



SERGEANT MAJOR RETIRED RONALD E. FETHERSON, USMC

Sergeant Major Fetherston was born in Charlotte, North Carolina on October 27, 1955 and graduated from Independence High School and enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 2, 1974.

He attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina and upon completion of recruit training, he was promoted meritoriously to Private

Transferring to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, he attended Basic Warehousing School and upon completion of school he was transferred to 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines, 2d Marine Division. He was assigned as a Warehouseman with Battalion Supply during this tour promoted to Lance Corporal and meritoriously to Corporal.

In April of 1976, he was assigned to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina for duty as a Drill Instructor with Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion. During this tour of duty, he also served as a Close Combat Instructor and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

In August of 1978, he was assigned to Quantico, Virginia for a tour as an Instructor at the Noncommissioned Officers Leadership School and the following year served as the Warehouse Chief at the Basic School.

Transferring overseas on 1980, he was assigned to Headquarters and Maintenance Squadron 12, Marine Air Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Iwakuni, Japan as a Warehouse Chief. Upon promotion to Staff Sergeant, he was assigned as Squadron Career Planner.

He transferred back to Parris Island the following year for duty as an Assistant Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor. After being meritoriously promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant, he was assigned as Company Gunnery Sergeant and Series Chief Drill Instructor with Company F, 2d Recruit Training Battalion.

In February of 1984, he was assigned once again to Quantico as the Warehouse Chief of Material Division and during the summer from 1984 to 1986 (May to September), he was assigned as a Physical Training Instructor at the Officers Candidate School.

In September 1985, he was assigned as the Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Enhancement Program at Quantico, Virginia until May of 1986.

Transferring overseas in September 1986, Gunnery Sergeant Fetherston was assigned to Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group for duty as the Company Gunnery Sergeant. The following year, he was assigned as the Chief Instructor of the Noncommissioned Officer Basic Course and consequently became the first Enlisted Director.

While in this assignment, he was promoted to the rank of First Sergeant.

In September 1989, First Sergeant Fetherston was assigned as the First Sergeant, Military Police Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group. During this tour of duty, First Sergeant Fetherston was deployed to the Persian Gulf region in direct support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

In June 1991, First Sergeant Fetherston was reassigned to Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group as the Company First Sergeant until his transfer to Parris Island, South Carolina. First Sergeant Fetherston assumed the duties as the Company First Sergeant of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, Parris Island, South Carolina from November 1992 to February 1994.

After being promoted to Sergeant Major in March 1994, he assumed the duties as Sergeant Major of Support Battalion. In February 1995, he transferred to the 2d Recruit Training Battalion for duties as the Battalion Sergeant Major. Upon completion of his assignment at 2d Recruit Training Battalion, he transferred to Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan in June 1996, where he served as Squadron Sergeant Major. In May 1997, he was transferred to Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Smedley D. Butler, where he served as the battalion Sergeant Major until May 1999.

Transferred to 2d Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, which he served as the 8th Marine Regiment Sergeant Major until May 2001. He then was transferred to Quantico, Va for duties as Training Command Sergeant Major where he retired in May 2004. In June 2004, Mr. Fetherston worked for the Marine Corps Association as the Deputy Director of Professional Development, until March 2006. From April 2006 to November 2008, Mr. Fetherston worked for Battelle as a Government Contractor to Headquarter Marine Corps (Pentagon) as an Antiterrorism Coordinator. Presently, Mr. Fetherston is a Government Employee at Headquarters, Marine Corps, PP&O as an Antiterrorism Action Officer.

Sergeant Major Fetherston's Personal Decoration include: The Legion of Merit, The Meritorious Service Medal (with two gold stars in lieu of second and third award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

(with three gold stars in lieu of fourth award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Sergeant Major Fetherson is married to Sergeant Major Parisa Fetherson of Baltimore, Maryland. She is also is a Retired Marine. They have two daughters, Monica a Hampton University Grad and Tracey a University of Virginia Grad and a Commissioned Officer in the Marine Corps assigned to 1st MLG, Camp Pendleton, Ca.