This article originally appeared in the Pioneer Press Elm Leaves on August 4, 2011. Read the original here .

On June 29, U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (D-5) presented several medals to World War II naval veteran Albert Kreitzer of Schiller Park. Kreitzer waited more than 20 years to be awarded the medals by the Department of the Navy and turned to Quigley's office for assistance. Kreitzer was presented with the World War II Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, and Navy Occupation Service Medal for his courageous service to our country.

"It is a privilege for me to play a role in honoring an American hero," Quigley said. "After all Mr. Kreitzer has done for our country, I'm grateful that he now has the recognition he earned."

“We are very indebted to Rep. Quigley and his wonderful staff for helping us deal in a timely fashion with the (Veteran’s Administration),” said Phyllis Grzeskowiak, Kreitzer’s daughter. “Their assistance in helping move my father’s case along quickly is most appreciated.”