

The Watch

For 23 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 23 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 lead. Chief Pace, you stand relieved, we have the watch.



Fair Winds and Following Seas

Retirement Ceremony

In honor of

Chief Petty Officer
Electronics Technician
James W. Pace



November 21, 2010

Schedule of Events



Arrival of Official Party



Parading of Colors &
National Anthem

(Guest please rise)

Invocation by Chaplain

LCDR Barry Baughman

Welcoming Remarks

Guest Speaker

DSCS(SW) Gary Melander



Presentation of Gifts

Retiree Remarks

Shadow Box

Old Glory Presentation

Reading of "Chief Petty Officer Retirement Creed"

Benediction by Chaplain

Reading of The "Watch"

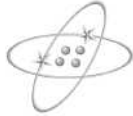
Retirement Certificate



ETC Pace is piped ashore

Honors Boatswain's Mate/ Sideboys

Ceremony Concludes



Old Glory

By Howard Schnauber

I am the Flag of the United State of America. My name is Old Glory. I fly atop of the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's Halls of Justice. I fly majestically over great institutions of learning. I stand guard with the greatest military power in the world. Look up! And see me!

I stand for peace – honor - truth and justice. I stand for freedom, I am confident - I am arrogant, I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners My head is a little higher My colors a little truer. I bow to no one. I am recognized all over the world. I am worshipped - I am saluted - I am respected I am revered - I am loved, I am feared.

I have fought every battle of every war for more than 200 years: Gettysburg, Shiloh, Appomattox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, the deserts of Africa, the cane fields of the Philippines, the rice paddies and jungles of Guam, Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Guadalcanal New Britain, Peleliu, and many more islands.

And a score of places long forgotten by all but those who were with me. I was there. I led my (Sailors and Marines) - I followed them. I watched over them. They loved me. I was on a small hill on Iwo Jima. I was dirty, battle-worn and tired, but my (Sailors and Marines) cheered me, and I was proud.

I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries I have helped set free. It does not hurt, for I am invincible. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my country, and when it is by those with whom I have served in battle - it hurts. But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of Earth and stand watch over the uncharted new frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon. I have been a silent witness to all of America's finest hours.

But my finest hour comes when I am torn into strips to be used for bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle.

When I fly at half mast to honor my (Sailors and Marines), and when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother at the graveside of her fallen son. I am proud.

MY NAME IS OLD GLORY

DEAR GOD, LONG MAY I WAVE!!!

Note: (Sailors and Marines) replaced "Soldiers"

Tradition

Color Guard

Since early history, flags and banners have been used by armies in battle. They served to assist in identifying units, to signal movements and be a common point of reference for soldier's on the field, which allowed them to keep formations organized.

The flag was a symbol of the unit and to loose it was shameful and could cause the unit to break up. So, for this reason, leaders developed an elite group of men whose job it was to protect the flag.

Side Boys

In the days of sail, it was not uncommon for the Commanding Officers of ships sailing in convoy to convene aboard the flagship for conferences. It was also not uncommon for COs to invite each other to dine aboard their vessels. Unfortunately, there was no easy way to bring visitors on and off a ship while underway. And there was no dignified way for a high ranking officer to scurry up or down a rope or ladder hanging down the side of a ship.

Often the boatswain's chair, a rope and wood sling, would be used to hoist the guest onto and off the ship. The Boatswain's Mate would control the heaving by blowing the appropriate commands with a whistle known as the Boatswain's Pipe. The number of "strong backs" needed to bring the visitor aboard depended upon the size of the "load" being hoisted. Somewhere along the line, it was noted the more senior the visitor's rank, the more Sailors were needed to "man the side." Over time, the need to hoist visitors on and off Navy ships went away, but the custom of mustering the Side-boys and piping distinguished visitors aboard ship remained.

ETC Pace's Biography

James W. Pace is a native of Hopelawn, New Jersey. He enlisted in the Navy's Delayed Entry Program September 11, 1984 at the age of 17 and went on active duty August 26, 1985. Seaman Recruit Pace reported to "Boot Camp" in San Diego, California where he graduated Recruit Training in October 1985 as a Seaman Apprentice. After completing Basic Electricity and Electronics School in San Diego he reported to Mare Island Vallejo, California where he graduated Data System Class "A" school and was advanced to Data Systems Technician 3rd Class Petty Officer on September, 1986. DS3 Pace then went on to complete his class "C" school.



He reported on board the U.S.S. SAIPAN LHA-2 on April 1st, 1987. He was assigned to the Combat Data Systems division where he maintained, repaired, overhauled, installed and decommissioned various computer systems and peripheral equipment. In November of 1987 he reported on board the U.S.S. NASSAU LHA-4 for Temporary Assigned Duty to fill a critical billet and returned to the SAIPAN 6 months later. He completed the Shipboard Security Engagement Tactics course and became a member of the Ship's Self Defense Force. He was advanced to Data Systems Technician 2nd Class Petty Officer in August, 1990.

After 6 years of Active Duty, DS2 Pace then transferred to the Navy Reserve at Joint Service Reserve Base Willow Grove Pennsylvania on August 25, 1991 and awaited a billet. In June of 1992 he was assigned to the U.S.S Theodore Roosevelt CVN-71 Reserve unit. In February of 1993 he was reassigned to CMSRF 6th Fleet and was advanced to Data Systems Technician 1st Class Petty Officer in August, 1998. October that same year a rate merger converted him to Electronics Technician. In June of 2005 ET1 Pace then transferred to Surgemain Lehigh Valley. He was advanced to Chief Petty Officer Electronics Technician in September, 2008.

He has an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from County College of Morris, New Jersey.

His awards include the Navy Achievement Medal (2), Navy Unit Commendation ribbon, Navy Battle Efficiency ribbon, Good Conduct Medal (4-yr), Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal (5), Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment ribbon (3), Navy Overseas Service ribbon (2) and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.



Chief Pace has been employed at RFL Electronics in Boonton, New Jersey, for over 14 years. He works in the Customer Service Department as an Electronics Field Technician.

Chief Pace has one son Christopher and is married to his wife, Tracy, of 8 years. They have two daughters, Sara and Emily Pace.

Shadow Box

When a Sailor retires and departs the ship for the last time it is bad luck for the Sailor's shadow to touch land before the Sailor, so the Sailor's shipmates will traditionally construct a sturdy box in which to display the mementos of the Sailor's accomplishments, symbolically creating a "shadow" of the Sailor, which will remain onboard until the box can be given to the Sailor as a later time on shore.

Ideally, a shadow box serves not only as a reminder of achievements and accomplishments but as a summation of a career. These usually include awards, medals, duty stations, insignias, rating badges and uniform devices showing the Sailors progression.

The National flag is placed inside the shadow box to symbolize the country that has benefited from the faithful service of the recipient of the shadow box.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RETIREMENT CREED

YOU HAVE THIS DAY EXPERIENCED THAT WHICH COMES TO ALL OF US WHO SERVE IN "OUR NAVY." I SAY "OUR NAVY" BECAUSE YOUR DEPARTURE FROM DUTY IN NO WAY TERMINATES YOUR RELATIONSHIP, REGARD, OR OBLIGATION TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND YOUR FELLOW CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS. 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 AND SHOULD 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 WILL ALWAYS BE AN ACCEPTED MEMBER OF THE MOST EXCLUSIVE OF ALL MARITIME FRATERNITIES - THAT OF THE U.S. NAVY CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS. ACTIVE DUTY CHIEFS SALUTE YOU - RETIRED CHIEFS WELCOME YOU - - AND WE WISH YOU THE TRADITIONAL "FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS."

