

*NH Veterans Home's Ross Starkweather Receives  
"Above and Beyond" Award.*



TILTON, NH – Ross Starkweather, Security Officer I at the NH Veterans Home (NHVH) in Tilton, has received the Home's "Above and Beyond" Award for July, 2009. The NHVH Above & Beyond Award was created to recognize employees who are committed to excellence and superior performance.

Ross is a 26-year US Army veteran who served in the Army Military Police Corps from 1980 to 2006; at West Point, NY, on active duty, and in the Army Reserves in the 94<sup>th</sup> MP Company and the 2/310<sup>th</sup> Training and Evaluation Battalion. He was also a Squad Leader in

the Gulf War. From 2003 to 2005 he was on active duty as an instructor and evaluator at Ft. Dix, NJ, training security forces for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as well as Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ross has worked at the Veterans Home for two years. According to Melissa Milione, NHVH Human Resources Administrator, Ross was nominated by co-workers, who said: "Ross is clearly committed to the Veterans Home and our residents. He goes Above and Beyond to help the residents and staff each day. When you have a problem, he's right there to help you out. He visits the residents on his off-duty hours as well as helping them during work." Another co-worker added, "Ross played a key role during the development of the Veterans Home "Final Salute" protocol. His attention to detail and execution of duties mirror

that of services conducted during military ceremonies. Ross is also an unselfish team player who will often volunteer to adjust his schedule so that others can spend time with their families. He is the glue that holds the team together."

As a Security Officer, Ross conducts safety and security patrols; enforces the parking program; conducts safety inspections and maintains safety equipment; conducts investigations; trains staff members in safety and security issues; responds to all alarms; documents alarms, accidents, and investigations; works with local and state fire protection and law enforcement agencies; and more.

Of his work at NHVH he says, "I've always read military books and my heroes have always been the men and women of America's military. I get to serve and speak with my heroes each day I come to work. Being a veteran also helps me do my job better. I work with the most caring and supportive staff and volunteers. They make the Home as great as it is."

Ross lives in Northfield, NH with his wife, Theresa, and their two dogs and four cats. He and Theresa have two sons: Jason Huckins of Northfield, NH and Shawn Huckins of Middletown, CT. When he's not working, Ross enjoys fishing, hunting, motorcycle riding, reading, and doing yard work.

Ross Starkweather is one of nearly 400 staff members at the New Hampshire Veterans Home, established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans. One of just four New Hampshire nursing homes to win the first Quality of Life Award from the NH Department of Health & Human Services, the NHVH campus is home to more than 200 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.