

July 2017

## REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS



### Rep. Hogan's 2017 Memorial Day Remarks

To all the Veterans here today, our grateful nation and our Commonwealth thank you for your service and your sacrifice.

This Memorial Weekend 37,000 American Flags were placed on the Boston Common. Each flag represents a Massachusetts serviceman or woman lost in battle dating back to World War One. Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, 144 flags represent Mass service members who have been killed – 92 in Iraq and 52 in Afghanistan.

These brave servicemen and women died to make the world safe for Democracy, to rid the world of a despot ravaging Europe, they responded to attacks on American soil and have ever-protected the greatest experiment in Democracy the world has ever known: The United States of America.

This past month I was involved in a pinning ceremony to give long-overdue recognition to Vietnam War era Veterans and their families. It was moving and I was honored to read President Obama's proclamation observing and commemorating the end of the Vietnam War.

Across the nation, Americans are uniting to thank and honor Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice. I was so very moved and so very troubled that it took 50 years to say "welcome home" to our heroes and to properly remember those who fell in battle. Those who came home in flag-draped coffins with only the family to say: You are home. You are a hero. The Vietnam War left our country divided. May we never treat those who serve our country like that, again.

The Presidential proclamation reads in part:

"Half a century after those helicopters swept off the ground and into the annals of history, we pay tribute to the fallen, the missing, the wounded, the millions who served, and the millions more who awaited their return. Our Nation stands stronger for their service...we honor their proud legacy with our deepest gratitude. More than 58,000 laid down their lives in service to our nation during the Vietnam War. Now and forever, their names are etched into two faces of black granite, a lasting memorial to those who bore conflict's greatest cost." (President Barack Obama's Presidential Proclamation – Vietnam Veterans Day – March 29, 2012)

AFTER 50 YEARS LET US SAY to 58,000 who laid down their lives: You are home. Rest well SOLDIER, SAILOR, AIRMAN AND MARINE. You are our county's Heroes.

This is what we will remember for the next 50 years - and will never forget. For we know the selfless character of those who gave their last measure of duty and devotion.

Let us hope our own personal character might be shaped by the valor and bravery we honor here today. And on this – and every – Memorial Day: let us all commit to a town, a Commonwealth & an America worthy of their noble sacrifice.

—Rep. Hogan shared these remarks during Memorial Day ceremonies in Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

### Rep. Hogan's Office Hours

- Office Hours will be by appointment-only during the months of July and August. If you would like to meet, or if you have any issues or concerns, please contact my office at 617-722-2130 to schedule an appointment.

Rep. Hogan's staff is also available in the District Office at Maynard Town Hall, 195 Main Street, on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Closed Holiday Mondays)

Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow  
State House, Room 130, Boston, MA, 02133 / Phone: 617-722-2130/ Kate.Hogan@mahouse.gov  
District Office: Maynard Town Hall, 195 Main Street, Maynard, MA 01754/Phone: 978-897-1333