

Toooo Weet... Attention on Deck...“Saints...December newsletter”...Arriving!  
*ALSO ON SAINTS WEBSITE*

## VA-163 SAINTS GRAM



**KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE**  
*Distance and time may separate us  
but friendship and memories won't*

Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have.  
And God Bless the United States of America.



2018

16th Year Edition  
Established Nov 2002  
VOL 1 Issue 193

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year





### **Standing the Watch**

Ed Copher, Editor, "Saints Everlasting Keeper of the Flame"

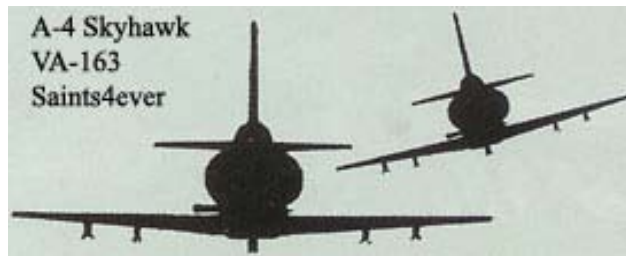


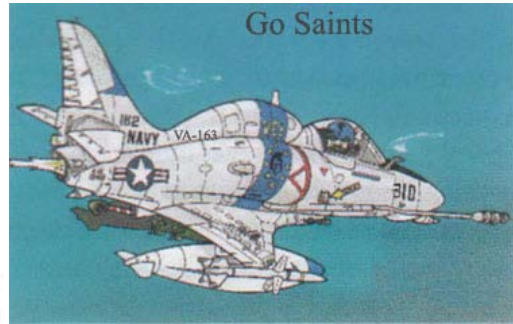
### **Saints Tradition**

An old Saints tradition is that friends who have not seen or heard from each other for long periods of time never question their friendship. These friendships resume at the same time they left off regardless of distance and time between them. We call these friends "**Family**".

### **Saints Motto**

"Fight by Night or Day, Land or Sea"



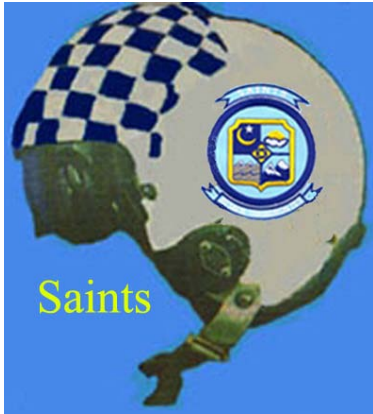


ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT

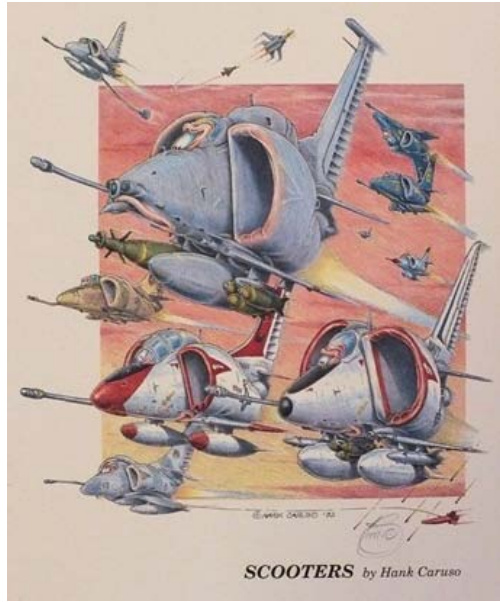


[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas\\_A-4\\_Skyhawk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk)

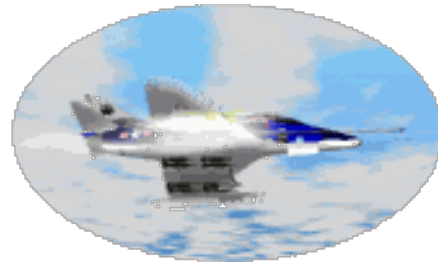








*Birds of a feather... Flock Together*



[Click Here](http://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/sets/) <http://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/sets/>

Also on Saints website, [PHOTOS](#) section

**Contains 80 Albums (Sets).... 4,832 Photos**

**View Counts as of 03 Dec 2018**

Photos

**846,894** views

Albums

**31,111** views

Total

**905,721 views**



[www.Flickr.com](http://www.Flickr.com) charges \$49.99 per year to keep the [SAINTS Photo Albums](#) on their web site.

