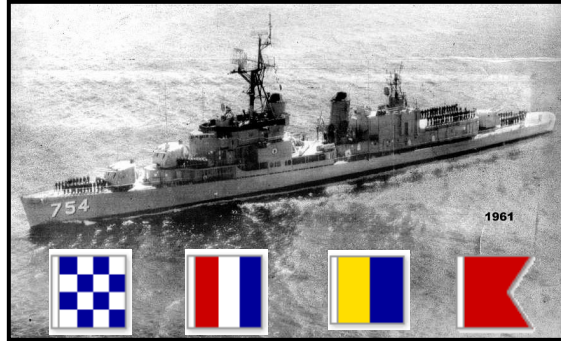


# USS FRANK E. EVANS DD 754

WWII KOREA VIETNAM



## FOOTLOCKER TALK NEWSLETTER NUMBER 100 — FIRST QUARTER 2026

Ahoy families, shipmates, and friends

We are working on completing information about this year's Memorial Day and June "Lost 74" dedication ceremonies. As soon as all dates, time, and locations are confirmed we will notify everyone via our website and social media. If you want information about holding a Lost 74 ceremony in your area, please contact Terry Vejr at [trvejr@gmail.com](mailto:trvejr@gmail.com)

The USS Frank E. Evans (Lost Sailors from Wisconsin) memorial stone is placed in The Highground Veterans Memorial Park, W7031 Ridge Rd, Neillsville, Wisconsin. If you are in the area, please take the time to visit this memorial. The Highground organizing committee reached out to our Association and asked if we would provide a presentation about the collision at their annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion. We have accepted their offer. Mark your calendars and contact Terry Vejr at [trvejr@gmail.com](mailto:trvejr@gmail.com) if you would like to attend. The presentation will be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, at 1:00pm CST.

If you have not yet contacted your representatives in the house and senate, it is still not to late. Go to our website [www.ussfee.org](http://www.ussfee.org) Click on Project 74 and follow the instructions on how you can contact your representatives.

Information about this years reunion in San Antonio, Texas will be sent out in June, 2026. As we indicated, we will be returning to the Menger Hotel, adjacent to the Alamo and a block from the river walk. Mark your calendars, official dates are October 21-24!!

*Steve Kraus*  
Association President

*Terry Vejr*  
Vice President

## USS Frank E. Evans Acts

### You can still Help

#### CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH NEEDED TO SUPPORT SB3131 & HR5945

In Congress, bipartisan legislation has been introduced that would add the Lost 74 to the Wall: **SB3131** USS Frank E. Evans Act (introduced in the Senate by Senators Cramer, Schiff, Schumer) and **HR5945** (introduced in the House by Congressmembers Chu and Flood). The key to success to these bills is for you to reach out to your Congressman and Senators to express support – they listen to their constituents.

Shipmates, Relatives of the Lost, Family and Friends,

**We still have time to take action in support of the USS Frank E. Evans Acts in front of Congress!**

Write your Congressperson and Senators, urging them to support the effort to add the names of the Lost 74 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In the Senate, the USS Frank E. Evans Act is S. 3131; in Congress, it is HR 5945. We've launched a letter-writing campaign to make it easy to contact your representatives and express your support. You can find the steps on our Project 74 page on [ussfee.org](http://ussfee.org). click the link **Project 74 page on ussfee.org** When you submit your letter through our campaign, be sure to select "**ARMED FORCES AND NATIONAL SECURITY**" as your letter topic. You can use our drafted letter, but feel free to write your own letter if you'd like.

\*\*\*If you submit a letter, it appears the congressional system for responses has a glitch, and several members have reported getting responses that don't match the topic they've submitted. For example, some have received a response from the representative referencing Immigration as the topic. This is an issue with the system Congress uses to generate these replies. Your letters have been and will be properly submitted through our campaign!

## PLEASE HELP SUPPORT PROJECT 74

## LAKE SAINT LOUIS, MO DEDICATION CEREMONY



A Dedication Ceremony was held on November 10, 2025 at 200 Civic Center Drive, Lake Saint Louis, MO, 63367. USS Frank E. Evans holds a profound place in naval history, and this ceremony offered an opportunity to reflect, remember, and recognize the enduring legacy of service.

If you are in the area, or traveling through please stop by and see this memorial.

