



**UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC. Groton Base**  
40 School Street; Groton CT 06340

---

**CHRIS QUIJADA DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Shipmate Thomas M. Russell III,**

In recognition of your leadership, participation, and numerous contributions as a member of the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS Inc (SUBVETS) organization and in particular SUBVETS Groton Base, the Executive Board of SUBVETS Groton Base has determined that you should be recognized for your outstanding efforts for the year 2009 by awarding you the **SUBVETS GROTON BASE CHRIS QUIJADA DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

Your actions and efforts over the previous year have contributed significantly to promoting the SUBVETS organization, and in particular have positively contributed to helping and enhancing Groton Base.

Your leadership, dedication accomplishments and CAN-DO attitude are in keeping with the highest standards of our creed. Your personal involvement and support have contributed to the growth of SUBVETS Groton Base, as well as many improvements in our organization.

**Specific Accomplishments/Contributions include:**

\*Invaluable support for all functions of SUBVETS Groton Base, specifically the performance of your duties as the Groton Base Chaplain. Your efforts at providing spiritual enhancement at all Groton Base events and your genuine interest in the well being of our members who are sick, or on the binnacle list have improved moral, and added to the success of Groton Base.

\*Respected leader of the Honors Detail which provides Honors Services at final calling hours and funerals for Groton Base Members departing on Eternal Patrol. You have significantly improved these Honors Services that bring comfort to departed Shipmates family and friends, while at the same time presenting SUBVETS Groton Base as a professional Veterans organization.

\*Dedicated support as a key member for additional programs such as the SUBSCHOOL Graduation team, the Memorial Committee, and the Kaps 4 Kids program have helped to add to the success of Groton Base. In addition your development of ceremonies utilizing a gun crew and saluting battery for Patriots Day and Pearl Harbor Day have increased public awareness of our heritage and the significance of these events and have helped improve the image of SUBVETS in the public eye.

\*Excellent Role Model to other members with your meeting attendance, and your personal participation and support in all of the organizations events. Your personal involvement and support of Groton Base is an inspiration to all.

We would like to thank you and recognize you here tonight 4 January 2010 in the presence of your fellow members. The SUBVETS Organization and SUBVETS Groton Base are both better because of your involvement in our Organization.

**Congratulations and Smooth Sailing,**

  
John J. Carcioppolo

Base Commander

USSVI Groton Base *First and Finest*

*"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States and it's Constitution."*