

StoneBridge
TRUCKING

Veteran's Day
November 2021

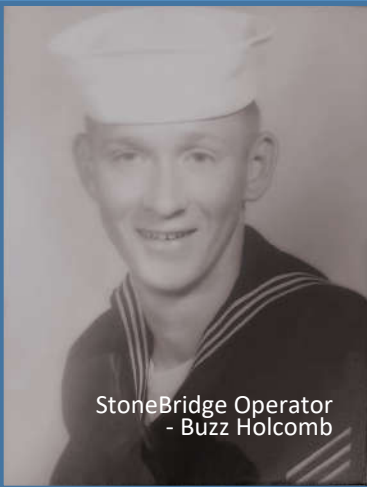
A **SALUTE**  **SERVICE**



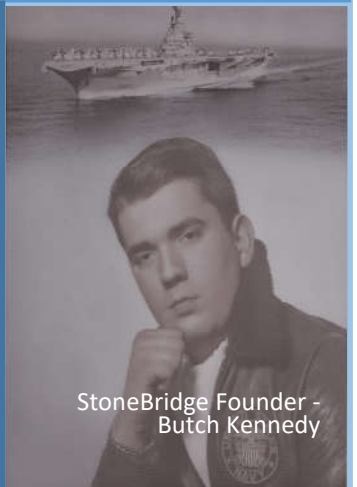
StoneBridge Operator
- Bill Pike



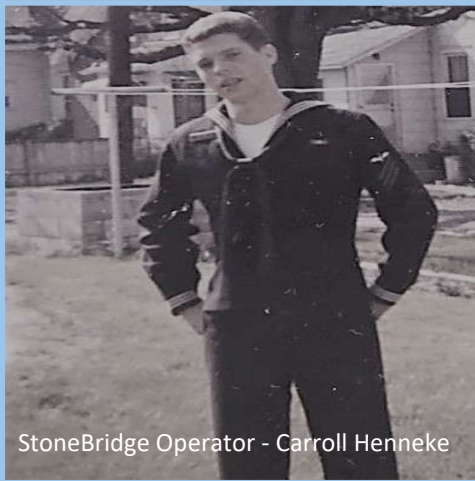
StoneBridge Operator -
Bob King



StoneBridge Operator
- Buzz Holcomb



StoneBridge Founder -
Butch Kennedy



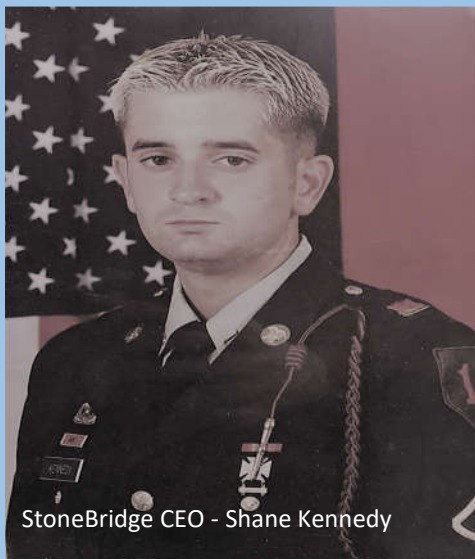
StoneBridge Operator - Carroll Henneke



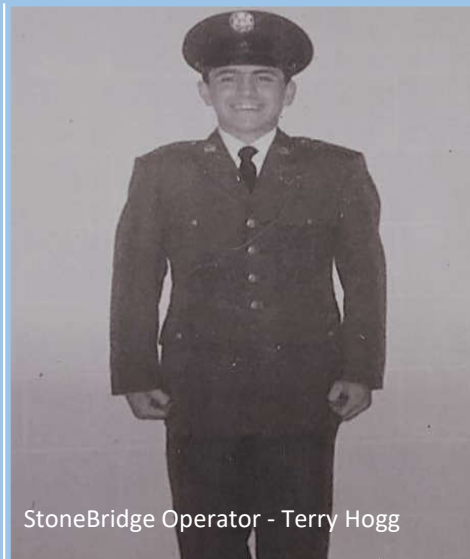
StoneBridge Legacy- Forrest Sandefur



StoneBridge Maintenance- Doug Spon



StoneBridge CEO - Shane Kennedy



StoneBridge Operator - Terry Hogg



StoneBridge Operator - Don Ziegenfuss

A STORY OF SERVICE

American
Veteran
Owned



American
Veteran
Driven

StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country.



StoneBridge Trucking is American Veteran Owned – American Veteran Driven. When we have the honor and privilege of bringing an American Veteran into our family, we are getting more than just a "hard worker" or "good person." We are bringing someone who has a proven history of commitment to God, Family, and Country. Over the years, since US Navy Veteran Butch Kennedy founded StoneBridge, our veteran members all share a unique bond: Pride of service, along with a special camaraderie when meeting fellow veterans at StoneBridge. In July of 2019, shortly after Independence Day, StoneBridge would bring another American Veteran into its family whose service in the US Navy was during one of the most critical international conflicts in our country's history.



Buzz enlisted in the US Navy in 1960.

In this edition, we are proud to feature US Navy Veteran and StoneBridge Operator Boyd "Buzz" Holcomb as our "**Story of Service.**"



StoneBridge Operator and
US Navy Veteran
Boyd "Buzz" Holcomb

A STORY OF SERVICE

Buzz was born on April 11, 1943. At the moment of his birth, his father, John F Holcomb, was enlisted in the US Navy and on a ship en route East during WWII as part of the Army Air Corps. The Army Air Corps would later become the US Air Force. He was born in his own home with his Aunt Gertrude present.