### I DID NOT EARN ALONE

All these medals on my chest, I did not earn alone.  
I earned them with a lot of men, who did not make it home.  
I wear them proudly on my chest, for everyone to see.  
I also wear them to remind myself, what the cost is to be free.  
I wear them so I don't forget, the many men who died.  
And every chance I get to show them off, I show them off with pride.  
This younger generation doesn't know, the price that has been paid.  
That lets them play outside all day, and sleep at night, unafraid.  
They have no understanding, of how many families paid a cost.  
And they have no idea, of what truly has been lost.  
So all these medals that you see, I share with those who are not here.  
Those I stood with, side by side, While facing our worst fears.  
All these medals that I wear, I did not earn alone.  
So I wear them every chance I get, For those who did not make it home.

## Do You Order From Amazon?



I know most of you order from Amazon, I do. So the USS Frank E Evans has a request when you place your orders.

We are asking you to please follow the instructions below.

Before going to amazon, please go to USS Frank E Evans website.

[ussfee.org](http://ussfee.org)

Scroll down the page until you see the RED Rectangle that says Shop Amazon. When you click on it, it will take you directly to your usual spot with amazon. When you place your order, the USS Frank E Evans will get a percentage.

## 2026 Membership Dues

If you paid your dues online in 2025, your membership has been automatically renewed as of January 1st. Members who prefer to pay by mail would have received a hard-copy notice during the first week of March.

We offer four membership types. For details and to pay your dues online, please visit:

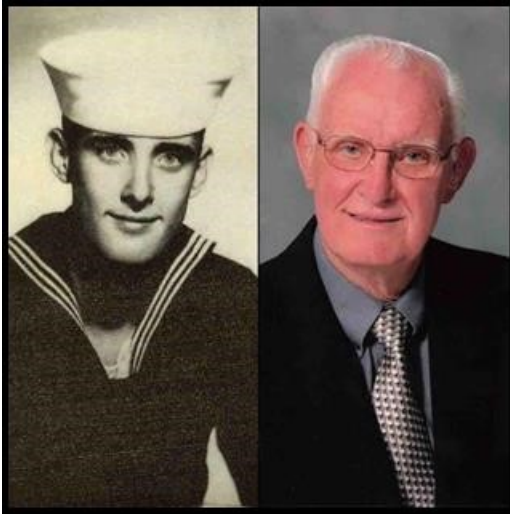
<https://www.ussfee.org/join-association/>

Your continued support strengthens our Association and helps us honor the legacy of USS Frank E. Evans.

**MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWAL**  
*Annual Dues*

## IN MEMORIAM

### Carl Junior Jungjohann (BT3)



BT3 Carl Junior Jungjohann, 94, of Cedar Rapids passed away Thursday, January 29th, 2026, at UnityPoint St. Luke's Transitional Care Center.

Carl was born January 16th, 1932, to Carl and Florence (Garrison) Jungjohann in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After graduating from Roosevelt High School, he proudly served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War on the USS Frank Evans DD 754. Carl reported onboard Evans on October 12, 1950 was assigned to "B" Division where he served as a

majority of his service. After his military service he married the love of his life Marjeanne Nosek, on August 4th, 1956, in Cedar Rapids. Carl gave over 40 years of service to Iowa Manufacturing. He is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Marjeanne; daughter, Lori (Jeffrey); grandchildren, great grandchildren, sister, along with many nieces and nephews.

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### Arlette Geraldine Matthews

Arlette Geraldine Mathews passed away peacefully in her sleep into the loving arms of her precious savior Jesus Christ on December 16, 2025 after a long-blessed life. She lived the last 6 plus years of her life at The Palms Assisted Living in La Quinta, CA. She enjoyed her friends and activities very much and was busy until the very end. She especially loved bingo, music entertainment and her Bible Study friends.

She was preceded in death by James Searle in 1996, her husband of 49 years and her second husband Ted Mathews in 2010 her husband of 13 years. She lost her son Robert in the collision on June 3 1969.

She is survived by daughter Gayle Stahl and her husband Ken. Grandchildren David Floren and wife Ursula, Derrick Floren and wife Tiffany and Brittany Bonner and stepdaughter Natalie Cole, son William Searle and his wife Viki. Grandchildren Damean Searle and wife Tina, and Dustin Searle daughter Peggy Meier and her husband Kelvin. Grandchildren Jaime Meier and Kenneth Meier. No traditional services were held, she is buried at Highland Cemetery in Great Falls, MT beside her husband James Searle.



