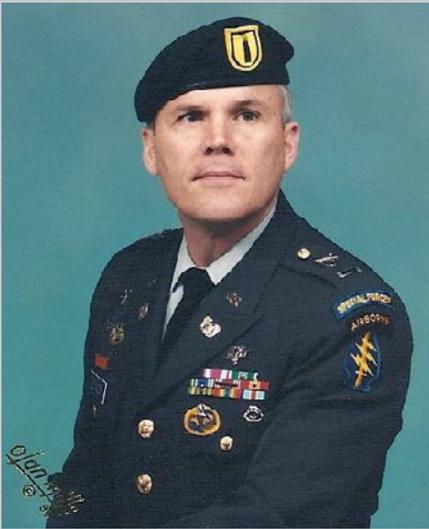


DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5
THOMAS EDINGER**

Inducted June 2005



Chief Warrant Officer Five Thomas Edinger enlisted in the Army in September 1972 as a Combat Engineer, completed the Special Forces Qualification Course as a Special Forces Engineer Sergeant and was assigned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) in November of 1973. CW5 Edinger retired from active service in 2004 after a thirty-two year career characterized by exemplary and selfless service.

CW5 Edinger was assigned to 46th Company, 1st SFG (A), Nong Ta Koo Thailand, in 1973-1974 as the SFODA Engineer NCO. He was then assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th SFG (A) at Fort Bragg from May 1974 until November 1983, Chief Edinger was assigned to the newly reactivated 1st Battalion, 1st SFG (A), at Fort Bragg, and moved with the Battalion to Okinawa, Japan, where he served until the end of 1988. As a Special Forces NCO, he served as a Special Forces Engineer, Medic, Intelligence NCO, and Operations NCO.

While in Okinawa, Mr. Edinger was among the first year group of Special Forces Warrant Officers 180A selected in 1984. Chief Edinger was then assigned to 1st SFG (A) at Fort Lewis where he served in 3rd battalion and HHC from 1988 until 1998. Chief Edinger's next assignment was with HQDA, PERSCOM from 1998 until 2002 where he served as the Career Manager for Special Forces and Criminal Investigation Division Warrant Officers, and as the Technical Services Branch Chief. As a Special Forces Warrant Officer, he served as Assistant Detachment Commander, Detachment Commander, Company Operations Officer, Battalion Current Operations Warrant Officer, Group Training Officer, Group Current Operations and Plans Officer, and as an Action Officer in the Special Operations Division, Joint Staff J-3 at the Pentagon.

Upon retirement Chief Edinger has continued to serve our nation as a Counterterrorism Maritime Security advisor for the United States Coast Guard at the Headquarters in Washington, DC.

CW5 Edinger's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (6 OLC), the Army Superior Unit Award, the Army Achievement Medal (2 OLC), Joint Identification Badge, the Special Forces Tab, the Combat Diver Badge, Master Free-Fall Badge, Expert Field Medical Badge, Thai Jump Wings, and the Indonesian Scuba Badge.

CW5 Edinger attended the Military Intelligence Advance Course, the Special Forces Warrant Officer Advance Course, the Warrant Officer Staff Course, the Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course, and has an associate's degree from the University of the State of New York.

CW5 Edinger has been married for over thirty-six years to the former Shirley Scripser, and they have three children and six grandchildren.