

USS FRANK E. EVANS DD

WWII KOREA VIETNAM



**FOOTLOCKER TALK NEWSLETTER
NUMBER 80 — FIRST QUARTER 2021**

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2021

Wisconsin Memorial Stone 31 May

⇒ Neillsville, Wisconsin (Terry Vejr)

Memorial Ceremonies 3 June

⇒ Herndon, Virginia (Terry Vejr)

⇒ Gurnee, Illinois (Jeff Covert)

⇒ Independence, Missouri (Joe Mulitsch)

⇒ Long Beach, California (Pete Peters)

Reunion October 27–30

⇒ San Antonio, Texas (Donna Kraus)

IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts are ever with you
Though you have passed away.
And those who loved you dearly
Are thinking of you today.

SHIPMATES

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
RD 2 Ronald Kostritza	West Bend, WI	18 July 2020
TEL3 Clyde Chandler	Point Blank, TX	7 July 2020
SN1 Richard Crinigan	Cedar Rapids, IA	7 Feb. 7 2016

RELATIVES OF THE LOST

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Bill Sage	Crofton, Nebraska	12 Jan. 2021

MEMBER RELATIVES

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Barbara Ranking	Loveland, CO	25 Nov. 2020
Harvey Holsopple	Johnstown, PA	25 Nov. 2020



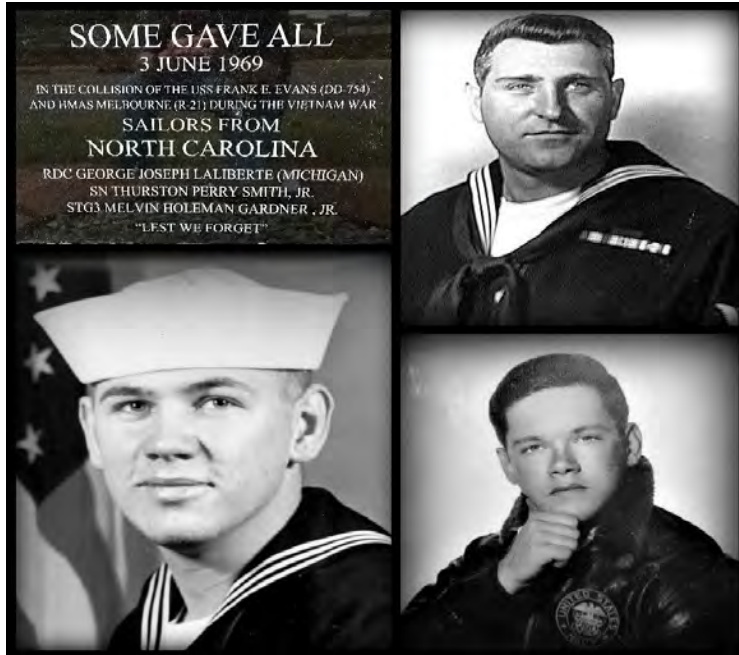
Barbara Ann Rankin of Loveland, Colorado was born October 12, 1934 and went home to be with the Lord on November 24, 2020. Barbara and her husband Calvin Rankin made their home in Loveland for 43 years. Barbara was born in Los Angeles, California and was raised by her grandmother Bernice Richardson. At the age of 16 she met the love of her life - Cal Rankin - a Sailor in the U.S. Navy onboard USS Frank E. Evans. After a whirlwind courtship and before he shipped out for Korea, he sent her to his parents home in Kansas. Immediately upon his return they eloped to Huntsville, Arkansas in November of 1952 . They were married 52 years and 1 day.

Barbara was a proud Mother to 5 children; Sharon (Doug) Shirack, Jim (Shannon) Rankin, Vicki (Wes) Lynch and Alan (Beth) Rankin. A daughter Leanna preceded her in death in 1962 and a granddaughter Jennifer Lynch in 1999.

