

## George Nelson

Born: 5/30/1942

Died:

Period of Service Viet Nam  
Navy

Sources: Himself

Entered service February, 1963.

Released January, 1967.

He was aboard the *USS Piedmont* which was a destroyer tender. The ship was designed to service the mechanical needs of other ships in the Navy. As such, it harbored eight different shops within its hold that were dedicated to fixing broken machines and systems on other ships. Usually those things were brought to the *Piedmont*, then fixed, and returned to the ship that had had the problem. Once in a while the mechanics had to go to the other ship and fix things that couldn't be brought to the *Piedmont* such as gun mount bearings. Nelson was in the war zone only a couple of days when one destroyer cut off the bow of another destroyer. His tour included Subic Bay in the Philippines, and the Tonkin Gulf. Nelson's duties were in the molding department of the ship's foundry.

Nelson grew up on Old Camp road near the Young brothers. His parents were Spencer Nelson, a commercial fisherman on the Island for 65 years, and Sylvia, his wife who taught school on the Island for many years.

After service, he worked in a foundry in Milwaukee for a while, and then returned to the Island where he has been a locksmith through the years. He is an avid reader.