



SOUNDINGS

NOVEMBER 2022

SPECIAL VETERANS DAY ISSUE



**THE MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 WOULD LIKE TO
THANK ALL OUR VETERANS WHO HAVE
SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES. THANK
YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND COURAGE
IN PROTECTING OUR FREEDOM.**



IN THE KNOW

**MDA-UAW
LOCAL 571**

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This newsletter will be published monthly on the MDA-UAW Web Page. We appreciate your feedback and any comments you have to make us better at how we communicate MDA-UAW news.

GET INVOLVED
If you would like to volunteer or get involved in any of our committees, events or volunteer efforts contact the Union Hall at 860-448-0552.



Local Union Communication Association

VETERANS DAY FACTS

IT WASN'T ALWAYS CALLED VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day, and it was meant to be a day that celebrated the victory of the Allied forces during World War I. In 1947, however, a World War II Vet sought to change the name. Raymond Weeks, sometimes referred to as the true "Father of Veterans Day," held the first "National Veterans Day" celebration in Birmingham, AL. He wanted to honor all Vets in addition to those who served in WWI.

Later on, a U.S. representative from Kansas named Edward Rees officially proposed a bill to change the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. President Eisenhower signed the bill confirming the change in 1954.

THERE ARE AROUND 19 MILLION US VETERANS

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, around 10% of the overall adult population is made up of veterans.

WOMEN MAKE UP 13% OF ALL VETERANS IN THE UNITED STATES

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 13 percent of all veterans are women, which is a record high and is growing every year.

AMERICANS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES WHO CELEBRATE NOVEMBER 11

Many countries around the world also celebrate November 11 (but as Remembrance Day rather than Veterans Day or Armistice Day). These countries include the U.K., Canada, Australia, and France, among others.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VETERANS DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY

The primary difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day is that on Memorial Day we remember the soldiers who gave their lives while serving, whereas on Veterans Day we honor the living veterans for their service.

MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2022 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	Nov 7	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Nov 7	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Dec 5	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
General Membership	Dec 5	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott

2022 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

NOV 10	Prime 82 Restaurant Norwich, CT
DEC 8	Great Neck Country Club Waterford, CT

COMING SOON



2023

OPEN ENROLLMENT

It's Your Choice

NOV. 16 - DECEMBER 2

Flu Shot Schedule

NOVEMBER

11/1/22, New London, Occupational Health Clinic, 9 AM to 12 PM
11/2/22, Groton, Sub Base, Bldg 88 Classroom 1 & 2, 8 AM to 5 PM
11/3/22, Eagle Park, Washington Room, 8 AM to 10 AM
11/9/22, Groton, Flu on the Go, TBD
11/15/22, New London, Occupational Health Clinic, 9 AM to 12 PM

VETERANS DAY DEALS



VETERANS DAY FREE MEALS, DISCOUNTS & DEALS

7-ELEVEN

Get a free coffee or Big Gulp on Veterans Day.

APPLEBEE'S

Veterans and active-duty military can select a free meal from a limited menu on Veterans Day. Proof of service required.

BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Free Wings All day on Veterans Day, veterans and active-duty military who dine in or call for takeout at their local B-Dubs can receive a free order of boneless wings and a side of fries. At participating U.S. locations only.

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

On Veterans Day, all veterans or active-duty military personnel will be able to select a free entrée from a special Veterans Day menu including pizza, salads and pasta. Please come in uniform or bring your military ID or other proof of service.

CHILI'S GRILL & BAR

All veterans and active-duty military personnel can choose a complimentary meal from a select menu on Veterans Day.

CRACKER BARREL OLD COUNTRY STORE

During military family appreciation month, Cracker Barrel will offer in-store specials on Veterans Day for military veterans and promotions throughout November to support military families in partnership with Operation Homefront. On Veterans Day, veterans can receive a free slice of double fudge Coca-Cola cake with their meal.

DENNY'S

All active, non-active or retired military personnel at all participating Denny's restaurants nationwide will receive a free build-your-own grand slam breakfast on Veterans Day 5 a.m.-noon. Diners must show ID to receive this offer.

DUNKIN' DONUTS

On Veterans Day, veterans and active-duty military can enjoy a free donut at Dunkin' Donuts restaurants nationwide, no purchase necessary.

FRIENDLY'S FREE BREAKFAST, LUNCH OR DINNER

Friendly's is treating veterans and active military, with a valid military ID or honorable discharge card, to a free all-American meal



for lunch or dinner, which consists of the all-American burger, served with a side of fries and a drink on Veterans Day. The burger can be upgraded to a cheeseburger for free.

HARD ROCK CAFE

Hard Rock Cafe offers active-duty and retired military members a free original Legendary Steak Burger topped with applewood bacon, cheddar cheese, a crispy onion ring, leaf lettuce and vine-ripened tomato this Veterans Day with a valid ID.

Military members and veterans can

also apply Hard Rock Cafe's 15% off military discount on any other items.

LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA

On Veterans Day, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., veterans and active military members can receive a free lunch combo, which features four slices of Little Caesars popular Detroit-style deep-dish pizza, paired with a 20-ounce Pepsi product.

NINETY NINE RESTAURANT & PUB

On Veterans Day, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., veterans and active military can receive a free entrée from a special Veterans Day menu with the purchase of any other entrée. Dine-in only.

OLIVE GARDEN

Olive Garden is offering veterans and active-duty service members a free entree from a special menu. All entrees include Olive Garden's famous breadsticks and choice of soup or salad.

STARBUCKS

On Veterans Day, active-duty service members, Reservists, veterans and military spouses are invited to enjoy a free tall (12-ounce) hot brewed coffee.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE

On Friday, Nov. 11, between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., the restaurants will distribute meal vouchers, valid through May 30, 2022. Vouchers can be redeemed for one of 10 entrees including a 6-ounce sirloin and two made-from-scratch sides plus a choice of any Coca-Cola product, sweet tea/iced tea or coffee.

WENDY'S

Wendy's nationwide are offering a free small breakfast combo with valid military ID on Veterans Day. No purchase is necessary.



LOCAL VETERAN SERVICES

easterseals
VETERANS RALLY POINT

MDA-UAW
LOCAL 571
proudly supports
VETERANS RALLY
POINT



For many of the brave men and women veterans/service-members who have served our country, the journey home is complicated and challenging. Whether our veterans/service-members are recovering from physical and/or psychological injuries or trying to navigate the civilian world to gain meaningful employment, Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut walks with veterans/servicemembers on their journey every step of the way. At Easterseals, no one is left behind! These services are free and local, serving our Connecticut Warriors Veterans Rally Point
24 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360
860.859.4148 ext. 1

Programs & Services

VA Benefits Consultation
Behavioral Health Services
Employment & Resume Assistance
Computer Center
Educational & Job Skill Training
Financial Assessment & Coaching
Clothing Closet & Food Pantry
Case Management
Peer Meet-Up Group
Health & Wellness

Active Military
National Guard
Reserve
Veterans & their Families



Yoga classes and meditation room



Wood working shop and makerspace area



Fitness center



Rock climbing wall in fitness center

VETERANS STANDDOWN EVENT



The 2022 CT Veteran Stand Down was held Friday September 23, 2022, at five locations around Connecticut. The MDA Veterans Committee was on hand at two of the CT locations; Veterans Rally Point in Norwich, and Rocky Hill Veteran Campus. This event is organized by the CT Department of Veterans Affairs who continues their commitment to serve Connecticut's Veterans, Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve military personnel, and their immediate families by providing this "one stop" access to a range of programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, Veterans organizations, and community-based non-profits at regional sites across the State. Over 1000 Veterans visited this years Stand Down event across CT.





MDA VETERAN CONTRIBUTIONS



The MDA-UAW Local 571 proudly donated over \$9600 to local Veteran Organization's last year. The donations were raised at various fund raising events held throughout the year including the 2021 Veteran Cornhole Tournament and the sale of Veteran Committee challenge coins.

Five local veteran organizations were presented checks from the MDA-UAW Local 571 including:

- Electric Boat Troop Support
- SUBVets of Groton
- Easter Seals Rally Point, Norwich
- Fisher House Veteran Home, CT-VA
- Department of VA Affairs, CT-VA

Last year marked the first year for the MDA-UAW Veterans Committee Cornhole Tournament that was held at Foxwoods Resort Casino. The event was a huge success with 103 teams participating in either a Competitive or Social bracket.

This year on November 12, 2022 the 2nd Annual Veterans Committee Cornhole tournament will be held at Foxwoods Resort Celebrity Ballroom. This year teams will compete in three brackets including; Social, Competitive, and Advanced.

Raffles and awards will be paid in all 3 brackets. All participants will be receive a newly designed Challenge coin for this event.

This event is open to all and encourages all skill levels. Warm-ups will start promptly at 10:00 AM and team play at 11:00 AM. This event is a bring your own partner event.

Pre-registration is required:
Scoreholio or Blouis@snet.net.



\$2200 donation to the CT
Veteran Affairs Fisher House



\$2000 donation to EB Troop Support



\$1200 donation to Submarine Veterans in Groton, CT



\$1200 donation to the Department of Veterans Affairs



\$3000 donated to the Rally Point, Norwich, CT

VETERANS CORNHOLE WINNERS 2021



COMPETITIVE BRACKET



**1ST
PLACE**



**2ND
PLACE**



**3RD
PLACE**



**4TH
PLACE**

SOCIAL BRACKET





SALUTE TO OUR MDA VETERANS



Jennifer Zamora
Logistics Specialist, D422

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: ZENIA, OHIO

SUPPLY MANAGEMENT CRAFTSMAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 11 years, 6 days

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I come from a military family. Both of my paternal grandparents served (My grandmother was a WAV during WWII). My Aunt, two uncles and my father and step-father all served. Myself and two of my sisters have served.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:
Lackland AFB Texas

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Outstanding Unit Award with one oakleaf cluster.

