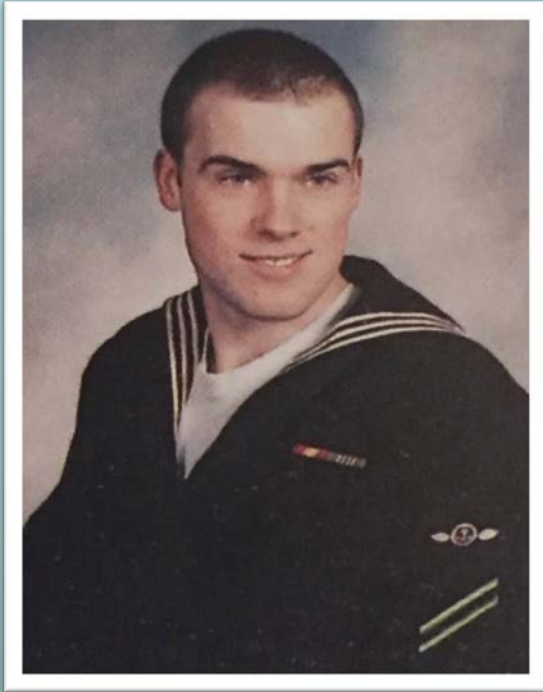


RETIREMENT CEREMONY
In Honor of
AZCS(AW/SW) Bruce E. Kunkel
United States Navy



Fleet Readiness Center
Mid-Atlantic Oceana

June 30, 2017

“Fair Winds and Following Seas”

HISTORY OF DUTY STATIONS

USS FORRESTAL (AVT 59)

Nov 92 – Jul 93 (decommissioned)



HS-15 Red Lions

Jul 93 - Nov 96

*USS SARATOGA (CV 60) – 1994 (final voyage)

Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR

*USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) – 1996

Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR

Operation SOUTHERN WATCH



AIMD NAS Jacksonville

Nov 96 - Dec 98

VFA-34 Blue Blasters

Dec 01 - Jun 05

*USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) – 2002

OIF and OEF

*USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67) – 2004

OIF and OEF



VFA-106 C/D Gladiators

Jun 05 – Apr 08

VFA-87 War Party

Apr 08 – Oct 09

*USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) – 2008-09

OIF and OEF



CVW-1

Oct 09 – Oct 11

*USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) – 2011

OIF and OEF



Blue Angels

Oct 11 – Nov 14



Fleet Readiness Mid-Atlantic Oceana

Nov 14 – Jun 17



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

❖ **ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY**

❖ **PARADE THE COLORS**

❖ **NATIONAL ANTHEM**
AMC(Ret) Jeanette Moore

❖ **INVOCATION**
AS2 Samuel Johnson

❖ **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

❖ **GUEST SPEAKER**
AOCM(Ret) James “Will” Wilson

❖ **PRESIDING OFFICERS REMARKS**
LT Jeremy Neiman

❖ **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS/GIFTS**

❖ **ORDER OF THE CRYSTAL HEART**

❖ **FAREWELL REMARKS**
AZCS Bruce Kunkel

❖ **THE WATCH**
ATCS Gamal Williams

❖ **CHIEF PETTY OFFICER’ S RETIREMENT CREED**
AZCS(Ret) Paul Matthews

❖ **BENEDICTION**
AS2 Samuel Johnson

❖ **POST THE SIDEBOYS**

Senior Chief Kunkel and family are piped ashore



CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

Master of Ceremonies

AZCS Shannon Idlebird

Family Escorts/Ushers

ADCS Eddie Waldon AZC Aubrey Edwards

Honor Sideboys

AZCS Jerome Polk AZC Stephanie Holzauer
AZC Kelvin Arias AZC Seth Thompson

Invocation/Benediction

AS2 Samuel Johnson

National Anthem

AMC(Ret) Jeanette Moore

Honor Boatswain's Mate

BMC Austen Gant

Bell Ringer

LS1 Dalton Jacob

Parade the Colors

NAS Oceana Marine Corps Color Guard

13 Folds

ADCS John Covington
ATCS Keith Chamberlain
ADC Ramon Valentin

The Watch

ATCS Gamal Williams

“Fair Winds and Following Seas”



LT Jeremy P. Neiman United States Navy

LT Jeremy P. Neiman enlisted in the U.S. Navy on February 4, 1997 and attended boot camp at RTC Great Lakes, IL. Upon graduation he advanced to Airman Apprentice and attended Aviation Maintenance Administrationman (AZ) "A" School at NTTC Meridian, MS. His first tour of duty was with the War Eagles of (VP-16) in July 1997, where he deployed to Howard AFB, Panama (1997); NAS Sigonella, Sicily (1999-2000); and NAS Keflavik, Iceland (2001). He was also advanced to Petty Officer Third Class and Second Class during this tour.

