

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joe Geeter, III

PERSON

Geeter, Joe, III

**Alternative Names:** Joe Geeter, III;

**Life Dates:** September 17, 1958-

**Place of Birth:** Chicago, Illinois, USA

**Residence:** Limerick, Pennsylvania

**Work:** King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

**Occupations:** Noncommissioned Officer

## Biographical Note

U.S. Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant Joseph H. Geeter was born in Chicago, Illinois. He earned his B.S. degree in management from Park College. In January 1976, Geeter enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and underwent training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and Basic Logistics School where he graduated as a class honor graduate. During his first enlistment, Geeter served in all three active Marine Divisions and earned meritorious promotion to Corporal in 1978. In 1981, Geeter was assigned to the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) in Beaufort, South Carolina where he served in logistics and participated in the NATO exercise Ocean Venture in 1982. He soon transferred to Okinawa, Japan and became the Assistant Group Logistics Chief and Platoon Sergeant, Headquarters and Service Company of the 3rd Force Service Support Group (FSSG). He was then reassigned in 1984 to MCAS, Beaufort and served as the Logistics Chief of Marine Air Control Squadron Five where he coordinated and participated in several field exercises. In 1991, Geeter was deployed to the Republic of the Philippines and served as the Operations Chief and Detachment Gunnery Sergeant for Combat Service Support Detachment-35 in support of MAGTF 4-90. He soon transferred to Okinawa and served as the Logistics Chief of the Tactical Exercise Control Group in the 3rd Surveillance Reconnaissance and Intelligence Group, III MEF. During this tour, Geeter participated in Cobra Gold '95 in the Kingdom of Thailand.

Geeter completed the Equal Opportunity Advisor's Course at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute and was promoted to Master Gunnery Sergeant in 1999. He then was assigned as the Equal Opportunity Advisor to the Air Station Commanding Officer aboard MCAS, Beaufort. After retiring in 2001, Geeter was

appointed as the Corporate Employee Relations Manager at the corporate offices of AmeriGas Propane.

Geeter served as the 16th National President of the Montford Point Marine Association from 2005 to 2009. During the 2010 National Convention, Geeter was inducted into the Montford Point Marine Association Hall-of-Fame. Geeter also served as the National Legislative Officer and the National Public Relations officer for the Montford Point Marine Association. He is also a lifetime member of the NAACP, the 1st & 3rd Marine Division Associations, and the American Legion.

In 1998, Geeter received a Special President's Award from the National President of the Montford Point Marine Association for his work with the Beaufort Chapter, and the James Calendar Award in 1999 for his continued efforts on a national level for the Montford Point Marine Association. He was honored with the prestigious NAACP Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award for his significant contributions to the Marine Corps in the area of equal opportunity and community involvement. Geeter's military honors include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

U.S. Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant Joseph H. Geeter was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 26, 2013.

## Related Entries

**Park University** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**B.S.**

**Holy Name of Mary School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Mendel Catholic Preparatory High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Morgan Park High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Diploma**

**United States Marine Corps** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 19760920 to 20010701]

**Mater Gunnery Sergeant**

**AmeriGas Propane** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 20010924 to ?]

**Corporate Human Resources Manager**

**Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.** [MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**St. Rose of Lima** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Board Member**

**Park University** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Trustee**