Raised in Westport, Indiana, Buzz graduated from high school and enlisted in the US Navy in 1960. He recalls his reason for enlisting as if it was yesterday: ***"I knew I was going to get drafted for Vietnam. It was inevitable, and I wanted to be in control of my environment. The Navy seemed like a good fit for me. I wanted to be a Gunner's Mate on a destroyer, but after testing at a high level, I received a recommendation that Naval Aviation was a better direction for me."***

After enlisting in Indianapolis Buzz took off to Naval Station Great Lakes and would spend Christmas at boot camp as part of Company 608. After graduating from basic training, his father enjoyed his first beer with him while on leave before he boarded a ship and went sailing on a Mediterranean Cruise out of NAS Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA. He would later go to NATTO Jacksonville to study Aviation Administration in 1962. "While at Jacksonville, I was a part of the mission up to 5 times a year while keeping aircraft records full-time. Often, I would get to fly home to Bunker Hill at Grissom Air Force Base and come home for a few days to visit."

He would later receive orders to Norfolk, VA, with an assignment to the VA 86 Attack Squadron as part of the USS Independence. Buzz ensured the planes were ready logistically, mechanically, and administratively as an Aviation Administrator from head to toe. He would give each plane the thumbs from the flight deck before heading to the catapult for launch. It was aboard the USS Independence that he would partake in one of the MOST IMPORTANT MISSIONS IN US HISTORY. ***"We met up at Naples, FL with the carrier to load up and go into the Gulf during the CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS. We were lined up ship-to-ship. It seemed like you could walk from Cuba to Key West via naval vessel and not get your feet wet."***



John Holcomb takes a picture with his son Buzz before departing for WWII.

A STORY OF SERVICE



President Kennedy's historic efforts ended the Cuban Missile Crisis by striking a backroom deal to remove nuclear-armed Jupiter missiles from Turkey. In response, the Soviets withdrew their nuclear weapons in Cuba. After the backchannel diplomatic efforts were executed, a nuclear showdown was avoided, and the blockade ended. Petty Officer 3rd Class Holcomb would eventually receive orders to VAW-11 NAS North Island, Coronado, CA from 1963 – 1966. From Coronado, his unit worked aboard the USS Hancock- CVA 19 and would spend nine months in the South China Sea. Due to Vietnam, in December of 1966, he was involuntarily extended for an additional six months until June 6, 1966. His orders were extended because his job was crucial in overseeing the aircraft flying the Vietnam missions from the South China Sea. In June 1966, PO3 Boyd “Buzz” Holcomb was ready to come home and was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy.

Buzz's service to country carried over to his service to community. A resident of Westport, Indiana, where he raised a family with his wife, Buzz admirably served two separate terms on the Westport Town Council where he upheld the same core values he learned in the Navy and applied in life: Honesty, Integrity, and Love of Country, Family, and Community. His work on the town council was summarized by a fellow Town Council member and friend:

"Buzz was a solid and reliable town council member that I had the privilege of serving with for eight years (2008-2015). He was instrumental in making the initial connections needed to obtain grant money for Westport's sewer rehabilitation project in 2012-2013. He cared deeply about his community, and his work ethic showed it."

~ Bryan Gatewood, Westport Town Council, 2008-2019.



A STORY OF SERVICE



Buzz enjoyed his first beer with his father John upon returning from Basic Training.



At StoneBridge, Buzz enjoys the camaraderie he shares with fellow veterans. *"I appreciate the opportunity to continue to work and stay active, meet fellow veterans and community members, and serve our customers. I take the responsibility as a StoneBridge Operator very seriously while enjoying the chance to travel. The Navy showed me the world, StoneBridge is showing me the United States."*

StoneBridge Founder Butch Kennedy echoes this bond: *"It is great to have Buzz working for StoneBridge. As a West Coast Sailor, we both were on ships serving in the 7th Fleet and made the same ports and swap tails of liberty. I always enjoy the conversation."*

Buzz Holcomb. Thank you for your service to your Country, Community, the StoneBridge Family, and its customers!



USS Independence

A Story of Service



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In the Spring of 1964, a Navy Recruiter presented at Arlington HS outside of Rushville, IN. Morris "Butch" Kennedy was listening. Butch grew up on a farm, and was not keen spending the rest of his life working there. His older brother Lloyd Kennedy had served in the Navy, so Butch decided to approach the recruiter and the following conversation occurred:

Butch: *"If I join the Navy, is there any way I could ever end up on a farm?"*

Recruiter: *"You will never be in one place long enough to grow corn."*

Butch: *"That's all I need to hear, see you in the Fall."*

On September 2nd, 1964, Morris Allen Kennedy enlisted in the United States Navy. He remembers his mother being extremely unhappy when he left to attend Basic Training at Naval Station Great Lakes, IL. ***"She was scared, she loved me, all moms are scared."***

After completing his basic training, Butch completed Class A Machinist school on his way to becoming a 3rd Class Petty Officer in the Navy. It was upon graduation, that Butch learned he would be assigned to the USS Kearsarge. Upon arrival, he was both lost and amazed. ***"It was the largest ship I had ever seen. I was lost for my first three days aboard, then all of the sudden, the ship was moving."*** At this point, since the ship was underway, he figured he would find out what happened next, ***"I asked the closest person I could find what was going on, in which they responded: Son, we are going to Vietnam."***

Butch would go on to serve in the Navy until he was Honorably Discharged on 30 August, 1968. He is proud of his service and how the experience has positively influenced his life.



Butch poses for his USS Kearsarge Picture.

While serving, he was able to see the world. He visited Hawaii, Yokuska Japan, The Gulf of Tonkin, Singapore, Sasamo Japan, Hong Kong, and the Phillipines.