When she retired she and Cal spent their free time traveling. After Cal's death in 2004 she continued to travel. Barbara enjoyed attending Cal's Navy Reunions all over the U.S. and Australia and continued to attend them even after his passing. Barbara made a home filled with love and laughter and wonderful memories.

SANDHILLS STATE VETERANS CEMETERY, NORTH CAROLINA

By Terry Vejr



Wednesday 11 November 2020 - John Coffey, Rolf Buchner, Joe Clark, & Terry Vejr held a memorial stone dedication ceremony at Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery. Others present include, shipmates Les Albert, Ben Alcoser, (Wife Reva) & Dan Krizan, (Wife Linda.) Relative of the lost Ken Clute, (Wife Virginia) & family. Family Members of: *STG3 MELVIN HOLLMAN*

GARDNER: Brother Wallace, Cousins Alex Fields & wife, and Shirley Cooper & husband. Family Members of: *RDC GEORGE JOSEPH LALIBERTE*: Sons Gerald, Wife Carolyn & Richard, Wife Kay. Family Members of: *SN THURSTON PERRY SMITH*: Sister Betsy & Brother-in-law TJ McCorkle, Widow JoAnn Turner Smith & Daughter Brook



L to R

Wallace Gardner, brother of Melvin Gardner. JoAnn Turner Smith, (red scarf) widow of Thurston Smith. Next to JoAnn under the black umbrella is Betsy McCorkle, Thurston Smith's sister. Shirley Cooper, Melvin's cousin. Under the red, white and blue umbrella is Melvin's cousin Alex Fields. Gerald Laliberte, Richard Laliberte, sons of George Laliberte.

SANDHILLS STATE VETERANS CEMETERY TRIP CONTINUED



The car to the left above belongs to Jerry and Jenipher Smith, Danny Victor Clute's niece.... Above is Jenipher's tattoo in honor of her uncle, note the latitude and Longitude. On my return trip to Florida I stopped in Bowman, SC to visit Henry Dennis West's Memorial Stone. I had been told the town had also built an Eternal Flame War Memorial, which included Henry Dennis West's and our ships name. I was excited to find it.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome and warm wishes to all new members. Our success in part, is due to our members involvement in the Association. We ask new members to consider volunteering for some task or activity within the organization. Know any one interested in joining...go to our website ussfee.org and click on the tab titled join association or contact the association Secretary Rich Alverdes at richalverdessr@gmail.com or call him at (425) 367-9345

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	CITY/STATE
Ben Chilcutt	Relative of the Lost	Lee's Summit, MO
Scott Chilcutt	Relative of the Lost	Blue Springs, MO
Michael Chilcutt	Relative of the Lost	Independence, MO
Jeremiah Chilcutt	Relative of the Lost	Liberty, MO
Sondra Dutton	Daughter of Loretta Francis	Justin, TX
Dana Francis	Daughter of Del Francis	Lakewood, CO
Gary Haulman	Nephew of Del Francis	Frederick, CO
Jack Wimsett	Shipmate (Survivor)	Garfield Heights, OH
Cindy Brown	Friend of Jim Culverhouse	Jackson, MI
Jim Calhoun	Friend of Larry Webb	North Platte, NE

SURVIVOR ATTENDS NORTH CAROLINA STONE DEDICATION

Dan Krizan, Ed Pickens & Terry Vejr

11 November 2020—Survivor Dan Krizan attended the NC stone dedication and he brought his EVANS scrapbook with him. Years ago, Dan met a sailor who was aboard USS MATCO ATF 86 on 10 October 1969 the



day she towed EVANS back half out for target practice.

USS MATCO was a Navajo class fleet tug constructed for the US Navy during WWII. Her job was to aid other ships, usually by towing them on the high seas; in combat or post combat areas; plus "other duties" as assigned.



Hulk of USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754 after several rounds were Fired from three de-royers. Taken from the deck of USS MATACO ATF



Ed Pickens was a MATACO crew member from June to December 1969. Ed came aboard at San Diego. MATACO departed for WESTPAC in September stopping at Pearl Harbor, Bikini Atoll, Guam, Subic Bay, Japan and Vietnam.

