Excellence in Leadership Award



Billy Yout

william H. Yout, affectionately know as "Billy" to his friends, family and colleagues, served with distinction as a Special Agent and Supervisory Special Agent with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and its predecessor agency, the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. During his career he was assigned as a Special Agent in the Boston Field Division and later the Miami Field Division. Upon being promoted to a Supervisory Special Agent he was assigned to the Washington Division Office, followed by assignments as Staff Coordinator with Operation Snowcap, Staff Coordinator in the Office of Congressional and Public Affairs, Resident Agent in Charge of the Concord New Hampshire Resident Office, and Staff Coordinator with the Special Operations Division.

During his career with DEA, he was the recipient of numerous awards and commendations for his skills as a criminal investigator, undercover agent and supervisor. Most of all, Billy was known as a father, a kind and caring individual, and a visionary and dynamic leader who inspired people to pursue excellence. He retired from DEA on March 31, 2004, following 32 years of distinguished service as a federal law enforcement officer. Sadly, Billy passed away on August 6, 2004, after a year-long battle with brain cancer.

Billy was a strong supporter of Law Enforcement Exploring and whenever possible volunteered to serve as a member of the DEA staff at the National Law Enforcement Explorer Conferences and other Exploring activities. He always was quick with a kind word and good advice to Explorers, continuously reminding them to the importance of becoming a good leader and a role model to others. Billy saw in Explorers boundless potential and future leaders for the law enforcement community.

The "Billy Yout Excellence in Leadership Award" was established to recognize Law Enforcement Explorers who best exemplify the visionary leadership qualities that Billy demonstrated during his impressive career with DEA. Those qualities include the ability to motivate and inspire people to achieve goals and objectives; to help others develop self-confidence and self-esteem through teamwork and challenging individual assignments that build decision making skills and provide leadership experience; the capacity to show unyielding strength of character and courage tempered with compassion and empathy; the moral and ethical fortitude to make the right decision even when confronted with adversity; and exhibiting by thought and deed exceptional excellence in leadership.