

PRESS RELEASE FROM
PRESIDING OFFICER DUWAYNE GREGORY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, June 9, 2015



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Legislature Celebrates Groundbreaking Of William J. Lindsay Memorial



Friends, family and colleagues of William J. Lindsay joined to break ground Tuesday on the memorial to be built in his honor. From left: Leg. Kate Browning, Leg. Leslie Kennedy, Leg. Steve Stern, Leg. Kara Hahn, Leg. Jay Schneiderman, Leg. William J. Lindsay III, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Dick O’Kane of Nassau-Suffolk Building and Construction Trades Council, Patricia Lindsay, Denise (Lindsay) Sullivan, Kevin Harvey,

**Leg. Kevin McCaffrey, Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory, and Leg. Lou D’Amaro.
(Photo by Steve Gravano).**

HAUPPAUGE, N.Y. – The William J. Lindsay Memorial Committee and the Suffolk County Legislature today held a groundbreaking ceremony for the William J. Lindsay Memorial in front of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building.

The event was held concurrently with a dedication ceremony and unveiling of signage renaming the North County Complex the “William J. Lindsay County Center” in honor of the late William J. Lindsay, the longest serving Presiding Officer in the history of Suffolk County. Lindsay served as the 8th District Legislator from March 2001 until his death September 11, 2013, following a long battle with mesothelioma.

“Bill Lindsay was a friend, colleague and mentor, and he was a particular inspiration for me after I took over the position of Presiding Officer,” said Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory. “Bill worked across the aisle with every member of the Legislature and much more often than not was able to form a consensus even on the most difficult issues. His union background played a key part in his talent for negotiation and compromise while never compromising his central beliefs. Bill is still missed and it is our privilege to be here today to recognize his life of dedicated public service by building this memorial and naming the North County Complex in his honor.”

“My dad was a great electrician and a prolific legislator, but he was by far the best role model and father that a son could have,” said 8th District Legislator William J. Lindsay III, who succeeded his father. “My father’s dedication and his relentless drive to provide for and care for our family set an example for me and my sisters to raise families of our own, give back to our communities, help others and to make a difference. He would have been very humbled by this memorial, which represents the lasting impact that my father’s career had on us all. I just ask that you remember my father not only for his illustrious career and life of service, but for his charismatic energy and his unyielding desire to help his fellow man.”

“Co-chair Terry Pearsall and I are very much looking forward toward working on this Memorial,” said Kevin Harvey, Co-chair of the Memorial Committee and Business Manager of IBEW Local 25. “It is dedicated to someone who exemplifies tremendous dedication and devotion to both the public and private sectors. Hopefully we will make Bill proud of the project’s outcome.”

“When I was first elected to the legislature, Presiding Officer Bill Lindsay was an important mentor to me, and we grew to be very close friends,” stated Legislator Kate Browning of the 3rd District. “Bill stood up for working class families, and was the voice for their values. He cared deeply about good government, and always put the taxpayers first. His leadership is sorely missed, and this memorial is a fitting tribute to a man who set the bar high for what a Presiding Officer should be. Suffolk County was extremely lucky to have him.”

“In my life I was fortunate to have known Bill Lindsay as both a colleague and a mentor,” said Kara Hahn, 5th District Legislator and former Director of Communications for Lindsay. “He was

a true champion for Suffolk County's working families, an advocate for his constituents and a tireless defender of the Legislature as a co-equal branch of government. In memorializing his life in stone and reflection, we are honoring his spirit and unwavering devotion to the principles he held dearest in his mission to bring dignity to all."

"I was honored by the opportunity to serve on the Memorial Committee," said Legislator Sarah Anker of the 6th District. "Bill Lindsay was deeply committed to the people he served, and we worked hard to ensure that this memorial will honor his memory for generations to come."

"Bill will always be remembered as a true friend and an extraordinary public servant who possessed an unstoppable determination to serving others his entire life," said longtime family friend Barbara Musacchio. "He never forgot the working men and women."

Lindsay spent the majority of his life as an electrician, having begun his career as an apprentice with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 25. He eventually became involved in the operation and management of the union, and served as its business manager prior to his election to the Legislature. During his lifetime, Lindsay also served on numerous boards, including the Long Island Housing Partnership and the Long Island Federation of Labor.

The event was attended by Lindsay's colleagues, friends and family, including his son Legislator William J. Lindsay III of the 8th District. Those wishing to contribute to the project should contact Kevin Harvey at 631-273-4567 ext. 228 for a memorial stone.

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