In November 2001, he transferred to Commander, Helicopter Light Wing Atlantic (CHSLWL) at Mayport, Florida, where he served as Wing Maintenance Advisor for five SH-60B squadrons and 40 detachments. In May 2003, he was frocked to Petty Officer First Class and in November 2003 was selected as Shore Sailor of the Year. In November 2004 he transferred to the Maulers of Sea Control Squadron THREE TWO (VS-32). He deployed onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) from May to November 2006 in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM. While deployed, he was selected to Chief Petty Officer.

In January 2007 he transferred to Carrier Air Wing EIGHT (CVW-8) serving as Maintenance Analyst for eight squadrons and deployed onboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM from September 2008-April 2009.

In September 2009, he transferred to Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic (CSFWL), serving as Maintenance Admin LCPO and Lead "AZ" Advisor. In 2011, he was selected as CSFWL Shore Chief of the Year and in November 2012 he was commissioned under the LDO/CWO program.

After commissioning and officer training, he was assigned to the Gunslingers of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE ZERO FIVE, where he served as Maintenance Material Control Officer and Assistant Maintenance Officer. During his tour he led the Maintenance Department through an arduous work up cycle and a 10 month deployment on board USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), four detachments, and a successful Commander, Naval Air Forces Aviation Maintenance Inspection. In February 2016, he reported to Fleet Readiness Center Mid-Atlantic Oceana where he has served as the Quality Assurance Officer and Avionics Division Officer.

LT Neiman has been awarded five Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, Seven Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and various other campaign medals and service ribbons.



AOCM(Ret) James "Will" Wilson United States Navy

Retired Master Chief Aviation Ordnanceman James "Will" Wilson was raised in Lomita, California, just south of Los Angeles, entering naval service in January 1977. He honorably served for 32 years before retiring in 2009.

Master Chief Wilson served with a variety of commands including Patrol Squadron FORTY NINE (VP-49) and Patrol Squadron FIVE (VP-5), both at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida, an instructor for the Navy's elite Survival Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) School East at Naval Air Station Brunswick, Maine; Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron THREE THREE (VAQ-33), at Naval Air Station Key West, Florida; Senior Small Arms and Marksman Instructor at Naval Air Station Memphis, Tennessee; Sea Control Squadron TWO FOUR (VS-24) and Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD), Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Florida; Senior Enlisted Ordnance Specialist for Commander, Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN (CVW-17); Senior Enlisted Leader for Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia; and Senior Enlisted Advisor (SEA) for the Aviation Ordnance Officer Career Progression Course, Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Florida. He served tours onboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74), USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73), and USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65).

Master Chief Wilson is a graduate of Excelsior College of New York and is designated a personal fitness trainer through the Cooper Institute, Dallas, Texas. He served as the Command Fitness Coordinator for numerous activities and, always an avid athlete, has completed numerous triathlons, including the 2009 Florida Ironman. He's climbed Mount Denali in Alaska and Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa.

Seriously injured onboard USS ENTERPRISE where he ultimately lost his right leg below the knee, Master Chief Wilson began the long road back to recovery. Because of the serious damage to his right leg, in December 2007 he chose amputation and has not stopped his return to a full schedule of athletics. After long periods of hospitalization and rehabilitation at Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Virginia and Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, Master Chief Wilson has beat the odds and now competes in a full regimen of athletics.

Master Chief Wilson has a favorite Latin phrase he has learned to live by "nunquam redono" which translates Never Give Up!



AZCS(AW/SW) Bruce E. Kunkel United States Navy

Senior Chief Kunkel is a native of Rochester, MN and a 1992 graduate of John Marshall High School. In August 1992 he reported to Recruit Training Command Great Lakes for Basic Training, and after completing boot camp, he attended the Airman Apprenticeship Program. In November of 1992, he received orders to USS FORRESTAL (AVT 59) as an undesignated Airman Apprentice where he worked in the V-2 Division Bow Cats. After he was notified that USS FORRESTAL would be decommissioned, he received orders to report to HS-15 "The World Famous Red Lions" in July 1993 homeported in Jacksonville, Florida. While there he figured out what he wanted to do in the Navy and that was to be an Aviation Maintenance Administrationman (AZ). In 1994 he took the AZ exam, passed the test and was rated an AZ striker. During his time with the Red Lions he made two deployments to the Mediterranean Sea, received two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals and was advanced to Petty Officer Third and Second Class.

