

USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754

WWII KOREA VIETNAM



FOOTLOCKER TALK NEWSLETTER NUMBER 85 — SECOND QUARTER 2022

Shipmates, Family & Friends;

It is hard to believe but summer is almost here and with it comes the 3 June Memorials. Please turn to page 9 and look for a memorial ceremony close to you. Please be courteous and make contact with the organizer so they know how many will be in attendance.

Also in June of 2022 you should receive your registration package for this years reunion; it is October 18-22,2022 in Portland, Maine. Events are starting to shape up. We are purposely allowing for more free time during this reunion. Pray that the turning of the leaves is not too soon or too late. We were told the leaves didn't start changing until late October in 2021.

John Coffey is still searching for someone to assist him in preforming a variety of news releases. The job is primarily sending out notices to outside news medias. Contact John at johnjudyc@gmail.com if you are interested in helping. Even though the pay is way below minimum wage, you do benefit by getting a scoop on the news prior to anyone!

IN MEMORIAM

Turn Again to Life – by Mary Lee Hall

If I should die and leave you here a while, be not like others sore undone, who keep long vigils by the silent dust, and weep. For my sake – turn again to life and smile, nerving thy heart and trembling hand to do something to comfort other hearts than thine. Complete those dear unfinished tasks of mine and I, perchance may therein comfort you.

SHIPMATES

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
William Hendershot III	Delaware, OH	Feb. 1, 2022
Thurman Hollingshead	Nederland, TX	Jan. 26, 2022
Edgar Holsopple	Johnstown, PA	Mar. 13, 2022
Charles Paden	Stewartsville, MO	Aug. 27, 2021
John Patterson Jr.	Dayton, OH	Mar. 7, 2022

RELATIVES OF THE LOST

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Ophelia King	Thomason, GA	Oct. 14, 2021

MEMBER RELATIVES

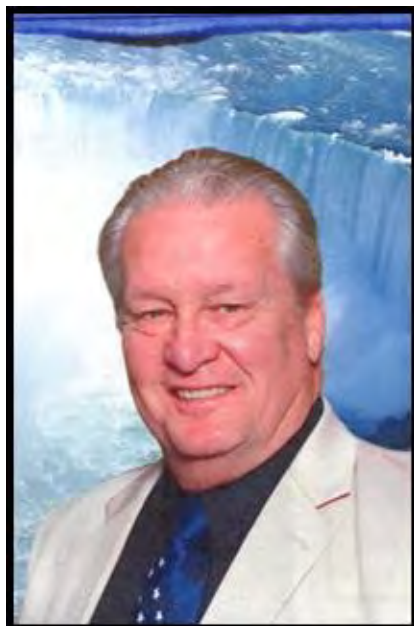
NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Sandra Rodman	Licking, MO	Feb. 15, 2022

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

NAME	CITY/STATE
Debra Donse Daughter of Flo Hoog	Ste. Genevieve, MO
Mitch Mitchel Friend of Pete Peters	Bullhead City, AZ
Julie Rayfield Daughter of Flo Hoog	Lonedell, MO

OBITUARIES

FTG2 Edgar "Ed" Holsopple 1964-67



Our Shipmate, Association and Board of Directors Member, Edgar "Ed" Holsopple, age 76 passed away quietly at his home in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on 13 March 2022 after a long fought with cancer.

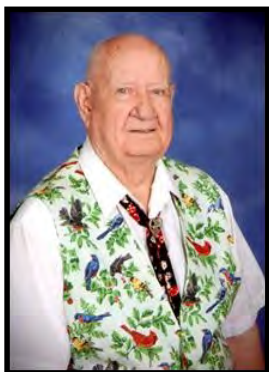
Ed was born in Johnstown, PA 27 June 1945 at Conemaugh Memorial Hospital to N. James and Nancy Holsopple. He grew up in a local rural area, spent the summer of 1957 and 1960 in the Phoenix, Arizona region. He returned to the Johnstown, Pennsylvania area where he remained until graduating from Windber Area High School. In June 1963 he enlisted in the United States Navy. After basic training, he attended FT "A" School in Great Lakes, Il. He then had a brief leave period before reporting for duty onboard USS Frank E. Evans on 9 October 1964. At that time the ship was in dry dock undergoing repairs. Upon completion of the yard period, the ship underwent refresher training where he remembers getting sea sick on a short cruise around Santa Catalina Island. He spent the next 2 ½ years doing 2 West Pac cruises which was primarily providing support for the Vietnam War. In December 1966 he was transferred to USS George K. Makenzie DD 836. Again, he found himself on another far east cruise supporting the Vietnam War. Upon return from overseas he completed his 4 years of service and was separated from active duty.

