

OTSEGO COUNTY VETERAN ENSHRINED IN SENATE HALL OF FAME

Senator Seward inducts Corporal Michael Mayne posthumously

ONEONTA, 11/10/20 – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today announced the late Corporal Michael Mayne of Burlington Flats as the 2020 inductee to the New York State Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame from the 51st Senate District.

“Corporal Michael Mayne is a true American hero, and it is my honor to induct him into the New York State Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame,” said Senator Seward. **“Michael was an exemplary soldier who cared deeply about his country and the men and women he served alongside. Tragically, Michael lost his life in Iraq in 2009 and his ultimate sacrifice must always be remembered.”**

Corporal Michael L. Mayne, 21, of Burlington Flats, proudly served in the United States Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, a unit of the 25th Infantry Division based at Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Corporal Mayne lost his life, along with two other American soldiers and a translator on February 23, 2009, in Balad, Iraq when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire.

A 2006 graduate of Edmeston Central School, Michael was known for his sense of humor and friendly nature. He knew from a young age that he wanted to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather and serve his nation in the military. He joined the Army shortly after his high school graduation.

Prior to his service to his country, Michael had already left an indelible mark on his hometown that will last for generations to come.

On Memorial Day 2003, he unveiled a very special Eagle Scout project in memorial park in his hometown of Burlington Flats – flagpoles for each branch of the military. To this day, flags representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and the United States continue to wave. A memorial to Michael has since been installed underneath the flags he so proudly conceived and built.

“It has been my great honor to participate in the Burlington Flats Memorial Day service on a number of occasions and speak in front of the flagpoles Michael placed for his Eagle Scout project. He believed deeply in his country and the ideals of service and commitment. I commend Michael and all veterans for their service and sacrifice to our nation,” added Seward.

The New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame inductees may be former members of any branch of the United States Armed Forces. The exceptional men and women are chosen for this prestigious honor based on either service in combat or notable work performed after discharge from the service.

Mayne’s biography along with those of other inductees, past and present, can be found on-line at www.nysenate.gov/honoring-our-veterans.

The complete New York State Senate Veterans’ Hall of Fame biography for Michael Mayne:

Corporal Michael L. Mayne – United States Army

Corporal Michael L. Mayne, 21, of Burlington Flats, proudly served in the United States Army during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, a unit of the 25th Infantry Division based at Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Corporal Mayne tragically lost his life, along with two other American soldiers and a translator on February 23, 2009, in Balad, Iraq when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire.

Prior to his service to his country, Michael had already left an indelible mark on his hometown that will last for generations to come.

On Memorial Day 2003, he unveiled a very special Eagle Scout project in memorial park in his hometown of Burlington Flats – flagpoles for each branch of the military. To this day, flags representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines and the United States continue to wave. A memorial to Michael has since been installed underneath the flags he so proudly conceived and built.

A 2006 graduate of Edmeston Central School, Michael was known for his sense of humor and friendly nature. He knew from a young age that he wanted to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather and serve his nation in the military. He joined the Army shortly after his high school graduation. The Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES established a scholarship in his name for students in the natural resources and welding programs or who planned to enlist in the military.

Michael's courageous military service earned him a number of honors including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal of Valor, Global War on Terror Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, and Iraq Service Ribbon.

Senator Seward presented Michael's parents Cathy and Lee with the New York State Senate Liberty Medal posthumously in 2009.

Corporal Michael Mayne exhibited a steadfast commitment to our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice. His service in uniform and his contributions to his community will never be forgotten.