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Written on MARCH 26, 2015 AT 8:00 AM by SVANDERWERFF

I am Navy Medicine: Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Dustin Zimmer

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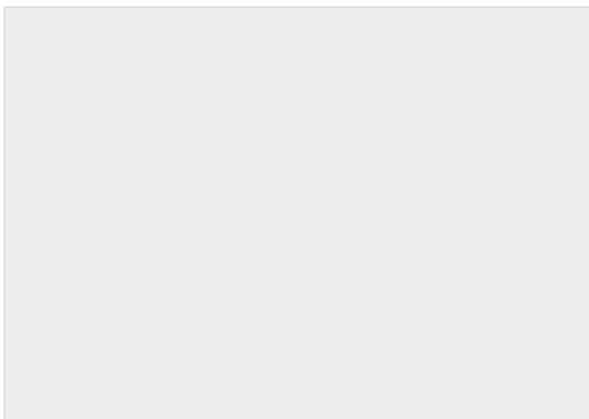
I currently serve as an advanced radiology technologist at Naval Hospital Bremerton.

By Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Dustin Zimmer

A few words from a hospital corpsman, reared as a Navy brat and a combat veteran with a Purple Heart.

Navy Medicine has taken me to eight different countries, three different combat zones, and two hospitals around the world. It has molded me into the man I am today.

I'm a native of Lemoore, California, and 2002 Lemoore High School grad. I currently serve as an advanced radiology technologist at Naval Hospital Bremerton.



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Navy Medicine is a global healthcare network of 63,000 Navy medical personnel around the world who provide high quality health care to more than one million eligible beneficiaries. Navy Medicine personnel deploy with Sailors and Marines worldwide, providing critical mission support aboard ship, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield.

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[January 2015 \(12\)](#)



I'm a native of Lemoore, California, and 2002 Lemoore High School grad.

I'm the eldest of two children and grew up a "Navy brat." During my sophomore year I made the decision to enlist into the Navy after graduating. It was definitely the best decision I have ever made. I have always wanted to help and take care of others.

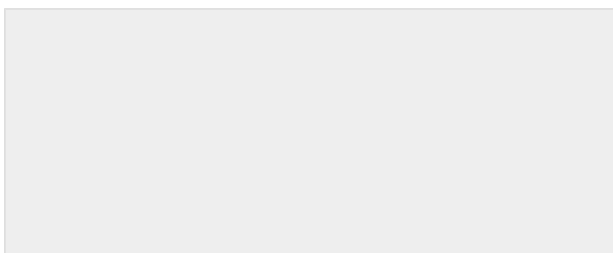
Shortly after graduating high school I left for boot camp at Recruit Training Center in Great lakes, Illinois. I then attended Hospital Corpsman "A" School with follow-on orders to Naval Hospital Lemoore. Before checking in to my new command I attended Field Medical Service School in Camp Pendleton, California.



Shortly after graduating high school I left for boot camp at Recruit Training Center in Great lakes, Illinois.

I've been the leading petty officer of the family practice clinic at Naval Hospital Lemoore, lead radiology technician at First Medical Battalion, radiology technologist and leading petty officer of the medical department aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS Cleveland (LPD-7) and radiology technologist with Fleet Surgical Team 9.

My most exciting assignment was as a medical augmentee to 1st Battalion 7th Marines . Deploying with them to Iraq in support of OIF 2. The best part of my career in Navy Medicine is deploying to fight alongside my brothers in arms.



December 2014 (17)

November 2014 (11)

October 2014 (15)

September 2014 (20)

August 2014 (14)

July 2014 (13)

June 2014 (8)

May 2014 (11)

April 2014 (9)

March 2014 (14)

February 2014 (7)

January 2014 (7)

December 2013 (7)

November 2013 (12)

October 2013 (7)

September 2013 (14)

August 2013 (13)

July 2013 (11)

June 2013 (22)

May 2013 (15)

April 2013 (14)

March 2013 (14)

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July 2012 (13)

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My most exciting assignment was as a medical augmentee to 1st Battalion 7th Marines . Deploying with them to Iraq in support of OIF 2.

My experience in Navy Medicine has been the adventure of a lifetime. It has allowed me to form friendships and bonds with others that will last a lifetime.

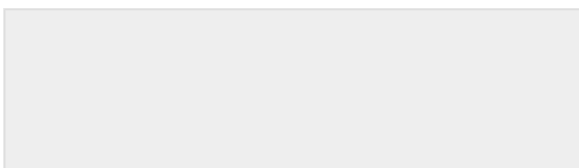
I'm fully committed to Navy Medicine's priorities of *Readiness, Value and Jointness*. With regards to *Readiness*: I've sacrificed countless man hours, limitless knowledge, and expertise in my field to help support the mission at all cost.



I'm fully committed to Navy Medicine's priorities of Readiness, Value and Jointness.

To me *Value*, isn't just about engaging in my duties. I'm committed to consistently devote 110 percent to giving patients and beneficiaries the care they deserve. I'm dedicated to furthering my knowledge in medicine and fine tuning my skills.

Jointness is working with others to effectively carryout the mission. From working alongside medical doctors in a field hospital in Iraq to caring for patients with nurses on an amphibious ship, each of us holds a specific role to provide the best quality of care. The positive experiences our patients received allow us to provide support to not only our service members, but to our families and veterans who serve and support all of us in turn.



May 2012 (22)

April 2012 (14)

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While riding on our main supply route the Humvee I was riding in suffered a devastating improvised explosive device attack.

As on every deployment, there's also sacrifice and added commitment not only to the SG's priorities, but also the Corpsmen Creed and Navy Core Values. Such was my experience when I deployed to Western Iraq near the Syrian border and I was wounded while on a military patrol in Jan. 2005.

I was with the 1st Battalion 7th Marines Alpha (Animal) Company serving in Al Qaim, Iraq. While riding on our main supply route the Humvee I was riding in suffered a devastating improvised explosive device attack. Crippled our vehicle that immediately caught fire. Three of us were wounded. I got shrapnel to my back and a facial laceration to my left eye. All were thankfully minor wounds.

My Name is Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Dustin Zimmer, I am Navy Medicine.

[← Next post](#)

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bkhuna

This made me smile. I'm a retired HM1 (FMF) for whom the 10 longest years of my life were the 4 years I spent in Lemoore (77-81).