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Hanscom AFB Ma, Fairchild AFB Wa, deployed to Prince Sultan AB Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Manas AB Kyrgyzstan.

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:
Staff Sergeant, when I outranked my father's highest.



Paul Neves
Instructional System Design, D701

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: SOUTH YARMOUTH, MASS

STRATEGIC NAVIGATION ELECTRONICS TECH

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I was being drafted during Vietnam War by the Army, I decided to go Navy.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:
Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Qualified in Submarines, Master Training Specialists

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USS Daniel Webster SSBN 626, USS Casimir Pulaski SSBN 633, USS James K. Polk SSBN 645, USS Florida SSBN 726. Two tours as an Instructor at Basic Submarine School, Groton, CT.

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Senior Chief Electronics Technician, ETCS (SS)

MY MILITARY STORY :

Plankowner on the USS Florida, SSBN 728, commissioned in 1983. Was able to take the boat through new construction at EB, transit through the Panama Canal, across the Equator to new homeport in Bangor, Washington.



Kevin Berry
Sr Tech Illustrator, D403

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HOMETOWN: ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

CULINARY SPECIALIST

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: Wanted to get out of St. Louis and I thought the Coast Guard would offer me the best opportunities.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:
Cape May, New Jersey

STATIONED LOCATION(S): CGAS, Detriot, MI, Patalooma, CA CG Culinary School, Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, USCGC Eagle

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:
Petty Officer, 3rd class

MY MILITARY STORY :

I grew up in the city and had never traveled out of St. Louis. Until this point in my life I had never been to the ocean or saw a seagull until my basic training on the coast of NJ. I served aboard the three-masted USCGC EAGLE Barque used as a training vessel for future officers of the United States Coast Guard. The EAGLE is the largest tall ship and the only active square-rigger in U.S. government service.

SALUTE TO OUR MDA VETERANS



Aaron Castillo
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: GROTON, CONNECTICUT

MULTICHANNEL SYS OPERATOR & MAINT

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 7 years National Guard

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My mom worked with all DoD branches so I was always exposed to their discipline, mentality, and dedication, that it was almost natural for me to join as soon as I finished college. I wanted to repay the opportunities this country had given me, while bettering myself in the process.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Jackson, S. Carolina 1-13th Infantry Reg

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Emergency

Service Medal (CT) holds a special place,

because it was a tough time for the whole

nation, and the fact that I was able to serve our state to help others is what makes it worth it.

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E4-Specialist in Line-of-Sight operations supporting satellite missions.

MY MILITARY STORY :

The bond I have made with my fellow soldiers and the camaraderie is what makes my time served fulfilling and rewarding.



Wayne Carbone
Sr Design Specialist, D452

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: KEENE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

AC/REFRIGERATION SPECIALIST

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years, 7 months

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: Father was a 40 year Army VET and brother was USAF.

Always knew I was going to join the Military

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: National

Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service

Medal, Sea Service Ribbon

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USS Hunley AS-31

(Submarine Tender), USS Ranger CVA-61

(Aircraft Carrier, Attack)

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

MACHINES MATE 2ND CLASS PETTY OFFICER

(MM2), E-5

MY MILITARY STORY : I crossed the Equator and was allowed to enter the Realm of Neptune, Ruler of the Sea. I was also fortunate enough to cross the Equator and the International Date Line at the same time and become a Golden Shellback.



Timothy Kesling
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: BLACKWOOD, NEW JERSEY

MISSILE TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

It was a good opportunity at that time in my life and joining the military would offer me more options for the future .

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Orlando, Florida

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Qualified in

Submarines, Good Conduct Medal, and Sea

Service Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Virginia, Groton,

and Holy Loch Scotland

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Petty Officer, 2nd class

MY MILITARY STORY :

We saw the first launch of the Space Shuttle from the plane the crew was flying south on to meet the ship in Port Canaveral, FL.

A day later, they towed the shuttle boosters into Port Canaveral right by the ship government service.



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Greg Maynard
Technical Writer, D403

UNITED STATES MARINES

HOMETOWN: NORWICH, CONNECTICUT

FIRE CENTER TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 5 years, 7 months

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I knew college is not what I wanted to do at this point in my life and needed direction.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Paris Island, South Carolina

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Expert Rifle and Pistol, Air Crew Wings, National Defense Ribbon, Desert Storm Accommodation Award

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Pensacola, FL-Air Crew School, Cherry Point, NC, Iwakuni, Japan

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Marine Corporal E-4

MY MILITARY STORY :

I served with the air crew for an A6 Intruder and also the multi-mission tactical tanker/transport KC-130 which provided the refueling support required by the USMC for its aircraft. I served in Operation Desert Storm, the 42-day U.S. led air offensive in response to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.



