

**Name:** Machinist Mate 2nd Class (E5) P1 **MATTHEW JOHN MITCHELL**

**Branch:** US Navy

**Years of Service:** May, 1958 to May 1962

**MOS:** Machinist Mate

**Units Served:**

Henry W. Tucker DDR 875 Pacific 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet

**Awards:**

National Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

**Major Battles/Campaigns:**

QUEMICY – MATSU



Matthew John Mitchell, unknown date

### **Machinist Mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class MATTHEW JOHN MITCHELL's Story...**

In May of 1958 Matthew John Mitchell graduated from Lincoln High School in Port Arthur, Texas. Two weeks later he joined the United States Navy. While in the Navy he attended a Class "A" Machinist Mate School where he attained the rank of E5 in less than three years.

After the Navy, he took and passed the Long Beach Naval Shipyard Apprentice Examination and became a Boilermaker Apprentice. While in the program he received an Associate of Arts degree. During his time at the shipyard he held many positions - Industrial Engineering Technician, Ship Scheduler, General Foreman Boilermaker and Supervisor Industrial Engineering Technician. In addition to his levels of advancements, he received a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in 1972 in Engineering Drawing and a

Masters of Arts in Education from California State University Long Beach. Also during that time, he was asked by the faculty of LBSU to become a member of Phi Delta Kappa International and has been a member for over 40 years. He retired from the shipyard on August 3, 1988.

In 1969, he met Albertine (“Tina”) Gray who invited him to Bryant Temple A.M.E. Church. He joined in June 1970 and married Tina in September of the same year. They were married over 24 years when she passed.

Matthew sang in the Temple choir for over 42 years and still is currently a member of the Men’s Chorus. He also holds the position of President Pro Tem of the Trustee Board and has served on that board for over 40 years. He is also Director of the Men’s Ministry and serves on the Finance and Stewardship Committee as well as working with all other committees that involve young men of the Church. He has been a member of Bryant Temple A.M.E. Church for over 44 years.

In 2006 Matthew J. Mitchell was selected as MAN OF THE YEAR for Bryant Temple A.M.E. Church. In 2014, he was selected as one of three men as Honorees of the Year by Bryant Temple A.M.E. Lay Organization for Distinguish Service and received a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Los Angeles at the same celebration event.

In 1989, he was hired by the Los Angeles Unified School District as a teacher. While working for LAUSD, he obtained three teaching credentials – Civil Service Preparation, Read and Mathematics. He retired in 1999 from LAUSD.

Matthew J. Mitchell is the proud father of two daughters and eight grandchildren and remains an active member and charter member of the American Legion Post 109.

