

# USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754

WWII KOREA VIETNAM



## FOOTLOCKER TALK NEWSLETTER NUMBER 87 — FOURTH QUARTER 2022

**AHOY SHIPMATES, FAMILY & FRIENDS**

This reunion was spectacular and it's success was because so many participated and helped pull it off. At the Saturday banquet I attempted to thank everyone by addressing them personally. I know I missed a few people and for that I am sorry, however, one person that I missed thanking was our very own Long Beach Pike Queen and Store Keeper. Mary Greg works endlessly throughout the year to make sure we have the Number 1 ships store to none. Better late than never "Bravo Zulu" to Mary Gregg, thank you for your love and dedication that you put into managing and operating our ships store!

The officers and Board of Directors of the USS Frank E. Evans Association wish you all the most blessed Christmas and New Years possible. This holiday season be safe, be healthy and be thankful for the wonderful life we have been given, we live in the best country in the world.

V/r

Steve Kraus

President, USS Frank E. Evans Association

# MEET JAMES R. NEWHOWE H.M.S. CLEOPATRA (F 28)

By Steve Kraus



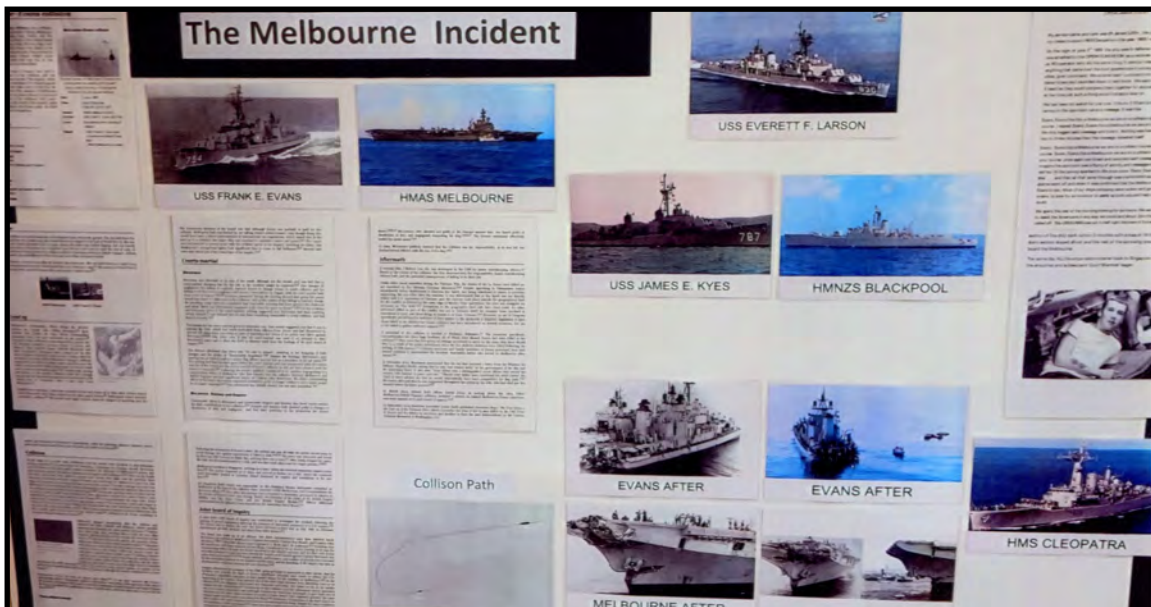
James R. Newhowe, Stores Accountant was onboard H.M.S. Cleopatra (F 28) on 3 June 1969. Jim was 19 years old at the time. Jim left the service in 1973 and like many of us, disillusioned about his time in the service. Jim tells



me "Mainly I just didn't want to talk about it (the collision.) I can't explain why, I just didn't. I haven't told anybody about it not until last year when I joined a Veteran's Breakfast Group in Cheshire County, England."

Jim goes on to explain that H.M.S. Cleopatra has a very small museum in England and inside it he has put a story board with details about the collision. Jim explains he had met a sailor who was onboard H.M.S. Ajax at the time, who said he had been ordered to dive down to Evans 24 hours after the collision. According to Jim, this has now been documented and added to the story. Jim will contact him again to see if the association can contact this sailor. Jim also requested any other items we may like to contribute to the story to be sent to him. The association will put together a package of items to be included in the museum. Jim sent me his tally from his seaman's cap.

## H.M.S. CLEOPATRA



# VENIMUS, VIDIMUS, VICIMUS

## REUNION 2022

Reunion 2022 was a huge success, the Atlantic Northeast was breath taking, the City of Portland was intriguing, the lobster was delicious and our membership was the best the city has yet to see. Several vendors from Portland commented that our people were the most kind sincere and generous they have seen in a long, long time. That alone is a tribute to our members. The following pages recap a wonderful reunion.

