

My Father MMCM John F. Rutledge was aboard the Warrington when it struck the mines. For his actions he received the Admiral Claude Ricketts Award as well as the Bronze star with combat "v." The following is what appears on the award: 1973

Awarded to Master Chief Machinists Mate John F. Rutledge, Jr. USN For Inspirational Leadership while attached to and serving in the USS WARRINGTON(DD-843) From 23 June 1972 to 01 Oct. 1973. Master Chief Petty Officer Rutledge, serving as main Propulsion Assistant and as Senior Enlisted Advisor, participated either as a highly experienced safety observer or directly as supervisor of the working, in every significant repair, training exercise, or operational evolution which affected the engineering plant of his ship, thereby ensuring a previously unattained record for quality control and safety, while imparting invaluable guidance and motivating interest in the workings of his subordinates. Though such exceptional professionalism, devotion to duty, and insertional leadership, Master Chief Petty Officer Rutledge served as a keystone of the determined spirit and highest sense of performance excellence that guide the crew of the WARRINGTON in naval gunfire support of Republic of Vietnam forces, through the damage control, engineering casualty control, and repairs made necessary when that ship suffered two severe underwater explosions in hostile waters off Vietnam, and through the decommissioning and disestablishment of that proud warship. His performance as an engineer, as a counselor, as an advisor, and as a leader established new heights of attainment in personal courage, leadership, and professionalism.

Unfortunately My father passed away April 5, 2000. He was a great man and I would Love to see him included on the web page.

Thank you for your time and effort,

[Gail M. Rutledge](#)

[I'm sure Gail would like to hear from any shipmates with memories of Chief Rutledge at the email address linked above.]