



NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES

Local Competitor Profile

Russell Shelton – Ready for the Experience!

In 1966 Russell Shelton enthusiastically joined the Marines only to find himself, among many others, being sent to Navy Corpsman school instead. Shelton shares that “they sent just about everybody who enlisted with me to corpsman school at that time.” He says that he and the others, instead of becoming upset at the change in plans, took it in stride. He ended up enjoying the position and served as a Corpsman in Vietnam for 13 months before sustaining a shrapnel wound to his right shoulder. He spent his remaining service as a Corpsman at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Virginia.



Shelton currently works at the Indianapolis VA Medical Center as a pipefitter and maintenance mechanic. Being a veteran and working in a facility that serves veterans is an honor for the former Corpsman and serves as an extension of his affable character. He began to work for the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1994, and has felt at home ever since. Each day, Shelton can be seen working throughout the hospital with a friendly smile and a jovial wave for all who pass him in the hallways. If he isn't at work, he is most likely still serving veterans as a member of the American Legion Post 145.

This will be Shelton's first appearance in the National Veterans Golden Age Games, and he is hard at work to make an impact, readying his irons and practicing his aim for both the golf and air rifle competitions. Although he enjoys shooting targets, golf is his favorite sport, and he plays whenever he can despite his right shoulder injury. He believes activity increases longevity and he plans to be playing golf for a long time to come! “I'm really looking forward to the challenge and the experience of the Games. Having the opportunity to meet and compete with other veterans from across the nation is exciting.”

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