**Nancy Carlson**  
**(Mother of member Ellen Clark)**

Ellen Clark (wife of shipmate Joe Clark) lost her beloved mother on October 27, 2025. Nancy Carlson was born on January 29, 1930 and would have been 96 this coming January. The world bids farewell to Nancy a resident of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

Condolences can be sent via email to Ellen at this email: [twowarm@bellsouth.net](mailto:twowarm@bellsouth.net)



**Annie Grace King-Monds**

We recently learned that Anne Grace King-Monds passed away last August 15, 2025. Anne was born on January 16, 1929 to John Lee King and Nina Mae Josie King in Zebulon, Georgia. She was the third child of eleven. Annie was the only girl for many years growing up with eight brothers. Annie was our Lost BMC Willie Lee King's sister.

In May of 1950 she married the love of her life Joe Monds Jr.

Joe and Annie had nine children. They lived in Georgia until 1958 when they relocated to Rochester, New York. She lived in Rochester the remainder of her life, living with her daughter association member Betty King at the time of her death. Condolences can be sent to her daughter Betty King at [bettyfaisonking@hotmail.com](mailto:bettyfaisonking@hotmail.com)



**Mary Ann Henderson-Buettner**

Gold Star Mother Mary Ann Henderson-Buettner, age 97, died on December 5, 2025 in Westfield New York. Mary Anna had been in a long-term care facility for Alzheimer's. Mary Ann was the mother of our lost RD3 Terry Lee Henderson. Her son Randy and his significant other Jessica were with Mary Ann just hours prior to her passing. Randy indicated that the family will have a celebration of life ceremony sometime in the spring. Condolences can be sent to Randy at [randolphenderson@gmail.com](mailto:randolphenderson@gmail.com)



## Norma Ann Puffenbarger Rines

Norma Ann Puffenbarger Rines, 81, of Bridgewater, passed away on Monday, January 5, 2026.

She was born on August 17, 1944 and was a daughter of the late Charlie Emmett and Lena (Simmons) Puffenbarger.

Norma had worked at Walkers, High's and 7-11 where she retired in 2008. She was a member of St. Jacob's (Spaders) Lutheran Church, where she had played the piano. She enjoyed needle arts.

Norma was united in marriage to FEE Shipmate & Survivor, Richard Donald Rines . Surviving in addition to her husband are her children, Amy Turner & husband David, and A. Keith Rines; two grandchildren, Quinn Turner, and Xander Turner. She was preceded in death by her sister, Gladys Matheny.

A service celebrating Norma's life was held on Friday, January 9, 2026. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [johnsonfs.com](http://johnsonfs.com).

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## Patrick (Pat) Hagarty

Patrick J. Hagarty, 66 of Waterloo, Iowa, passed away peacefully at his home on December 16, 2025, following a courageous battle with brain cancer.

Patrick was born on May 7, 1959, in Cedar Falls, Iowa, the son of Maurice and Mary Louise (Shimpach) Hagarty. He was a 1978 graduate of Columbus High School and married the love of his life, Traci King, on September 2, 1983, in Waterloo.

Patrick dedicated much of his life to serving others, often during their most difficult moments. He retired in 2009 after a 30-year career as a sergeant with the Black Hawk County Office. While still serving in law enforcement, Patrick founded Hagarty Monuments, where he guided families through deeply personal decisions with compassion and care. In retirement, he worked as a DE escalator in the psychiatric unit at Mercy One Hospital, offering a calm and steady presence to those in crisis, and continued this work until his illness.

Patrick will be remembered for his devotion to family, his service to others, and the way his smile and sense of humor brought comfort and laughter to those around him. When you see or hear a train, just know that's Pat passing by. Choo Choo!

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*If you lose a loved one, please email the obituary to: [ussfee.org@gmail.com](mailto:ussfee.org@gmail.com)*

*so we can make sure it gets in the newsletter*

## Announcing the Legacy Scholarship

I am so excited to announce that VVMF has created a Legacy Scholarship program for lineal descendants of Vietnam veterans. Finally, a scholarship program is available for families of Vietnam veterans, like so many programs made available to veterans of later generations!

