

Sergeant Major Lara



Photo of Sergeant Major Lara: Sergeant Major, 1st Marine Logistics Group

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SgtMaj Lara enlisted in the Marine Corps and underwent recruit training in San Diego, Ca. Trained as an Anti-Tank Assault Man at Infantry Training School where he was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class.

Assigned to Weapons Company 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, Camp Pendleton, California. He served as an assistant gunner, gunner, and section leader in the Anti-Tank platoon. Meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal and Corporal during this tour Corporal Lara volunteered for the Fleet Assistant Program to Infantry Training School in 1982 where he assumed duties as a 0351 Troop Leader.

Enjoying his training role, in June, 1983 Cpl Lara decided to reenlist for duty as a Drill Instructor. Upon graduation from D.I. School he was assigned to Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, where he was promoted to Sergeant. In 1985, while assigned as a Senior Drill Instructor he was meritoriously promoted to Staff Sergeant.

Reassigned to 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, Camp Pendleton, California he successfully completed two overseas deployments with Weapon's Company, Dragons Platoon. In 1989 SSgt Lara was selected for duty as Assistant Marine Officer Instructor (AMOI) for the University of Wisconsin NROTC Program. While there he was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant and in August, 1992. He was then assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton California where he successfully served as Platoon Sergeant, and Company Gunnery Sergeant.

Upon completion of that tour in December, 1995 he was transferred to the Staff Non Commissioned Officer Academy, El Toro, California for duty as an instructor for the Advanced Course. He was selected to 1st Sergeant in 1996 and reassigned to the School of Infantry for duty as Company 1st Sergeant with Bravo Company, Alpha Company, Weapons Company, and finally Advanced Infantry Training Company. He was then reassigned to Security Battalion, Camp Pendleton, California in May, 1999 for duty as the Company First Sergeant of Brig Company.

Selected for promotion to Sergeant Major in February 2000, he assumed the duties as the Battalion Sergeant Major for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. During this tour he participated in conducting Combat Operations in Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) as the BLT Sergeant Major as a member of the 15th MEU. Returning in March 2002, Sergeant Major Lara was reassigned as the Battalion Sergeant Major of 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California, where he deployed to Kuwait for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return in July 2003, he was assigned as the Regimental Sergeant Major of 11th Marines Artillery Regiment. In September, 2004 Sergeant Major Lara assumed his current duties as the Inspector & Instructor SgtMaj for 23rd Marines.

Personal awards include the MSM, Navy and Marines Corps Commendation Medal (gold star in lieu of second award with combat distinguishing device) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with gold star.