



Bill Dudley, Chairman  
Ray Quinn, Vice Chairman

**Veterans Council of St. Johns County Inc.**  
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[www.VeteransCouncilofStJohns.org](http://www.VeteransCouncilofStJohns.org)  
[www.StJohnsVetsCouncil.org](http://www.StJohnsVetsCouncil.org)



John Mountcastle, Treasurer  
Michael Rothfeld, Secretary

## BIOGRAPHY

John Mountcastle grew up on eastern Long Island. After graduating the University of Notre Dame, he served on active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard in Boston for three years then joined, and eventually retired from, the Coast Guard Reserve. After operating a successful liquor store in Freeport from 1971 until the early 1990's, he went back to school, obtained a post-graduate degree from Hofstra University, passed the Uniform Certified Public Accountants exam and began a second career as a Public Accountant. When he realized that there were too many accountants, he began to specialize in selling and servicing high-end accounting software.



After Y2K, it became apparent that the next five years' sales had been accelerated into 1999, so he changed gears, became a consulting accounting focusing upon forensics, obtained a second Masters from Baruch College, CUNY, and joined a start-up, Jefferson Wells International.

When security concerns became paramount in the NYC area, he and his wife of 47 years, Deirdre, decided to relocate to St. Augustine in 2004. Once settled, Deirdre and John became involved in various charities—John found himself much in demand when the IRS started cancelled public charities' exempt certificates because their boards had not filed information returns for three or more consecutive years.

Even restricting himself to those charities which were focused upon Veterans and where there were no board members receiving compensation, he found himself assisting more than sixty organizations in the Duval/St. Johns County area. Some were rather simple, requiring only a short form—others, no so much. The largest document submission weighed more than eight pounds, included more than 200 pages of documents and five (5) years' retroactive information returns. Even today, more than ten years' later, he devotes more than five hundred hours to assisting exempt organizations to remain compliant with IRS and Florida requirements.

Currently, John is Treasurer of several organizations, advisor to about two dozen more, and assisting a local Defense Contractor to grow their business. Deirdre, a Past President of several boards, currently is assisting organizations helping to increase literacy in St. Johns County.

Dee and John are the proud parents of Sean and Trevor, both of whom reside in the DC area with their wives, Jo-Ellen and Rose (respectively), and the proud grandparents of Connor, Evelyn and Liam.