**UPDATED!** **\*\*PAID \$49.99 annual Flickr.com photo site fee on 15 Nov 2018\*\***

**NOTE:** Flickr went up on their annual fee from \$24.95 p/yr to \$49.99 this year. They say because we were over the 1000 picture limit, and that they were giving us a discount in the past. So, they doubled the price...go figure! Ugh....we presently have 4,832 pictures on there.



**\*\*\*SAINTS WEB SITE\*\*\***

**THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER**

Saints website [www.va163.org](http://www.va163.org) (password: *Saints4ever* (capital S))

**15,316 Visitors since Mar 09**

[History](#), [Latest Info](#), [Photos](#), [In Memoriam](#), [Miscellaneous](#), [Newsletters](#), [Links](#), [Recall Roster](#)

**\*\*\*Total cost for the Saints Website is \$293.97 per year**

**New Fee:** Webmaster Maintenance Fee. \$120 p/year (paid Jan 2018)

**\*\*\*Paid 30 Jan 2018: the annual webmaster fee of \$120\*\*\***

**\*\*\* Paid 22 Feb 2018: Domain Registration \$26.90 for 2 years, next due 31 Mar 20**

**\*\*\* Paid 31 Mar 2018: Domain Protection \$4.50**

Jim Houston, **Webmaster** for [www.VA163.org](http://www.VA163.org) began charging for maintaining the Saints website. He is charging \$10 a month (\$120 p/year).

Ed Copher  
176 Landa Street #315  
New Braunfels, TX 78130

**Any donations are appreciated**

Folks that have sent in donations 2017-18: A big shout out..."Thank You"

Ed Chadwick  
JC Ferris  
Tom Harwood  
Bill Houk  
Tom Kline  
Dan Lestage  
Pete Munro  
Floyd Oakes  
MA Petty  
John Roosen  
Bill Sargent  
Russ Sticklely  
James Thompson  
Bill Tomko  
James Marcely (VA-164)



**M.A. Petty Passed Away:**

We wanted to let you know that M. A. passed away on Monday 11 Nov 2018; appropriately, Veterans' Day. Due to his strong heart, brilliant mind, and indomitable spirit, he did not make it easy on himself. M.



A. was suffering greatly, but now he is at peace. Tanya and I thank you all for your love, support, cards, and emails. As per his wishes, there will be no service. Much love, Rena [renapetty@gmail.com](mailto:renapetty@gmail.com)

**From John Shore:**

G'day Ed...looked through the '65 cruise book and didn't see him. Found him in the '66 book but was unable to determine which division he was with. He may have been with my line division while I was assigned but I moved to operations early in the second cruise.

Heartfelt condolences to all his family members. Saints forever... Best Wishes, John Shore ('65 and '66)



**Larry Dupler Passed Away:**

My brother, Larry Dupler, was a “Saint”. He passed away 9 Nov 2018 from heart problems. In his notes, I found a request to send Ed Copher an email about his passing.

After his service in the Navy, he flew for TWA Airlines, retiring in 1992 and moved back to Cambridge, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Patty Dupler, two sisters, three children and two stepsons, nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. During his retirement, he enjoyed playing tennis, fishing and the satisfaction of acquiring a large supply of firewood.

Condolences can be sent to [thorn-blackfuneralhomes.com](http://thorn-blackfuneralhomes.com)

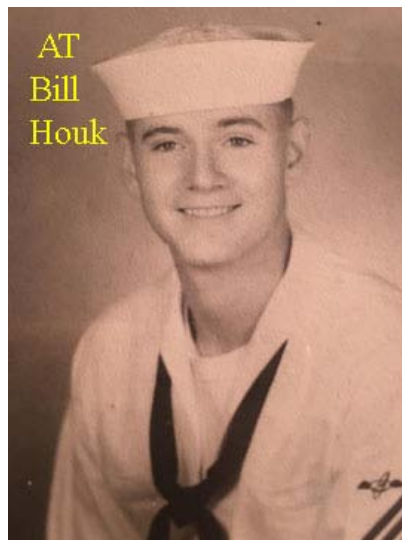
Thank you. He was a great man who helped a lot of people. We will miss him.

