



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



Veteran: CWO4 John Crawford, USCG - Retired



Branch: US Coast Guard

Dates of Service: 28 February 1961 to 7 May 1975

Personal Story: Originally from Rochester, Pennsylvania....unable to afford college, and not wanting to become a steel worker or coal miner (like the rest of my family), I enlisted in the U. S. Coast Guard right after graduation from high school in 1960.

I enjoyed a long and distinguished career in the Coast Guard, retiring in Seattle in 1988 as a Chief Warrant Officer W4....with a host of medals, awards, milestones and adventures. The latter included some unique job assignments, mission responsibilities, travel experiences, and more than a few authentic "sea stories."

My 14 duty stations in 28 years included the East Coast x 2, Great Lakes x 5, Alaska (Juneau), CG HQS in Washington, DC x 2, and Seattle x 4. My all-time favorite: aboard USCGC WOODBINE, a buoy tender / ice breaker, home-ported in Grand Haven, Michigan, from 1964-66.

And, I'm proud to report that nobody stole the coast while I was guarding it!

Documented by: Nan Darbous

American Legion Post 234 Vietnam War Commemoration Committee

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