Ed was employed in the retail management and warehousing business in 1968 for 3 years. Following that he spent the next 32 years in the energy industry, employed in the maintenance departments at a variety of underground coal mine faculties, including North American Coal Co, Pennsylvania Power & Light. Jim Walters resources, Beth Energy Corp., Rochester & Pittsburg Coal Co. Ed retired from Consul Energy in 2005. In Ed's spare time he enjoys lifting weights, laying ceramic tile, hunting and fishing. Ed is a member of a few sportsman's clubs. He is also a member of the United Mine Workers of America, USS Frank E. Evans Association where he holds a board of directors' position, Sandyvale Memorial Gardens and Conservancy as a volunteer, Vietnam Veterans of America, American Legion and Sinnemahoning Sportsman Club.

Ed was preceded in death by his sister, Kathy Wyland; and brother, Harry Holsopple (LaRue). He is survived by his loving wife of 50 Years, Donna L. (Sarver) Oppy-Holsopple; daughters, Lora Prentiss and Deana Marsh; step-son, Ken Oppy (Jill); grandchildren, Tanner Marsh, Austin Marsh (Shannon), Amy Strayer (Brian), Chad Oppy (Robin), and Alyssa Prentiss; great grandchildren, Hadley Marsh, Jeremy Shaffer, Ethan Shaffer, Mackenna Dill, Matthew "Chewy" Oppy, and Ryan Oppy; sisters, Louise Shaffer and Sharon Wastowicz (Stan.)

OBITUARIES

MMFN Thurman Curtis Hollingshead 1953-55



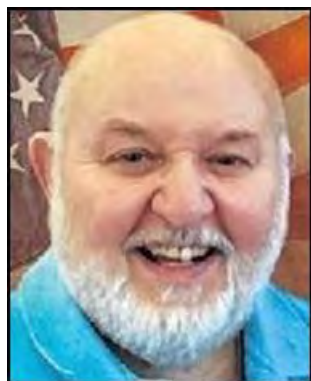
Thurman passed away on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. He was born February 6, 1935, in Devers, Texas to Thula Shaw Burwell and Jesse Dennis Hollingshead. Thurman was onboard USS Frank E. Evans from December 24, 1953 to 1955. He reported onboard after finishing A school where he trained to be Machinist Mate. Thurman attended many reunions in his younger years. He was also an association member since we started keeping records in 2006.

TMSN Charles E. Paden 1954-57

Charles passed away on Friday August 27, 2021. He was born in St. Joseph, MO to Donald & Frances (Webber) Paden. He went to high school at Lafayette High, graduated in 1954. He then decided to join the Navy and reported onboard USS Frank E. Evans on February 15, 1955 as a Torpedoman where he stayed until 1957. Following the Navy he had 30 year career at the Wire Rope Corporation. He married Jesse in 1962, they were married for 59 years and she was by his side when he passed. Charles enjoyed outdoors recreation such as camping, horse back riding and motorcycling. He was seen drinking a Budweiser or two at the many reunions he attended. He loved to chase the "Bud" with a shot of tequila. Charles greatest joys were his wife Jesse, his children Marie Welch, Lisa Powers, Dena Paden, Denise Paden Campbell, his 9 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.



MM2 Albert "Al" Laferte 1961-63



Al of Niskayuna, New York, passed away peacefully last July 18, 2021. He joined the Navy at age 17 and served over 20 years retiring as a machinist's mate, chief petty officer. In 1978. Al came onboard USS Frank E. Evans 30 September 1961 and served as a Machinist Mate third Class for two years. He served during the FRAM II conversion. After his second tour of duty in Vietnam he was sent to the Naval Language School in Monterrey, Calif. to be immersed in the Vietnamese language and culture; returning to Vietnam as an advisor.