Importantly, it opened his mind up to the world while allowing him to appreciate home. ***At first I was incredibly homesick, but I was so thankful for the opportunity to serve. As I traveled the world, it made me appreciate other cultures, religions, and people, while developing a deep appreciation for the United States. My service in the Navy still directly reflects on who I am as a person, and my company, StoneBridge Trucking. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made.***



A STORY OF SERVICE

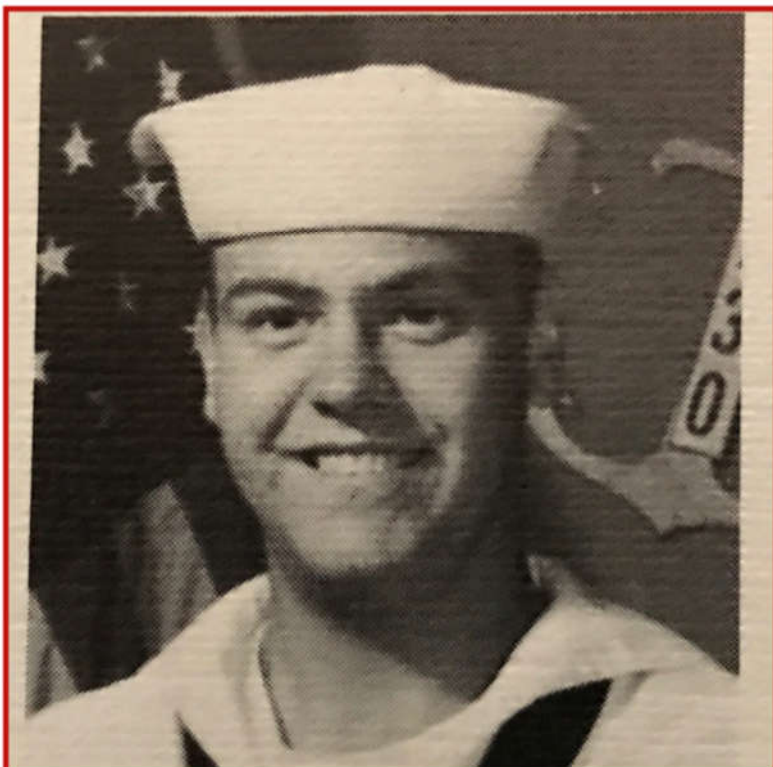
In 1972, Donald "Ziggy" Ziegenufss contemplated a decision many were pondering in 1972: *Join the military, or wait to be drafted?* At that time, Ziggy had a brother-in-law in the US Navy, and was not drawn towards the Army. On a Spring afternoon, his mother drove him to a recruiting office and signed the paperwork herself, allowing him to enlist in the US Navy at the young age of 17. *"I was ready. On June 6th I graduated high school, and by June 27th, I was at boot camp in Great Lakes, IL."*



Early in his career, Ziggy spent time stateside in Little Creek, VA onboard the USS Atakapa (ATF-149) and at a Naval Sub Base in New London, CT. During his time at New London, he was ready for a career in the Navy. *"While in New London, I reenlisted for Navy Yeoman school, and new at that I point I would serve for 20 years."* After a short stint at Patuxent River, MD, Ziggy received orders to serve at what would turn out to be his favorite tour of his career: **Navy Controller Shipping Office - Bahrain**. Bahrain is a small island off the coast of Saudi Arabia, and Ziggy served at this Middle East location from 75' - 79'. *Bahrain is very different from many think of the Middle East, it is a very westernized country with no fanatical influence. I lived off base the entire time while stationed there.* Ziggy also enjoyed the fact that

there were only approximately 40 personnel serving on his base at the time, and thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Commanding Middle East Force.

As much as Ziggy enjoyed Bahrain, he had many more rewarding tours of service ahead of him. In 1980, he was stationed in London, England at the Fleet Ocean Surveillance Intelligence Center. *"It was a different experience, I never wore a uniform. I wore a suit and tie every day."* After London, Ziggy would spend **5 years** in Washington, DC performing in many different roles. Amongst them was working for the Chief of Naval Operations as an Assistant Flag Writer as well as working for the Defense Intelligence Agency.



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In 1988, Ziggy's career was winding down, but one of his most proudest moments was still in front of him. At this point in his career, Ziggy had returned to the Middle East and was serving in Saudi Arabia as part of the US Navy Detachment - US Military Training Mission. It was here that he assisted in training the Saudi Arabian Military on minesweepers and patrol boats. While serving in Saudi Arabia, Ziggy would achieve what many enlisted Sailors spend their careers working towards:

The promotion to Chief Petty Officer.

US Navy Chief Petty Officers are the absolute backbone of the US Navy. Ask any Junior Officer in the Navy who they depend on the most and they will tell you:



Ziggy enjoys Thanksgiving dinner in Saudi Arabia.

"The most important person that determines the success of the mission and the growth of our Sailors is the Chief Petty Officer". After being promoted to Chief in 1990, Ziggy would eventually retire from the US Navy in 1992. ***"My 20 years of service went extremely fast. I served during the Cold War, Vietnam, and Gulf War. I learned what it meant to "take responsibility" and "be accountable".***

Since 14 years old, I have had 5 jobs: Burger Chef, US Navy, Funeral Director, Hotel Night Audit, and Stonebridge Trucking. Its rare to spend a life working without moving from job-to-job, and I am proud of that."

Given Ziggy's history of Honorable Service, he feels a connection to Stonebridge Trucking and its motto:

American Veteran Owned - American Veteran Driven.

"Part of our job is to be dedicated and responsible to our customers. This was no different than the dedication and responsibility I had to my Sailors and shipmates while serving. I really enjoy working with the other operators at Stonebridge who also served and feeling connection on those who have served can appreciate."



Ziggy always found time to enjoy traveling the world.

A STORY OF SERVICE

American
Veteran
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Driven

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2017
StoneBridge Legacy Award
Recipient
&
US Air Force
Veteran
Forrest Sandefur

Since 2006, there has been a symbol of consistency at StoneBridge Trucking. That symbol has always been ready, always been dependable, always been competent, always been professional, and importantly, **ALWAYS BEEN AN ABSOLUTE PLEASURE TO BE AROUND.** That symbol is Forrest Sandefur.

Forrest is currently the longest tenured driver at StoneBridge. On a weekly basis, he is always ready to hop in a cargo van and go. Because of his history of service at StoneBridge, Forrest became the first recipient of the

StoneBridge Legacy Award

during the StoneBridge Christmas Party in December. An award that was both well-deserved and well received.

