



# OUR HEROES

## JOHN DILLON

*President of the American Legion Riders*

*Many of us know John Dillon, or Top, as the President of the American Legion Riders. However there is more to the story of this 25 year Army Veteran. John enlisted in the Army Reserves as a junior in high school and began drilling with the 420th Combat Engineer Company in East Liberty while attending high school and college. After five years he enlisted in the Regular Army and began his active duty career where he served an additional 20 years as an Infantryman and Army CID Special Agent. As an Infantryman John served as a Sniper and Squad Leader among other duties. As a CID Special Agent he held an array of positions including Special Agent-in-Charge and Battalion First Sergeant.*

*During his career John was assigned to numerous locations including Korea, Germany, Fort Campbell, KY and Fort Riley, KS. He deployed or was assigned TDY too many far-flung locations including various locations in the Middle East, England, Portugal, Bulgaria, Israel and even Russia. When asked his favorite assignment John will answer that it is a toss-up between the three years he served as the Special Agent-in-Charge of the Augsburg (Germany) CID Resident Agency where he was able to lead a wide array of investigations working with an international community or the three years he served as the CID Battalion First Sergeant at Fort Riley, KS, where he was responsible for all matters involving Non-Commissioned Officers and Enlisted Service Members. This last assignment, as the Battalion First Sergeant, is where John garnered his nickname, "Top"; as the traditional Army nickname for the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Battalion.*

*John's awards include the Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal (4); though he is equally proud of being awarded the Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his service to help youth in the Army Community. John also had the distinction of being named as the CID Special Agent of the Year and in being selected to attend the New Scotland Yard Police Academy in London, England.*

*John's life partner is our very own Susan Dillon, ALA member and Secretary of the Legion Riders. Both John and Susan grew up in the South Hills and attended Robert Morris University. John and Susan spend their leisure time riding motorcycles, traveling and volunteering to aid Veterans and youth in need. John currently works as a Director of Security for a Fortune 50 company and is the Executive Sponsor of his company's VetNet program that works to support not only Veteran employees of the company, but also Veteran support organizations throughout Pennsylvania.*



*Liberation of Kuwait, 1991*



*Saudi Arabia, Awards Ceremony*



*Sniper Team Section, Korea*