

# MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



*Proudly Honors*  
**PATRIOT OF THE MONTH**  
**MAY 2025**



**JERRY KENNETH GULLEDGE, JR.**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**  
**APRIL 1987 – JUNE 2017**  
**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER (CWO-4)**

*Sponsored by:*  
**Jane Randolph Jefferson Chapter, NSDAR**



Chief Warrant Officer Gulledge was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was raised all over South Carolina and calls Taos, Missouri, home with his wife Erin Wiseman. Ken earned his GED (General Educational Development) in 1987 and his high school diploma from Mira Acosta Adult Education Center, Oceanside, California, in 1997. In 2004, he completed a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in History in 2005 from Columbia College of Missouri. Ken enlisted in the U.S. Navy in April 1987, graduating from boot camp at Recruit Training Command (RTC), Great Lakes, Illinois.

He chose to enlist in the Navy because his father served in Vietnam and his grandfather served in WWII, both served in the Navy. After boot camp, he completed Operation Specialist "A" school in Dam Neck, Virginia.

His first sea command was in October 1987 aboard the USS Moosbrugger (DD-980), Charleston South Carolina, where he participated in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, and Operation Sabor. Coming back from Operation Desert Storm, he saw all of the yellow ribbons and received a "thank you" from so many people that it made him feel proud to have served.

He re-enlisted in February 1991 and completed Landing Craft Air Cushion Navigator (LCAC) training, then reported to Assault Craft Unit Five (ACU-5), Camp Pendleton, California, as an LCAC Navigator where he completed 700 accident-free hours. After instructor school, Gulledge reported to Expansionary Warfare Training Group Pacific (EWTGPAC) in Coronado, California, as a full-motion LCAC simulator instructor. After re-enlisting in 1996, he reported to the Pre-

Commissioning Unit (PCU) Decatur (DDG-73) in Bath, Maine. Ken remained with USS Decatur as it was commissioned and homeported to San Diego, California, before conducting its maiden West Pacific deployment. Ken was selected to the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO) and was reassigned to USS Dubuque (LPD-8) in San Diego. He was on deployment in Darwin, Australia on September 11, 2001, and conducted the start of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After re-enlisting he reported to the Recruit Training Command (RTC), Great Lakes, Illinois, as a Recruit Division Commander (RDC) and earned his Master Training Specialist and Expert RDC Crown. He was then selected in 2004 to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer where he reported to the USS Stethem (DDG-63) in San Diego, CA. From there, he conducted the ship's homeport shift to Yokosuka, Japan, as the Assistant Operation Officer and Combat Information Center Officer conducting many single and multi-nation exercises in the Asian-Pacific Theater.

His second tour as a CWO led him to the USS Gettysburg (CG-64) in Mayport, Florida, as the Air Defense Officer conducting piracy operations in the Gulf of Oman. His next tour was at Commander Navy Cyber Forces in Little Creek, Virginia, as the Staff Joint Information Control Officer (JICO) and Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the shipboard Combat Information Center (CIC), U.S. Navy. He was then selected to Commander U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/Commander Sixth Fleet in Naples, Italy, as the JICO working with NATO and allied nations in all data link operations. His final tour has been at Commander Naval Forces South/Commander Fourth Fleet in Mayport, Florida, as the Deputy COP Director and Staff JICO.

CWO4 Gulledge's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, two gold stars in lieu of a third award, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, four gold stars in lieu of a fifth award.