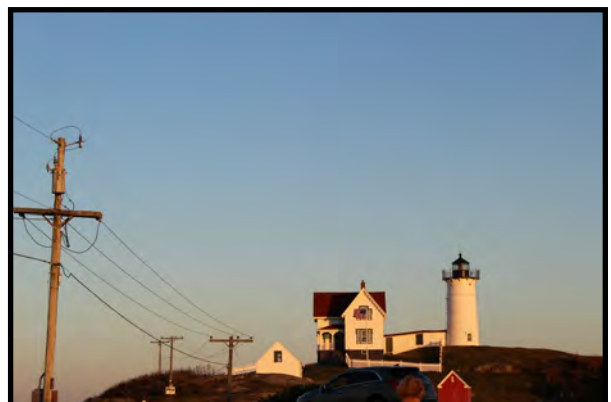


## REUNION CONTINUED

The ships store is set up, the memorabilia is set out and the members are ready to tell stories, drink beer and remember the good old days. In lieu of a pub crawl Terry and Susan Vejr volunteered to sponsor a trivia. night.



Thursday started with the survivors meeting then free time until 2:00PM when we started a tour of the country side to see the turning colors and then a stop at Kennebunkport. After Kenne-



bunk we drove the coast, checked out the many mansions then headed off to the main attraction Fosters Clam Bake in the city of York. See pictures of the lobster bake on the following page.

REUNION CONTINUES, FOSTERS CLAM BAKE



REUNION CONTINUED



## REUNION CONTINUED

Friday morning started with a tour of the city.. We took trolly buses to the famous Headlight Portland. HeadLight is a historic lighthouse in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. The light station sits on a head of land at the entrance of the primary shipping channel into Portland Harbor, which is within Casco Bay in the Gulf of Maine. Completed in 1791, it is the oldest lighthouse in Maine. The afternoon was free time, then we had our evening banquet, memorial ceremony and auction.



Note ; the picture of the young women below looking at the Lost 74 display is Nora Kraus, granddaughter of Meredith and Gary Kraus. You have seen a similar picture in 2017, as a 5 year old she was on the cover of our 2017 Memory book. Nora is now 12.



**WATCH FOR MORE REUNION HIGHLIGHTS & PHOTOS IN OUR NEXT EDITION**

## ED HOLSOPPLE'S LAST WISH, MEET THE KELSALL'S

BY DON & DONNA KELSALL



Don (Donny) Kelsall worked as a Paramedic for Ambulance & Chair Service out of Washington, PA and Bentleyville Ambulance Service from Bentleyville, PA. On 09-09-2000 a call came into Bentleyville Ambulance for a coal miner that was still under ground at the 84 Mining Company with chest pains and shortness of breath. Donny and his partner were dispatched to the mine. When they arrived they had to wait for a little bit until he came from underground. They then loaded Ed Holsopple into the ambulance and started toward the hospital. Donny was in the back of the ambulance starting IV's on Ed. On the way to the hospital Ed's heart stopped and he went unconscious. Donny performed CPR and used the defibrillator 3 times on Ed. His heart started again when they arrived at the emergency room at Washington Hospital in Washington, PA.

Later that night, Donny was back at the hospital and inquired about Ed. He was told Ed had a heart Catheter procedure and all went well and he was admitted to the hospital for further treatment and observation. Donny then went to his room and couldn't believe how good he looked and how good he was doing.

When a patient dies and the paramedic bring the patient back to life and the patient walks out of the hospital, the paramedic is awarded with a Lazarus Award, that award was given to Donny.

Ed kept in touch with us and we later got to meet Ed's wife Donna. They became part of our family. We would take turns visiting each other over the past 20 years. After all of this Ed had more problems with his heart and then had brain tumors that ended with him having 3 brain surgeries. He was a fighter!



## ED HOLSOPPLE'S LAST WISH, MEET THE KELSALL'S CONTINUED

Donny lost his own father, way to soon. His father was 49 when he passed away. Ed and Donny had a very close relationship. Ed said Donny was the son he never had. Ed and Donna were my daughters "grandparents" at her wedding. We had a surprise family party for Ed in Johnstown for his 20 year anniversary of the day him and Donny met. At that party Ed told everyone that Donny was his guardian angel. Now Ed is our guardian Angel.

As we explained when we met the group at the reunion, we had planned to bring Ed and Donna to the reunion and when He died early this year we decided to keep that promise by taking Eds ashes' to the reunion. Even though we had a very pressing schedule we carved out the time to attend Wednesday nights Trivia gathering. We were so impressed by the welcome the group gave to us we can see why Ed was so connected to the Frank E. Evans Association.

