



## Lloyd Kimble

- 1. What made you want to enter military service?** Money for college, see the world, gain valuable experiences.
- 2. What branch of the military did you join and why?** I joined the Navy because they offered the specific job I wanted... and I've always loved ships.
- 3. How many years did you serve?** 22 years.
- 4. What was your rank upon discharge?** Chief Petty Officer
- 5. What has been your greatest achievement in the military?** Leading the team that was named "Navy Liaison of the Year" for the nation in 1998.
- 6. What lesson did you learn while in the military that you still use today?** Respect for the chain of command and to always try and resolve issues at the lowest level.
- 7. Did your military service influence your life today?** It absolutely did. In ways too numerous to name.
- 8. Tell us a funny story that could only happen in the military.** Any sailor will tell you most of the stories are probably not suitable for everyone's ears, but there was this time in 1984, my ship was marooned off the coast of Pattaya Beach, Thailand. Liberty boats would transport sailors from the ship to shore which ordinarily was no big deal, but unfortunately we had been told that the waters were infested with sharks. So needless to say, everyone was on edge. Everyone kept imagining that if the water got too choppy, there was a possibility that the liberty boats (which were not really that big and oftentimes overcrowded) might capsize.
- 9.** I was just 19 years old and I'll be honest, the shark stories were starting to get to me. To make matters worse, I had duty on the first day in port which involved having to help paint the sides of the ship. That doesn't sound too bad I know, but the thing is, I had to be lowered down the side of the ship with nothing but a long rope with a wooden board tied to it to be able to reach the part of the ship that needed painting. Anyone that has ever seen a Navy warship knows that that would be like hanging over the side of a two to four story building.... but with sharks waiting below to catch you! Terrified isn't a strong enough word for what I was feeling at the moment. When I would look down, all I could think of was the movie "Jaws" and when I would look up all I saw were the older guys laughing at the newbie getting welcomed to Navy life. Afterwards we all laughed about it.... It was pretty funny because we all had been through it, but while I was dangling there on that little piece of wood and that flimsy rope, I was unable to see the humor in it.
- 10. What duty station did you most enjoy?** Being stationed in Keflavik, Iceland. I was able to bring my family along on that tour and seeing them experience life overseas was awesome.
- 11. Why did you choose your military job specialty?** It was one of the few jobs that allowed you to work directly with sailors and their families to solve problems and provide guidance.