Bob Lang
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: OHIO

NUCLEAR MACHINIST MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 26 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My grandfather and father were both in the Navy. I wanted to follow in their foot-steps and get a great education in the process.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Orlando, FL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: 3 Naval Accommodations, 6 Naval Achievement Awards, and Expeditionary Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USS Camp SSBN 588, USS Corpus Christi SSBN 705, USS Atlanta SSBN 712, USS Columbus SSBN 762. & USS Dickson (Sub-Tender) A537

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Senior Chief E-8

MY MILITARY STORY :

Plankowner on the USS Columbus SSBN 762. Staff at SAG in West Milton, NY; location of the Trident prototype and testing of propulsion plants for Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.



Will Soares
Technical Editor Sr Spec, D403

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: SOUTHURY, CT

HELICOPTER CREW CHIEF

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: Wanted to be an pilot and fly jets. My grandfather was in the Army Air Corp and he was my inspiration.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Humanitarian Award, Iraq Freedom War Award

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Moody AFB- Valdosta, GA, Kadena AFB - Okinawa, Japan, Hurlbert Field - Fort Walton Beach, FL

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Staff Sergeant E-5

MY MILITARY STORY :

I was a crew chief on the HH-60G Pave Hawk. The Pave Hawk is the U.S. Air Force's primary combat search and rescue helicopter used by Air Force special tactics teams and pararescuemen. I was also a crew chief for MH-53 Pave Low which was a long-range special operations and combat search and rescue (CSAR) helicopter.

SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Tom Gilfert
Technical Writer, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: READING, PENNSYLVANIA

HULL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I knew I wanted bigger and better things for myself that my hometown could not offer so I joined the Navy.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Sea Service Ribbon

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USS Midway (Air Craft Carrier), Newport, RI, Norfolk, VA, Cuba, Hawaii, and Japan

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Senior Chief E-8

MY MILITARY STORY :

I was a member of the USS Midway's (CV-41) Flying Squad. This 12 person squadron made up the emergency reaction team who ensured safety for over 4,000 men aboard the USS Midway.



Todd Potter
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: PARMA, OHIO

MILITARY POLICE OFFICER

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I knew growing up that I wanted to be a police officer, so I enlisted in the Army to get specialized training and serve my country.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort McClellan, Alabama

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Rifle/Pistol Expert Medal, Army Service Ribbon

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Fort McClellan, Alabama

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Private First Class-E3

MY MILITARY STORY : I was assigned to the Military Police Corps which is one of the youngest branches of the U.S. Army.

The Military Police School provided training programs in general policing activities, corrections and detention operations, police and criminal intelligence operations, combat support operations, and security.



Michael Synakowski
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: SOLVAY, NEW YORK

TORPEDOMAN'S MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

I had a lot of relatives that had served in the Navy, their stories sounded interesting and inspired me to enlist.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Qualified in Submarines, Presidential Unit Citation, Sea Service Ribbon, Rifle/Pistol Expert Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Groton, Bangor, Me, Mare Island, Ca

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

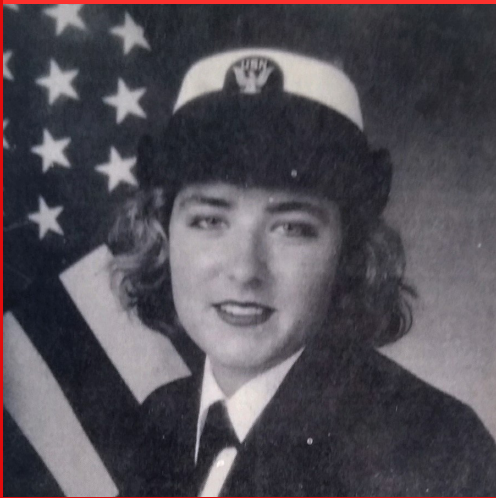
Chief Petty Officer E-7

MY MILITARY STORY :

I operated and maintained underwater weapons launch systems aboard the USS Pargo SSN-650, USS Alabama SSBN-731, USS Richard B. Russell SSN-687, USS Parche SSN-683, USS Boston SSN-703, and the USS City of Corpus Christi SSN-705.



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Joscelyn Mullaney
Logistics Tech Aide, D408

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT

MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My grandfather (Peper) served 1st Infantry in the Korean War for the US Army and I never had more admiration for such bravery and selfless patriotism for anyone. I also desperately wanted to get out of my hometown and "see the world" as the recruiters like to say.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:
RTC, Orlando, FL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: National Defense Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Marksmanship Ribbon (E), Good Conduct Ribbon, NATO Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S): NBPL Point Loma, CA., NTC Orlando, FL., NSA Souda Bay Crete, Greece, NMCB 4 Port Hueneme, CA.

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:
Receiving the IPO (Instant Petty Officer) award for being top in my A school class with a 100% average. I was an E-1 and was frocked to E-4 at my first command.



