

RETIREMENT CEREMONY

in honor of

COMMANDER
SECURITY OFFICER

Timothy R. Johnson



OCTOBER 22, 2023

Schedule of Events

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY
(GUESTS PLEASE RISE)

PARADING OF COLORS & NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION BY CHAPLAIN
(CDR ROBERT JONES)

WELCOMING REMARKS

GUEST SPEAKER
(RADM BURT CRENSHAW)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

RETIREE REMARKS

SHADOW BOX

FLAG PRESENTATION

BENEDICTION BY CHAPLAIN

READING OF THE "WATCH"

RETIREMENT CERTIFICATE

CDR JOHNSON IS PIPED ASHORE
HONORS BOATSWAIN'S MATE/ SIDE BOYS

CEREMONY CONCLUDES



Tradition

Color Guard

Since Early History, flags and banners have been used by armies in battle. They served to identify units, to signal movements, and be a common point of reference for soldiers on the field, which allowed them to keep formations organized.

The flag was a symbol of the unit and to lose 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 in convoy to convene aboard the flagship for conferences. It was also not uncommon for Commanding Officers 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 high ranking officers to scurry up or down a rope ladder hanging down from the sides of a ship.

Often, the Boatswain's chair, a rope and wood sling, would be used to hoist the guest on and off the ship. The Boatswain's Mate would control the heavy heaving by blowing the appropriate commands with a whistle called the Boatswain's Pipe. The number of "strong backs" needed to bring the visitor aboard depended on the size of the "load" being hoisted.

Somewhere along the line it was noted that the more senior the visitor's rank, the more Sailors were needed to "man the side." Over time, the need to hoist visitor on and off Navy ships went away but the customs of mustering Side Boys and piping distinguished visitors aboard ship remained.

CDR Johnson's

Biography

Commander Johnson hails from Siesta Key Florida. He attended Hillsborough Community College and the University of Florida majoring in Criminal Justice and Business Administration.

He entered active duty in 1983 with the United States Army and was an Artilleryman serving in Germany and Fort Bragg, NC. Once leaving active duty, he joined the Army Reserve and was first assigned to the 810th Military Police Company and later, the 320th Military Police Company as the CBRNE NCO. He was honorably discharged from the Army in 1992.

CDR Johnson affiliated with the Navy Reserve in September 1996 as a Master at Arms. He served with Naval Activities United Kingdom Det. 40 and later, Navy Security Forces Mayport. He mobilized for 10 months in support of Operation Noble Eagle in September 2001. Commander Johnson was commissioned an Ensign in December 2005. Once commissioned, he joined Naval Coastal Warfare Group Two. In September 2006, He deployed with Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron 34 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Administrative and Communications Officer for Mobile Inshore Undersea Boat Unit 105 at Kuwait Naval Base. From February-December 2008, he served as Assistant Company Commander for a Navy Customs unit in Kuwait, Bahrain, and Iraq ensuring the rapid redeployment of military units returning to the United States. From August 2010-June 2011, he deployed as Mission Commander for Task Unit 56.7.2 in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates where he was personally responsible for the landward and seaward security of U.S. Navy assets navigating the Gulf of Oman. He deployed in April 2014 for one year as the Aide to Commander, Joint Task Force Guantanamo and from May 2018-September 2019 with Commander Task Force Shore Battle Space Bahrain. His latest deployment was as the NAVCENT LNO in Saudi Arabia, September 2021-November 2022. He is a prior Commanding Officer of NR NSF Key West (twice), OIC of NR NCIS Southeast Field Office, CO of NR NSF Panama City, and CO of NR NSF Yokosuka Japan.

In his civilian capacity, Commander Johnson is a 30-year veteran of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office where he retired having held positions ranging from Patrol Deputy to Narcotics Bureau Captain. Additionally, he was a Dignitary Protection Detail Manager, Emergency Response Tactics Instructor, and certified Homeland Security Crowd Management Instructor. He is an avid softball player whereas he has played and managed teams for over 35 years. He regularly plays on local and a traveling tournament teams.

He has been married to Jennifer for 37 years and they have two wonderful children, Rebecca, and Michael.

His professional memberships include the Fraternal Order of Police, Fraternal Order of Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars (Life Member), and the American Legion (Life Member).

CDR Johnson's

Awards

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (8), Army Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (6), Army Achievement Medal (3), Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal (2), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), Iraq Campaign Medal (2), GWOT Expeditionary Medal (3), GWOT Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (3), Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (7), Army Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Gold Hourglass, "M", and "3", Navy Expert Rifle, Army Expert Rifle, Navy Expert Pistol, Army Expert Pistol, and Army Expert Grenade.



Ode to the Retiree

When I was young, a friend of mine retired with thirty years of military service. More years than I had lived.

I asked him, "was it worth it?" A tear came to his eye, and he said, "Son, I'd do it all again." And then he told me why.

He said, "This nation cannot stand unless we have someone to guard our country night and day, the way that I have done."

"There are better paying jobs, he said, with much better hours too. But the future of this country depends on guys like me and you."

"I haven't a lot to show and my years at home were few. But I did my job the best I could, and now it's up to you."

I think about this friend of mine as my thirty years grow near and I understand how he felt, and why I saw that tear.

I've been gone from home a lot myself and I've got a scar or two. But if I had it all to do again, I'd do the same thing too.

There's a youngster out there somewhere, who'll enlist to take my place. He'll ask me, "Was it worth it?" and see a tear run down my face.

They're good, these young replacements. I work with them each day. With faith in God, they'll do the job and the best of them will stay.

And in thirty years, a youngster, whose service just began, Will ask; and get the answer; "Son, I would do it all again."

Shadow Box

When a Sailor retires and departs the ship for the last time it is bad luck for the Sailor's shadow box 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 Sailor's 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.

The Watch

Commander Timothy Johnson United States Navy

Aye mates, for 34 years, this man stood the watch.

While some of us lay in our bunks at night, this man has stood the watch.

While others of us were attending school, this Sailor stood the watch.

And yes, even before many of us were born, this Shipmate stood the watch.

As our family's storm clouds of war building on the horizons of history, this
Shipmate stood the watch.

Though he saw his family ashore, often needing his guidance, he still stood
the watch.

For 34 years, he has stood the watch so that we and our fellow countrymen
could sleep soundly, in safety, each night.

Today, we are here to say, "Shipmate, The Watch Stands Relieved," relieved
by those you have led, guided, mentored, and trained.



Fair Winds and Following Seas