Judy Brill [judyllarrybrill@gmail.com](mailto:judyllarrybrill@gmail.com)



**Bill Tomko's Grandson joining the Navy:**





[Wurstfest, New Braunfels TX:](#) Nov 2018  
Finally found someone to look up to...ha



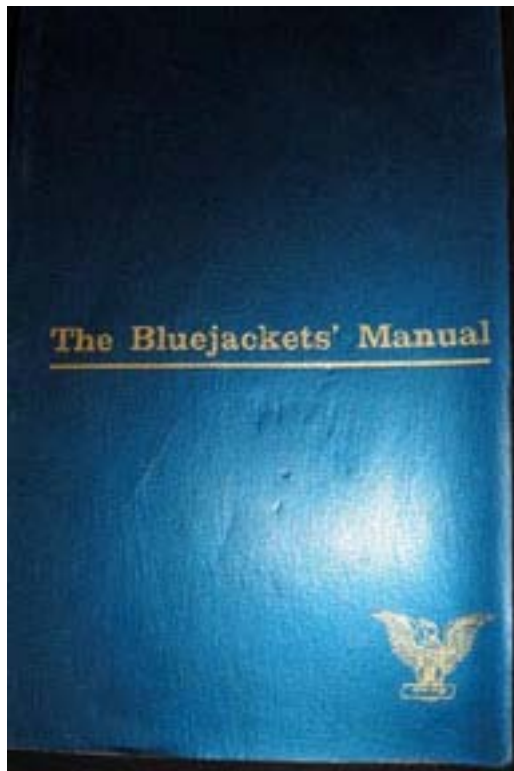
Roger Meyer: Nov 2018



Submitted by Robert Lee:



[Remember this from Boot camp?](#) AKA the sailors' bible





## Names for Oriskany Memorial Bell

Dick Schaffert, aka Brown Bear, is a very well known Crusader/then Phantom pilot and friend of mine. I am a long time follower of the Oriskany saga, having known as you probably do a bunch of people on that Boat, both Crusader and Scoot pilots from both the '66 and '67 Cruises where so many people were lost. At least it got turned into a fish farm rather than razor blades like so many other boats. I personally feel that Boats (and airplanes) have acquired souls, and Oriskany particularly needs to be remembered and honored. It's monument happens to be the Boat itself, deep under the sea.

Following are the names of those killed in action while serving on or from the USS Oriskany, during the time frame of the Vietnam War labeled *ROLLING THUNDER*, spring 1965 to fall 1968.

It is in two parts: ONE is those killed in combat operations and TWO is those killed in the 26 Oct 1966 explosion/fire. With the total of 90, you may have space limitations that force you to go with only the fire/explosion, which was 44. I was able to cross-check the lists from three credible sources. Of course, there remains the accuracy limitation of my recording capabilities at age 84!

Sadly, I currently have next-of-kin contact information for only my roomie Norm Levy's daughter and granddaughter. I am beginning a check of the Virtual Wall website with the hope of getting more.

By copy of this email, I'm asking for help from various individuals and organization websites who might be able to assist in extending your very thoughtful invitation to surviving family/friends, to place a note/prayer in the Memorial Bell; which you'll soon be attaching to Oriskany during another of your challenging, dangerous, and much appreciated dives.

God bless you and your Patriots, Susan, for your kind offer and the skills to perform this admirable "*mission of remembrance.*"

Very Respectfully,  
Dick Schaffert aka Brown Bear  
USS Oriskany, Air Wing Sixteen, VF-111, 1966-8

### **PART ONE:**

Listing of USS Oriskany and CVW-16 personnel killed in action during Operation Rolling Thunder, 25 April 1965 to 11 January 1968, other than during the 26 October 1966 explosion/fire:

USS Oriskany: (2)  
AO3 D. A. Lash  
AB3 Charlie Stone

CVW-16 Staff: (1)  
LCDR Jesse Taylor

VA-152: (7)  
LT Edd Taylor

LTJG Lawrence Mailhes  
LT Charles Fryer  
LT Jack Feldhaus MIA to KIA  
ENS Darwin Thomas  
LTJG Jim Beene  
LTJG Rob Cassell

