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Town of Brookhaven Unveils Memorial for Army Sgt. Jason Santora at Medford Athletic Complex

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Pictured from left to right are Gold Star Dad Terry Wilwerth; Legislator Tom Muratore; Assemblyman Al Graf; Legislator John M. Kennedy Jr., Councilwoman Connie Kepert; Assemblyman Dean Murray; members of the Santora Family; Acting Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh; and Veterans Services Coordinator John Rago.

Farmingville, NY - On November 17th, Acting Supervisor/Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh and Councilwoman Connie Kepert were on hand to unveil the Town of Brookhaven's memorial for Army Sgt. Jason Santora, who was killed in action while serving in Afghanistan. The memorial is located at the Medford Athletic Complex on Horseblock Road where Santora, a graduate of Sachem School District, played baseball with his father Gary.

On April 23rd 2010, Sgt. Santora led an Afghan Partner Assault Unit to take on four armed enemy combatants. During the mission, the Assault Force received direct enemy contact from the roof of the target building, threatening the lives of Rangers, Afghan Partner Units and several locals. Sgt. Santora led the assault on the target compound, which resulted in the destruction of enemy fighters. Sgt. Santora would later die of the gunshot wounds sustained in the assault.

"Jason Santora is the definition of a true American hero," said Acting Supervisor/Councilwoman Walsh, "He sacrificed his own life in the midst of battle to save the lives of others and protect the freedoms that this great nation affords us. This memorial serves to recognize the sacrifice that Jason and his family have endured, as well as to remind us that the men and women who fight for us overseas were once boys and girls who played in our ball fields and parks."

Councilwoman Connie Kepert, "Councilwoman Kathy Walsh and I were proud to dedicate a plaque to memorialize the enormous sacrifice and dedication of Jason and his family. The plaque describes Jason's heroism and will serve a source of inspiration to all the young people who visit and enjoy the Medford Athletic complex."