

MMCM(SW) DONALD J. SPRINGER COMMAND MASTER CHIEF USS LONG BEACH (CGN 9)

Master Chief Springer was born in Coos Bay, Oregon. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1965 and received Basic Training at San Diego, California. He reported aboard **USS TICONDEROGA (CVA 14)** where he was advanced to Machinist's Mate Third Class in July 1969. He reenlisted aboard **TICONDEROGA**, and then transferred to Service School Command, Naval Training Command, San Diego. Following rate training, he reported aboard **USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13)** in March 1970, where he achieved the rate of Machinist's Mate Second Class. A tour of duty at Naval Station San Diego, from February 1972 to May 1974 led him to **USS TOWERS (DDG 9)** where he reenlisted and was advanced to Machinist's Mate First Class. He served in **USS DENVER (LPD 9)** from May 1975 to June 1979. There he achieved the rate of Machinist's Mate Chief and also qualified Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist. Master Chief Springer served at Fleet Training Group, San Diego from July 1979 to June 1982, where he reenlisted, and advanced to Senior Chief Petty Officer. He then reported to the Navy Management Systems Support Office Detachment Pacific, where he advanced to Master Chief Petty Officer on 16 June 1985. He served in **USS ALAMO (LSD 13)** as Command Master Chief until December 1988, and reported to **USS HOEL (DDG 13)** in January 1989 as Command Master Chief. He departed **USS HOEL (DDG 13)** in July 1990, and reported to SIMA, San Diego as Command Master Chief. Master Chief Springer departed SIMA, San Diego July 1991 and reported to **USS LONG BEACH (CGN 9)** as Command Master Chief.

Master Chief Springer wears the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star, Navy Achievement Medal with gold star, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, Vietnam Service Medal (six awards), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation, and various campaign and service medals.

Master Chief Springer is married to the former Christine Elizabeth Ward of Flint, Michigan and

resides in San Diego, California. They have two daughters, Michell Lee and Jill Elizabeth.