**VA-163: (9)**

LCDR Roy Hap Bowling  
LT Art Avore  
AN Tom Prezorski  
ENS Daniel Kapner  
LCDR Don Davis  
LTJG Ralph Bisz  
LTJG James Dooley  
LCDR Jeffrey Krommenhoek  
LTJG Ralph Foulks

**VA-164: (11)**

LCDR Richard Powers  
LT Frank Elkins  
LTJG Donovan Ewoldt  
LTJG William Bullard  
AE3 Edwin Dilks  
LCDR Richard Hartman  
LCDR Richard Perry  
LT David Hodges  
LCDR John Barr  
LTJG Frederic Knapp  
AMS3 Richard Woynarski

**VAP-61: (3)**

LCDR James Dennison  
LTJG T. H. Hanley  
PHCS H. H. Herrin Jr.

**VAW-11: (5)**

LTJG Andres Zissu  
LTJG Norman Roggow  
LTJG Donald Wolfe  
AETC Roland Pineau  
JOSN Raul Guerra

**VF-111: (1)**

LT Edwin Van Orden

**VF-162: (5)**

MAJ Robert Bell  
LT Terry Dennison  
CDR Herb Hunter  
LTJG Rich Minnich

LT Lee Prost

VFP-63: (2)

LT Henry McWhorter

LTJG Robert Rudolph

Total of 46

**PART TWO:**

Listing of those killed in action in the 26 October 1966 explosion/fire:

**USS Oriskany: (18)**

LTJG Dewey L. Alexander, Houston TX

LTJG Ramon A. Copple, Shreveport LA

CDR Richard E. Donahue, Centerville IA

JOSN Robert L. Dyke, Alamo CA

LT Frank M. Gardner, Cranston RI

LCDR William J. Garrity Jr. Havre MT

SN James K. Gray, Happy TX

CDR Jack H. Harris, Schofield WI

AA Greg E. Hart, Seattle WA

LTJG James B. Hudis, Brookfield WI

CDR Harry W. Juntilla, Minneapolis MN

LTJG James A. Kelly Jr. Phoenixville PA

SN James A. Lee, Globe AZ

LCDR Walter F. Merrick, Bangor ME

BM3 Donald W. Shanks, Crescent City CA

BM3 Alvin M. Shifflett Jr,

LTJG Franklin M. Tunick, Linden NJ

FN William Walling, Blue Island IL

CVW-16 Staff: (2)

CDR Rodney B. Carter, Porterville CA

LT Lloyd P. Hyde, Atlanta GA

HC-1: (5)

LT Josslyn F. Blakely Jr. Montevallo AL

LT Julian D. Hammond, Meridian MS

ENS Daniel O. Kern, Whitesboro NY

LTJG Gerald W. Siebe, Mascoutah IL

LTJG James R. Welsh, Stroudsburg PA

VA-25: (1)

LCDR Omar R. Ford, Cambridge NE

VA-152: (2)

AZAN David A. Liste, Lake Charles LA

CDR John J. Nussbaumer, Vancouver WA

**VA-163: (4)**

LT Clarence D. Miller, Frostburg MD  
LCDR Clement J. Morrisette, Othello WA  
LTJG Thomas E. Spitzer, Baldwin ND  
ENS Ronald E. Tardio, Cochabamba, BO

**VA-164: (4)**

LTJG James L. Brewer, Memphis TN  
LTJG William A. Johnson, Charlotte NC  
LCDR Daniel L. Strong, Big Bear City CA  
CDR Clyde R. Welch, Somerville TX

**VAH-4: (3)**

CDR George K. Farris, Portland IN  
LT John F. Francis, Weston, ON  
LCDR James A. Smith, Kansas City MO

**VAW-11: (1)**

LTJG William R. Clements, Hayward CA

**VF-111: (3)**

LTJG Cody A. Balisteri, Sheffield Lake OH  
LCDR Norman S. Levy, Forest Hills, NY  
LTJG William G. McWilliams III, Norfolk VA

**VF-162: (1)**

ENS Charles W. Boggs, Minneapolis MN

Total of 44

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**COMBINED TOTAL IS 90**



**Updated Skyhawk losses list:** Submitted by Gary Verver

An updated list of Skyhawk losses can be downloaded from

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/0bjpfumsviw9f5v/A-4%20SOC%20SA.xlsx?dl=0>

The list is in order by custodian (per the history card) and within custodian by loss (action) date.



