

# *The Veterans History Project*

## **SPOTLIGHT: REP. JACK BERGMAN (MI-01)**



The one thing I always tell young men and women who are joining the military and preparing to go to boot camp is this: if you look up and the clock has stopped - that means you're stuck. Other than that, whatever you're going through in basic training will pass - this is all part of the journey. I graduated from college and six days later I found myself reporting to Naval Air Station Pensacola in Florida for flight training as a 2nd Lieutenant. I had never flown a small aircraft before, but from the moment I sat down in the cockpit and completed my first training flight, I was hooked. Since then, I have never stopped flying. The Marines took me, and my family, all over the world - from the OCS courses in Quantico to the jungles of Okinawa, in each phase of my Marine career I never felt out of place or found it difficult to adapt to the military lifestyle - always ready, always on the go, and always present. I credit my parents for instilling the value of service over self in me from a young age. Because of this, I always felt the guiding hand of God at my side throughout my journey. As I reflect on my time as a Marine, outside of becoming a father and grandfather, having the unique opportunity to lead Marines in the fight has always been the proudest moment in my life.

**BRANCH: U.S. MARINE CORPS**

**UNIT: MULTIPLE UNITS**

**RANK: THREE-STAR GENERAL**

**WAR: NUMEROUS COMBAT DEPLOYMENTS**

**YEARS OF SERVICE: 1969 - 2009**



**WATCH GENERAL BERGMAN'S FULL VHP INTERVIEW**

