

TODAY'S MEMORIAL CEREMONY
is sponsored by the men and women of the

USS FORRESTAL CVA/CV/AVT-59 ASSOCIATION, INC.

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SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO ASSISTED

Including, but not limited to the following:

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY STAFF

UNITED STATES NAVY

UNITED STATES NAVY CHAPLAIN CORPS

NAVAL DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE MOTOR SQUAD

STERLING, VIRGINIA ROTARY

HERNDON FLORIST STAFF

Remember The SPIRIT !

"First in Defense"

"Forever In Dignity"



U.S.S. FORRESTAL CVA-59

FIFTIETH MEMORIAL CEREMONY



*In honor of our fallen shipmates
Of the Gulf of Tonkin Disaster
29 July, 1967*

"We Shall Never Forget"

Held

29 July, 2017

Arlington National Cemetery Amphitheater, Arlington, Virginia

Arlington National Cemetery Section 46 Grave 556-7-8

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall Panel 24E Washington, DC

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

- WELCOME....EMCEE.....***Ken Killmeyer, FORRESTAL Association Historian
Aboard 29 July 1967*
- PRESENTATION OF COLORS.....***U.S. Navy Honor Guard*
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.....***All in Attendance*
- NATIONAL ANTHEM.....***Dale A. Desmarias*
- RETIRE THE COLORS.....***U.S. Navy Honor Guard*
- INVOCATION.....***Chaplain LT Eduardo B. Amora, CHC, USN*
- INTRODUCTION.....***Ken Killmeyer, Association Historian*
- WELCOME.....***CDR. Robert E. Kohler, USN (RET)
President USS FORRESTAL Association Aboard 29 July 1967*
- SPEAKER.....***Michele LaBarr Haynes
Sister of Edward L. LaBarr of VF-11*
- SPEAKER.....***Ken Killmeyer FORRESTAL Association Historian
Aboard 29 July 1967*
- BELL CEREMONY.....***Mr. Lou Braasch, Reading of Names
FCCS Milt Crutchley, USN, (RET) Bell Ringing
Both Aboard 29 July 1967*
- CAPTAIN'S PRAYER.....***Daniel F. Gallagher
Grandson of RADM John K. Beling*
- BAGPIPER.....***Terry Scherer, Bag Pipes
Aboard 1963 – 66 "G" Division*
- ECHO-TAPS.....***Tom Easter 2nd, "CS" Div. 29 July 1967,
Walt McClellan, ComCarDiv Two, USS AMERICA-CVA-66*
- BENEDICTION.....***Chaplain LT Eduardo B. Amora, CHC, USN*
- GOD BLESS AMERICA.....***Dale A. Desmarias*
- RETIRE THE FLAGS OF HONOR.....***U.S. Naval Personnel*
- Special Thank You to.....***Colonel Emmett O'Hare, USA (Ret.)
Memorial Ceremony Coordinator RVAH-11 Aboard on 29 July 1967*

THE NAVY HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arms have bound the restless wave,
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who did'st brood,
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid it's angry tumult cease,
O hear us when we cry to thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Lord, guard and guide the men who fly,
Through the great spaces in the sky,
Be with them always in the air,
In darkening storms or sunlight fair;
O hear us when we lift our prayer
For those in peril in the air!----Amen



LIST OF USS FORRESTAL CASUALTIES – 29 JULY 1967

MARVIN J. ADKINS
EVERETT A. ALLEN
GARY J. ARDENEAX
TONEY A. BARNETT
DENNIS M. BARTON
ROBERT L. BENNETT
MARK R. BISHOP
JAMES L. BLASKIS
WILLIAM V. BRINDLE
BOBBY J. BROWN
JERRY D. BYARS
FRANCIS J. CAMPEAU
JACK M. CARLAN
DANIEL G. CAVAZOS
RAY A. CHATELAIN
RICHARD D. CLENDENEN
WILLIAM D. COLLINS
ROBERT B. COTTON
JAMES L. CRENSHAW
MARIO C. CRUGNOLA, JR.
ROBERT J. DAVIES
THOMAS J. DAWSON, JR.
JEROLD V. DESPARD
EDWARD R. DORSEY
JOSEPH G. DUGAS
PAUL A. DUPERE
JOHN S. DUPLAGA
WALTER T. EADS
JAMES A. EARICK
JOHN T. EDWARDS
GERALD W. FARRIER
KENNETH L. FASTH
JOHN J. FIEDLER
RUSSELL L. FIKE
HAROLD FONTENOT
JOHNNIE L. FRAZIER