**Blue Water Sailors and Agent Orange Info:** This is from about 5 years ago, some progress has been made in the last few years, but still no good news. Allot of us VA-163 folks have filled many times for disability with the VA only to be rejected. Rubber stamped at the VA as “no boots on the ground”. JC Ferris finally got approved, but he had to prove that he did have boots on the ground, when he went inland to recover some parts off our shot up aircraft. JC had pictures of him being inland and witnesses. We think that our fresh water supply was contaminated, which was brought to the Oriskany from inland by tankers.



Many veterans suffering from diseases linked to Agent Orange still can't get disability compensation. As a "blue water sailor," Ralph Steele has a higher burden to prove Agent Orange-related illnesses than his counterparts who served ashore. (Motoya Nakamura / The Oregonian)

By [Mike Francis](#)

The Oregonian/OregonLive

Forty years after the last U.S. troops left Vietnam, military veterans continue to tussle with the Department of Veterans Affairs over whether they should be compensated for their exposure to the herbicide and defoliant Agent Orange.

Under [Secretary Eric Shinseki](#), himself a Vietnam veteran, the agency has taken enormous strides to acknowledge that exposure to the toxic defoliant caused [a variety of health problems](#), from birth defects to Type II diabetes to lung cancer. Shinseki has been applauded for adding more diseases, including Parkinson's and heart disease, to the list of maladies presumed to have been caused by Agent Orange. The expansion could make as many as 200,000 Vietnam War veterans eligible for compensation.

Yet the reach of the herbicide, which contains toxic dioxin, extends beyond the classes of U.S. military veterans now presumed by the VA to be suffering ill health. Vietnamese people, too, have been afflicted with a range of diseases associated with Agent Orange. And even among U.S. veterans, gaps in recognition and compensation remain.

Among those who have fought with limited success for disability compensation are the people who flew in aircraft carrying Agent Orange, so-called "blue water sailors" who didn't set foot in Vietnam but who say they ingested the chemical, and people who served during the war in South Korea, where the defoliant was also used.

McMinnville's Wes Carter, when he served aboard a C-123

McMinnville's Wes Carter, a retired Air Force Reservist who served aboard a C-123 aircraft that sprayed Agent Orange and other herbicides during the Vietnam War, has made himself into an expert on the Air Force's handling of C-123s, including the one he flew.

While the war had ended by the time Carter flew aboard the aircraft, he remembers the terrible chemical stink that forced the crew to fly the unpressurized craft with windows and sometimes doors open. At his website, [c123kcancer.blogspot.com](http://c123kcancer.blogspot.com), he has compiled extensive documentation that shows his aircraft and others were contaminated with toxins. Yet the Air Force destroyed the aircraft and the Department of Veterans Affairs has not acknowledged a connection between the aircraft and Agent Orange-related diseases.

Carter has suffered heart attacks and been afflicted with prostate cancer. He and other members of his C-123 crew "were more likely as not to have been exposed to excessive levels of dioxins," Dr. Fred Berman, director of Oregon Health and Science University's CROET Toxicology Information Center, [wrote in a May 2011 letter](#) to the Secretary of the Air Force and the C-123 veterans. Berman said the aircraft flown by Carter and the others were considered to be "heavily contaminated" with dioxins.

[Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore.](#), has written to the VA about the C-123 veterans, urging Shinseki and to the VA's Inspector General to reconsider the VA's stance on claims by C-123 crew members.

Merkley noted that, despite evidence of extensive contamination of the aircraft, VA representatives "have stated that it is not possible that C-123 air crews were exposed to dioxin because the residues had dried" -- a position Merkley said other experts had called "seriously flawed." He asked that the VA evaluate each disability compensation claim on its own merits.

"Regardless of how a veteran gets exposed to Agent Orange, they still need to be treated fairly by the VA," Merkley said this week through a spokesperson. "A veteran who later flew planes that had been used to

spray Agent Orange during the Vietnam War is still sick even if his Agent Orange exposure was non-traditional."