Earlier in June of 1969, there was an incident in the South China Sea involving the collision of the Australian aircraft carrier MELBOURNE, with the US destroyer USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754. During one of MATACO's stops in Subic Bay, MATACO was given the task of towing the remaining section of EVANS out to sea to be used as a target for three combat destroyers. MATACO remained on scene as the shoot was filmed by NAVY personnel. As documented by photos, EVANS was hit several times by fire but did not sink. MATACO was given the opportunity to fire her 3" gun at EVANS and made 3 direct hits. EVANS began to list and the 3 destroyers opened fire to finish the job of sinking EVANS.

The fateful coup de grace was delivered to USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754 off the Philippine coast one tropical day, 10 October 1969, by USS COCHRANE DDG 21, USS WILTSIE DD 716, and USS JOHN R. CRAIG DD 885 after being towed to sea by USS MATACO AFT 86. In all, 555 rounds of 5"/38, 54 rounds of 3"/50 and 1 Mark 44 torpedo were expended.

RIP USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD 754)

Forward - 8 deg 59 min 2 sec N lat. 110 deg 47 min 7 sec E long
 Aft Section-14 deg 34 min N lat. - 119 deg 15 min 5 sec E long

This year we will hold 4 Memorial Ceremonies on June 3 for our Lost 74. See the following page for the information on the Illinois ceremony. The following locations will be holding a Memorial Ceremony (rain or shine) on 3 June 2021. Make your plans to attend by letting the contact person know your are hoping to attend.

<u>Long Beach, CA</u>	<u>Independence MO</u>	<u>Washington DC Area</u>
Place: Shoreline Park 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, AC 90802	Place: Mt Washington Cemet. 614 S Brookside Ave Independence, MO 64053	Place: Chestnut Grove 831 Dranesville Rd Herndon, VA 20170
Time: 10:AM	Time: 10 AM	Time: 10 AM
Contact: Pete Peters	Contact: Joe Mulitsch	Contact: Terry Vejr
Email:rep1029@aol.com	Email andtewj@gmail.com	Email:trvej@gmail.com
Cell310-542-3609	Cell: 443-905-1434	Cell: 971-645-8655

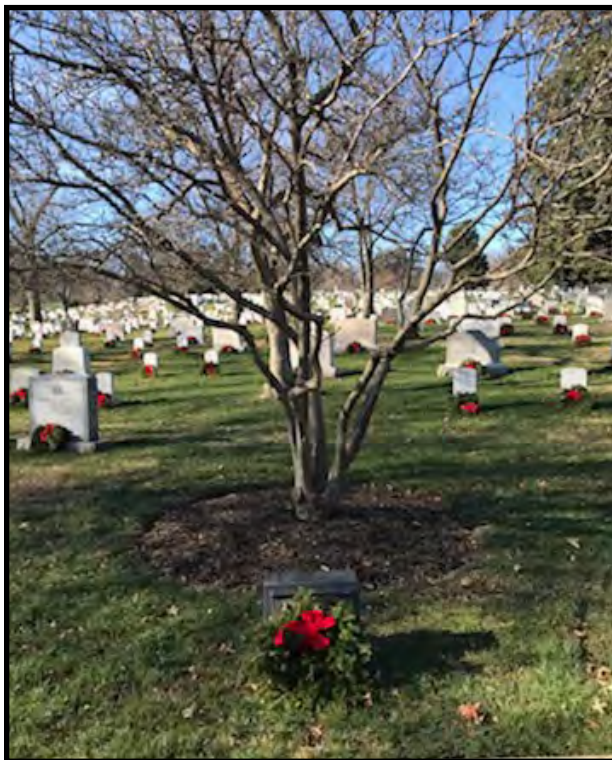
TRIBUTES TO OUR FALLEN

Jeffery Covert and granddaughter Emily participated in the Wreaths Across America Ceremony on 19 December 2020 by placing a wreath at the USS Frank E. Evans Memorial in Gurnee, Illinois.

