

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Robert Reeg Class of 1970



After his father was injured in the 1975 terrorist bombing of Fraunces Tavern in Lower Manhattan, Rob's admiration for the emergency work performed by the Police, Fire and EMS crews that day inspired him to apply to the FDNY and to become an EMT with the Maspeth Volunteer Ambulance Corp. Eventually joining the NYC Emergency Medical Service, Robert served as an NYC-EMS Ambulance Corpsman until he completed the paramedic course at the Albert Einstein College of Emergency Medicine. He was assigned as a Paramedic to Bellevue Hospital Center. While with EMS, Rob served at various New York City trauma centers and received several commendations for his life saving work.

In 1982 Rob was appointed to the FDNY and assigned to Engine Company 44, where he would work for the next 21 years. On the morning of September 11th, 2001 he responded to the World Trade Center with the company. The members of Engine 44 were near the South Tower when it collapsed, causing serious injuries to Rob. He was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital. A few days later, Rob was transferred to the pulmonary intensive care unit at Montefiore Medical Center where he was treated for a flail chest, a collapsed lung, severe inhalation injuries, blood loss, and a staph infection. He recovered from these life-threatening injuries but was medically retired from FDNY in 2003.

Since his retirement he has remained active serving as an American Red Cross volunteer in conjunction with the FDNY Disaster Assistance Response Team and has responded to floods, hurricanes and aircraft accidents. Mr. Reeg has been nominated for the American Red Cross "Volunteer of the Year Award" and received commendations for responding to several national emergencies. He also helps with the FDNY-VFW Post and the Semper Fi Fund.

Since 2006 Rob, has been working with the Department of Justice and the Office of Military Commissions in the terror trial of the 9/11 conspirators. As a "Victim /Witness", he has traveled to Washington D.C. several times, as well as to the Expeditionary Legal Complex located at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Naval Station to achieve justice for his brother police officers, firefighters and other victims as well. Recently, Rob accompanied the Stephen Siller Tunnel 2 Towers Foundation's mobile 9/11 exhibit to several cities across the country where he worked as a tour guide for the exhibit. The goal of the 9/11 exhibit is to raise funds to purchase "smart homes" for our catastrophically injured service members.

Rob has also raised and trained a therapy dog, Hunter, and visits special needs children, wounded warriors and really, anyplace where his services are needed. Therapy dogs generally provide comfort to people with injuries or disabilities. His dog is especially helpful with autistic children, who can't talk to humans but will communicate with Hunter. Rob's efforts along these lines at the United States Military Academy at West Point have earned him a President's Volunteer Service Award along with the Garrison Commander's Award and the Black and Gold Volunteer Service Award. At this point in time, Rob shows no signs of slowing down his volunteering activities.

(Editors Note: On Memorial Day, 2018 Robert had the honor of attending a ceremony at the NYC 9/11 Museum and Memorial where US Army veteran John Seelie, a Pearl Harbor survivor, presented FDNY veteran Robert Reeg, a 9/11 survivor, with a 48 star flag that was flown on the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Talk about passing the baton...God Bless America!)