

HECTOR T. DITTAMO

Member of the Board of Directors and Representing the DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors

Hector T. Dittamo was born in Paterson, NJ. His retirement on February 28, 2006 marked the completion of 43 years and nine months of continuous federal service, 23 years on active military duty with the US Army, and 20 years, nine months with federal civil service. Nearly 28 years of his federal service time was spent in the Pentagon.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Journalism from the University of Dayton (Ohio). He was a ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant on June 2, 1962. Mr. Dittamo graduated with the Degree of Master of Education from Boston University in September, 1975.

Among other numerous and varied assignments, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam. His latter military assignments included duties at HQ, Military District of Washington and as the Chief, Services Division, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Mr. Dittamo retired from the U.S. Army on May 31, 1985 and on June 3, 1985 he joined the civilian workforce as an Air Force civilian with the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force as Chief, Services and Supply. In 1994, he joined the Pentagon Building Management Office, Washington Headquarters Services. In April, 1999, he returned to the HQ, US Air Force as Chief, Facilities Support Division, and later as the Director, Facilities Support Directorate. He attained his GS-15 grade in November, 2001. Mr. Dittamo was on duty at the Pentagon when it was attacked on September 11, 2001.

His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, plus numerous service ribbons; as a civil servant, the Award for Meritorious Civilian Service, and Federal Employee Point of Light. He was with the Boy Scout program and attained the highest awards in both Scout and Explorer ranks. He is a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus and serves in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #8183 and Fr. Edwin F. Kelley Assembly #1443.

Mr. Dittamo served as a Grand Knight and a Faithful Navigator; he also served as a District Deputy for four years. After retirement, he and his wife devoted time to work with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, where they led a major fundraising program selling gift cards; a program that raised more than \$415,900 in profits between July, 1995 until the program ceased in August, 2011. In addition, he assisted at the family business, Fox's Pizza Den, in Lake Ridge, VA, which opened in November, 2005 but closed in December, 2010, following the death of his son, Paul, in the line-of-duty with the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, DC on October 30, 2010.

He is a graduate of the Prince William County Citizen Police Academy (PWCCPA), a member of the PWCCPA Alumni Association, and a volunteer with the PWC (Virginia) Police Department. He is a member and Past President of the Washington, DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (C.O.P.S.) and currently serves as Treasurer. He served on the C.O.P.S. National Board nearly five years and is a recipient of the National C.O.P.S. Charles Shinholser Award for Volunteerism.

He is married to the former Theresa Marie Blatz of Dayton, Ohio. They celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in January of 2023. They have eight children, Christine, Angela, Rebecca, Jennifer, Andrew, Peter, Paul (EOW: 10/30/2010) and Elizabeth, and 28 grandchildren.