



Charles (Chuck) Feaselman - Junior Vice Commandant



Charles H. (Chuck) Feaselman was born on July 18, 1933 in Richmond, Indiana to an immigrant German Father and an Irish Mother. He is the oldest of eleven children. Chuck attended Richmond High School until the 11th grade. Due to a serious illness with his Father, Chuck took on a job with the local foundry to help support the Family. He later attended night classes and completed his High School education.

Chuck enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1951. After a brief stay in the stand-by reserves he reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, CA for boot-camp where he graduated with honors and subsequently promoted to Private First Class. Chuck received his Military Occupational Skills (MOS) training as an Aircraft Electrician at Naval Air Station (NAS), Jacksonville, Florida in 1952 and upon completion was assigned as a crew member to an R4D Transport Aircraft Squadron stationed in Korea. As a crew member during the Korean Conflict, Chuck was involved in numerous resupply missions to all Marine Forward Operating Bases and "K-Sites". Before his tour of duty ended, he earned promotions to Corporal and then Sergeant.

After returning Stateside in 1954, Chuck was assigned to 4th Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) Headquarters, G-3 section located at NAS Glenview, Illinois. In 1955 he was promoted to Staff Sergeant (E-5) and in 1956 reported to VMA-121, 1st MAW, Iwakuni, Japan as their Aircraft Maintenance Chief where he was responsible for assigning aircraft work orders, debriefing pilots returning from missions on aircraft performance and identifying potential maintenance issues as well as maintaining accurate maintenance logs on all Squadron aircraft. Chuck briefly served at Marine Air Reserve Headquarters at NAS Denver, Colorado until it was decommissioned in 1958. He was transferred to its new Headquarters at NAS, Dallas, Texas. During this period he was promoted to Staff Sergeant (E-6).

In 1960 Chuck was selected for Warrant Officer and subsequently appointed to that rank in 1961. He graduated the Warrant Officer Basic Course at Quantico, Virginia during that same year. Upon training completion as an Air Defense Control Officer (MOS 6709) in Brunswick, Georgia he reported to Marine Air Control Squadron 5 (MACS-5) at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Beaufort, South Carolina. While assigned to MACS-5, Chuck deployed to Atsugi, Japan in 1963 and returned to MCAS New River, North Carolina in 1964.

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Chuck was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1965 and received a new MOS designation of 0130 (Personnel/Administration Officer) and was transferred to Marine Air Group 26 as their Adjutant. He received orders in 1967 to report to Marine Air Support Squadron-3 (MASS-3), 1st MAW located in Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam). One month later he was reassigned to Marine Air Base Squadron 36 (MABS-36) at Hue/Phu Bai and served as the Adjutant and Personnel Officer. He went on to serve as the Acting Executive Officer and was responsible for ensuring the support and welfare of 1,000 Marines spread across three Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and two remote Forward Arming and Refueling Points (FARP). Chuck was promoted to the rank of Captain in February of 1968 and ordered to Quang Tri to assist with the stand-up of Marine Air Group 39 (Provisional) and to serve again as the Adjutant/Personnel Officer with a collateral assignment of Casualty Reporting Officer.

Captain Feaselman returned from South Vietnam in August 1968 and reported to NAS Memphis, Tennessee where he served as the Adjutant/Personnel Officer for the Aviation Schools Training Branch. He also served in the additional capacity as Headquarters Marine Corps' Casualty Coordinating Officer for the Memphis metropolitan area. In 1970, Chuck voluntarily returned for a second tour of duty in South Vietnam and was assigned to a Lieutenant Colonel billet as the Personnel Officer for MAG-16 at Marble Mountain located outside the Province of Da Nang. Upon stand down and turnover of the Air Base to the U.S. Army, Chuck was assigned to the Headquarters Staff of III Marine Amphibious Corps (III MAF). He was later transferred to 31st Marine Amphibious Unit aboard the USS Tripoli and supported numerous combat missions that included raids into Laos and Cambodia as well as intercepting and disrupting North Vietnamese supply operations along the Ho Chi Min Trail. He reported to 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina upon completing his tour of duty in Vietnam in 1971 and was assigned to 10th Marines as their Personnel Officer and Adjutant. Chuck was simultaneously selected for promotion to the ranks Chief Warrant Officer-4 and Major during this period. However, due to on-going health and medical issues with his spouse, Chuck elected to retire in 1973 as a Captain after having served honorably and faithfully for 22-years.

Chuck found success after the Corps in a variety of "civilian" capacities from Store Manager for Eckerd Drugs in Leesburg, Florida to starting a business as a Hallmark Card Shop owner. He successfully grew this one store business into three stores until downturns in the economy forced him to close two of them. He held on and managed the last store until 2009. Chuck also held a contracting position with True Value Hardware and travelled across the country remodeling existing stores while also promoting and merchandizing new stores. When his Wife's health turned for the worse he moved to the Atlanta area to be closer to his children. He took on a position with a Hardware Company, calling on stores located across the North Georgia area. Chuck fully retired in 1996 and cared for his ailing Wife who sadly passed in 1998. He is a master craftsman who loves to do woodworking in his spare time and now calls Douglasville, Georgia home.

Chucks personal awards include the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V", the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal with 2 bronze stars, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm device and the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Honor Medal (First Class). He also received 15 unit awards and decorations during his Marine Corps career.

Chuck joined the Marine Corps League Aubrey Gilbert Detachment in June 2009 and is a Life member. He was elected to his current position as Junior Vice Commandant in November 2010. In addition to his Junior Vice duties he spearheads the Marine Corps Birthday Celebration committee and is an active participant in the Toys for Tots program as well as a strong advocate for many veterans' issues.

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