



NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CITY TECH
300 JAY STREET • NAMM HALL 322 • BROOKLYN, NY 11201-1909
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Denise H. Sutton
718.260.5979
Fax 718.260.8553
dsutton@citytech.cuny.edu

Dale Tarnowieski
718.260.5695
Fax 718.260.8553
dtarnowieski@citytech.cuny.edu

A Lost City Tech Class Ring Brings Two Veterans Together at City Tech's Saluting Our Veterans Reception

Brooklyn, NY—October 29, 2014—You are invited to **City Tech's Saluting Our Veterans Reception** to hear the story of a lost City Tech class ring that brought two veterans together after 49 years, with special guests Sergeant Mel Gunderson and Specialist David Pagan '64. The Saluting Our Veterans Reception is Friday, November 14, 2014, 6:30pm in the Janet Lefler Dining Room, Namm 215, 300 Jay Street, Brooklyn.

David Pagan lost his class ring in 1965 while he was stationed in An-Khe, Vietnam, with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Division of the First Air Cav. Pagan realized that his ring had slipped off his finger upon his return to base camp after a particularly difficult mission and figured that he would never see it again. For the next 49 years, Pagan assumed that his City Tech class ring was buried somewhere in the fields of Gia Lai Province.

Unbeknownst to Pagan, his ring was actually in South Dakota.

In June, 2014, Jessica Malavez, director of alumni affairs at City Tech, received an unusual email from Vietnam Veteran Mel Gunderson in South Dakota. He explained that he had found a City Tech class ring in Vietnam Nam on his tour of duty. Could she help him find the City Tech alumnus and rightful owner of the ring?

Malavez began by searching alumni records with the two clues given: The initials "D.D.P." and the graduation year of 1964. There was only one D.D.P. who graduated in 1964 and it was David Pagan, the owner of the ring.

When asked why he waited 49 years to find Pagan, Gunderson said that he wasn't sure the owner of the ring had made it out of Vietnam alive and by seeking him out, he might upset grieving family members.

Now the two Vietnam veterans meet for the first time at the **City Tech's Saluting Our Veterans Reception**, where Gunderson will return the found class ring. Pagan's son, who is also a City Tech alumnus, will be in attendance as well as City Tech President Russ Hotzler, and Eric Fludd, director of veteran affairs at City Tech.

If you plan to attend and cover the event, please contact Jessica Malavez at jmalavez@citytech.cuny.edu or Denise Sutton at dsutton@citytech.cuny.edu.

###

About City Tech

City Tech (New York City College of Technology), of The City University of New York, is the largest four-year public college of technology in Northeast and a national model for technological education. City Tech has an enrollment of more than 17,000 students in 64 baccalaureate, associate and specialized certificate programs. To learn more about City Tech, visit

www.citytech.cuny.edu.