Jeff will conduct a 3 June Memorial Ceremony this year at this site.

**Place: Warren Cemetery
1475 North Cemetery Rd,
Gurnee, IL 60031**

**Time: 10:AM
Contact: Jeff Covert
Email: jw. Covert@att.net
Cell: 847-989-3922**



**USS Frank E. Evans DD
754 Memorial & Tree
at
Arlington Cemetery
December 2020
Photograph taken by
Eddie Green
Son-in-Law
of
Survivor Rolf A.
Buchner**

USS KIDD DDG 100 UPDATE

By Rich Alverdes

USS KIDD (DDG 100) is still in her home port, but because of Covid-19 Naval Station Everett has put tight restrictions on all who come and go. The based is closed to all but, active duty and civilian workers.

I have had several on going email conversations with the XO, Commander Noland and we would like to get together to swap 'Sea Stories' but that is on hold for now. Commander Noland will take command as Captain of the KIDD in early May and hopefully I will be allowed on board for the Change of Command ceremony. KIDD, in the mean time, is doing ongoing repairs and updates, as usual and with the ongoing shift of people, they spend much time in training both dock side and at sea.

Kidd, along with an embarked detachment from the "Wolf Pack" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 75 (HSM 75), deployed in April 2020 to conduct U.S. Southern Command and Joint Interagency Task Force South's enhanced counter narcotics operations missions in the Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific Ocean. During their most recent deployment, Kidd Sailors aided embarked U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) in the recovery of 805 kilograms of suspected cocaine worth over an estimated wholesale value of \$30 million. In addition, the crew rendered assistance to a fishing vessel in distress, towing the vessel over 200 nautical miles to safety, and participated in a passing exercise (PASSEX) with the El Salvadoran Navy.

"This deployment has been extremely challenging, but Kidd set the standard for operational mission execution and readiness", said Cmdr. Nathan Wemett, Kidd's commanding officer. I thank all the Sailors and U.S. Coast Guardsmen who overcame many obstacles in order to carry out our mission." With the deployment conducted in a COVID-19 environment, a primary focus of ship's leadership was crew safety. "I could not be more impressed with my team of Sailors, chief petty officers and officers for their accomplishments," said Cmdr. Matt Noland, Kidd's executive officer. "They were able to safely execute missions vital to national security and I am thankful for all of the Kidd families who maintained the home front during a challenge none of us anticipated prior to our deployment."

"Each ship that has operated in the U.S. 4th Fleet AOR has represented the best our Navy has to offer and I am proud of their resiliency, professionalism and more importantly their sense of service and duty, said Capt. Tom Myers, commodore, Destroyer Squadron 43. "Because of them, as a force, we have been able to advance our goals significantly as relates to counter narcotics operations and other maritime missions."

THANKSGIVING ONBOARD IS ALWAYS ONE OF THE BEST MEALS.

Kidd partnered with other U.S. Navy warships, as well as numerous U.S. agencies from the Departments of Defense, Justice and Homeland Security, in the effort to combat transnational organized crime. Last year the KIDD was underway off the California coast. This year they were home, but COVID makes it a little different than usual. That didn't stop the Culinary Specialists from putting on a fantastic spread. Captain, XO, and CMC serve Thanksgiving dinner to the crew.



FLAG TRIVIA

Question: Who raised the first American flag over a US ship?!

ANSWER: Lt. John Paul Jones.

Question: What Association shipmate and member served on USS John Paul Jones DDG 32?

Answer: See the next newsletter

On 3 December 1775, Lt. John Paul Jones, having just received his first commission from the Continental Congress, hoisted the Grand Union Flag in Philadelphia Harbor aboard USS Alfred. It was the first time the American flag was raised over an American Naval ship and marked the beginning of a number of traditions related to the raising of the flag the Navy observes to this day. "No ship of the Navy shall dip the national ensign unless in return for such compliment." US Navy Regulations, Chapter 12, section 1263. The Naval Ceremonies, Customs, and Traditions states that historically, lowering any flag meant submission.

