Day and Veterans' Day Committee since 1957.



CHARLES P. GALLAGHER

*East Haven, CT**U.S. Army*

WORLD WAR II SERVICE

After enlisting in 1943, Gallagher planned to attend college under the Army Specialized Training Program, but instead was sent to Hawaii to join Company C, 32nd Regiment, 7th Division. Injured by an exploding hand grenade, he enrolled in Georgetown University's Foreign Service School and then went on to earn a law degree. He has been a stalwart member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart lending his expertise and energies as the State Judge Advocate. Among his many successful endeavors, Charlie has been a tireless leader in providing financial guidance to help raise funds for the creation of the first Purple Heart memorial in Connecticut, rewriting the Constitution and B-Laws for the organization and supporting combat wounded veterans by raising funds for a wheelchair lift vehicle for the West Haven, VA. It is important to note that when it comes to veterans and their families, there is no problem to great or too small that Charlie Gallagher will lend a hand to remedy.



ROBIN L. MONTGOMERY
Brookfield, CT
US Marine Corps

VIETNAM WAR SERVICE

Montgomery was awarded the Navy Cross and two Purple Hearts during his service in Vietnam. He then became an FBI Special Agent and was a founding member of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation, which created the Armed Forces Family Scholarship and Assistance Fund to provide scholarships for children of all troops lost in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The fund has distributed more than \$60 million to date. Montgomery became Chief of Police in Brookfield in 2000. He is a member of the Brookfield Lions Club and a life member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.



JAMES MILFORD MOSLEY
Waterford, CT
US Navy

VIETNAM AND COLD WAR
PERIOD SERVICE

Mosley joined the Navy in 1948 and served 20 years, retiring as Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman (Submarines). After retiring from the Navy, he became the first Minority Business Administrator for General Dynamics tasked with the responsibilities of promoting business among minorities and ensuring that discrimination in business practices were eliminated. In 2011, he authored the book “Life under the Microscope as an African-American” which chronicled his time in the Navy and Electric Boat. A frequent visitor to schools in the New London County area, he has shared his experiences with students about military life, submarines, nuclear power, personal growth and success. He is a selfless role model for young and old alike and has been a vocal supporter of service to country and community - leading by example.



CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME
INDUCTION PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 1, 2013

PRELUDE

1st Company Governor's Foot Guard Band Ensemble

INTRODUCTION OF THE CLASS OF 2013
AND

ENTRANCE OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

Master of Ceremonies

Gil Simmons - USMC Veteran 1990-1996

Morning Meteorologist WTNH/News 8

POSTING OF THE COLORS

Connecticut Army National Guard Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM

1st Company Governor's Foot Guard Band Ensemble

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND

MOMENT OF SILENCE

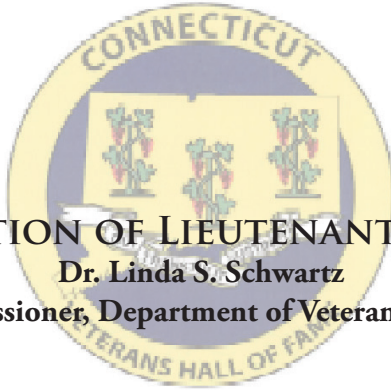
Senator Carlo Leone

Representative John Hennessy

INVOCATION

Father (Colonel) Kevin P. Cavanaugh

Senior Chaplain, Connecticut National Guard



INTRODUCTION OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Dr. Linda S. Schwartz

Commissioner, Department of Veterans' Affairs

REMARKS

Honorable Nancy Wyman

Lieutenant Governor

INDUCTION - CLASS OF 2013

Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman

CLOSING MUSICAL SELECTION

1st Company Governor's Foot Guard Band Ensemble

*Reception for Inductees and their guests
immediately following the program at the
Officer's Club, Broad Street, Hartford, Connecticut
Thank you and Good Evening*



MICHAEL ALBERT THOMAS
North Haven/Milford, CT
US Navy

KOSOVO, IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN
SERVICE

Thomas is a veteran of multiple deployments with the Theodore Roosevelt Battle Group in Kosovo and Iraq and later as a Senior Intelligence Officer in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. However his advocacy for veterans has become his new mission in life. He is the Founder and President of “Archangel Ventures, LLC” which concentrates on providing unique employment opportunities for veterans, including On-the-Job Training and actual work placements in the service food franchise industry. He is a volunteer with the VA Veterans Housing Working Group and a member of the Board of Directors for United Way of Greater New Haven. Many regard him as an expert in veteran employment, housing, education and healthcare policy, both on the state and federal level.