GERALD G. FREDRICKSON
HERBERT A. FRYE
RAMON GARZA
ROBERT E. GELLER
RICHARD H. GIBSON
LAURENCE J. GILBERT
WILLIAM T. GILROY
LARRY E. GRACE
RUSSELL A. GRAZIER
CHARLES C. GREGORY
WILLIAM C. HARTGEN
ROBERT L. HASZ
RICHARD A. HATCHER
WILLIAM K. HINCKLEY, JR.
STEPHEN L. HOCK
LARRY D. HOLLEY
CALVIN D. HOWISON
PHILIP L. HUDSON
JULIUS B. HUGHES
DONALD N. HUGO
RALPH W. JACOBS
DONALD W. JEDLICKA
WILLIAM B. JUSTIN
THOMAS M. KANE
CHARLES D. KIESER
JOSEPH KOSIK III
EDWARD L. LABARR
WADE A. LANNOM, JR.
WILLIAM LEE
ROBERT C. LEONBERG
JOHN T. LILLA
ARNOLD E. H. LOHSE
CHARLES E. LONG
WILLIAM E. LOWE
KENNETH W. LOZIER, JR.
JAMES S. MACVICKAR, JR.

LIST OF USS FORRESTAL CASUALTIES – 29 JULY 1967

RALPH E. MANNING, JR.
EARLE E. McAULIFFE, JR.
BRIAN D. McCONAHAY
GEORGE C. McDONALD
FRANK C. McNELIS, JR.
WILLIAM V. McQUADE
ALLAN R. METZ
GEORGE D. MILLER
EDWARD A. MINDYAS
HUBERT H. MORGAN, JR.
LEROY MOSER
JAMES E. NEUMEYER
GARY E. NEWBY
JAMES E. NEWKIRK
RONALD R. OGRINC
THOMAS D. OTT II
WAYNE H. OTT
RICHARD L. OWENS
RICHARD T. PINTA
RAYMOND N. PLESH
JOHN C. PODY
ERNEST E. POLSTON
DOUGLAS A. POST
ROBERT M. PRIVIECH
JOHN M. PRUNER
ROBERT A. RHUDA
CHARLES R. RICH
JERRY P. RODGERS
DALE R. ROSS
JAMES M. RUNNELS
HARVEY D. SCOFIELD

JOSEPH C. SHARTZER
WILLIAM J. SHIELDS
RICHARD M. SIETZ
DAVID W. SMITH
RICHARD T. SMITH
JOHN F. SNOW
JOHN C. SPIESS
NELSON E. SPITLER
JOHNNY W. SPIVEY
GERRY L. STARK
WALTER E. STEELE
WENDELL W. STEWART
ROBERT A. STICKLER
KENNETH D. STRAIN
ROBERT H. SWAIN
DELTON E. TERRY
NORMAN A. THOMAS
WILLIAM F. THOMPSON
RICHARD J. VALLONE
ROBERT J. VELASQUEZ
JUAN A. VELEZ
GEORGE E. WALL
HAROLD D. WATKINS
GREGORY L. WEBB
GERALD A. WEHDE
JUDSON A. WELLS, JR.
RICHARD L. WESCOTT
EDWARD J. WESSELS
FRED D. WHITE
KERRY D. WISDOM
ROBERT L. ZWERLEIN

TODAY WE REMEMBER OUR SHIPMATES WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE
SACRIFICE IN DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY. OUR SHIPMATES ARE
ABSENT FROM OUR PRESENCE BUT EVER PRESENT IN OUR HEARTS.
WE FIND COMFORT KNOWING THEY REST IN THE ARMS OF THE LORD!
Ken Killmeyer



THOSE WHO FELL

We are assembled here to pay our respects to the heroic officers and men who made the supreme sacrifice aboard USS FORRESTAL CVA-59, while she was in action on Yankee Station, Tonkin Gulf. They will be remembered because of their courage and faith in a way of life which they were determined to preserve. They were eager young men and skilled technical noncommissioned and commissioned officers, committed to keeping the peace and insuring the safety of freedom - loving people the world over. They wanted to live, but believed that there are some things which a minority must be willing to die for in order to provide for the safety of others. Our deepest thoughts and sincerest prayers are in behalf of their loved ones.

Because of their death, we are motivated to and even greater service. Replacements for their knowledge and experience will be difficult, but we will give all of ourselves to guarantee freedom for all who seek it, and to continue the duty that we are here to perform.

Opening statement from the program for the Memorial Service conducted on USS FORRESTAL
31 July 1967.



THE CAPTAIN'S PRAYER

Our heavenly Father, we see this day as one minute and yet a lifetime for all of us.

We thank You for the courage of those who gave their lives in saving their shipmates today. We humbly ask You to grant them peace and to their loved ones the consolation and strength to bear their loss. Help us to renew the faith we have in You. We thank You for our own lives.

May we remember You as You have remembered us today. From our hearts we turn to You now, knowing that You have been at our side in every minute of this day. Heavenly Father, help us to rebuild and to reman our ship, so that our brothers who died today may not have made a fruitless sacrifice.

Offered by Captain John K. Beling, USN
To His Crew on 29 July 1967