

MC1(SW/AW/NAC) DANIEL R. MENNUTO

MC1(SW/AW/NAC) Daniel R. Mennuto was born in Ridgewood, New Jersey on March 13, 1979. He grew up in Hopatcong, New Jersey until the age of 14 when his family moved to Tempe, Arizona. He attended McClintock High School before transferring to an accelerated learning school, Gateway Community High School and graduating in August 1997. He entered the Navy's Delayed Entry Program in 1997 and reported for basic training at Recruit Training Command Great Lakes, Illinois in February 1998.

Upon graduation in April 1998, he attended Photographer's Mate "A" School at Defense Information School on Ft. George G. Meade Army Base, Maryland. He reported aboard the USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19) in Yokosuka, Japan in September of 1998. During his three-year tour aboard Blue Ridge he completed three Western Pacific (WESTPAC) deployments during which time he earned his Surface Warfare designator and provide countless imagery supporting Commander Seventh Fleet.

Petty Officer Mennuto attended Naval Aircrew Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla. in September 2001, before transferring to Patrol Squadron Forty-Seven based out of Kaneohe, Hawaii. There he earned his Aviation Warfare Specialist designator and Naval Aircrewman designator (NEC 8288). He participated in two six-month deployments playing an active role in the intelligence department by disseminating imagery to support ground forces during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. On August 7, 2004, he welcomed his son into the world, Joichiro Rocco Mennuto.

In December of 2004 he returned to the Defense Information School on Ft. George G. Meade Army Base to attend the Digital Multimedia Course where he graduated an honor graduate and earned a second NEC 8193. Upon completion in March 2005, he reported to Fleet Imaging Command Pacific Det. San Diego onboard Naval Air Station North Island, California which later became the Naval Public Affairs Center West. For his efforts as the Operations Leading Petty Officer, he earned the honor of being the Junior Sailor of the Year for 2005.

Following a successful tour there, in October of 2007, MC1 Mennuto transferred to Fleet Combat Camera Group West. In Combat Camera, Petty Officer Mennuto participated in two deployments with Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and a deployment to Iraq with Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force Arabian Peninsula in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While there, he met his future wife Mary.

Petty Officer Mennuto detached Combat Camera in June of 2009. He was one of four Sailors selected to attend the Advanced Photojournalism Course (NEC 8148) at Syracuse University, New York. After Syracuse, Petty Officer Mennuto married his wife Mary in Charleston, South Carolina while enroute to his assignment as the Lead Petty Officer of American Forces Network Naples. He will be continuing his Naval journey by going back to DINFOS to attend Broadcast Managers School (NEC 3251) and then on to Defense Media Activity, Detachment Bahrain as the Lead Petty Officer there.

MC1 Mennuto's awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, two Navy Achievement Medals, five Navy Good Conduct Medals, and numerous other unit and campaign awards.