Footnote, Don has since joined the association and will make an attempt to stay connected to the association as a continuing tribute to Ed. Holsopple.



### Legislative Update

At the time of this printing both Congressman Adam Schiff's (Inclusion Amendment) and Senator Chuck Schumer's (GAO Accounting Amendment) were in the NDAA awaiting for review and approval by the Senate Armed Services committee.

*Having a Bifurcated Approach with two NDAA Amendments gives us the best shot*

## A CHILLING STORY

BY LTJG GEORGE LARE

I was the DCA on the Evans that fateful 3 June 1969 night and I wanted to share a story how God rocked my world and saved my life.

3 days before the collision we were in Subic Bay and about an hour before getting underway an officer back aft received orders to go to Department School in Newport, RI. When he departed there was an empty bunk in after officers quarters. Jon Stever, a name I will never forget, was the senior ensign and was offered the bunk; he declined. I was the next senior ensign and accepted the offer to move aft. When Evans turned on her side before breaking up, I was thrown against the bulkhead where there were numerous clothes hooks. I could have been impaled, but missed everyone of them. When I climbed the cargo net onto the flight deck of Melbourne, I sat there and started thinking "I shouldn't be here!" I started realizing God had moved me from certain death to life. Why? By God's providence, orders came in to make an empty bunk aft; Jon turned down the opportunity to move aft. Why?

My mom shared a story when I got home. She said our pastor the day after the collision came to my parent's house and told my mom, "Eva, I had a dream about George last night and all I can tell you is "He's alive." Three days later my aunt who worked for Navy Recruiting called my mom to inform her that she saw my name on the list of survivors.

The real question is, "Why did God spare me?" Trust me there is nothing special about George Lare. The only answer I can come up with is, He wanted to. As God told Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." Exodus 33:19.

### 2023 Reunion

The contract is in place for our 2023 reunion, the location is Springfield, Illinois at the Springfield Inn and Suites. The dates are Wednesday September 27 through the 30th. Mark your calendar now and start checking for the best airline tickets. Springfield is 3 hrs. North of St. Louis and 3 hrs. south of Chicago.

## 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
Ralph Jones	Elk Grove, CA	Oct. 23, 2021
Jack Walls	Ontario, CA	April 11, 2022
Carl Maiorino	Cornona, CA	November 21, 2022

### RELATIVES OF THE LOST

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Gerald LaLiberte	Portsmouth, VA	October 15, 2022

### MEMBER RELATIVES

NAME	CITY/STATE	DECEASED
Patricia McMichael	Chesapeake, VA	Jan. 24, 2022



MM2 Ralph Jones passed away on 23 October 2021, he was 89. Ralph graduated from Elk Grove High School in 1950 and immediately joined the Navy. He served onboard USS Frank E. Evans DD 754 from 1950 to 54 as a Machinist Mate. Ralph was a member of the VFW, AMVETS, Elks and Moose Lodge. Ralph played the harmonica for his friend and

family. He enjoyed fishing, gardening and horse races. Ralph's last Association event he was at was the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Dedication on the Capital grounds in Sacramento, California in 2015, he was happy to see the 23 shipmates from California added to the memorial. He is survived by his wife, Susan and his 6 children. Ralph was laid to rest in the Sacramento Valley National Veterans Cemetery in Dixon, California.

## IN MEMORIAM CONTINUED

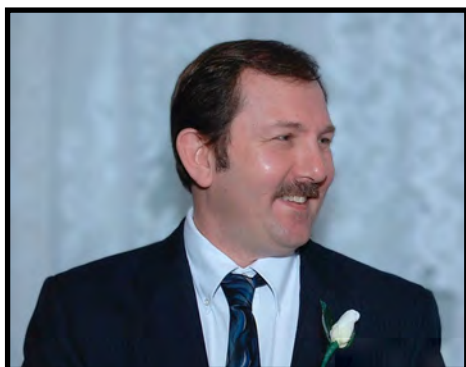


BM3 Jack Walls passed away on 11 April 2022. He serviced onboard USS Frank E. Evans from 15 Aug 1950 through 51 working in the engine room. After release from the Navy, Jack returned to Pasadena and began his career at the Pasadena Power Plant where he worked until retirement 30 years later. There he met the love of his life; Jack and Lyn were soon married and spent the next 60 years deeply in love. They had two children: Jim and Karen.

