

JOHN S. DAVANZO
WALL OF HONOR AWARD

The John S. DaVanzo Wall of Honor Award, established in 2015, is presented annually to a member of the Mineola Community who has dedicated themselves to helping make the Village of Mineola a better place, to someone who has steadfastly given of themselves for the betterment of our Village.

John S. DaVanzo, a pillar in the Mineola community, always put others before himself. A 1938 Mineola High School graduate, he was a stellar football, basketball, baseball player and track star. He married his high school sweetheart, Pauline, and attended Hofstra University.

A D-Day survivor, John served on the USS Glennon from 1943 to 1946.

In 1947, he joined the Mineola Vol. Fire Dept., serving as Captain of Engine Co. 1 from 1953 – 1955. He was named Honorary Chief in 1997. In 2004, he received the National Volunteer Firefighter of the Year award.

John served as Village Trustee from 1955 to 1965 and 2005 to 2007 and was Deputy Mayor from 1955 – 1960, North Hempstead Town Councilman from 1965 – 1974 and Town Clerk from 1974 – 1991. In 1986, he was named NYS Clerk of the Year.

He was instrumental in the opening of the Mineola Pool in 1961, which was named after him in 2007. He served on the Library Board for 17 years. John served as co-chair for both of Mineola's 75th Jubilee and Centennial celebrations.

Volunteering for many organizations he was honored as MAN OF THE YEAR by the Italian American Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Rotary Club. John volunteered thousands of hours at St Francis Hospital.

For all of his dedication, John was affectionately nicknamed "Mr. Mineola".

This award is given in John's honor and in his memory.

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The recipient of this award will be decided on by a committee of residents, Village Board of Trustee members and Chamber of Commerce members. The recipient does not have to be a Mineola resident and does not have to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Wall of Honor Committee consists of the following persons:

- 2 members of the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Mayor of Mineola
- 2 members of the Chamber of Commerce, appointed by the President of the Chamber
- At least 1 but no more than 3 members of the community, appointed in collaboration of the Mayor and the President of the Chamber of Commerce
- This committee will have an odd number of members

Applications will be accepted by the Chamber of Commerce beginning in March and ending with being delivered or postmarked no later than April 1st. All applications shall be catalogued then turned over to the Wall of Honor committee for review.

The Wall of Honor committee will meet as needed in order to decide on one recipient of the award. The recipient will be decided by the committee no later than the regular May meeting of the Chamber of Commerce (the third Tuesday of the month).

The award will be presented to the recipient at the regular June meeting of the Chamber of Commerce by the President of the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of the Village of Mineola or their designees. There is no monetary attachment to this award.

The cost of the plaque shall be borne by the Chamber of Commerce and shall be of the same size and quality as the previous years' plaque.

This award is available thanks to the generosity of the Village Board, the Chamber of Commerce and private donations.

If there are no applications presented or if the committee decides there will be no recipients for the year the award will not be given out.