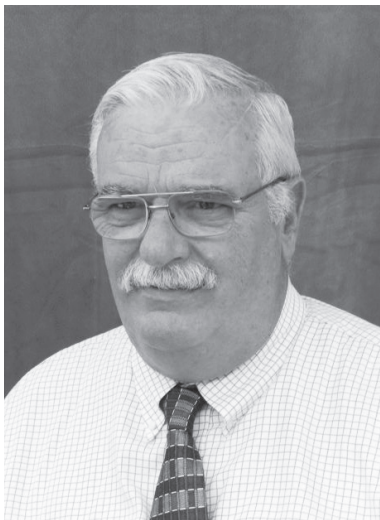
WILLIAM F. VORNKAHL III

Westport, CT

US Army

KOREAN WAR SERVICE

From 1952 to 1954, Vornkahl served in the 1st Cavalry Div., 13th Signal Corps as a high-speed radio operator, serving for 14 months on the island of Hokkaido, Japan. He has been a member of Westport Veterans Council since 1961, serving as President since 2002. He has been Chairman of the Westport Memorial Day parade since 1970 and was Member/Treasurer of Westport's War Monument Committee from 1996-99. He was a Little League coach for more than 20 years, and a volunteer sideline crew for Staples High School football team for over a decade. Vornkahl also has been Secretary/Treasurer of the Greens Farms Volunteer Fire Company since 1950, Vice President/Treasurer of the Saugatuck Hose Co. #4 since 1999 and was president of the Westport Volunteer Fire Company from 1973-1993.



ROBERT JOHN YOUNG

Danbury, CT

US Navy

VIETNAM SERVICE

Young enlisted in the Navy in 1968 and served in Vietnam as a corpsman. After his service, he became a Physician Assistant and worked at the Federal Correctional Institute in Danbury. He researched, documented and spearheaded the creation and dedication of the African American Civil War Memorial honoring the 29th (Colored) Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry located in Wooster Cemetery in Danbury. As a Revolutionary War re-enactor and member of Sheldon's Horse, 2nd Continental Light Dragoons, he has brought to life the heritage of the War of Independence to the classrooms and students of the Danbury Schools. Of particular note was his efforts developing and managing Connecticut's Commemoration of the 225th Anniversary of Rochambeau's "March to Victory" and Encampment in Connecticut.

CT VETERANS HALL OF FAME PAST INDUCTEES

CLASS of 2005

*Nathan George Agostinelli
George Herbert Walker Bush
William Thomas Coffey, Sr.
Dr. Randall Howard Collins
Bruce Hults Ey
Joseph G. Lombardo
Giacomo "Jack" Mordente II
Lt. James Sedalia Peters II
Ernest Virgil Plantz
Norman Warren VanCor*

CLASS of 2006

*Douglas A. Bora
Robert A. Janicki
Franklin E. Johnson, Sr.
William J. JohnstonEvans
Edward Kerrigan
Peter Robert Pardo
Anthony Vito Savino
James S. Tierney
Carl Roderick Venditto
Edward Washburn Whitaker*

CLASS of 2007

*Michael J. Daly
Alfred Faticoni
Dr. George G. Gentile
Elwood A.D. Lechause
Anthony Mammola
Alfred A. Meadows
Robert J. Nearine
Col. Robert B. Nett
Tony Paul Pia
Darrell D. Stark*

CLASS of 2008

*Evans H. Daniels, Jr
Valentine David Galasyn
John L. Levitow
Howard Louis Luppi
Barbara Ellen Miller
H. Richard Newell, Jr.
William Atchinson O'Neill
Roger Gene Paulmeno
Frederick Gates Reincke
Robert Rudolph Ritz*

CT VETERANS HALL OF FAME PAST INDUCTEES

CLASS of 2009

*Richard O. Belden
John "Jack" Dougherty
Robert L. Genovese
Dr. Harvey James Grinsell, Jr.
Brig. Gen. John J. King
Rev. William David McGee
Brig. Gen. Daniel J. McHale
Theodore J. Plamondon, Jr.
Alphonse N. Sabetta
Daniel A. Vece, Jr.
Homer L. Wise*

CLASS of 2010

*Edmund J. Burke
Thomas J. Burke
John J. Carcioppolo
Robert C. Hunt, Jr.
Doris Troth Lippman
William J. McGurk
Robert C. Moeller
Abner Oakes III
Edward V. Sabotka
Robert R. Simmons
Stanley F. Zebzda*

CLASS of 2011

*Madelon Baranoski
Samuel K. Beamon, Sr.
George Kenneth Carpenter
Ronald Catania
John Gregory Chiarella
Harold B. Farrington, Jr.
Phillip R. Kraft
Ronald Roland
PerryRichard
Alan Rampone
Burke T. Ross*

CLASS of 2012

*Father Thomas E. Berberich
Manuel Michael Cardoza, Jr.
Paul F. Dillon
Peter Galgano, Jr.
William George Godburn
Norman Hanenbaum
Alan Jepson
Charles Richard Morrissey, Sr.
Herbert Thomas Schacht
Thomas Sheridan
James H. Throwe
Carmine Joseph Vaccaro*