

Vita for Peter Kilner

Captain Peter Kilner is an active-duty Army officer who earned an M.A. in Philosophy in preparation for assignment as a philosophy instructor in the Department of English at the U.S. Military Academy (West Point). Peter is a 1990 graduate of West Point, where he earned a B.S. in Political Science (International). Commissioned as an infantry officer, Peter has served in several command and staff positions, most recently as commander of an airborne anti-armor company in the 82d Airborne Division. His military education includes completion of Ranger, Airborne, and Jumpmaster training, and he is a Distinguished Honor Graduate of the Infantry Officer Advanced Course.

Peter enjoys researching and writing about military issues. His essay, "The Raid on Schierwaldenrath," won first prize in the U.S. Army Center for Military History's 1994 Writing Contest, and his article "Developing a Cohesive Unit" was published in 1995 in *INFANTRY*, the professional journal of Army infantrymen. Peter also authored "Blood Pinning Helps the Military Do Its Job," which appeared as an op-ed column in *The Roanoke Times* in 1997, and he presented a paper entitled "Feminism, Sexual Harassment, and the Army" at the 1998 Radford University Student Conference on Gender. Peter departs Virginia Tech with a 3.97 G.P.A. and selection into Phi Kappa Phi. He hopes to continue researching the moral justification of killing in combat in order to contribute to a more efficient, moral military and to reduce the incidence of psychological trauma among combat veterans.

Peter has been married to his West Point classmate, the former Cathy Orpen, since 1990, and they have three boys.