

## **Michael R. Militello – Vice Chairman**

Michael R. Militello's journey to becoming a successful businessman didn't start on a battlefield. His experience as an infantryman in Vietnam augmented his entrepreneurial instincts and acute business sense with responsibility, commitment and the value for loyalty. These are the hallmarks of Militello's reputation for excellence, a reputation he wears as proudly as his Purple Heart and Combat Infantry Badge.

Upon returning to the U.S. after his military service, Militello developed many of WNY's most beloved restaurant and hospitality ventures over the following 50 years, including Mulligan's Museum of Fine Arts and Café, the Bijou Grille, Food Arts Concessions LLC, the Sonoma Grille and "Buffalo's Best Party" (the inaugural gala for incoming City of Buffalo mayor Masiello).

Beyond his business success, Militello has garnered a distinguished record of community service. Past accomplishments include serving on: the President's Council on Small Business in 1978-79 for Jimmy Carter; I Love New York Tourism Board of Commissioners; Dining Out for Life (Chairman 2009 & 2010); and Theatre District Association Board Member and Treasurer. His current service includes: Seneca Diabetes Foundation (Vice-Chairman); Seneca Commission for Economic Development (Vice Chairman); ECMC Foundation board member; WNY Veterans committee of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Governor Andrew Cuomo's Veterans Commission.

Militello resides in Snyder, NY with his wife Marilynn. He has a son, two daughters and one granddaughter.