"When considering who would be the first to receive the award, my father and I both agreed that Forrest was the most deserving to have their name appear first on the wall as a StoneBridge Legacy",

~ StoneBridge CEO Shane Kennedy.



Understanding Forrest's success at StoneBridge, and the character he brings to the job, can be partly attributed to his service in the United States Air Force.

In 1958, Forrest graduated high school and enlisted. When considering the military, the choice for Forrest was simple at the time. ***"The draft was inevitable, and I knew I had to make a choice. I had two brothers, one served in the Army and the other in the Navy. I also had three brothers-in-law who served in the Army, Army Air Corps, and Navy. I had a very good idea of what to expect from each service. I chose the Air Force, they had the best food."***

Upon enlisting in the Air Force, Forrest went to Basic Training during a very unusual time. His basic training only lasted 3.5 weeks when the average at the time was 8 weeks. It was during this time that national temperatures were so hot, there were Marines who died marching during training at Paris Island, SC. Forrest said ***"Because of this, there was a law passed for everyone limiting our outdoor training due to the temperatures, and my initial training was cut short."***

Continued on next page ...

A STORY OF SERVICE



After completing basic training, Forrest became an Airborne Radar Repairman while studying at Keesler AFB, MS. This skillset would eventually land him in the city of Tripoli located in Libya, Africa. The base he served on had a vast history. It began as a Mercedes Benz test site, and eventually housed the German military during World War II. Once the war ended, the United States occupied it, eventually welcoming A3C Forrest Sandefur as a member of the 58th Air Rescue Squadron. During his time in Tripoli, an historic event occurred when a U2 jet was shot down in Russia.

"We spent three days "looking" for that jet. Our government knew where it was, we knew where it was. It was in Russia, but we weren't allowed to cross into their air space. So, in order to give the appearance we were making the effort to find it, we spent three days flying along the border of Turkey and Russia "looking" for it. It was very frustrating for everyone involved"

After leaving Tripoli, Forrest finished his Air Force career in Columbus, OH. It was here that he learned how to get the Air Force to honor his contract and grant him his Honorable Discharge. ***"I was in a highly critical field, and they were trying to retain all Radar Repairman by alluding that we couldn't get out. It was then that I read a recent Air Force Times article and found the regulation had been updated, officially allowing me to be discharged."***

Upon finding this information out, Airman Third Class Sandefur promptly paid a visit to the base retention Officer. The officer made a diligent effort to retain Forrest and the conversation went as such:

A3C Sandefur: *I would like to request my Honorable Discharge.*

Retention Officer: *You read the Air Force times didn't you?*

A3C Sandefur: *Yes sir I did.*

Retention Officer: *You realize life outside the military is exactly the same don't you? You will still have someone you have to report to and take orders from?*

A3C Sandefur: *Well sir, it's not exactly the same. Out there I can tell them to "Go to Hell" and not go to jail for it.*



A3C Sandefur was Honorably Discharged for the US Air Force on the 25th of May, 1964. Having married his wife Sharon in 1962, they are proud parents to their daughters Laurie and Marcy. He is proud of his lifetime of hard work, and if you ever have the opportunity to spend 5 minutes with Forrest, you will find him to be an extremely kind gentleman who is proud of his service and enjoys working for StoneBridge Trucking.

"When I enlisted back then, it wasn't a choice, it was an obligation. It was simply part of being an American."

Since 2006, Forrest has been a part of the StoneBridge DNA and will always be the first ever to receive the **StoneBridge Legacy Award**. When speaking of his experience at StoneBridge, there is one unique quality he speaks of: ***"I enjoy the people I work with and the customers. I enjoy staying busy and the interaction this job allows me to receive with good people"***.

A STORY OF SERVICE

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their country.

US Air Force
Veteran
Terry Hogg

For many men who grew up in the 50's and 60's, they remember it as a great time to be an American. Being a "Baby Boomer" was a great experience for many. A defining element of the 50's was the Cold War, and the 60's proved to be a time of change in America. Growing up during these years would often eventually lead the young men of the United States to make an important decision: Sign up for the US Military or wait to potentially be drafted and sent to Vietnam?

Terry Hogg was born in June of 1953 and grew up in Greensburg, Indiana. In 1971, Terry and his good friend Rob Hood were about to head to Indianapolis to join and saw their friend Jeff Meyer working at a local gas station. Jeff's boss thought he was simply going to lunch, but Jeff was ready to join them. That afternoon, Terry's mom Nelly Hogg took all three boys to Indianapolis to take the military entrance evaluation test.

"Rob and I were supposed to be on the buddy system, it didn't work out that way unfortunately".

American Veteran Owned



American Veteran Driven

www.stonebridgetrucking.com



In November 1971, Terry Hogg enlisted and took off for the US Air Force to attend Basic Training at Lackland AFB, Texas. Upon graduating basic training, he was sent to Chanute AFB in Rantoul, IL. *"It was the coldest weather I had EVER experienced. I hated it. We had to wear leather masks on our face. Definitely lets you know how cold it was and the cold weather technology of the time."*

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StoneBridge
TRUCKING



A STORY OF SERVICE



While at Chanute, Terry trained to work on Aerospace Ground Equipment. Upon graduation from tech school, he was shipped to APO San Francisco where he would find his final destination to be his first permanent duty station: Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), Vietnam.

“I was 18 years old and found myself in Vietnam. When I arrived and walked off the plane, it felt like I was in an oven. It was such a complete shock and contrast to my experience at Chanute AFB. I had transitioned from what I thought was the coldest place in the world to the hottest. After showering, I would immediately be soaking wet from sweat before I could even dry off.”