Tom Montgomery
Sr Design Specialist, D452

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: NORWICH, CONNECTICUT

BRIDGE SPECIALIST/HELICOPTER REPAIR

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 yrs active/CTNG 6 yrs

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My uncle was Sergeant Major in Army reserve Hartford CT, and I have cousins who joined the Army & USMC. After one year of college I knew that I needed a change.

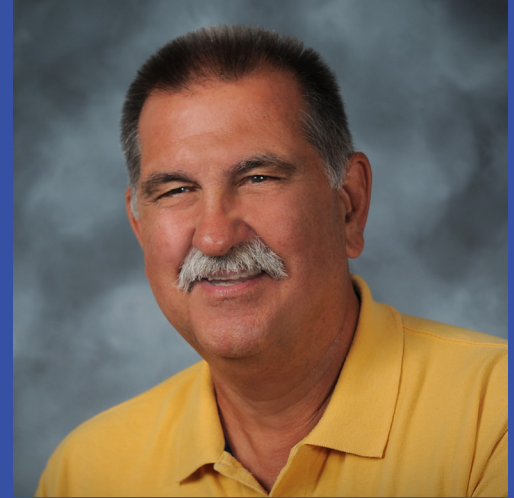
LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP
Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. & Fort Eustis, Va

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: National Defense Svce Medal, Army Overseas Svce Ribbon, US Army Engineer Regimental Crest "ESSAYONS", & Helicopter Crewmen Wings

STATIONED LOCATION(S): 814th Engineer Co., 130th Engineer Brigade, 559th Engineer Battalion, Pioneer Kaserne Hanau FRG, 250th Engineer Co. CTNG & 1109th CT Avcrad.

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:
Specialist 4

MY MILITARY STORY :
Active duty was the best three years of my life with the best group of guys that anyone could ever serve with on and off duty.



Micheal Cipriani
Technical Illustrator Sr Spec, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

TORPEDOMAN'S MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I was getting drafted during Vietnam War and decided to pick the Navy. My father and Uncles were all in the Navy. I Loved the 50's TV show "Silent Service" and this intrigued me.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:
San Diego, California

STATIONED LOCATION(S): San Diego, CA, Keywest, FL, Damneck, VA, Groton, CT, USS G. C. Carver SSN-656 for 7 tours [blue crew], Overhaul of G.C.Carver SSN-656 at EB shipyard, then additional tour with G.C. Carver SSN-656 [gold crew].

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:
Torpedo Man 2nd Class (TM2SS)

MY MILITARY STORY :
My father was a SeaBee in WW II and was in one of the first battalions to land in Okinawa before the US Marines arrived. He was my inspiration to join the military and serve proudly.

SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Ray Hamilton
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: BUFFALO, NEW YORK

NUCLEAR MACHINIST MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I was getting drafted during Vietnam War and decided to pick the Navy.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

San Diego, California

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USS Hollister DD-788, USS H.W. Gilmore AS-16, USS Skate SSN- 578, USS John Marshall SSBN-611

GOLD RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN: MM1(SS)

MY MILITARY STORY :

I was a little shaggy toward the end of my sub service. A Chief came along and grabbed the hair hanging below my hat. He snarled, "Hey sailor...y'got a ear unner all dat hair? To which I was, as a result of an accident, able to reply, "Well no, Chief, as a matter of fact I don't. To this day it still makes me laugh.



Don Miller
Engineering Support, D411

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: PEORIA, OHIO

NAVIGATION ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 9 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I wanted to get into Electronics, my brother in law was also a Chief in the Navy.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

San Diego, California

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Good Conduct, Dolphins

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Portsmouth NH, Groton CT, Newport News VA, Charleston SC, Kings Bay GA

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

1st Class Petty Officer

MY MILITARY STORY : I was a Navigation Ctr

Team Trainer at Subase Groton during shore duty. I trained Navigation Ctr sailors at sea for different casualties and recovery. When I went back to sea, my crew were now the students. We aced the casualty exams because I knew all the faults that the instructors would insert as well as how to recover from them. We aced it!!



Jeffrey Carver
Sr. Design Specialist, D452

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My High School friend Patrick Stoddard (Subsequently, he committed suicide in 2014).

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

FT Leonardwood, MS & FT Huachuca, Arizona

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Commendation & Achievement Medal, Overseas Service, Good Conduct & Oak Leaf, Expert Marksman & Expert Grenadier

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Fort Shafter, and Schofield Barracks

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant E-5

MY MILITARY STORY : My first time out of the country at the DMZ in S. Korea during Operation Team Spirit running for a 10K foot race with Republic of Korea (R.O.K.) soldiers. The R.O.K Soldiers were getting rides on motor scooters from the locals. I saw how failure was dealt with for them and it was a hefty consequence.



