

The 2006 inductees to the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame are:

Douglas A. Bora, Sr., of Rowayton

Mr. Bora is a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and recipient of the Silver Star who continued his service with the Connecticut National Guard after the War. For many decades, he has been a tireless civic volunteer and leader through service as president of the Norwalk Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Norwalk Bicentennial Commission responsible for coordinating 52 events, a Little League volunteer for 25 years and co-founder of the Norwalk Community Theater.

Robert A. Janicki of Guilford

Mr. Janicki is a U.S. Marine veteran of the Vietnam War and has been an active advocate for veterans for over 25 years, serving as the founder/chairperson of the SNET/AT&T Veterans, a veterans support group that has raised funding and awareness for veterans needs across the state and nation. He is an active member of several veterans' advisory boards and service organizations.

Franklin E. Johnson, Sr., of Naugatuck

Mr. Johnson is a U.S. Army veteran of World War II who served a 38-year career as an educator, counselor and coach at Naugatuck High School and has led the Naugatuck Veterans Council as chairman for two decades, developing Naugatuck's extensive Memorial Day parade into one of the largest patriotic parades in New England.

William J. Johnston, posthumous award

Mr. Johnston, of Colchester, served with the U.S. Army in World War II and was awarded the Medal of Honor in February 1944 while serving with the 45th Infantry Division in Italy. He continued his service to fellow veterans through a long career with the U.S. Veterans Administration and through service on the Colchester Board of Selectmen, the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Commissioners and as state commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Evans Edward Kerrigan of Rocky Hill

Mr. Kerrigan is a U.S. Marine veteran of the Korean War and was awarded three Purple Hearts for wounds received during enemy action. He has been extensively involved in veteran's advocacy at the state and national levels including leadership positions with the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the E-2-5 Korea Association and is a published author of several books on military history and medals.

Peter Robert Pardo of Madison

Mr. Pardo served with the U.S. Army during World War II as a noncommissioned officer and then earned an officer commission with the U.S. Air Force where he served on active duty for another 26 years. After completing law school later in life, he has served as an elected official in Madison for over 24 years and volunteered extensively with local civic organizations.

Anthony Vito Savino of Bristol

Mr. Savino served on active duty with the U.S. Army and Connecticut Army National Guard for 40 years, serving as the state command sergeant major of the Connecticut National Guard for his last 16 years. During his military service and since his retirement, he has volunteered tirelessly in his community on numerous boards, commissions, and veterans committees, including service on the Bristol City Council.

James S. Tierney of West Hartford

Mr. Tierney is a career U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, serving as both a sailor and Naval officer. He has advocated for veterans issues before the General Assembly, as a founding member of the Connecticut Veterans Coalition Forum, and has provided significant leadership to many veterans' organizations, including service as chairman of the new West Hartford Veterans Memorial.

Carl Roderick Venditto of Southington

Mr. Venditto is a U.S. Marine veteran of the Korean War-era who served both on active duty and in the Marine Corps Reserves for 35 years as a commissioned officer. A long-time public school teacher and administrator, he has assisted Reservists for over 20 years with employer and mobilization issues as an ombudsman and advocate, including service as chairman of DoD's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee for Connecticut.

Edward Washburn Whitaker, posthumous award

Mr. Whitaker, a native of Killingly and graduate of Ashford public schools, fought in 82 engagements during the Civil War as a member of the First Regiment Connecticut Cavalry Volunteers rising to the rank of brevet brigadier general at the age of 23. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his gallant actions at Reams Station, Virginia in June 1864. After the War, he served as superintendent of the U.S. Capitol Building and was appointed postmaster of Hartford by President Grant. During his post-war years in Connecticut, he organized and led several new veterans' organizations.