Terry was in Saigon for nine months when President Nixon stated that the Vietnam War was coming to a **“conclusion as a result of the plan that we have instituted.”** At this point, Terry was flown to Tokay, Thailand where was to spend a total of four months and be eventually sent home. **“I was told I was going home, but was rather sent to Tacoma, WA for six months.”** At this point, Terry decided that he would be willing to go back to Thailand if his service was going to be extended. **“I had put in my request and made a voluntary statement that I wanted to serve in Thailand. Ironically, I was advised that if I wanted to go back to Thailand, that I needed to withdraw this statement which lacked all possible logic. Going against my logical reasoning, I withdrew my statement requesting to be stationed in Thailand, and was then assigned to Thailand shortly after. I simply cannot make this up. Anyone who ever served in the military can understand.”** SSgt Hogg would spend 13 additional months in Thailand totaling over **560+ days served in Southeast Asia.** At one point, Terry hadn't spoken to his parents for over 3 months. The Red Cross was notified and the communication line between Terry and his parents was open once again.

In 1975, SSgt Hogg was honorably discharged from the US Air Force and was sent home. When he returned home, he saw his mom walk by prompting the following conversation:

Son: *Who you looking for lady (in jest)?*

Mother: *I am here to see my son.*

Terry was flabbergasted. **“She didn't even recognize me. She simply walked right past me. I had grown up. The boy that left her was now a man.”**

In 1976, Terry was ready for another challenge. He signed a three year enlistment in the Army Reserves as a Sergeant serving as a Field Director Commander (FDC). Terry's time in the Army Reserves was a little bit less eventful. He laughed when sharing the fact that his only deployment in the Army Reserves was to Chicago during the mail strike. Overall, Terry's experience in the military was a positive one that has proven to be something in which would be proud of. **“I loved the travel, it made me grow up and mature at a very fast pace.”** Terry went on to earn a Degree in Architectural Design & Building Construction. After many years raising his family and running the family business, Terry is thrilled to be a part of StoneBridge Trucking which is American Veteran Driven. **“I enjoy the work and the people. I really enjoy the customer service aspect of our job, and appreciate the comradery I share with the StoneBridge team and the veterans in its ranks.”**

A STORY OF SERVICE

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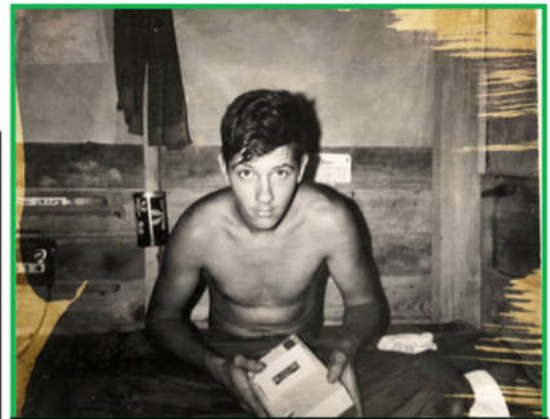


US Army
Veteran
Doug Spon

It is an absolute honor and privilege to serve in the United States Military. Quite often when I am in uniform, I am both amazed and appreciative when people go out of their way to say, **"Thank you for your service"**. With this level of appreciation comes a huge responsibility. A responsibility to wear the uniform with pride and carry yourself in a manner that shows a high level of respect the it demands. Not only are you representing your country and the military, you are also representing your family. If you ask a majority of those who volunteer to serve their country if someone in their family served, I would suffice to say many would proudly name a family member. Not only would they name them, they would have an honored inflection in their voice when answering.

In a past issue, I was pleased to tell my father Butch Kennedy's story of service. As I write this, I am delighted that I get to talk about another family member who I am **PROUD** to discuss.

**DOUG SPON IS
A VIETNAM VETERAN . . .
HE IS ALSO MY
GRANDPA!!!**



Doug Spon at 18 years of age in Chu Lai, Vietnam

Born in 1950 in Sharon Pennsylvania to Ray and June Spon, Doug Spon grew up in family dedicated to service. Ray Spon served in the Navy, and his brother Rick Spon, retired from the US Navy in 2003 as a Commander. In December 1968, Doug Spon made the decision to also serve his country. Like many during this time he was posed with a very tough question: Enlist or get drafted?

At the time, the Army allowed him to enlist without a high school diploma. **"I was ready to go, I liked land, and liked fixing stuff. Being a mechanic in the US Army made sense."** Doug would attend Basic Training at Fort Benning, GA and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Jackson, SC. After completion of his training in May 1969, Doug Spon would receive orders to Chu Lai, Vietnam. Upon arrival Doug was stationed at LZ Baldy until he and a friend made a mistake. **"There was a base wide urinalysis. A Sergeant gave me a cup and told me to "fill it up". I did so, except I filled it with Vodka. Seemed funny at the time, but they didn't find the humor in it when the results came back."** Based on this, Doug was moved to LZ Siberia as punishment. During this time, although trained as a mechanic, he spent the majority of his time running convoys as part of the Quick Reaction Force (QRF).

A STORY OF SERVICE

After a year in Vietnam, Doug would serve 2 years in Ft Bragg, NC where he would reenlist and receive orders to South Korea. On location, he spent his first 4 months as a mechanic until he was summoned to meet with a Sergeant Major. After formation, SGT Spon was told to get in a Jeep and go to Seoul. Following a two-hour drive, the subsequent conversation ensued:

Sergeant Major: "SGT Spon, you need a haircut."

Sergeant Spon: "You had me come all this way to tell me that?"

Sergeant Major: "No, you are going to be the General's Driver."

Sergeant Spon: "How?"

Sergeant Major: "You were selected."

Sergeant Spon: "How?"

Sergeant Major: . . . (insert speechless pause here) . . . Get your stuff.



While in Vietnam, Doug was assigned to LZ Baldy / West 196th INF



SGT Spon with the General's car in Seoul, South Korea.

Doug would spend his remaining time in Korea as the General's Driver until he was stationed in Ft. Riley Kansas in April 1972 for 1.5 years as part of the 1st Infantry Division. While there he was part of the 701st MSB and assigned to Alpha Company. (Ironically, when I (Shane Kennedy) joined the Army in 1999, I was stationed in Germany in the sister unit. I was assigned to Alpha Company 701st MSB in Kitzingen, Germany as part of the 1st ID in 2000). After Kansas, Doug received orders to Baumholder Germany where he would finish his career and receive an Honorable Discharge after 7 years, 9 months, and 23 days



Ray Spon joined the Navy as an Electrician's Mate in 1944.