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Donald Buell
Sr Designer, D452

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: CHESTER, CONNECTICUT

SCOUT HELICOPTER REPAIR/CREW CHIEF

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4.5 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I wanted to Serve my Country and be a part of the almost one hundred years of combined service my immediate family has dedicated to this Country.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort McClellan Alabama & Fort Rucker Alabama

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Army Achievement Medal 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Nuremberg Germany/ Fort Campbell Kentucky

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E-4 Specialist

MY MILITARY STORY :

I was a member of the 2nd ACR (2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment), Charlie Company, and was part of a team responsible for patrolling and providing border security along the Iron Curtain. Our unit also provided security for 375 km along the East German, West German and Czechoslovakian borders. I also patrolled and monitored areas of the Fulda Gap.



Albert LaFlamme
Design Tech, D484

UNITED STATES MARINES

HOMETOWN: ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT

RIFLEMAN AND SQUAD LEADER

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 5.5 active/1.5 reserve-

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My father and uncle both had proudly served in the United States Marine Corp and my grandfather had served in the Navy. I wanted to continue my families proud legacy of military service and I also wanted to serve my country and still work in the family business.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP

Paris Island, South Carolina

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Good Conduct Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Paris Island, SC, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina for Infantry Training, Hartford, CT & Plainville, Connecticut

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant E-5

MY MILITARY STORY :

My military service was a good experience and allowed me to gain work experience and knowledge while serving my country.



Melvin Hicks
Sr Designer, D456

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: GROTON, CONNECTICUT

AIRCRAFT ELECTRICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 5 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Honestly it was a way to see more than just Connecticut, I knew the world was larger than what I was taught.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Lackland Air Force Base San Antonio, Texas

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Basic Training, Expert Marksman, overseas Long tour, Overseas Short tour, commendation USAF & US Army

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Dyass AFB, TX, Yokota AFB, Japan, Kunsan AFB Korea

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant

SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Sam Watrous
Sr Design Specialist, D459

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: LEDYARD, CONNECTICUT

MISSILE MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

I was interested in Aerospace and thought the Air Force could offer me additional knowledge.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Lakeland AFB, San Antonio, TX

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Basic Training, Good Conduct, Marksmanship and Unit Citations

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Chanute AFB – IL, Minot AFB - ND, Davis-Monthan AFB - AZ, Comiso AFB – Sicily, Grand Forks AFB - ND

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Senior Airman with NCO prep

MY MILITARY STORY :

I worked on nuclear armed missiles as a missile maintenance specialist. Primarily the Minuteman III, ICBM system for three years as a "cage-man" on maintenance teams in the silos of North Dakota. Then one year with the Ground Launched Cruise Missile system.



Robert Kraehnke
Sr Designer, D456

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: HARRISON, MICHIGAN

AVIATION SUPPORT TECH CRYOGENICS

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 13 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Training and travel.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Aviation Warfare Specialist, Navy Meritorious Unit, Commendation, Conduct, & Defense Medals, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Navy & Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon, Navy Expert Rifleman & Pistol Ribbon

STATIONED LOCATION(S): NAS Pensacola, FL, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, CV-63 USS Kittyhawk, NAF Atsugi, Japan, NAS Lemoore, NTC San Diego, DDG-USS Fitzgerald

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

2nd Class Petty Officer



Clyde Britt
Sr. Design Specialist, D459

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: EAST PROVIDENCE, RI

GUNNER ON 8" SELF PROPELLED HOWITZER

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 2 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Buddy System - joined together with a friend

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Dix, Burlington, New Jersey

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Herzo Base Germany

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E-2 in Basic

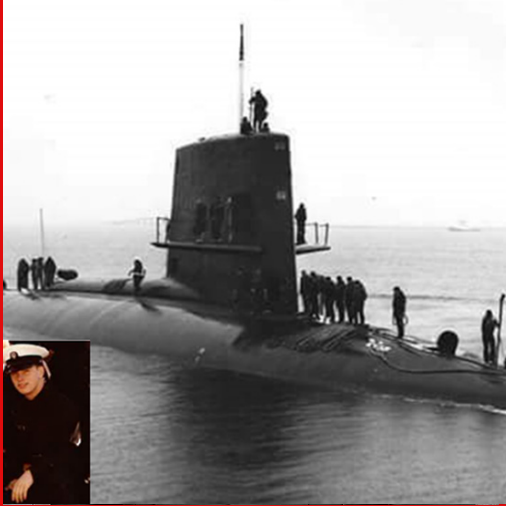
MY MILITARY STORY :

I had the opportunity to visit Strasbourg, France while deployed in Germany.

This town is where my father had been shot while serving in WW2.



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Jeff La Croix
Designer 3, Norfolk, VA

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND
WEAPONS, MK 48 TORPEDO, TORPEDOMAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Duty, Obligation and serve my country.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Orlando, FL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Silver Dolphins, Bronze Star

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Sub Base, Groton CT ,La Maddalena Sardinia

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Petty Officer Third Class

MY MILITARY STORY :

I was a crewmember of the USS Snook SSN 592, Skipjack Class



Spenser Saldibar
Electrical Draftsman, D456

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
INTERFACE CONTROLLER TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 7 years/AF Reserve

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My grandfather was a Major General with 38 years of combined service in the Army/Army Guard. He convinced me to go Air Force and "use my brain".