This is why no US Navy warship dips its colors first, because warships from any nation commonly do not dip their colors but maintain an "alert" status, unless the traditional salute is rendered first commonly from a small craft, yacht or merchant ship. Instead, honor is accorded to passing ships with passing honors.

Passing honors are ordered by ships and boats when ships pass or are passed close aboard, 600 yards. Such honors are exchanged between ships of the US Navy, between ships of the Navy and the Coast Guard, and between US and most foreign Navy ships passing close aboard. "Attention" is sounded, and the hand salute is rendered by all persons in view on deck. "Each person in the Naval service, upon coming on board a ship of the Navy, shall salute the national ensign." US Navy Regulations, Chapter 12, section 1207.

The flag is displayed on every ship at the place of honor, close to the stern, which is the most visible place of honor on a ship.

Every Sailor salutes the flag first before coming aboard then salutes the officer of the Deck (OOD). When going ashore, Sailors salute the flag last after saluting the OOD. Once the flag is within six paces of a Sailor, the salute is held until six paces after. According to the book Naval Ceremonies, Customs, and Traditions, the salute dates back to the days when it was customary for knights to lift their visors as a gesture of respect to one who held higher rank.

Today, the personal salute is a significant military gesture. It is the act of military and Sailors looking into the eyes of another companion in arms, and by a proper gesture of the hand, paying due respect to the uniform of another defender of this great country.

LAST STATE MEMORIAL STONE DEDICATION

Our final Memorial Stone dedication will take place on this upcoming Memorial Day May 31, 2021 at the Highground Veterans Park in Neillsville, Wisconsin. Each year the Highground holds a memorial ceremony, this year, they will include Our stone dedication with their program.

Place: The Highground Veterans Memorial Park
7031 Ridge Rd, Neillsville, WI 54456.

Time: To Be Determined

Contact: Terry Vejr Email: trvejr@gmail.com Cell310-542-3609

CHAPLIN'S WORDS OF INSPIRATION

BY AL COLLINS

believe; "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,"
2 Timothy 3:16 NIV

and; "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes:"
Romans 1:16 NIV

know; It is my duty and responsibility to help the membership grow in their relationship to God, in relationships with one another and foster true love.

how; By sharing the God-breathed Word of the daily Bible verse by text. FYI: I currently share the daily Bible verse with neighbors, family, and VFW Veterans. It is often varied translations such as KJV, NIV, AMP, MSG, etc. It is also followed by a restriction; "Please restrict chatter on the Daily Bible Verse. Because, the cell pinging during work hours is disruptive to workers. Direct any comments directly to my cell phone at 310 251-9490. Thank you."

start; By calling or sending me a request and I will add you to the sharing of the Daily Bible Verse. Many have already given me permission to add them to our daily verse sharing.

Reunion 2021 – San Antonio, Texas

October 27–30

Well... plans are again underway for this years reunion. As of this posting the State of Texas has announced the immediate lifting of COVID 19 restrictions and it appears 100 percent business openings are on the horizon. We have been in contact with the Menger hotel and they have indicated full operations should be well in place when our reunion takes place, they are currently at 75 percent.

We will be sending out the reunion package in June 2021 with all the details. The Museum of the Pacific (Nimitz museum) has confirmed our memorial ceremony and plaque dedication for Friday October 29. The reunion is a must see and we have allocated several hours for touring the museum. But for those who have visited the museum, the German town of Fredericksburg is within walking distance of the museum. Lots of shops and restaurants in the town of Fredericksburg. Looking forward to seeing everyone again, it has been a long time!!!



**USS FRANK E EVANS ASSOCIATION
2286 Morgan RD.
Carlsbad, CA 92008**

**CHECK OUT
OUR WEBSITE
USSFEE.ORG**

**OUR NEXT
REUNION IS IN
SAN ANTONIO
TEXAS, OCT.
27—30, 2021**

