



Grunts, Pilots & "Docs" Wins Military Category of Indie Book Contest

Books I and II, American Heroes: Grunts, Pilots & "Docs" was named the winner of the **Military** category of the **2012 Next Generation Indie Books Awards**.

The Indie Book Awards program was established by the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group to recognize and honor the best independently published books of the year in 60 categories (www.IndieBookAwards.com). The book sponsor likens the contest to being the literary equivalent of the Sundance Film Festival citing new authors and small publishing houses open to worldwide competition.

Author Michael Dan Kellum of Longview, Texas was awarded a gold medal, a \$100 check and a Winner's Certificate for his excellent Vietnam War books, **Books I and II, American Heroes: Grunts, Pilots & "Docs."** Kellum, a former USMC First Lieutenant who served a tour in Vietnam in 1970, spent 21 years researching combat records and interviewing Marines and Navy Corpsmen for these books which cover U.S. Marine Corps combat in Vietnam on the ground and in the air from 1965-71. He cites 1,019 Marines, 42 Navy Corpsmen as well as other U.S. servicemen for a total of 1,109 altogether. The books are available through Navarro-Hill Publishing Group at www.michaeldankellum.com.

All May 2012 Finalists and Winners were invited to attend an awards reception at the Plaza Hotel in New York City June 4, 2012. Additionally, his book was listed as a Winner in the **2012 Next Generation Indie Book Awards** catalog which was distributed at **Book Expo America, BEA**, in New York in June to thousands of attendees including book buyers, library representatives, media, industry professionals, and others. The Indie Book Awards intention is to promote the Winners and Finalists to as many people as possible.

New York literary agent Marilyn Allen of Allen O'Shea Literary Agency reviewed the 60 winning books for possible representation to publishers or one of Ms. Allen's co-agents for representation in areas such as distribution, foreign rights, film rights and other rights.

Ms. Allen has over 25 years of sales and marketing experience, including serving as Senior Vice President, Associate Publisher, and Director of Marketing for Harper Collins and directing sales and marketing teams for Simon & Schuster, Penguin Books and Avon Books. Ms. Allen has worked with many well-known authors including Stephen King, Ken Follett (author of a recent Oprah book club pick), Barbara Kingsolver, John Gray, Mary Higgins Clark, and many more.

The judges of the **2012 Next Generation Indie Book Awards** are all actively involved in the Indie book publishing industry and range from literary agents to editors. The judges also include publishing executives, book reviewers, writing teachers, successful published authors, and experts in the various areas of judging including book design.



MILITARY CATEGORY

WINNER (\$100 PRIZE):

American Heroes: Grunts, Pilots & "Docs" (Books 1 and 2), by Michael Dan Kellum (Navarro-Hill Publishing Group) (ISBN 978-0984513215, Book I), (ISBN 978-0984513239, Book II)

FINALISTS:

Making John A Soldier: A Nebraskan Goes To War, by John Malloy Sr. (Outskirts Press) (ISBN 978-1432777432)

Rough War: The Combat Story of Lt. Paul J. Eastman, A "Burman Banshee", by Walt Shiel (Jacobsville Books / Slipdown Mountain Publications LLC) (ISBN 978-1934631157)

Sound Rising, by Richard A. Radune (Research in Time Publications) (ISBN 978-0976434115)

The Deguello, by Scott A. Zastrow (Lulu.com) (ISBN 978-1257058266)