

Congressional Veteran Commendation

On behalf of a grateful nation and the citizens of the Twenty-Sixth District of Texas, the 2020 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Mr. **Richard Cook**, of Double Oak, Texas for honorable service performed while a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and for continued beneficial service to the North Texas community. Mr. Cook's patriotism, loyalty, and dedication to the United States demonstrate the highest model of military service.

Mr. Cook enlisted in the Navy in 1950 after completing his training as a Fire Control Technician. In 1952 during the Korean War, he was assigned to the USS Missouri, the flagship of the Seventh Fleet under Admiral Joseph J. Clark. During Mr. Cook's service, the USS Missouri was part of several offensive maneuvers as a part of the famed Task Force 77. Based upon his performance, Cook was promoted to the highest enlisted rank of Master Chief.

After his service in Korea, Mr. Cook served aboard the USS Waxwing and USS Shea. In 1962, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant. During the Vietnam War, he was assigned to the USS America from 1964 to 1967. Lieutenant Cook ended his twenty-one years of active duty in 1971 and transferred to the Naval Reserves, serving for another ten years. Mr. Cook's service to our country is demonstrated through his military awards, including the UN Service Medal, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

In civilian life, Mr. Cook devoted his time and efforts to his community of Double Oak, Texas. In 1994, he was elected to the Double Oak City Council and was appointed as Mayor in 1995. He served as Mayor until 1999, having been re-elected twice. Mr. Cook has continued to serve with the city in multiple volunteer roles and is recognized as the Mayor Emeritus. For several years, he has also served on the Denton County Advisory Board and the Upper Trinity Regional Water Board. He is an active member in the DFW chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA) and currently serves on their board.

Richard Cook's actions are consistent with the finest traditions of the US Navy and reflect great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.



Signed under my hand this 10th of November 2020,


U.S. Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Representing Texas' 26th District