

## LANCE CORPORAL HARRY E SLINGLAND

By Richard Long

Seventeen year old Harry Slingland graduated high school and enlisted in the US Marines. A gutsy step for such a young man. He was sent to Paris Island for boot camp, then to Camp Lejeune, NC for Warehouseman School.

Warehouseman duties were varied. They included such things as laundry, stores, cobbler, dry cleaner, tailor, and anything else that'd keep a troop carrier efficiently operating while transporting around 2,000 soldiers.

Harry served multiple locations, certainly more than the norm for a four year enlistment. His longest stint was onboard the USS Boxer (CV-21). an aircraft carrier supporting the war efforts in Korea, as well as the Cuban Missile Crisis. She was a pickup ship for spacecraft during the Apollo program and a troop transport for the Vietnam War. Then in 1958 after being assigned to the Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk, VA, she was converted to a Landing Platform Helicopter (LPH). Harry joined her there in 1959, leaving in 1961 for Cherry Point, NC, air station.

February 1962 L/CPL Slingland was assigned TAD (temporary alternate duty) onboard the USS Independence—cruising the Mediterranean. With his duties completed, and the ship in port, Harry could go ashore at will. He had to return to the ship at night. One night, the entire ship was entertained USO style by a young lady that came aboard with her very small band. The lady was Princess Grace of Monaco.

Lance Corporal Slingland, we honor you and thank you for your service.