Patricia (Paddy) Eileen McBride McMichael 84, (wife of XO George McMichael) now of Chesapeake, VA, passed away on January 24, 2022 surrounded by the love of her family. Patricia graduated from University of Portland with a Bachelor of Science in nursing in 1960. Her free time was spent on the ice as a figure skater, and even more so on the course as a scratch golfer. She met her lifetime love, George McMichael, and they were married April 24th, 1964.



Patricia was a dedicated naval officer's wife, leading her family and supporting her husband during his 30-year military career that included moving the family countless times. She was one whom if you knew her, her love and prayers for you were deeply felt! She had a soft spot for the Naval Academy midshipmen they sponsored over the years, all of whom became "her kids." Most of all, she loved her family and her deep Catholic faith. She is survived by her husband, Captain George McMichael, USN (Retired), her daughter, Elizabeth Schwind and her husband, Commander David Schwind, USN (Retired); four grandchildren, Patricia, Anne, George, and Catherine Schwind. She is also survived by her brothers, Tom McBride, John McBride, and her sister Catherine (Kate) Rogers.



Gerald "Jerry" LaLiberte, 63, died unexpectedly on October 15, 2022. He was the son of the Lost RDC George Joseph and Ruth G. LaLiberte. Jerry retired from Lipton Tea in Suffolk and was working at the City of Portsmouth as a Mosquito Control Technician. He was a member of the USS Frank E. Evans Association.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Carolyn Bracy LaLiberte; daughter, Brittany Collins (Mike); three sons, Ryan LaLiberte, Jason Hanbury (Amie) and Joshua Ferrell (Wendy); two brothers, Dennis LaLiberte and Richard LaLiberte (Kay); and three grandchildren, Sophia Hanbury, Jeffery Hanbury and Korie Collins. A memorial service was held on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 3 PM at Sturtevant Funeral Home, Portsmouth Blvd. Chapel.

## IN MEMORIAM CONTINUED

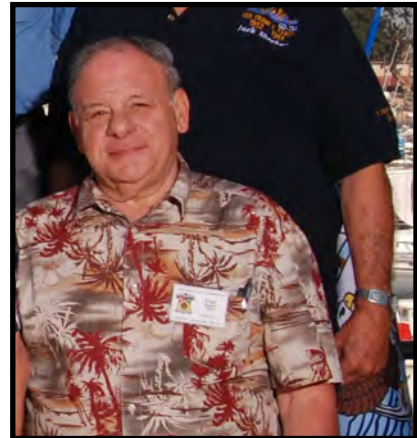


We mourn the loss and celebrate the life of Gold Star Mother Lena Braren Norton, who died peacefully at her home in Southbury, Connecticut, on November 4 2022, weeks after hosting her 100th birthday. Lena was a 1943 graduate of Barnard College, worked as a laboratory technician at Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn during World War II, and spent much of her life as a homemaker and volunteer for church and charitable institutions. Lena was a joyful, spiritual, optimistic person with a quick, lively, and curious mind and a formidable memory, deeply interested throughout her life in current events, history, music, and religion. She kept in touch with a wide network of friends and relatives, who remember her for her empathy, kindness, and humor, right up to the end of her life.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband, John T. Norton (a World War II combat veteran and attorney who married Lena in 1944 and died of cancer in 1976), and her son John T. Norton, Jr (killed in 1969 while serving in the South China Sea onboard USS Frank E. Evans during the Vietnam War.) She is survived by her loving children, Elizabeth Lasley (William), Kenneth, and Robert Norton (Candida), and by her granddaughters Mary Lasley and Ingrid Norton. A memorial service for Lena was held at North Congregational Church, 11 Main Street North, Woodbury, Connecticut, on November 26th at 11:00 A.M.

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We were saddened that CS3 Carl Maiorino age 81 passed away at his home in Corona, California on Monday November 21, 2022. Carl was diagnosed with lung cancer and a small spot on his kidney earlier this year. He received radiation treatments and had been determined to be cancer free. He had put off having a hip replacement due to the cancer so he went ahead and had that surgery done. All went well then he started experiencing lower back pain. The source of the pain was due to internal bleeding. Once the problem again was diagnosed, Carl required an extensive surgery. His doctors shared a concern that he might not survive surgery. The family decided to take Carl home under hospice care where he died.



Carl came onboard USS Frank E. Evans on 21 November 1959 and became a cook. Of course, his nickname was "Cookie." He did his entire Navy career onboard Evans and in 1963, along with CSC Earl Marchbanks won the Francis Ney Memorial Award. This prestigious award is given in honor Captain Edward F. Ney and it represents the highest distinction given to U.S. Navy Food Service operations. Carl was a long term association member and attended many reunions.



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**OUR NEXT  
REUNION  
IS IN  
SPRINGFIELD  
ILLINOIS, SEPT.  
27—30, 2023**

