

I am writing this in memory of a Coastie named Jimmy Hilliard. Jimmy and I were stationed on Upolu Point Loran Station in 1972-73. Jimmy was attacked by a local on the big Island of Hawaii. I believe Jimmy received less than adequate medical treatment and he died of his injuries. For that I am truly sorry. I have often thought how shocking it must have been to his family to receive the notice, that their son died in such a quite peaceful part of the world. But because of this, when I had my accident the hospital in Hilo called my Commanding Officer and told him, they did not want another Coastie to die under local medical care. So within 3 hours I was on a C-130 being airlifted to Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu. There I had a great surgeon and a hospital staff with a lot of experience because of all the wounded service men coming from Vietnam.

I have always felt that because of you Jimmy, I am alive today. I have always remembered you, but never took the time to honor you publicly. So I do now. So Jimmy this Memorial Day weekend I am writing of you, so others may know of you. - Daryl Rotman