

# Great People

Photo by John Whalen



**NAME:** Paul Willis

**JOB:** Construction Supervisor

**DEPARTMENT:** CVN 77 Program

**YEAR HIRED:** 1967

## DAILY JOB:

“My day starts before 7 a.m., making courtesy calls to the foremen to make sure they have the support services they need to do their jobs. I’m on the ship every day in the areas I’m responsible for, like the marine sanitation device pump rooms and the Oxygen and Nitrogen plants. No two days are alike. One day everything could be great, but the next day may be filled with problems. My job is to try and resolve any problems that come up and keep our work on schedule.”

## WHAT HE LIKES MOST ABOUT HIS JOB:

“I like dealing with people. I’m a people person. I like to form a team with the foremen, general foremen and mechanics, and we work together. I have an ‘open door’ policy to address any problems or concerns, and we work together to resolve them. One of my side jobs is to support television documentaries about the carrier program. I really enjoy coordinating those and seeing the expression

and pride our trades have when they’re interviewed on camera. They’re proud of what they do.”

## WORK EXPERIENCES THAT TAUGHT THE GREATEST LESSON:

“My experience is my career. Over the years, I’ve learned that being honest and sincere with people establishes good credit with them. By doing that, I’m able to develop good relationships with everyone I meet. It’s helped in my job and in my life. Being honest and caring about people will help you achieve anything professionally and personally.”

## VIEW ON COMPANY VALUES:

“I think they’re all important, and they’re all good ways to live your life. Quality and Customer Satisfaction are the two I relate most to at work. That’s what we do at Newport News: We build the best-quality product we can build for our customer.”