The VA didn't respond to requests for comment about Merkley's letter or Carter's case.

Ralph Steele of Southeast Portland was what the Navy calls "a blue water sailor" aboard the [USS Oriskany](#) aircraft carrier during the Vietnam War. The VA has said it can't conclude whether blue water sailors were exposed to dangerous levels of Agent Orange. But Steele said he has no doubt that the crew of the Oriskany, which cruised on extended stints in the Gulf of Tonkin, literally bathed in it.

"All that stuff came out in the ocean. We took it in our evaporators. We ate it, we drank it, we showered in it, we washed our clothes in it."

Steele said he has suffered two heart attacks and a stroke and has contracted diabetes and has an enlarged prostate. He has a 10 percent disability rating for tinnitus related to being around military aircraft, but he hasn't received any Agent Orange-related compensation. He, too, has spoken with Merkley's staff about his case.

In response to a question about blue water sailors, a VA spokeswoman said "The 2011 Institute of Medicine report determined that there is currently insufficient scientific evidence for VA to warrant an extension of a presumption of exposure to herbicides such as Agent Orange to Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans.

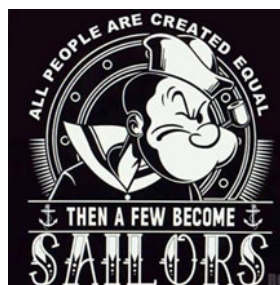
However, VA will continue to accept and review all Blue Water Vietnam Veteran claims on a case-by-case basis."

Beaverton's Ron Weber was an enlisted man in the Army during the Vietnam War, but he served at Camp Casey in South Korea. In 2011, [the VA widened its allowance](#) for presumptive Agent Orange claims to include veterans who served near Korea's demilitarized zone.

But, said Weber, there's a "huge crevasse" between the VA acknowledging that veterans were exposed to Agent Orange in Korea and granting disability compensation because of it. He has fought for years to get his disability rating for diabetes raised to 20 percent and said he has become known in the Agent Orange community as one of the few who has won disability compensation based on his service in Korea. He says he receives a dozen emails a day from people asking for advice.

"I can't handle all the requests," he said. "The ones that kill me the most are from children and spouses."

He said they tell him they didn't realize their loved one's behavior or sicknesses may have resulted from exposure to chemicals sprayed by U.S. forces. They say they wish they had. -Mike Francis





## SCUTTLEBUTT

*Latest was heard at the "Gedunk"*

The Smoking Lamp is out due to JP-5 Jet Fuel in the drinking water.

Cold Saltwater showers "only" due to no fresh water.

Remember: The soap will not rinse off in cold saltwater shower....



The Skyhawk Association has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

*Ed Copher is the Association SDO for VA-163 Saints and VA-125*

**Skyhawk Association Links:**

Association main page: <http://a4skyhawk.info/>

**VA-163 page:** <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-unit/va163>

*Please join the Skyhawk Association. A great Quarterly Magazine, allot of A-4's and Saints articles.  
Only \$30 per year.*


**Skyhawk Association Digital Journal:** Feb 2017

This year's digital edition can be found at: <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-journal-public/skyhawk-association-journal-public-page1>

Skyhawk Association Journal - THE A-4ever

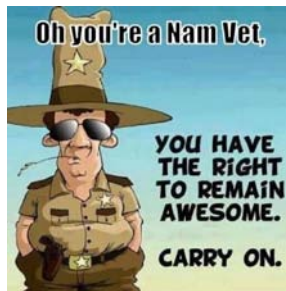
a4skyhawk.info

Our "Members Only" Journal is published twice yearly and contains excellent textual and color image examples of the historical and current activities of one of the ...





Agent Orange Troop



**Vietnam War Resources:**



Below is a link to a web site about the war in Viet Nam. Whether you are a Viet Nam veteran or not, you may find this web site very interesting because it contains an absolutely enormous amount of information about the war. <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/~tpilsch/Vietnam.html>



**Vietnam War Resources, Data Site:** *Amazing accumulation*

**ALMOST ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT VIETNAM AND A LOT MORE:**

This is probably the best search list ever compiled about Vietnam. It would take months to look at everything this site offers.