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP

San Antonio-Lackland, Texas

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:Air and Space

Achievement,Combat Readiness, National Defense Service, Global War On Terrorism, Humanitarian Service Medals.

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Dubai

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Staff Sergeant E-5

MY MILITARY STORY :

My unit (the 103rd ACS) got to be a part of history during Operation Allies Refuge. We and our joint task-force/coalition members controlled, tracked and passed data for all aircraft within the areas of operation; resulting in over 123,000 getting out of harm's way.



Richard Cutler
Logistics Tech Aide, D408

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HOMETOWN: WEST HARTFORD, CT
MACHINERY TECHNICIAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20+ years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: I Quit high school and was working in a gas station. My brother was in the Coast Guard.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Cape May, New Jersey

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: 14 assorted medals and ribbons. Most proud of the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (2 awards)

STATIONED LOCATION(S): USCG Cutter

Hamilton, CGS Lake Worth Inlet FL, USCG

Academy, USCG Cutter Red Oak, USCG Cutter Morgenthau

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Chief Warrant Officer (CW02)

MY MILITARY STORY :Smugglers forced Haitian refugees off of a boat at gunpoint off Lantana Beach, FL. A young woman and five children drowned. I was boat engineer on a small boat that assisted FL Marine Patrol divers in bringing up the lifeless bodies of these little kids. I will never forget this tragic event.

SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Christina Hamel
Administrative Aide, D419

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: WARREN, RHODE ISLAND

YEOMAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 9 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: My uncle is my role model in life and served in the Army. I strived to make him proud.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Humanitarian Award, Battle E, Sailor of the Year, Reserve Medal with M Device

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

NRC New London, CT

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

First, however awaiting Officer Selection Board

MY MILITARY STORY : I was asked by my CO to put together a presentation for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day which happened to fall on a drill weekend. He tasked me with "thinking outside the box" so I tracked down the last remaining Pearl Harbour survivor in NY and had him come talk about that day and what he experienced. My CO and Chief were speechless.



Denis Latz
Technical Writer, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

MACHINIST MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 7 years/AF Reserve

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My father was in the Navy during WW2.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

The two Vietnam era medals that everyone was awarded during that time period.

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Mare Island, CA; Alameda Naval Air Station, CA; Idaho Falls, Idaho; Newport, RI; Submarine Base, New London, CT

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

MM1 (SS)

MY MILITARY STORY :

The day I was to be discharged, I reported to personnel desk in my civilian clothes' and he sent me home to change into my uniform before he would discharge me. It didn't make much sense at the time. Makes more sense now.



Brian Brimmer
Technical Editor, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

MISSILE TECHNICIAN (POLARIS & POSEIDON)

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20+ years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Good friend joined and I was getting Drafted

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Basic Training Great Lakes Recruit Training, IL

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Groton, Portsmouth

NH, Mare Island NS, Fort Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Guam, Holy Loch, Scotland: Rota, Spain; Bremerton, Washington and COMSUBGRP II, Served on board USS Abraham Lincoln, SSBN 602 (G) (OH) (B), USS Kamehameha, SSBN642 (B) (OH) (G), and USS George Washington Carver, SSBN 656 (G)

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Senior Chief Fire Control Technician (E-8) and Strategic Weapons Department Chief for two submarines

MY MILITARY STORY :

While at sea, standing lookout watch on the Ship's Bridge, an enormous wave went over the ship and we submerged briefly!



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



Saige Louis
Structural Sr Drafter, D459

UNITED STATES MARINES

HOMETOWN: PLAINFIELD, CONNECTICUT
RIFFLEMAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 yrs

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My Uncle served 20 years in the 82nd Airborn, his dedicated service was one of the main reasons I enlisted in the US Marines. I wanted to serve my country and receive additional education in the process.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Paris Island, South Carolina

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Expert Rifle and Pistol, National Defense Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Afganistan

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Marine Corporal E-4

MY MILITARY STORY :

My brother and I both both enlisted in the Marines on the same day, but at different recruiting offices. We were both unaware of the others intentions to enlist.



Arthur Dollinger
Structural Sr Designer, D459

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: VENTNOR, NEW JERSEY

ABRAMS BATTLE TANK CREWMAN

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

College GI Bill , travel, and meet new people.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Knox, Kentucky

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Achievement, Overseas, Good Conduct, and Service medals/ribbons. Expert marksmanship with grenade and pistol

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Korea and Fort Hood Texas

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant - E5

MY MILITARY STORY :

My Battalion Commander; Lieutenant Colonel Abrams, would conclude each Friday with a speech prior to the weekend. His speech always ended with this poignant note "Nothing Good Ever Happens after 12 AM"! To this day I still consider this one life lesson I learned serving in the Army.