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is now accepting applications for our Legacy Scholarship, created specifically for the lineal descendants of Vietnam veterans: children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and so on, ages 16 to 30.

This scholarship is open to students pursuing post-secondary education or career training, with awards including:

- Up to ten (10) \$2,000 scholarships
- Two (2) \$5,000 scholarships
- One (1) \$10,000 scholarship

What makes the Legacy Scholarship truly unique is its purpose. Instead of writing an essay about themselves, applicants are asked to share the story of their Vietnam veteran from whom they are descended. This will help us preserve these stories of service for generations to come. For living veterans, applicants work directly with them to document their experiences. For those whose veterans are listed on The Wall or passed after returning home, applicants gather stories from family members or friends.

Scholarship selections are not based solely on financial need or academic achievement. Instead, awards are determined by the quality of the veteran narrative and the applicants fulfillment of basic eligibility requirements.

**Important dates to know:**

**Applications are now open**

**Deadline to apply: May 1, 2026**

**Recipients announced: July 15, 2026**

**To learn more and apply, visit:**

**<https://www.vvmf.org/scholarship>**

**By sharing these stories, families will help ensure the service of Vietnam veterans are never forgotten and help the next generation on their future paths.**

**Thank you for helping us honor their legacy by spreading the word.**



# Member

# Spotlight

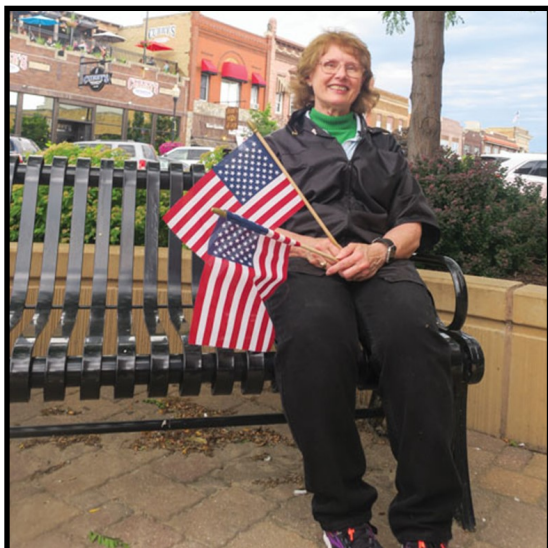
## **Linda Vaa (Widow of Gregory Allen Sage Sr.—Radarman 3rd Class)**

Linda met Greg in the summer of 1964 at the Knox County Fair in Blomfield, NE. Linda and her sister were walking around the fair when they noticed two boys following them. One was Greg. They dated for two years. On his second leave he married Linda on July 1, 1967. Greg met their son, Gregory Allan Sage Jr, ten months later and they moved to Long Beach where he was stationed for 10 months. Greg served on the Evans for 75 days before the collision with two brothers Gary and Kelly Jo.

Linda remarried on May 1, 1976 to Spencer Vaa. Spencer was shot in Vietnam and received the Purple Heart. Spencer understood what Linda had been through. They added a daughter, Sarah to their family.

One of the hardest things for Linda was having to tell Ernie and Eunice Sage that their sons names were not being put on the Vietnam wall. Linda stayed very close to Ernie and Eunice. It was Eunice who brought Linda to her first Evans reunion. She has not missed a reunion since and says that the Evan member are like family.

Some of her favorite reunions have been Branson, Main, Buffalo, but they have all been so good that she cannot name just one. Her most memorable was this past fall in Oklahoma City when her granddaughter sang at one of the dinners. When asked to describe the association in three words, they were, alive, hard-working, and dedicated. Thank you Linda for being a dedicated member of our association.



## Navy in the News

Here are some Navy current events for you to enjoy.

- ◆ **Current Event:** As of late February 2026, the U.S. Navy is managing high-tempo operations in the Middle East, conducting joint exercises in the Philippines, and addressing leadership changes following a destroyer collision. Key focus areas include accelerating unmanned vessel acquisitions, celebrating the 250th anniversary, and navigating retention challenges.
- ◆ **Operations & Incidents:** The commanding officer of the USS Truxtun (DDG-103) was fired following a collision with a supply ship in the Caribbean. The U.S. is maintaining a massive warship presence in the Middle East.
- ◆ **Indo-Pacific Activity:** The U.S. Navy and the Philippine Navy conducted joint maritime cooperative activities in the Philippines' Exclusive Economic Zone.
- ◆ **Leadership & Structure:** Vice Adm. Richard Seif took command of Submarine Forces Atlantic from Vice Adm. Robert Gaucher.
- ◆ **Acquisition & Technology:** The Navy issued a Request for Proposal for a Vessel Construction Manager to accelerate the Medium Landing Ship (LSM) program.
- ◆ **Future Operations:** The USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78) has continued extended operations, and the service is planning 250th anniversary commemorations.

