

## Military Nicknames and Terms

I work for veterans who are from all branches of the military and have served during several eras.

They have similar nicknames and military terms that they use. Here is a list with definitions.

### Nicknames

**Air-dale:** pilot or aircrew.

**Band-Aid:** A Vietnam-era term for a medic.

**Bubble head:** Crew member on a submarine, Submariner

**Gator:** Navy 'Navigator' Senior officer in charge of navigation on a navy ship.

**Ground-pounder:** Opposite of 'air-dales' for Army or Marines.

**Gunny: Gunnery:** Sergeant in the Marines.

**Load Toad:** Those who load ordinance onto the aircraft.

**Padre:** Chaplain. **Madre:** Female chaplain.

**Puddle Pirate:** Member of the Coast Guard.

**Rotor head:** Slang for a helicopter pilot.

**Shellback:** A ceremony for sailors who cross the Equator for the first time.

### Terms & Slang

**At ease:** Relax

**Auto pilot:** Without commander

**Bag Drag:** To inspect gear/personal bags for unauthorized equipment.

**Big Voice:** Term used to describe the loudspeaker on a military base.

**Bingo fuel:** A pre-briefed amount of fuel for an aircraft that would allow a safe return.

**Bones:** Any military doctor, especially in the Navy. **Doc** A medic.

**Bought the farm:** fatal crash

**Bug Juice:** Powdered drink

**Cherry:** New recruit still in Basic Training, or first duty assignment.

**Chest Candy:** Ribbons or medals that are worn.

