

StoneBridge TRUCKING

EXPEDITING AND SMALL LOAD TRUCKING

StoneBridge Trucking Newsletter

Issue Number 4— Summer 2017

A STORY OF SERVICE

RETIRED CHIEF PETTY OFFICER

Donald Ziegenfus, US NAVY

“I can imagine no more rewarding career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction; ‘I served in the United States Navy.’”

*John F. Kennedy
35th U.S. President*

In This Issue

- As we celebrate the *Birth of a Nation*
- We Explain the *Genesis of Stonebridge Trucking*



A STORY OF SERVICE

In 1972, Donald "Ziggy" Ziegenfus contemplated a decision many were pondering in 1972: *Join the military, or wait to be drafted?* At that time, Ziggy had a brother-in-law in the US Navy, and was not drawn towards the Army. On a Spring afternoon, his mother drove him to a recruiting office and signed the paperwork herself, allowing him to enlist in the US Navy at the young age of 17. *"I was ready. On June 6th I graduated high school, and by June 27th, I was at boot camp in Great Lakes, IL."*



Early in his career, Ziggy spent time stateside in Little Creek, VA onboard the USS Atakapa (ATF-149) and at a Naval Sub Base in New London, CT. During his time at New London, he was ready for a career in the Navy. *"While in New London, I reenlisted for Navy Yeoman school, and new at that I point I would serve for 20 years."* After a short stint at Patuxent River, MD, Ziggy received orders to serve at what would turn out to be his favorite tour of his career: **Navy Controller Shipping Office - Bahrain**. Bahrain is a small island off the coast of Saudi Arabia, and Ziggy served at this Middle East location from 75' - 79'. *Bahrain is very different from many think of the Middle East, it is a very westernized country with no fanatical influence. I lived off base the entire time while stationed there.* Ziggy also enjoyed the fact that

there were only approximately 40 personnel serving on his base at the time, and thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Commanding Middle East Force.



As much as Ziggy enjoyed Bahrain, he had many more rewarding tours of service ahead of him. In 1980, he was stationed in London, England at the Fleet Ocean Surveillance Intelligence Center. *"It was a different experience, I never wore a uniform. I wore a suit and tie every day."* After London, Ziggy would spend **5 years** in Washington, DC performing in many different roles. Amongst them was working for the Chief of Naval Operations as an Assistant Flag Writer as well as working for the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Continued on next page

In 1988, Ziggy's career was winding down, but one of his most proudest moments was still in front of him. At this point in his career, Ziggy had returned to the Middle East and was serving in Saudi Arabia as part of the US Navy Detachment - US Military Training Mission. It was here that he assisted in training the Saudi Arabian Military on minesweepers and patrol boats. While serving in Saudi Arabia, Ziggy would achieve what many enlisted Sailors spend their careers working towards:

The promotion to Chief Petty Officer.

US Navy Chief Petty Officers are the absolute backbone of the US Navy. Ask any Junior Officer in the Navy who they depend on the most.



Ziggy enjoys Thanksgiving dinner in Saudi Arabia.

“The most important person that determines the success of the mission and the growth of our Sailors is the Chief Petty Officer”. After being promoted to Chief in 1990, Ziggy would eventually retire from the US Navy in 1992. ***“My 20 years of service went extremely fast. I served during the Cold War, Vietnam, and Gulf War. I learned what it meant to “take responsibility” and “be accountable”.***



Since 14 years old, I have had 5 jobs: Burger Chef, US Navy, Funeral Director, Hotel Night Audit, and Stonebridge Trucking. Its rare to spend a life working without moving from job-to-job, and I am proud of that.”

Given Ziggy's history of Honorable Service, he feels a connection to Stonebridge Trucking and its motto:

American Veteran Owned - American Veteran Driven.

“Part of our job is to be dedicated and responsible to our customers. This was no different than the dedication and responsibility I had to my Sailors and ship-mates while serving. I really enjoy working with the other operators at Stonebridge who also served and feeling connection on those who have served can appreciate.”

Ziggy always found time to enjoy traveling the world.