Want more current events on activities happening in the Navy? Visit [www.navytimes.com](http://www.navytimes.com)

## Trivia Time

What does 99 mean in the Navy?

**Answer:** 99 (pron. niner niner): When "99" is heard on the radio following a unit's call. sign, it means that the transmission is for all of the aircraft in that unit.

What is the hardest job to get in the Navy?

**Answer:** The hardest jobs in the Navy often involve extreme risk, intense physical/mental stress, and highly specialized skills, with Navy SEALs, Nuclear Field (Nukes), and flight deck crew (like hook runners) frequently cited for their grueling training, dangerous environments, or meticulous demands, alongside demanding roles in [Air Traffic Control \(Air Boss\)](#), [EOD](#), and specialized technical/medical fields.

Who was the only U.S. naval officer to attain the rank of Admiral of the Navy, which was formally ratified in March 1903?

**Answer:** George Dewey. With Admiral Dewey's death in 1917, Congress abolished the rank. Admiral Dewey is perhaps best known for his victory at the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War. It was in recognition of this victory that the rank of "Admiral of the Navy" was created specifically for him.

## USS KIDD UPDATES

While we don't have any updates on the KIDD since repairs are being made, here is a bit of information regarding the ship.

USS Kidd (DDG 100) is an active Arleigh Burke-class Flight IIA guided-missile destroyer in the U.S. Navy, commissioned in 2007 and homeported in Everett, Washington. Named after Rear Adm. Isaac C. Kidd, it features Aegis combat systems, supports multi-mission operations, and famously flies the Jolly Roger.

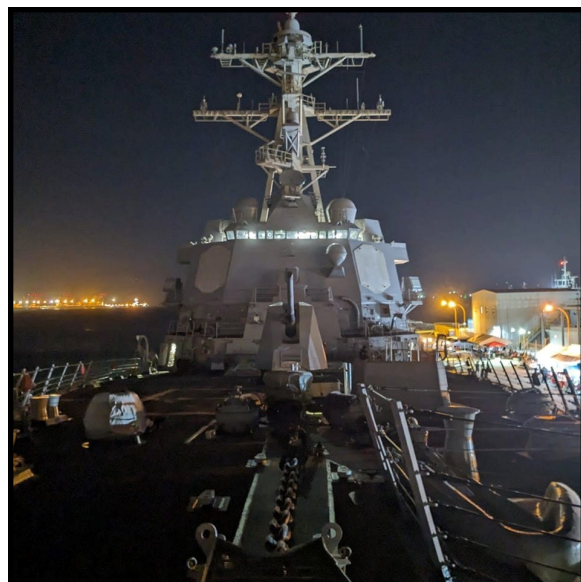
### Key Details and Recent Activity:

- **Capabilities:** Equipped for anti-air, anti-submarine, and surface warfare.
- **Recent Activity:** As of late 2025, the ship completed a maintenance phase and undocked in Seattle.
- **Deployments:** In 2024, it participated in the Pacific Dragon ballistic-missile-defense exercise and conducted operations in the 3rd Fleet area.
- **Distinction:** It is the only active U.S. Navy ship authorized to fly the Jolly Roger flag.
- **Command:** The ship is part of Destroyer Squadron 1

### General Information:

- **Displacement:** 9,200 tons
- **Length:** 509 ft 6 in
- **Speed:** 30+ knots
- **Armament:** Includes RIM-161 SM-3, Tomahawk missiles, and a 5-inch gun

**Please continue to  
pray for all those  
aboard the KIDD**





**USS FRANK E EVANS ASSOCIATION**  
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Carlsbad, CA 92008

**CHECK OUT OUR  
SHIPS STORE  
USSFEE.ORG**

**OUR NEXT  
REUNION IS IN  
SAN ANTONIO  
TEXAS  
OCT 21 — 24, 2026**

