



The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief. These included, but were not limited to, your desire for the Petitioner's record to reflect that he retired at the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO). The Board considered your contention that Petitioner retired from the service at the rank of MCPO and that Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) could not confirm this rank.

After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. Specifically, the Board determined your father's rank of CE1 (Construction Electrician First Class Petty Officer) is correct. As previously discussed, your father was permanently advanced to the rate/rank of CE1/E6 on 11 May 1980 and his record documents that he was never promoted above that rank. While the Board noted the letter you provided from the Navy SeaBee Foundation, that letter does not provide the basis for referring to your father as a Master Chief Petty Officer. Unfortunately, without additional evidence that refutes the documentation in your father's record that he retired in the rank of Petty Officer First Class, the Board is unable to substantiate a higher rank. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

Despite its finding that relief was not warranted in your case, this Board sympathizes with your loss and thanks you for your father's faithful and Honorable service to this country.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new matters, which will require you to complete and submit a new DD Form 149. New matters are those not previously presented to or considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

7/1/2025

