

**COMMAND MASTER CHIEF (SEAL)  
JASON N. GARDNER,  
NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE  
UNITED STATES NAVY**



Master Chief Jason Gardner was born in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The oldest son of a career Marine Corps Officer, he has two siblings. He graduated from Dana Hills High School in June of 1987 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in September of that year. During Recruit Training at Great Lakes, he passed the Basic Underwater Demolitions/SEAL (BUD/S) screening test and received orders to BUD/S after the completion of Gunners Mate "A" School. Master Chief classed up and graduated with BUD/S class 155 in 1988.

In February of 1989, he checked into SEAL Team FIVE and deployed to the Middle East in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, to Somalia in support of Operation RESTORE HOPE, and to the Pacific Command (PACOM) area of responsibility in support of special operations. During his tour, he qualified as a Naval Special Warfare (NSW) Sniper, Diving Supervisor, Group Paced Instructor 9502 NEC, and NSW Sniper Instructor.

In July of 1996 he reported to the Naval Special Warfare Center and worked in the Advanced Training Department. He was the course manager for the Diving Supervisor and Diving Maintenance courses and assisted with the Advanced Applied Explosives course.

In July of 2001, was assigned to the Naval Special Warfare Group ONE Training Detachment (TRADET) as the Leading Petty Officer of the Sniper Cell. He was the TRADET Sailor of the Year in 2003 and promoted to Chief Petty Officer the following year. In 2005, he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM as an augment to Squadron SEVEN. In July of that same year, he was assigned to SEAL Team THREE as the Foxtrot Platoon Leading Chief Petty Officer. He completed a successful deployment to PACOM and was promoted to Senior Chief in May of 2007. He attended the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy and transferred to SEAL Team SEVEN as the Three Troop Senior Enlisted Advisor. In March of 2009, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and stood up Task Unit Trident. He returned from deployment in October of 2009 and transferred to TRADET as the Land Warfare Troop Senior Enlisted Advisor. In May of 2010, he was promoted to Master Chief Petty Officer. In August of 2013, he checked on board SEAL Team FIVE as the Operations Master Chief and deployed in October of 2014 as the Central Command, Crisis Response Element Senior Enlisted Advisor. In May of 2015, he assumed the role of Command Master Chief of SEAL Team FIVE deploying in August to Iraq as the Special Operations Task Force West Senior Enlisted Leader. Currently he is the Command Master Chief of Naval Special Warfare Group One Training Detachment.

Master Chief Gardner's personal awards include the Silver Star, Bronze Star with Valor, Purple Heart, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal(5), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (5)) and various campaign medals. He is an avid outdoorsman and lives in the San Diego area with his wife and three children.