



American Legion Patchogue Post 269
P.O. Box 457
Patchogue, NY 11772
Telephone: (631) 475-3822
Email: alpost269@aol.com

I want to inform you about an event that has a direct relationship with the Village of Patchogue. On Friday August 27, a memorial monument to the US Navy UDT/SEAL TEAMS will be dedicated in the Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego California.

A group of former and retired Navy SEALs has been working for many years to get a memorial monument. Their proposals were constantly rejected by the Veterans Administration because they did not adhere to the rules for a National Cemetery.

About four years ago, retired Master Chief Michael Meolia contacted me. He had heard about the Lt Michael Murphy sculpture and monument and had seen a picture of it on our web site.

He asked if it would be possible for me to send him close up pictures and the dimensions of the sculpture as he had the idea for having an engraved image of it created for the memorial monument. Since the sculpture resides in the Village Park, I told him that I would be glad to provide anything he wanted.

I sent him the close up pictures and dimensions and basically forgot about it. Last week, he sent me two articles that he had written about the memorial, along with an invitation to attend the dedication.

As you can see from the pictures in the two articles, the sculpture residing in our Village Park is now reproduced in an engraving on a memorial in the Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego. In one of the articles, he makes it clear that our sculpture was the basis for the image depicted on the monument.

This made me realize that things we do here that we think are minor can have a very large impact. There is now a direct relationship between a sculpture in a Village Park in Patchogue with a memorial in a National Cemetery in California.

For God and Country

Jonathon Ralph – Commander
American Legion Patchogue Post 269