

KOREAN WAR VETERAN PATRICK BROWNSON

BY Richard Long

Following in his father's footsteps, a Naval Hero o WWI, and those of his ancestors back to the revolutionary war, in 1949 at age 18, Patrick Brownson decided to enlist in the US Navy. However, quotas were in place then and the Navy was full. Instead, he enlisted in the Marines for one year active and 7 years reserve duty.

Pat trained in San Diego, CA and ultimately assigned to Washington's Bremerton Naval Shipyard, Military Police Unit. At year's end, he was honorably discharged. However, after eleven months as a civilian again, long enough to get married and total his car, Pat was recalled to active duty at Camp Pendleton, CA with assignment to a heavy artillery company which trained on five weapons. His weapon was the 105 Howitzer.

After training, Pat's went to the Naval Ordnance Test Station, China Lake, CA, in the Mohave desert. All branches of the military had personnel stationed at China Lake. His unit assisted with creating and testing counter measures specifically to intercept VT fuses. Sgt Pat lead gun crew in setup and firing procedures.

Even though Pat's time in service was shorter than many, the importance of military duty and training for many people can't be overlooked. Pat went on to work for aerospace and defense companies Honeywell, Northern Ordnance and others. His work helped produce units that went into the Apollo Spacecraft command module.

Pat, we honor you and thank you for your service.



His Gun Crew with the gun they assembled