

Washington D.C.- Congressman Steve King (R-IA) today issued the following statement congratulating United States Army Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta of Hiawatha, Iowa for receiving the Medal of Honor. Giunta was presented with the Medal of Honor during a ceremony King attended at the White House this afternoon. The Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military commendation, is awarded to military personnel who have displayed exceptional valor in combat. Staff Sergeant Giunta is the first living recipient of the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War.

**“Staff Sergeant Salvatore Giunta’s heroic actions in Afghanistan have made him a deserving recipient of the Medal of Honor,”** said King. **“Leaving the protection of cover to charge into enemy fire is not an instinctive act. Staff Sergeant Giunta’s decision to do so was driven by his selfless concern for the well-being of his fellow soldiers. Giunta’s courageous action saved the lives of two members of his squad and prevented a third member from being taken captive. I salute Staff Sergeant Giunta for earning the Medal of Honor, and I join my fellow Iowans in expressing gratitude for the extraordinary bravery of our native son.”**

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