CDR Rick Spon retired in 2003.

A STORY OF SERVICE

"I enjoyed my time in the military. It did a lot for me. I grew up." After Doug completed his initial training, he returned home to visit with family. Growing up, he had a few "encounters" with the local deputy sheriff. When this same deputy saw him in uniform he stated,

"This is the best decision you ever made young man".



To this day, Doug always draws a close comparison with his professional career with his time in the service. He has spent his life either working as a mechanic, or in jobs that utilize his knowledge as a mechanic. At StoneBridge, he is called on quite often to help diagnose issues. Along with this, he enjoys his fellow Veterans at StoneBridge.



StoneBridge Operator Doug Spon operating a Jeep while stationed in Vietnam in 1969.

"I really enjoy being around the guys. In the service, you look out for each other. You develop that bond in and out of the service. I share that same bond at StoneBridge Trucking."

A STORY OF SERVICE

Each time I write a story of service about a member of the StoneBridge team, I am always excited to tell a story that they themselves may not tell. When doing so, I get to learn about a past that I wouldn't ordinarily get a glimpse into. If I do my job right, I will tell the story correctly allowing the veteran to be proud to share it. I am often met with reluctance when asking members of our team to share their military experience, but they are happy to share it once the story is written.

Over the past two years, I have shared many stories of our veterans and each one has been unique. No story is the same. Today I myself have the same feeling of reluctance when writing, but am both proud and humbled of my last 20 years in the US military.



Capt Shane Kennedy was honored to speak at MACS Chad Lewis retirement ceremony aboard the USS Yorktown in Charleston, SC



Pvt Shane Kennedy poses with two fellow trainees before graduating from Basic Training in 1999.

July 26th, 1999 was one of the hardest days of my life. This was the day I officially enlisted in the US Army and would leave the only life I had known for 18 years. I completed my US Army basic training at Ft. Jackson, SC and would go to school Quartermaster School at Ft. Lee Virginia to become an Automated Logistical Specialist. While at Ft. Lee, Virginia, I received orders to go Germany. I was both scared and excited. The Army was really giving me a chance to see the world.

Getting stationed in Europe was one of the best educational experiences of my life. Being from Westport, IN, I was naïve that there was an entire world out there that thought and lived differently than I did. The US Army gave me an education that opened my mind up to the world.

While stationed in Germany, an event happened that forced me to understand why I was wearing the uniform. It wasn't just to see the world. It wasn't just to get money for college. It wasn't simply to have a career and gain a skillset. While I had an agenda when joining, and I had a list of goals I hoped to achieve while serving, I never envisioned spending a career doing so. But, things changed. On September 11th, 2001, I finally realized what serving in the military really meant. Like everyone who experienced that day, I WAS SCARED. I was 20 years old and had no idea what my future would look like, and really didn't understand why 9/11 was happening. What I did know was there was a job to do, and that's why people ultimately join the US military. 9/11 taught me that.

For the next two years, my unit was preparing to be deployed. I had been promoted to Sergeant and my responsibilities were growing. In the Fall of 2002, we learned we would be deployed to Iskenderun, Turkey to support the 4th ID through northern Iraq. While in Turkey, this mission was altered and we spent some time at the Incirlik, AFB. I was set to be honorably discharged in a couple months and was focused on going to Indiana University that summer. But, I saw some off duty military personnel on base wearing Indiana University and Indiana State t-shirts. After striking up a conversation, they let me know about the 181st Fighter Wing. It was a unit in Terre Haute that was part of the Indiana Air National Guard. After learning I could continue serving part-time and go to college, I was committed to continuing my career. I was honorably discharged from the US Army in May 2003 and proudly reenlisted in the Indiana Air National Guard in June 2003.

A STORY OF SERVICE

Joining the Indiana Air National Guard was a great decision. I chose a path in Information Technology to learn a new skill and got to spend 4 months at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, MS. I started at Indiana University in January 2004 and continued my career in Terre Haute for the next 5 years. After graduating from IU in 2007, I had a very specific goal I wanted to achieve. I had always wanted to receive a commission in the US military so I could serve as a Commissioned Officer.

At the time, the opportunities for a commission in the Air National Guard were few and far between. I was frustrated because I had put in the work, put in the time, and the opportunities weren't there. I liked the Air Force, but I chose to once again to look for a branch that would give me the opportunity I had worked hard for.

THE US NAVY RESERVE GAVE ME THAT OPPORTUNITY. On 15 October, 2008, I received one of the biggest honors of my life when I became an Ensign in the US Navy Reserve. After 3 years of serving in the Navy Reserves, I had an opportunity to take active duty orders for recruiting duty. It was a great fit, because I would be able to simultaneously work through law school at the Indiana University School of Law Indianapolis in the evening.

Recruiting duty exposed me to many opportunities and many wonderful people. A close friend I recruited has since been elected to Congress. Little did I know that Governor Pence would eventually become the Vice President of the United States. I was honored when he awarded me with the Distinguished Hoosier Award while on recruiting duty.



LT Kennedy commissioned his close friend Luke Bielawski as a Navy Fighter Pilot in the office of Governor Mike Pence



LT Kennedy was awarded the Distinguished Hoosier Award by Governor Mike Pence for his recruiting efforts in Indiana.



SSgt Shane Kennedy poses for a picture with his future wife Ashlee and the Air Force Ball in 2008.



Shane and Ashlee were married on October 11th, 2014.

"I can imagine no more rewarding a career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction, 'I served in the United States Navy'".


~ President John F Kennedy

A STORY OF SERVICE

Like my dilemma while serving in the Air National Guard, last year I was presented with big decision, simply retire from the US Navy, or continue on my career in the US Air Force Reserve where the opportunity to continue my career was given. Once again, I was blessed and humbled to get this opportunity. On 3 October, 2018, I swore into the US Air Force Reserve at Grissom AFB, Bunker Hill, Indiana.

