



John M. Collier, formerly of Elnora, received his second Silver Star for "Above and Beyond the Call" for service in Iraq. Collier has also earned four Purple Hearts, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Cross, and numerous other citations.

Former Elnora resident

## ***John Collier earns second Silver Star for valor in Iraq***

Former Elnora resident John M. Collier received his second Silver Star Award for his service and dedication in the United States Army. The Star received was a Star for "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" while serving in Iraq during Iraqi Freedom. John has served his country for twenty-five years. He has received during his tenure, four Purple Hearts, two Silver Stars, two Bronze Stars, a Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Cross, plus numerous other medals and awards.

John is now retired from the United States Army as a Command Sergeant Major and resides in Indianapolis. He is a 1982 graduate of North Daviess High School. His parents are Duard and Hannah Collier.

Below is the Certificate of Award presented to CSM John M. Collier for his actions on May 21, 2004 during operation Iraqi Freedom.

"CSM John M. Collier, being wounded twice during a period of time when he held a position against an enemy force that out numbered his unit three to one, called for artillery support to the site he was holding where several of his men were also wounded. Suffering two wounds himself, CSM Collier took up a position as a rifleman, away from the protection of his men, to draw fire away from his unit, giving them time to regroup. Drawing fire to his position, and with little regard to his own safety, CSM Collier was wounded two more times and was successful in holding off the attack until the artillery support commenced. He also refused medical attention until the enemy force had withdrawn and his men were able to safely regroup and hold off any enemy advancement of their position.

His actions reflect great pride in himself, his country, his unit and the United States Army."