In November 1996, he reported to AIMD Jacksonville, Florida, where he worked in Support Equipment Division for one year, and then Quality Assurance as Central Technical Publication Librarian. In December 1996, Senior Chief decided to separate from the Navy, but prior to separating was awarded his third Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

In December 2001, after the 9/11 attacks, Senior Chief Kunkel decided to reenlist in the U.S. Navy. He received orders to VFA-34 "The Blue Blasters" homeported at NAS Oceana, Virginia. During his time there he received two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, made two Deployments, and was meritoriously promoted to Petty Officer First Class under the Command Advancement Program.

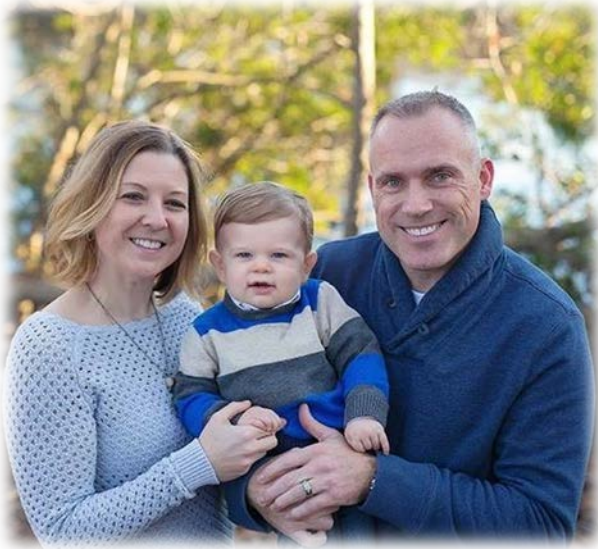
In June 2005, he transferred to VFA-106 "Gladiators" to lead 23 personnel in support of 54 FA-18 A-D aircraft and was selected as the Gladiator's Sailor of the Year for 2007, and received his first Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

April 2008 he reported to VFA-87 "The War Party" where he served as Leading Petty Officer of Maintenance Control and held numerous other collateral duties. He completed another successful deployment operating in the Persian Gulf in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and in July of 2009 was notified that he had been selected to Chief Petty Officer. That selection has been the proudest moment of his career. After receiving his anchors in September of 2009, he was ordered to CVW-1 as a Data Analyst and Travel Coordinator. He completed another deployment in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM onboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) where he received his second Navy Commendation Medal.

In July 2011 he was notified that he had been hand-selected to serve with the Blue Angels, based at NAS Pensacola, Florida. Reporting in October of that same year he served in multiple billets and completed his tour as MMCP. Prior to his departure he was awarded for his third Navy Commendation Medal for his hard work and dedication.

November 2014 he reported to Fleet Readiness Center Mid-Atlantic Oceana where he has led production efforts in Power Plants Division and was the acting AZ Manpower Supervisor. His final assignment was as subject matter expert for all AZ Programs in Main Production Control. Senior Chief Kunkel has received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (6), and various other personal and unit awards.





THE CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RETIREMENT CREED



You have on this day, experienced that which comes to all of us who serve on active duty in "OUR NAVY." I say "OUR NAVY," because your departure from active duty in no way terminates your relationship.

By law and tradition, U.S. Navy Retirees are always on the rolls ever ready to lend their service when the need arises. The respect that you earned as "The Chief" was based on the same attributes that you will now carry into retirement. You should have no regrets.

Do not view your retirement as an end of an era but rather as orders to a new and challenging assignment, to a form of independent duty. Remember well that you have been, and always will be, an accepted member of the most exclusive fraternities- that of the U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officers.

The active duty Chiefs salute you, your retired Chiefs welcome you. I wish you the traditional:

"Fair Winds and Following Seas."

THE WATCH

For twenty two years
This Sailor has stood the watch; while some of us were in our bunks at night

This Sailor stood the watch.

While some of us were in school learning our trade

This Shipmate stood the watch.

Yes...even before some of us were born into this world

This Shipmate stood the watch.

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of history

This Shipmate stood the watch

Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see his family standing there;
Needing his guidance and help
Needing that hand to hold during those hard times

But, he still stood the watch.

He stood the watch for twenty-two years.

He stood the watch so that we, our families, and
our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, each and every night
knowing that a Sailor stood the watch.

Today we are here to say...

'Shipmate...the watch stands relieved!

Relieved by those "YOU" have trained, guided, and led.

Shipmate you stand relieved..."WE have the watch..."

"Boatswain! Standby to pipe the side...

Shipmate, going Ashore..."



*Any man who may be
asked in this century,
what he did to make
his life worthwhile,
can respond with
a good deal of
pride and satisfaction,
"I served in the
United States Navy".*

Pres. John F. Kennedy