Today, I am proudly serving as a Logistics Readiness Officer with the 49th Aerial Port Squadron. I honored to be featured recently on their website (see below). After 20 years, I still have the support of my wife to continue my military career. Working for StoneBridge Trucking full-time and serving my country in the US Air Force Reserves is both humbling and rewarding.



 **GRISSOM AIR RESERVE BASE**

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49th APS welcomes new operations officer

By Staff Sgt. Chris Massey, 434th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs / Published January 11, 2019





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U.S. Air Force Capt. Shane Paul Kennedy, 49th Aerial Port Squadron operations officer, poses for a photo in front of a unit flag at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., Jan. 6, 2018. Kennedy recently joined the 49th APS after serving in the Army, Air National Guard and Navy Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Chris Massey)

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GRISSOM AIR RESERVE BASE, Ind. --
The 49th Aerial Port Squadron recently welcomed a new operations officer to their ranks.

Capt. Shane Paul Kennedy will be overseeing the day-to-day operations for the squadron.

Kennedy, a native of Greensburg, Indiana, brings 19 years of experience after serving as an enlisted member in the Army and Air National Guard and as an officer in the Navy Reserve.

"Serving in the different branches, I've learned how to speak the different languages," said Kennedy. "Each branch has its own acronyms; they do things a little bit different. All three branches in their own right have prepared me for this opportunity."

Kennedy draws from his enlisted experience when making decisions as an officer and while running his family's trucking company.

"Based on my short time here, it's clear that the 49th has experienced and is experiencing significant growth," Kennedy said. "With this growth comes more opportunities for leadership, more opportunities for worldwide support and responsibility for the careers of our Airmen."

Kennedy's goal for the 49th is to consistently evolve with the mission in correlation with the growth of the unit, which recently grew from a flight to a squadron.

The 434th ARW is the largest [KC-135R Stratotanker](#) unit in the [Air Force Reserve Command](#). The Citizen Airmen from the Hoosier Wing routinely deploy around the world in support of the Air Force mission.

Stay connected with the 434th ARW on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

A STORY OF SERVICE



US Navy Veteran Bill Pike

He was chosen to become an Aircrew Survival Technician / Parachute Rigger. After attending boot camp in San Diego, CA, he immediately transferred to Lake Hurst, NJ.

It was here that he would spend four months training in "A" school. He graduated top 3 in his class and was awarded top choice of his orders. During his first enlistment, he opted to join an E-2 Hawkeye Surveillance Squadron in Miramar, CA. It was here that he would spend 3 ½ years with VAW-114 where his squadron was attached to the USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) in Alameda, CA.

This squadron would later be attached to the USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63) in which he had the opportunity to bring around the southern horn. During his 3.5 years of service, he had approximately one year at sea and visited 13 countries.

Each day, the residents of Shelby County entrust the lives of their children to Bill Pike. Bill Pike is a school bus operator who spends his Summer breaks, Fall breaks, Christmas breaks, and Spring breaks driving for StoneBridge Trucking. He is a seasonal driver for StoneBridge, but a full-time member of our family.

Before pursuing a career with a Commercial Driver's License, he had a history of service to his country.

Billy Joe Pike Jr. was born and raised in Evansville, Indiana. In 1988 he graduated from F.J. Reitz High School. After graduation, there were no plans for college, and his future was uncertain. Given that his father had served in the Army Special Forces, he decided to join the Navy and in June 1988, he took the oath to uphold the US Constitution.

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StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country.



A STORY OF SERVICE

In addition to this, he served on 3 separate deployments to Panama in Central America (Howard Air Force Base), working as a joint exercise drug interdiction Navy, DEA, Coast Guard & Air Force. Bill Pike's service earned him many service awards including the Sea Service, Expeditionary Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Coast Guard Special Ops, Battle "E," Joint Meritorious Citation, and Pistol Expert. In 1992, he re-enlisted and attended military instructor school in San Diego, CA. From San Diego, he received orders to Naval Aviation Schools Command (NASC) in Pensacola, FL. as a water survival instructor teaching and training aircrew members, while becoming a water rescue swimmer and lead equipment specialist in his command.

In December 1995 he received an **Honorable Discharge** and attended Northwest Florida State College where he graduated from and chose a career in Law Enforcement where he served in Florida and Indiana.



"I thoroughly enjoy working at Stone-Bridge. The camaraderie with the other veterans and operators along with the strong leadership within the organization closely mirrors my experience and memories of serving in the US Navy."

~ Bill Pike



Bill pictured with his wife Adriel and two sons, Sean & Seth.

A STORY OF SERVICE



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When Bob King joined StoneBridge Trucking in 2018, he hit the ground running. There wasn't very much grass growing under his feet when he was asked to jump in a cargo van and head to Michigan for a hot-shot load for one of StoneBridge's top customers. Along with this, winter had begun in Indiana, which meant it had established itself in Michigan. Unfortunately, Bob hit the road so fast that a few key details of his past were missed. Bob was a US Navy Veteran and had proudly served in the 1960s. This significant detail went undisclosed for quite some time. Luckily today, his proud story will no longer be private. Thanks to Bob, these interesting years have been divulged for the StoneBridge family and their customers to enjoy and appreciate.

In the Spring of 1964, Bob was about to graduate from high school and was not focused on college. The son of Roy & Dorothy "Dot" King he was born and raised in Oldenburg, IN. Sharing a home with two brothers and a sister, he was ready to move on with his life after high school. While interested in the prospects of getting his education, he fought with the same reservations many face when entering the real world as a teenager.

"I considered college but wasn't interested in it at that point in my life. My older brother was a Navy Veteran, and I felt this was a better option for me."



Bob King enlisted in June 1964.

In June 1964, Seaman Robert King enlisted as a Boatswain Mate. He attended boot camp at Naval Station Great Lakes as a member of Company 252, which would receive recognition as the Color Company. After graduating from boot camp, he was stationed in Norfolk, VA with the Nuclear Weapons Training Center as a communications carrier. In September of 65, after one year on dry land, he boarded the USS Nimble in Charleston, SC. Upon assuming his duties on the ship, he learned the Nimble would have a 6-month deployment to the Mediterranean and eventually take port in Naples and Barcelona.



