

Michael J. Nesheiwat

Special Honoree 2019

Michael J. Nesheiwat, received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the State University of New York. He completed an internship at Brooklyn Hospital Center and a family practice residency at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers, where he became Chief Resident. He also trained in Emergency Trauma Medicine and served as the director of the Emergency Department at St. Joseph's. He had a well-established family medicine practice for 25 years, prior to his appointment as the Commissioner of Health for Putnam County, New York.

Dr. Nesheiwat's passion for public health is an extension of the great caring he feels for his patients and his strong community involvement. He served as President of Putnam Hospital Center's medical staff for 6 years and as Chairman of the Department of Medicine for 11 years. Dr. Nesheiwat also served on the Putnam County Board of Health for over 27 years. Twice, Dr. Nesheiwat has been called upon to serve in a leadership role at the health department, in late 2011 and again in 2015. Both times he showed his true dedication to public service with his willingness to serve the county when asked unexpectedly.

He is thankful for having been recognized for his volunteerism by numerous organizations over the years. In 2015, he was acknowledged by Newt Gingrich as a National Physician of Distinction and invited to the White House dinner and ceremony.

Over the years, Dr. Nesheiwat has served and continues to serve his community in countless ways, as a volunteer. He served on the One Army Against Opioid Addiction in Putnam County. He has also been involved as a board member of Putnam Hospital Center and the Carmel Fire Department (since the age of 16), as well as with the Brewster Rotary, the Fraternal

Order of Police, and as medical/director consultant to numerous Putnam County volunteer fire departments. He is a proud Shriner and Free and Accepted Mason.

The Doctor and his lovely wife Heyam, a former College English Composition and Literature Professor transplant from California, have been married for 26 wonderful years. Their daughter Sara, a recent Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute graduate, starts medical school this June; and their son Michael, graduated from the University of Miami this May with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Michael is also following in his father's footsteps and headed to a career in Medicine. The Doctor and his wife are extremely proud of their children, not just for their academic accomplishments, but because since they were children, they have lived under the motto, "Service Above Self," and have grown into wonderful human beings.

For over 25 years, on the business appointment cards passed out at Dr. Nesheiwat's private medical offices, he always made sure they displayed Hippocrates' quote: "Wherever the art of Medicine is loved, there is also a love of Humanity."

He loves his craft; he loves his community; he loves his fellow humans and considers it an honor to befriend and serve them. Dr. Nesheiwat is honored by the recognition given him by the Italian American Club of Mahopac as a Special Honoree for the Putnam County Columbus Festivities 2019.