

Patchogue Post 269 – Main Hall Dedication Speech

In the front of the Harry T Hanson Veterans Memorial Park stands a statue dedicated to Lt Michael Murphy and the men who were involved in Operation Red Wing in Afghanistan. For his actions, Lt Murphy was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

Lt Murphy grew up here in Patchogue, and graduated from Patchogue-Medford High School in 1994. He attended the Navy's Officer Candidate School in 2000 and was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy on December 13 of 2000.

By July of 2002, Lt Murphy had passed all of the qualification courses and earned his SEAL Trident badge.

On June 28, 2005, Lt Murphy was in charge of a four man SEAL element supporting Operation Red Wing. During an intense firefight with Taliban fighters, Lt Murphy knew that he had to transmit a call to get help for his men. With complete disregard for his own life, he moved into the open and called for assistance. He sacrificed his life to help protect his men.

A few minutes ago, you witnessed the re-dedication of Patchogue Post 269 of the American Legion for the beginning of our second 100 years of service.

It seems to be a fitting time for us, as veterans who have served during a time of war, to dedicate our main hall in honor of Lt Murphy. We recognize the extreme courage and sacrifice that he made in serving

and defending our country. The Medal of Honor is the highest award given by our country to a member of the Armed Forces.

We are proud to be able to dedicate part of our Post in his memory.

Remarks by State Senator Monica Martinez.

Remarks by Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone.

Remarks by Patchogue Mayor Paul Pontieri.

Remarks by Daniel Murphy – Father of Lt Michael Murphy.

Remarks by Maureen Murphy – Mother of Lt Michael Murphy.

On behalf of all the members of Patchogue Post 269, I now officially dedicate Lt. Michael Murphy Hall at Patchogue Post 269.

Ribbon Cutting by Commander Jonathon Ralph, Daniel Murphy, and Maureen Murphy.

We would like to invite everyone to come inside the Post and look around at our main hall and our meeting room on the second floor.

Thank you, and God Bless the United States of America.