

# John Eric Menges – TWC Biography

## Early Life and Military Service

John Eric Menges was raised in a small town in West Texas, grounded in a strong Christian faith and family values. Before reaching the age of eighteen, John made the decision to join the United States Marine Corps. While serving with HMLA 169 Vipers, he participated in significant military operations, including Desert Storm and Desert Shield, as well as the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) during the country's civil war, which was marked by intense conflict between warring drug factions.

## Commitment to Country and Community

As a combat veteran, John developed a profound love for his country and a deep respect for his fellow service members who have fought to preserve the nation's freedoms. After completing his service in the Marines, John returned to Texas, where he currently resides. He is happily married to his wife, Michele, whom he has known since the age of six. John is also a small business owner and maintains an active role in his church community.

## Dedication to Helping Veterans

John's experiences as a combat veteran have given him a unique understanding of the challenges veterans face when transitioning from elite military units to civilian life. Motivated by a desire to support his fellow veterans, John pursued training in Peer-to-Peer counseling and became certified in this field. Seeking a platform to reach and assist other combat veterans, John helped establish this non-profit organization, viewing it as a meaningful way to give back and support those who have served.