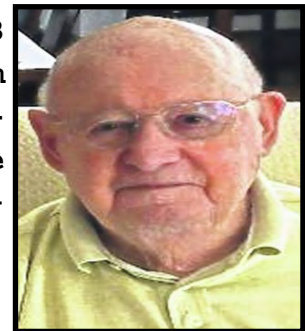
Ens. John Robert "Bob" Patterson



Bob attended Purdue University on a Naval ROTC scholarship, and earned a BS degree in Civil Engineering. Bob reported onboard USS Frank E. Evans DD 754 as the assistant Gunnery Officer where he served until 1952 after the ship's return from Korea.

ET2 William Hendershot III

William reported for duty on 20 August 1953 and served aboard USS Frank E. Evans DD 754 from 1953 - 1955, as an Electronics Technician. Following his military service he went to college and received a master's degree in electrical engineering.



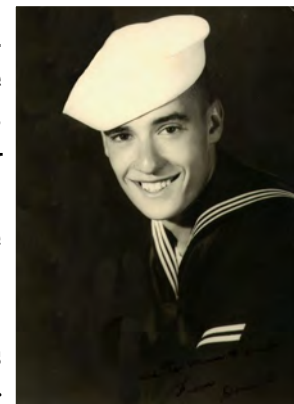
Sandra Jean Rodman (Wife of Tom Rodman)



Sandra, age 78, daughter of Clarence and Milford (Stamper) Canterbury was born May 2, 1943 passed away on February 15, 2022. Sandy grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. She excelled in high school and was an honor society member. She met Thomas Rodman at an A & P food store in 1962 in Lakewood, OH and they were married in Long Beach, CA on 18 December, 1965.

BM2 Don Pisarczyk 1950-54

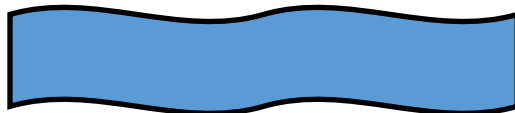
Don passed away on 12 January, 2022 in Pueblo, CO. Don graduated from Huerfano High School in 1950 then proudly served in the US Navy on the USS Frank E. Evans from 1950 to 1954. He met his wife Dorothy and after his service in the Navy were married. They had 2 children and 5 grandchildren. Don worked for the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, the same as his father. He enjoyed fishing, camping and traveling to Frank E. Evans reunions. His wife Dorothy, died 30 hours after Don's death. Don was an association member since we started keeping records in 2006.



A Captain Sanders Story

By Chuck Huber QM2 (1963-1966)

Captain Sanders was captain of the Evans in 1963-64. Once in awhile, when the Evans was cruising alone, Captain Sanders, sitting in the "Captains chair" on the starboard wing, would look around and make sure there were no other ships in sight, and then press the button on the "bitch box" with the toe of his shoe and inform the officers mess stewards that it was cocktail time. He would, once again, tap the "bitch box" and call the signal bridge and ask them to raise his cocktail flag; which they would, on the starboard yard-arm. A few minutes later one of the stewards would arrive on the bridge with a martini on a tray and present it to the captain. Once, when I was standing beside him as he sat, sipping his martini, he looked at me, smiled, and said: "you aren't writing a book or something are you, Huber?" I smiled and answered, "no Sir!" Aah yes, those were the days, and Captain Sanders was quite a ship's Captain; best I ever served under.

