

City of Newton



Commendation

First Sergeant James Cote

For service to America in the United States Marines Corps

James Cote is the third son of five brothers to join the Armed Forces. Jim enlisted in the U.S. Marines shortly after high school at the tail end of the Vietnam War in February of 1975 and later shipped to boot camp on St. Patrick's Day. After attending the ground combat aviation logistic support school, he was assigned to the 1st Marine Air Wing. While serving at Camp Pendelton, Jim was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class to support the overseas deployment movement operations center.

Jim's next duty assignment sent him to Okinawa, Japan where he was attached to Marine Observation Squadron 6 (VMO-6), the "Tomcats." His duties included supporting all logistics embarkment to Korea and the demobilization from Vietnam and Thailand. Jim was promoted to Corporal while serving at VMO-6 Futenma, Japan while maintaining and executing observation and reconnaissance missions in the Asia-Pacific region.

Jim then received orders to 2nd Marine Air Wing Camp Lejune where he was attached to the Command Adjutant staff under the command of legendary U.S. Marine Commandant General Wilson, a Four-Star General and a World War II Medal of Honor recipient. Jim chose to reenlist in the Marines and received orders to Quantico, VA. While in Quantico, Jim served on the staff for the Marines education development command program and was promoted to Sergeant.

After twelve years of active-duty service, Jim transferred to the Marine Reserves and took assignment to Headquarters Company 1/25 based in Massachusetts. Jim served as the casualty assistance officer that first responded to the nine Marines native to Massachusetts that were lost at the bombing in Beirut, Lebanon in 1983.

Jim retired from the Marines after twenty years of faithful service to his country and the U.S. Marines.

In recognition of his service to the United States, it is only fitting and proper that, on behalf of all the residents of Newton, I, Mayor Ruthanne Fuller, express my gratitude and pay tribute to James Cote.

November 11, 2024

*Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor, City of Newton*