Commissioned USS Nimble - 1955

A STORY OF SERVICE



While in Barcelona, the mission of the USS Nimble would take a turn when a US Air Force refueling mission would go array.

“The Nimble was a minesweeper. Our sole purpose was to protect the fleet. The Air Force had a refueling mission that resulted in a crash in which a nuclear weapon was aboard the plane that crashed”.

While this info certainly will cause one to raise a brow in interest, what was disclosed next would allow this particular story to resonate with many around the world.

Why?

Because they either read the book or watched the movie!



In 2000, the mission that Bob King was a part of was depicted in the Hollywood Blockbuster ***“Men of Honor”*** starring Cuba Gooding Jr. and Robert Dinero. In one scene, Cuba Gooding Jr’s character was a Navy Diver in search of the lost nuclear warhead.



While Bob was not granted a cameo in the movie, he certainly remembers the mission vividly and is proud of his service during it. Along with his time in the Mediterranean, he also spent time in other global locations, including Naples, Barcelona, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

After receiving an Honorable Discharge from the Navy in September of 1967, Bob returned to Oldenburg and eventually landed with StoneBridge Trucking. He sees a connection between his Naval service and those that work at StoneBridge. **“I loved the travel and friendships in the military. Today I get to work with many fellow veterans at StoneBridge and enjoy hearing their stories”.** **“I also appreciate how people treat us when they read the back of our fleet vehicles”.** The straight trucks and vans in the StoneBridge Fleet read ***“American Veteran Owned – American Veteran Driven.”***

Because of veterans like Bob King, we are

American Veteran Driven.



A STORY OF SERVICE

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StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country.



Carroll
Henneke

President John F. Kennedy once stated,

“Any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile . . . can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction, “I served in the United States Navy.””

Serving in the US Navy is something many today can take pride in. They show this pride in various forms. Whether it's marching in a Veterans Day parade, wearing a US Navy Veteran hat, or proudly displaying a US Navy flag, Navy Veterans are proud. They are not only honored to have served the greatest country in the world, but they are also pleased to have served their country as part of the world's greatest Navy.

StoneBridge Operator Carroll Henneke has a lot to be proud of. He is a proud husband, father, and a proudly retired DNR officer. Today Carroll works as part of the StoneBridge Operations team. Each day, when called upon, he dons a StoneBridge polo displaying “US Navy Veteran” on the sleeve.



Carroll Henneke grew up a farm boy in southern Indiana. After graduating from Jac-Cen-Del High School in 1962, he enrolled at Indiana University in 1963. Having enjoyed his time in Bloomington perhaps too much, he took a Cummins Engine job in 1964. Looking for a change, and being self-aware enough to understand that he needed structure and discipline in his young life, he took an oath and left for the US Navy in 1965.

“This was at the height of the cold war I knew I was going to be drafted. In my opinion, the Navy had the best schools. My uncle was a Navy Chief. Everything was leading me to join the Navy.”

Continued on next page . . .

A STORY OF SERVICE

In April of 1967, Seaman Henneke received orders. He was shipped to NAS Kodiak, Alaska, where he would eventually put on the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. During this time, the Cold War tensions were high. Unless you failed elementary geography, you know that Alaska is very close to Russia, separated by nothing more than the Bering Strait. It was here he would serve as a Nighttime Supervisor with daily 12 hour shifts. His unit was responsible for the forecasts for the Pacific Fleet and Aircraft. Every 12 hours, they had to plan for the worst. Given Alaska's proximity to Russia, his unit conducted Air & Surface Sounding by plotting and disseminating nuclear radiation fallout maps every 12 hours in the event an atomic strike took place.



NAS Kodiak is now a US Coast Guard Base.

In September of 1969, Carroll Henneke received an Honorable Discharge from the US Navy as a 2nd Class Petty Officer. To this day, he is honored to have served his country in the United States Navy and appreciates what the Navy did for him.



This picture was taken at NAS Lakehurst, New Jersey. It was here that Seaman Henneke studied to be a Aerographers Mate.

"The Navy matured me. I was a young kid on a bad path and desperately needed regimentation. Growing up in southeastern Indiana, my parents worked hard, and I pretty much did my own thing. When I joined the Navy, I was a "wild child," and I needed what the Navy had to offer. I would not trade my experience for anything."

As a retired Department of Natural Resources Officer, Carroll enjoys working with the StoneBridge Operations team. He enjoys the comradery in which he shares with other veterans at StoneBridge.

"Veterans have proven to be dependable people to hire. I love driving a StoneBridge Truck and how people react to our truck decals "American Veteran Owned – American Veteran Driven."

"This place has been a good fit for me, and I enjoy working here at this chapter in my life."

~ Carroll Henneke - StoneBridge Operations

A Story of Service

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StoneBridge is proud of its commitment to the service of those who have served and serving. Our company is owned by veterans and is employed by many who have a history of service to their country. That is why we are proud to continue serving by providing our logistics services for the benefit of troops around the world who will-



Shane Kennedy currently serves part-time in the US Navy Reserve Supply Corps. Recently, Shane traveled to South Korea for **two** weeks of Annual Training. While serving, LT Kennedy had the privilege of traveling to the Demilitarization Zone (DMZ) between North and South Korea. The DMZ is a strip of land running across the Korean Peninsula that was established in 1953 at the end of the Korean War to serve as a buffer zone between the democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea).



LT Shane Kennedy poses for a picture with a South Korean soldier at the DMZ in South Korea.

Trees for the Troops

Since 2003, **StoneBridge Trucking** has been partnering with the **Bohman Christmas Tree Farm** to provide **Trees for the Troops** stationed around the world. In next month's issue, we will proudly tell our story of the logistics service we donate to transport the gifted trees from the Bohman Christmas Tree Farm to our troops.