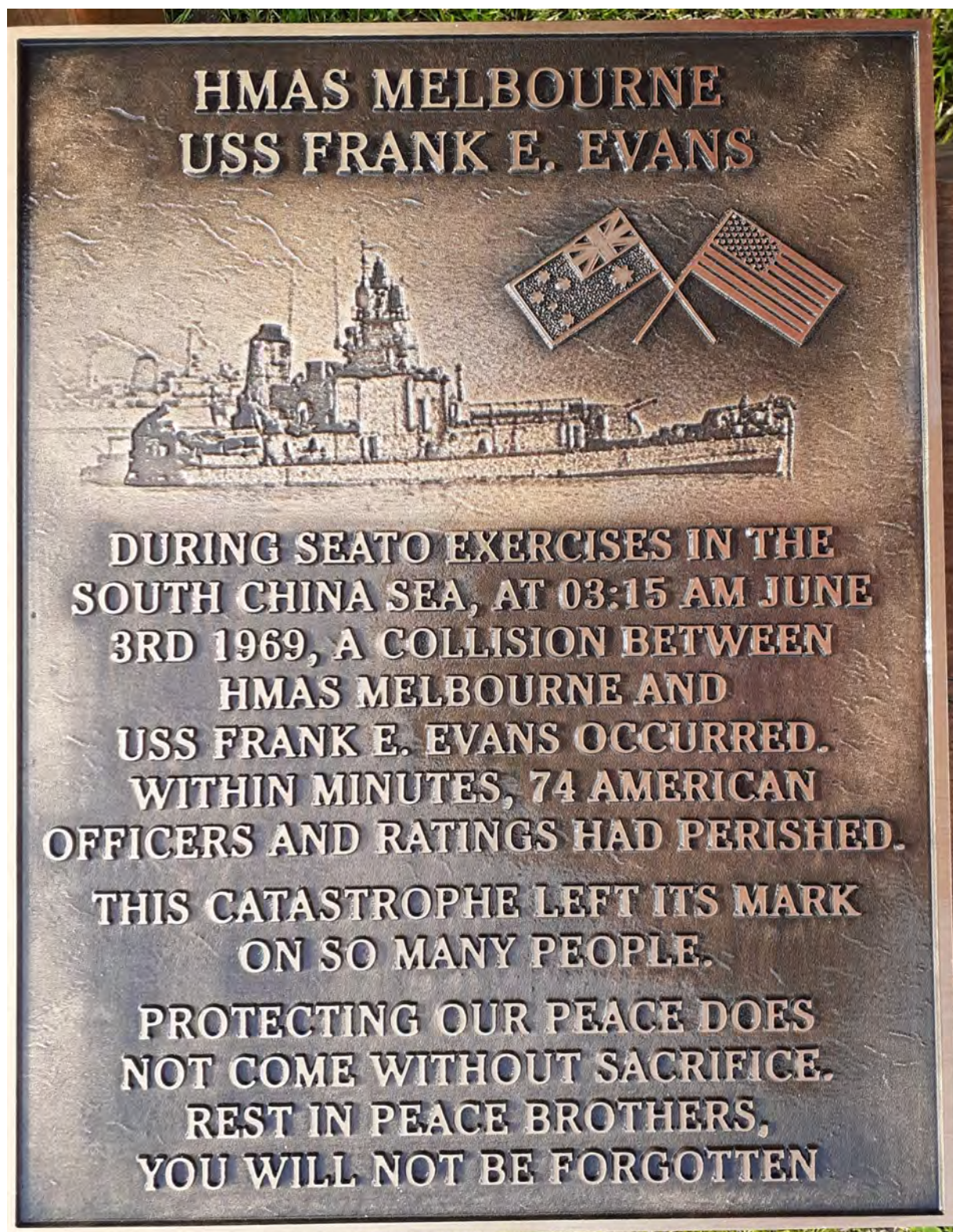


Australian Memorial 3 June, 2022

By Gary Smith HMAS Melbourne

My name is Gary Smith and I live in a little town called Ross in Tasmania, Australia. I too am a survivor of the 3rd of June 1969 collision. Thought I'd let you know that this year is the 53rd anniversary of the collision and there will be a memorial service held in Ulverstone, Tasmania to commemorate the event. Last year we unveiled a plaque and a seat in Shropshire Park, Ulverstone to honor the occasion. Due to Covid restrictions at the time, our borders here were closed to overseas visitors. That is not the case anymore. It would be an honor for those of us who were there to spend some time with those of you who were there and get some really old scars off our chests. Last year, your embassy dispatched two Naval Attaches to attend our unveiling and I'm hoping to see them return this year along with others. On the following page is a picture of the plaque dedicated last year.

