

Louise J. Nixon, Major (Retired US Army)

Major Nixon is a graduate of Pilgrim Psychiatric Center School of Nursing, Brentwood, NY. She also received her AAS degree from Suffolk County Community College, Selden, NY. She then later obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from The College of Mount St. Vincent, Riverdale, NY and a Master's Degree in Health Service's Administration from Central Michigan University, distant learning center located at Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn, NY.

As a new registered nurse, Major Nixon's first job was at U.S. Public Health Hospital, Staten Island, New York. Five years later the hospital was sold and renamed Bayley Seton Hospital. While employed there for 24 years, she held various nursing and administrative positions and continued to do so after merging with what was formerly known as St. Vincent's Medical Center, Staten Island, NY. Always striving for nursing excellence, Major Nixon became active in the inception of the Richmond County Nurses Association as Bayley Seton Hospital's first chapter president.

MAJ (Ret) embarked on her military career in 1987 and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant Army Nurse Corps assigned to the 307 General Hospital New York. She was reassigned to the 343rd Evac Hospital, which later became the 343rd Combat Support Hospital. Due to her extensive background in critical care nursing, she became the Assistant Officer in Charge of the Emergency Medical Treatment section. While there, she became involved in training enlisted soldiers as medics and LPN's.

In 1990 her first group of students were deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. 2nd Lieutenant Nixon continued her military education and became the unit's HIV/Infectious Disease Coordinator, Training Counsel Member, and the Officer in Charge of the Phlebotomy Training program at the Brooklyn VA Hospital.

Due to the deactivation of the 343rd Combat Support Hospital, 1st Lieutenant Nixon was transferred to the 344th Combat Support Hospital at Fort Totten, Queens, NY. Her assignment at Fort Totten's Medical Evaluation Facility entailed providing Army required physicals as well as training enlisted soldiers in all aspects of their Military Occupational Skills (MOS) related to the healthcare arena. She remained active in military medical training by joining the 8th Medical Brigade's 91W Sustainment/ Transition Training Program at Fort Dix, NJ as an instructor.

As a Captain, she assumed the position as Deputy Director of the 91W Refresher Course program until her deployment to Iraq in March 2005. She was promoted to the rank of Major before leaving Fort McCoy, Wisconsin for Iraq. While in Iraq, Major Nixon was assigned to the Intermediate Care Ward at Abu Ghraib Prison Hospital and functioned in the capacity as the Assistant Officer in Charge. She took on additional duties such as developing protocols for an Outpatient Surgical Clinic, clinical safety officer and designed, implemented and analyzed wound care management. Major Nixon remained at Abu Ghraib for seven months and later was transferred to Camp Bucca in southern Iraq for five months as a senior officer in a supervisory capacity.

In 2009 she accepted the challenge as the Officer in Charge of clinical operations for the Army's Battlefield Trauma Readiness Program located at Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, NY. While there she assisted in training the 452nd Combat Support Hospital for their deployment to Afghanistan. Major Nixon retired from the United States Army Reserve in April 2011.

Military Awards: Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (4th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon.

Recently retired, Major Nixon taught at the College of Staten Island's Workforce Development Program for Certified Nursing Assistants.

She is a member of Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, Inc. Lambda Chapter, Staten Island, NY. On the local level of the sorority, where she has held positions as Epistoleus, Recording/Corresponding Grammateus and as Chapter president (twice). She has served on its National Executive Board in the position as Public Relations Chair, Recording/Corresponding Grammateus and currently as the Northeastern Regional Director. Major Nixon is a proud recipient of the Distinguished Service Key which is the highest award that exemplifies the ideals of Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, Inc.

Community Service & Awards:

- National Association of Black Military Women. Charter member of the New York City Chapter. Currently serve as the Northeast Regional Director and National Executive Board member
- Dress for Success, Inc.
- SI Branch NAACP past 3rd Vice President, Secretary, and Humanitarian Awards Committee member and Chair. Recipient of the Excellence in Leadership Award
- Past President, Richmond County Nurse's Association, Bayley Seton Hospital Chapter
- Past President, SI Council of Health Care Providers
- Mount Loretto Community Advisory Board (Former member)
- Reserve Officers Association, Brooklyn Chapter, Executive Board Member
- AMSUS, The Society of Federal Health Professionals
- National Council of Negro Women North Shore Staten Island Section 9th Annual Harambee Humanitarian Award
- National Council of Negro Women North Shore Staten Island Unsung Heroes Award
- 2nd Chance International Woman of Distinction Award

Major Nixon is a member of St. Matthew AME Church, Orange, NJ

As a healthcare professional and Army veteran with many years of comprehensive nursing, management and operations experience, Major (Ret.) Louise Nixon can honestly say she has practiced and enjoyed the Art of Nursing.

"Always take risks and be the change you want to see."