The Genesis of StoneBridge Trucking

Where did the word “Stonebridge” in Stonebridge Trucking come from? Last December, during the Stonebridge Christmas party, that question was

posed to the company’s founder, Butch Kennedy. During the 80’s, Butch lived outside of Greensburg, IN in which there was an old stone bridge he crossed every day to get home. One day, after receiving a lot of rain, the river the bridge crossed flooded and the bridge was highly damaged and half of it collapsed deeming it structurally unsafe to utilize. Butch’s father, Paul Kennedy, was well into his 80’s when he decided that day, he wanted to see his son. The authorities had yet to blockade the bridge to prevent utilization, when he remembers seeing his father after he had crossed the bridge.

Butch vividly recollects the conversation he had with his elderly father. ***“I came home, and to my surprise, my father was waiting for me on my porch with his socks and shoes off. He crossed another flooded bridge prior to crossing the old stone bridge in front of my house. I said Dad, why in the world did you cross that bridge, you could have been killed?”*** His Dad responded simply ***“I wanted to see my son”***. Shortly after this exchange, the county authorities arrived and assessed the damage and shut down the bridge entirely. Butch remembers thinking to himself ***“My father is the last person to crossed that old stone bridge”***.

In 1992 Butch Kennedy started Stonebridge Antiques and would later go on to found Stonebridge Trucking in 1999 when his son left for the military. ***“I no longer needed insurance for Shane once he joined the military, so I took a chance at working for myself, and gave the trucking industry a shot”***. Butch started the company with 2 trucks, and would only drive on the weekends when he had free time from his original job. ***“We registered my pickup truck for expedites and had a 1992 Ford F-350 with a 16ft box on the back. I was so extremely appreciative when Batesville Tool and Die gave us our first load”***.

Butch worked extremely hard to start the company, took a chance, and is proud of the results. ***“I am proud that it worked, and am proud of what it stands for. When I see the name StoneBridge, I always think back to my father on that day. He wanted to see his son, and nothing was going to stop him from doing that.”***



Stonebridge Transit crossing the renovated “Old Stone Bridge” outside of Greensburg, IN.



Butch Kennedy explaining where the name “Stonebridge” came from during the company Christmas party.

A STORY OF SERVICE

In April 2017, StoneBridge CEO Shane Kennedy, traveled to Bahrain to complete his Annual Training for the US Navy Reserve. Referenced early in the newsletter when outlining StoneBridge Operator Donald Ziegenfus' Navy Career, Bahrain is small island off the coast of Saudi Arabia in the Arabian Sea. Like his family, he was a bit reluctant prior to leaving. ***"I spent time in Iskenderun, Turkey at the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, but that was the only Middle Eastern country I had experienced to date. Yes, I was a little reluctant to fly 14 hours across the world for two weeks of training, but glad I did it."***



Bahrain is located off the coast of Saudi Arabia in the Arabian Sea.



LT Kennedy poses with Mr. Mario Gayanilo, who shared his office with Shane for 2 weeks.

As a Supply Officer, LT Shane Kennedy worked as an Assistant Air Logistics Officer for U.S. Naval Forces Central Command - CTF 53. While supporting the CTF 53 mission, he supported the FIFTH Fleet AOR, including USS MAKIN ISLAND Expeditionary Strike Group and USS GEORGE W. BUSH Carrier Strike Group.

Along with this, he oversaw a variety of tasks including Cargo and Mail management and worked directly for civilian personnel at the CTF 53 air passenger terminal. During this period, he received training to oversee the Air Force Air Mobility Command's palletizing procedures, which successfully

built cargo pallets for operational units throughout the CENTRAL COMMAND Area of Operations.

Bahrain is an extremely safe country where all military families stationed there actually live off base on the economy. While there, there was an F1 Race where Enrique Iglesias was in concert. Pictured above right, he was able to visit the Grand Mosque and received an English speaking tour. ***"The entire experience was beyond enlightening. At first, when driving from the airport, I was very concerned about my surroundings, but that quickly changed. Regardless of what I see on TV, I now know there are countries in the Middle East who, while sharing a predominately different religion, share the same values we do. They want freedom, peace, and to enjoy life. I was made aware of this while there. I was privileged to have received this experience while serving."***



Shane visited the Grand Mosque and received an English speaking tour.

StoneBridge **TRUCKING**

**STONEBRIDGE TRUCKING
IS Hiring!**

Part-time Van and Box Truck drivers

- Located between Batesville and Greensburg off SR 46.
- Must have clean driving record

Please visit our website at:
www.stonebridgetrucking.com

If interested, please email:
[ghadler@
stonebridgetrucking.com](mailto:ghadler@stonebridgetrucking.com)