Click on the link: <http://www-static.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam..html>

**Life Magazine Vietnam War Photography:**

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Life+Magazine+Vietnam+War+Photography&go=&form=QBIR>





### Newsletters are on Saints Website:

Go to Saints Website, click on [Newsletters](#),

To view the Roster: click on [Roster](#), then [Complete Roster](#), password: **Saints4ever** (capital S)



## **\*\*Websites of Interest\*\***

### **Oriskany Web Sites:**

<a href="#">USS Oriskany (CVA 34)</a>	25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 1979	Stricken from Navy List 1989. Sold 9 Sep 1995, but contractor defaulted. Repossessed by the Navy and contract terminated 30 Jul 1997. Sunk off coast of Florida 17 May 2006 for use as artificial reef. <a href="#">Click on the ship name for a complete history.</a>
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1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: [www.mbtdivers.com](http://www.mbtdivers.com)
2. The best pictures of the reefing. *Going to her final resting place:* <http://www.irishmansoftware.com/Oriskany.htm>
3. Oriskany Reunion Association: [www.ussoriskany.com](http://www.ussoriskany.com)
4. Video of Big O going under: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1401279762745553286&q=oriskany>
5. Patriot Media "The Mighty O": <http://patriotmediainc.com/>
6. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: [http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany\\_photos.htm](http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm)
7. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnIBZis>
8. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: 1. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm> 2. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html> 3. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>
9. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: [http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss\\_oriskany\\_67/index.html](http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html)
10. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: <http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml>
11. Oriskany model: <http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/>
12. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584>
13. USS Oriskany History 1972: <http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html>
14. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project (<http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>)
15. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email> 10 min
16. **Oriskany Memorial Dive for Saint Ralph Bisz:** *Saints logo patch placed on Oriskany, 20 Sept 2010*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqNETwJvF3A> 7:13 min video
17. **Oriskany Dive to put Saint Larry Spear's ashes to rest on Oriskany:** *03 Dec 2010*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBnOkCrDnQo> 7:25 min video
18. **Saints Video on YouTube:** *Dennis Lund video filmed on the Oriskany including the Oriskany fire!*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ5ykZjRaIM>
19. **USS Hancock:** Click here: [Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock \("Hannah"\)](#)
20. **Tour of Duty photo site:** 3000 photos, some Saints <https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>
21. **USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video

22. 1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>
23. O Boat Sinking Video: <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>
24. Oriskany Video: With F-4's [https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws)
25. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group.

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**181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction Fire photos:**

No need to log in.

<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>

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**ADM Stockdale History:**

<http://usnhistory.navylive.dodlive.mil/2015/11/13/navy-legend-vice-adm-stockdale-led-pow-resistance/>

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**49 plane flyover:**

Click here: [Arrowhead Stadium, 49 plane flyover - YouTube](#)

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**Great Military Commercial:**

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABty\\_zE00?rel=0](https://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABty_zE00?rel=0)

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**Skyhawk Association: Scroll down for articles about VA-163 and other units. Also about NAS Lemoore.**

David Weber (AKA "Twidget") one of our website volunteers has developed a site map for the Skyhawk Association website. Dave has written the computer code which will allow users to simply click on a particular link and go directly to that location on the web. There is also a "Glossary" located in the Ready Room under the heading "Finding Stuff". We hope you find these latest web tools useful. Thanks to all for volunteering to be an SDO. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Thanks as always, George

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NOTE: IN the Ready Room; there is a link to a "Glossary"

<http://a4skyhawk.info/home>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/notices>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/faq-research-contact>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-membership>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-online-membership-payment-options>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-leadership>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/scooter-ships-store-and-px>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/links>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/terms-use>  
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<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-journal-private/skyhawk-association-journal-private-page1>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listing/sajournals>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listing/safolders-sa-sop>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/sites/default/files/docs-pdfs/sa-roster-oct17-mod1.html>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/association-email-ids>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/association-bylaws>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/glossary>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/verdin-rahm>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/hotrod-rahm>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/carpenter-combat-flight>  
Heywood 'Woody' Sprouse - "Really Did It" <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/vincent-flights>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/160250-loss-panter-ejection>  
[http://a4skyhawk.info/sites/default/files/docs-pdfs/arg-falkland-green\\_rr-only.pdf](http://a4skyhawk.info/sites/default/files/docs-pdfs/arg-falkland-green_rr-only.pdf)  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-readyroom/brazil-skyhawks>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listing/iaf-docs>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listing/safolder/rnzaf>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listings/magazines>  
<http://a4skyhawk.info/directory-listing/blue-angels-82-83>

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**[Navy Commercial:](#)**

<http://www.facebook.com/USNavyAircraftCarriers/videos/10156139765898669/>

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**Article about Stockdale:**

<https://www.facebook.com/Tailhook.Association/posts/1613398878698053>

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**Vietnam Wall**--THIS IS AMAZING!