Plaque in Ulverstone Park



DURING SEATO EXERCISES IN THE
SOUTH CHINA SEA, AT 03:15 AM JUNE
3RD 1969, A COLLISION BETWEEN
HMAS MELBOURNE AND
USS FRANK E. EVANS OCCURRED.
WITHIN MINUTES, 74 AMERICAN
OFFICERS AND RATINGS HAD PERISHED.
THIS CATASTROPHE LEFT ITS MARK
ON SO MANY PEOPLE.
PROTECTING OUR PEACE DOES
NOT COME WITHOUT SACRIFICE.
REST IN PEACE BROTHERS,
YOU WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN



Bench in Ulverstone Park

Wendy Burke was in Brisbane and stopped at Bundamba ANZAC Memorial Park to view the PLAQUE dedicated to the USS Frank E Evans (DD 754).



Remembrance Statue



3 JUNE 2022 MEMORIALS

WHEN

June 3, 2022

10 am — US Locations

11 am — Tasmania

WHERE

**Throughout The United States
and Australia**

This year there will be 6 Memorial Ceremonies on June 3 to honor our Lost 74. Please support these events, the master of ceremonies for each event has gone the extra mile to make these a meaningful occasion. Make your plans now and reach out to each contact person.

WWW.USSFEE.ORG

LONG BEACH CA

Shoreline Park
100 Aquarium Way
Pete Peters
rep1029@aol.com
310-947-5823

GURNEE IL

Warren Cemetery
1475 N Cemetery Way
Jeff Covert
jw.covert@att.net
847-989-3922

FAIRFAX VA

Mission BBQ
13067 – j Lee Jackson Hwy.
Carol Coulter
cricoulter@gmail.com
571-317-9951

INDEPENDENCE MO

Mt Washington Cemetery
614 S Brookside Ave.
Ben & Pam Chilcutt
benchilcutt@gmail.com
816-525-7772

NIOBRARA NB

Sage Brothers Landmark
25410 Park Ave.
Terry Vejr
trvejr@gmail.com
971-645-8655

ULVERSTONE TASMANIA AUST.

Shropshire Naval Park
Dial St.
James Lyall
jimbo12549@gmail.com

Sun City Veterans Association

January 24, 2022

Magnolia Hall, Sun City Hilton Head, SC

USS Frank E. Evans Presentation

Thanks to Association members Stan and Sharon Wastowicz for initiating and helping to organize the presentation to the Sun City Veterans Association in Sun City Hilton Head, South Carolina. Approximately seventy five people were in attendance for the presentation given by John Coffey and Terry Vejr. John spoke about the history of the Frank E. Evans, the events leading up to the collision and rescue efforts. Terry addresses the aftermath of the collision, time spent on HMAS Melbourne, the USS Kearsarge and the arrival of the aft section of Evans at Subic Bay. Also in attendance to help field questions from the audience were survivors Rolf Buchner and Joe Clark.

Special thanks to Event Coordinator Al Breininger and Commander Dave Davis for working with Stan and Sharon to make this event happen.



"A FRAM CAN"

By Frank Jablonski, Jeff Covert & Terry Vejr

To be successful as a hunter-killer destroyer the Navy converted the Sumner destroyer, USS FRANK E EVANS (DD 754) into a DASH (Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter) ship. From 1960-65, 33 ships were converted under the Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization II (FRAM II) program.



Between 6 Feb - 9 Oct 1961, USS FRANK E EVANS (DD 754) was "FRAMed," at Long Beach Naval Shipyard including the latest anti-submarine warfare weapons and sensors, a helicopter deck, and hangar. Typically, ALLEN M. SUMNERS retained all three 5-inch/38 twin mounts and received the Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter (DASH), two triple Mark 32 torpedo tubes for the Mark 44 torpedo, and two new single 21-inch torpedo tubes for the Mark 37 torpedo. Previous ASW armament, and the 21-inch torpedo tubes were removed. Variable Depth Sonar (VDS) was also fitted. In Navy slang, the modified destroyers were called "FRAM cans", "can" being a contraction of "tin can", the slang term for a destroyer or destroyer escort. (WIKIPEDIA)

DASH had 22.5 mile ASW kill range. The conversion was done by removing the six, 3 inch guns and five 21 inch torpedo tubes, and adding the after-deck landing area, DASH Hangar, SQS-23 Variable Depth Sonar and two triple-torpedo tube launchers. Many improvements were also made in living and working spaces. Total cost per ship was \$4,500,000.

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

MARK YOU
CALENDARS
FOR OUR NEXT
REUNION
PORTLAND
MAINE
OCTOBER
18-22
2022