Jason Lepro
Electrical Sr Designer, D456

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: EVERGREEN, COLORADO

QUATERMASTER - SUB NAVIGATION

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Opportunity for travel, adventure & GI Bill to help finance college.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Orlando, FL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Qualified Submarines (silver dolphins), Boomer pin with 6 stars (each star represents a nuclear deterrent patrol), sea service & good conduct ribbons.

STATIONED LOCATION(S): Groton, CT &

Holyloch, Scotland

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

QM 3 (SS)

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AIR FORCE



VETERAN

Warren Knight
Sr Facilities Designer, D701

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: BETHLEHEM, PA

TACTICAL AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SPEC.

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Father served in the Armed Forces, wanted to continue the family legacy.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

San Antonio - Lackland AFB

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Overseas Ribbon, participant in El Dorado Canyon

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Williams AFB, Chandler, AZ (Air Training Command) & RAF Upper Heyford, UK. (Tactical Aircraft Command)

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E-4

MY MILITARY STORY:

Got to see and do things I never thought were possible prior to my joining the Cold War effort. The team spirit was infectious – we all went out of our way to excel.

U.S. NAVY



VETERAN

Peter Bogart
Sr Structural Designer, D459

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: SALEM, CONNECTICUT

BOATSWAIN MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

I had just finished High School and wanted bigger things for myself.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Naval Station, Mayport, FL

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E-3

MY MILITARY STORY :

Had a new soldier from the Mid-West join our crew for his first tour of duty. It was his first time out at sea and we had left port in the late afternoon. The next morning he came out topside and was looking all about. then he asked "where is the land?". "about a mile straight down." He did not last long.!

U.S. ARMY



VETERAN

Wayne Washington
Design Sr Specialist, D459

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY

COMMUNICATION CHIEF

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 12 1/2 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

I was drafted into the Army to serve in the Vietnam War.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Dix, New Jersey

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Vietnam, and Germany

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant - E5

VIETNAM FACTS:

The military draft brought the war to the American home front. During the Vietnam War era, between 1964 and 1973, the U.S. military drafted 2.2 million American men out of an eligible pool of 27 million.



SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS

AIR FORCE



VETERAN

Peter Crizer

Electrical Sr Draftsman, D456

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOMETOWN: WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT

GROUND INTELLIGENCE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Family history & sense of obligation to USA.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

San Antonio - Lackland AFB

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Holloman AFB, New Mexico

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

E-3

MY MILITARY STORY :

I can still hear my Drill Instructor's Voice in my head

U.S. ARMY



VETERAN

John Chattin

Electrical Sr Draftsman, D456

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: STONINGTON, CT

DEMOLITION SPECIALIST, NBC

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN: Firstly, I was

born into a proud military family. My great uncle was badly wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg while fighting at Devil's Den, and my grandfathers and uncles fought WWII... it's what we do.

Secondly, I wanted to be a police officer.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Dix, New Jersey

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED: Army

Achievement Medal

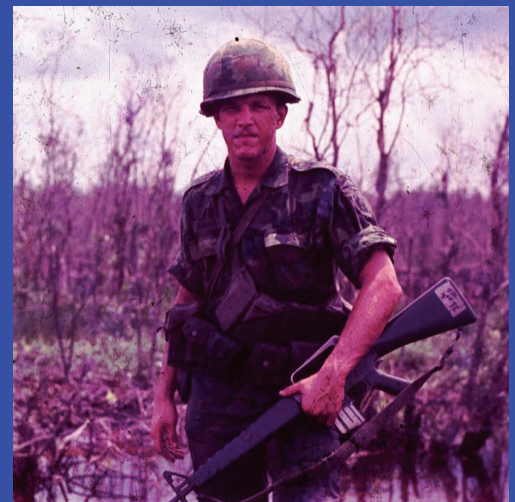
STATIONED LOCATION(S): Fort Dix, NJ, and

Fort Drum, MA

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Sergeant - E5

MY MILITARY STORY :As a demolition Spec. we occasionally would be required to detonate live ammo that had not previously fired. Myself and a new soldier were low crawling on our bellies to the live ammo and he was terrified. I sent him back, he was not ready for this mission but eventually grew into a fine young soldier.



Art Ivanick

Piping Sr Draftsman, D452

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: PLAINFIELD, CONNECTICUT

ARTIST/PHOTOGRAPHER

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My older brother had already enlisted and encouraged me to do the same.

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Dix, New Jersey

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Army Commendation Medal

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Fort Dix NJ, Fort Eustis VA, and Vietnam

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Specialist- E4

MY MILITARY STORY : I became an artist and photographer shortly after arriving in Vietnam. I was at the replacement station in Long Binh sketching in my sketchbook and a Staff Sergeant was looking over my shoulder watching me draw. He said "We're looking for an artist, want the job?" to which I responded "Sure". He walked away, made a phone call and came back with orders. The rest, as they say is history literally. Art's military photos/sketches can be found on the EB Web Forum - Military History Vietnam.