

## MGySgt Burton

Hey there Sarge,

I wanted to take a moment to write and thank you first for your service to the Corps, and second for the work you do now, including putting this newsletter together.



While I'm younger than most of the Marines that write in, I love reading the stories from the past generations of Marines. I'm a 39yo Master Gunny that has traveled a lot and seen more than I would have cared to. I've served one tour in Afghanistan and 4 tours in Iraq (including the battle for Fallujah). I'm very proud to follow in the steps of the men and women that have proceeded me in the Corps and to all the "Docs" that have patched us up despite us saying its only a scratch.

I was out on Coronado Island in San Diego recently to have my picture taken. For the photo shoot, I had to be in my class A's. While I got lots of Ohh's and Aww's from people passing by, what really got to me was seeing two couples walking past wearing a Vietnam Marine Vet's cover. Much to the dislike of the photographer, I walked up to the men and ask if I could shake their hand and thanked then for what they went through. One of the men shed a few tears and their wives ask if they could take my picture with their husbands. After chatting for about 20 minutes and fielding multiple questions about the various medals I was wearing, they went on their way. The photographer ask me why I'd stopped the shoot to go talk to strangers and all I could say was, "they weren't strangers, they were Marines."

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