Irving Diener Award

The Irving Diener Award recognizes and honors annually the BVA member with the most outstanding contribution to the growth and development of his/her regional group apart from personal achievements or endeavors. Members throughout the country serve one another in their local areas with dedication and loyalty, often at immense personal sacrifice. Those who serve with the greatest distinction merit the recognition and honor at the national level.

The Irving Diener Award was first established in 1962. It takes its name from Irving Diener, a former member of the BVA National Advisory Committee who took a unique interest in BVA’s mission and members. The award has been subsequently supported by the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of Irving Diener, some of whom reside in the Washington, DC area near BVA National Headquarters.

Nominations must include the following:

- A cover letter introducing the candidate and signed by an officer of the regional group or the individual submitting the nomination
- A statement detailing the contributions made and the services rendered to the regional group in question
- A biographical sketch of the candidate with data related to his/her military service, education, job status, family life, community service, hobbies, and pastimes

An individual may receive the Diener Award only once. BVA employees, even if they are members of the Association, are not eligible for the award. There is no limit to the number of nominations a BVA member can submit.

Please submit nominations, postmarked on or before the final Friday in April, to:
Blinded Veterans Association
Attn: Awards Committee
PO Box 90770
Washington, DC 20090

Or online here.

The recipient of the Irving Diener Award receives a complimentary registration to the national convention at which the recognition is to be presented, as well as a modest stipend.