



## **Donna P. Davis**

CAPT Donna P. Davis, a native of New York City, attended The Bronx High School of Science and graduated from Cornell University with a BA in Anatomy & Physiology. She attended Meharry Medical College with awards including the Bache Scholarship, the Leopold Schepp Foundation Award, the CV Mosby Award in Medicine, and the American Association Medical College Fellowship in 1972 (where she studied abroad in Haifa, Israel). In 1973, Dr. Davis graduated as a physician and entered her internship at Columbia Presbyterian/Harlem Hospital Center. In April, 1975 she decided to join the Navy. At her commissioning service she was amazed to learn she was the first African American Medical Officer in US history, and suddenly was featured on the national news. She was assigned to Oakland Naval Hospital and met her future husband, CDR James Hammel, while there.

She returned to civilian life afterwards, but later became a Naval reservist. She was recalled to Active Duty for two Persian Gulf conflicts and ended her nearly 30-year military service as a Navy Captain. She was Board certified in Family Medicine and worked many years for CIGNA until going into private practice as a Locum Tenens physician. She and her husband of 43 years have two sons, Grant & Damien, and have enjoyed sports and travel.

