

## **Standing Beside a Giant.**

Terence ("Terry") Moakley, 69, quadriplegic US Marine Corps veteran and disability advocate, passed away on Friday, September 5, 2014. Terry was a giant in the New York City disability rights community and forged an alliance between disabled Vietnam-era veterans and civilians with disabilities, supporting wheelchair access to buildings and facilities as well as mass transportation, which changed New York City markedly.

Terry was a key player in making New York City accessible. He was a part of a landmark lawsuit which brought about changes in the Transit Authority, requiring all buses to be accessible, key rail stations to be made accessible, and the creation of the Access-A-Ride transportation system. Seventeen years ago, Terry also helped found the Taxis For All Campaign.

Terry understood that action was needed to get things done. As an advocate his leadership inspired and motivated others to make a difference. He help change the minds of many who thought that access was too expensive and too difficult to achieve. He helped others see that it was important to provide access to all in all areas, even if it was as simple as going to the movies.

Terry was a remarkable person admired by many and will be missed by his family, friends and all who knew him.

Source Article written by James Weisman, SVP & General Counsel, United Spinal Association.

"New York City has lost a tireless advocate for the disability community, Terrance (Terry) Moakley," said Victor Calise, Commissioner, NYC Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD). "Terry was a veteran with a disability who advanced the City's transportation issues, especially accessible buses and taxis. He may be recognized as a national advocate, but to MOPD he was a friend and colleague who will be sorely missed."