



USS Olmstead (APA-188)



USS Logan (APA-196)

Richard Arthur Carson
Sergeant U.S. Marine Corps
17 September 1952 – 17 September 1955

Richard was born on 1 April 1933 in Jamaica, Queens County, Long Island, New York. While living with his family in Laurelton in Queens County, New York City, he attended grades 1-8 at P.S. 156 in Laurelton (1939 to 1948), and graduated from Andrew Jackson High School in Cambria Heights in Queens County on 15 January 1952. While in high school, he worked part time for H.C. Bohack Company in Queens, New York, as a Sales Clerk. Richard enlisted in the Marine Corps as a Private on 17 September 1952, and was sent to Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island, South Carolina, for recruit training. On 1 December 1952, he was assigned as an Infantry Rifleman to the 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force (FMF), at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and was deployed afloat to the Mediterranean Sea aboard Amphibious Attack Transport *USS Olmstead (APA-188)* until 10 May 1953. He was then assigned to the 1st Marine Division, FMF, in Korea, where he served from 1 June 1953 until 15 November 1953 in the “Punch Bowl,” a ridgeline overlooking a deep circular valley in the Korean mountains, just after the United Nations Forces had settled into a defensive line called the Main Line of Resistance — a series of defensive trenches and bunkers extending east to west across the Korean peninsula. Richard was then transferred to the 3rd Marine Division, FMF, in Japan, where he underwent a month of Winter Training in northern Japan and training in day and night combat patrols as an Infantry Fire Team leader. On 23 January 1954, he embarked on *USS Logan (APA-196)* at Nagoya, Japan, and steamed to Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, for amphibious training. After returning to Japan, Richard was reassigned Stateside to serve as Sergeant of Guard at Guard Detachment, Marine Barracks, Naval Base, Bremerton, Washington, where he was responsible for the training of 75 Marines from 15 September 1954 until 17 September 1955. At that time he was released from active duty there as a Sergeant, and transferred to the Marine Corps Reserves until 17 September 1960. Richard returned to Long Island where he initially lived in Old Bethpage and attended New York Community College for two years, earning an Associate’s Degree in 1957 in Business and Training. After his discharge, Richard returned to work at H.C. Bohack as a Store Manager until 1965; Arnold Bakers in Greenwich, Connecticut, as Area Sales Manager (1965 to 1975); and Best Foods in Fairfield, New Jersey, as Training Manager until he retired in 1994. Richard married **Lillian Helen Anderson** (born 11 October 1935) in Valley Stream, Long Island, on 15 April 1956. They had three children: **Linda Sue**, **Christopher Scott**, and **Mark Andrew**. They moved to Bartonsville, Pennsylvania, in 1989, and then to Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania, in 2001, where they settled. Richard has two hobbies he spends most of his spare time enjoying; walking up to five miles every other day, and operating his “O” gauge model electric trains on a permanent layout in his home. Richard’s father was **William Arthur Carson** (15 March 1890 – 12 June 1960), who served in the army during the Mexican Border War from 1914 to 1916, and **Harriet May Kolb** (12 March 1900 – 15 July 1974). Richard’s brother, **Harold Edward**, served in the Navy during World War II from 1942 to 1945.