

### **Veteran #1**

Seaman, Ralph Douglas Revels, a 37 year old Navy Veteran served in the Persian Gulf War for four years. His first ship was the USS Iowa. He said, "A great ship it was, one of the finest in my opinion of all four battleships that were in commission at that time." The captain of the ship was Captain Musali. Revels said he had never served under a more capable leader or under anyone who cared about their people more than Musali did. Revels also gloated about how close the crew men became. He said that race, rank didn't matter and "I consider them my brothers."

Before their ship headed off for a six month mission turret two exploded. A crew member, Hearwake, was suspected to be the cause of the explosion. None of the crew believed he did it though. They all figured that it was the result of the testing of some powder used to make guns stronger. Despite the setback, they immediately began clean-up operations, deployed to the Mediterranean and fulfilled all of their operational commitments on time.

### **Veteran #2**

Vietnam War veteran, Dennis W. Williams, was a combat medic in the army. He said, "I enrolled in the army instead of waiting to be drafted because if you enroll you can pick where you wanna work." He started at basic training in Fort Camelton Kentucky. From there he went to Fort Sam Houston, Texas; to Vietnam; to Arberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland; and finally ending in Fort Wainwright, Alaska. After he stopped serving he became a super tenant for an apartment while he went back to school. Williams reminisced of a time when he was still in the army and one soldier needed his tooth pulled. Williams wasn't trained in dental work but he did it anyway. The next morning he said there was a long line of people waiting for dental work. "I didn't do it though" he said smiling and chuckling.

### **Veteran #3**

Persian Gulf War veteran, Victoria C. Turney, was a gunnery sergeant in the Marine Corps. She graduated early from Columbus High School in May 1976. She got into boot camp at age 18. Her father had been in the Navy. Turney wanted to do something, and since she didn't have a job she joined the service. She said, "being in Nebraska and not having anything out here but the Air Force, I went to the Air Force recruiter, and I didn't feel ... it just wasn't a good interview, it just wasn't good. I didn't feel good with the discussion. As she was leaving a Marine recruiter talked to her. Being so young, she wanted to feel special and important and that recruiter walking up to her made her feel like that she joined. She served for 20 years. The experience taught her "work ethics, honesty, working for the company, not for myself" and an "I will get it done" attitude.