This is really sobering. First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city where you went to high school and look at the names. Click on the name and it will give details of the person's death, a picture or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it. I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country. Pass the link on to others, as many knew wonderful people whose names are listed.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

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**Vietnam Aircraft Losses:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_aircraft\\_losses\\_of\\_the\\_Vietnam\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_aircraft_losses_of_the_Vietnam_War)

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**Vietnam Song:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TheVeteransSite/posts/1724893187572582>

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**Blue Angels with A-4's:**

<http://www.avgeekery.com/watch-blue-angels-reborn-flew-4f-skyhawk/>

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**How A-4's Ruled the Sky's:**

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/how-the-4-skyhawk-ruled-the-skies-21967>

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**Skyhawk Videos:**

This is for the A4 Skyhawk enthusiast .Got this from my Nephew in law. I love to see those Bombs and Rockets go off "ON TARGET" and successfully complete the mission. I took many Skilled and brave Pilots and many hard working and skilled crew to do these 12 to 16 hours a day. Hard to believe I used to load the Ordinance so many, many years ago, where did all those muscles go?

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IQymtxjt24](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IQymtxjt24)

[www.youtu.be/1mfdRvzUVtM](http://www.youtu.be/1mfdRvzUVtM)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgwEWSjzwz8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgwEWSjzwz8)

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**VA-164 Video:** Miss Jessie and Ghost Rider 401

Dick Perry of the O-boat's VA-164 and the saga of Miss Jessie.

<https://www.facebook.com/DosEckes-Productions-362988187722/?pnref=story>

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**The Blues Flying the A-4**

Oh the good old days. Scooter drivers prepare to shed a tear.....

**The best Blue Angel show of all time. A-4's.** Here is a video of them from the '70's. Bear Smith and Skip Umsted are the last two guys walking towards the camera before they get to their planes. They both died later in aircraft accidents. The crazy solo is Denny Sapp. Best show for the spectators because it was close to show center. Always in sight. **Tightest diamond formation ever.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wk3XSV6H6w0>

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**Resource Book with details of all aircraft loss on every cruise:** Submitted by Ed Chadwick  
Here is a site where books by Rene J. Francillon can be purchased. His "**Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club**" has a section that shows every carrier deployment during the Vietnam. It details each aircraft loss on every cruise, including the date, aircraft type, aircraft identification, squadron, pilots name / rank and well as whether the pilot was KIA, recovered or made a POW. I look at the book when memory fails me. It's a great resource.

<https://www.amazon.com/Ren%C3%A9-J.-Francillon/e/B001HCWSDM>

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### **Detail Thesis on CAG 16 1965-1967**

Commander Fey, who asked my permission to use a Photo I took of Commander Stockdale's Saints A-4 from 1965. He said he did a thesis on CAG 16 and a Manifest. Many of the Saints including Skipper's Compton and Foster were interviewed as well as Mildman and others. It spans 1965 thru 1967. I found it very interesting with insight I never was aware of, worth a read. WE WERE THERE!!! Thanks Bill Tomko

CAG 16 losses and info: [https://www.google.com/?gws\\_rd=ssl#q=Peter+Fey+rolling+Thunder](https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=Peter+Fey+rolling+Thunder)

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### **VN 40 years ago...75 pictures**

<http://www.vintag.es/2015/04/vietnam-war-40-years-ago-75-beathtaking.html>

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### **Legends of the Ho Chi Minh Trail**

<http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-Minh-trail-Laos/>

There are many links to the archive by date as well as to specific articles like this one about an F-4 shootdown:

<http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-shot-down-plane/>

This is the homepage:

[www.laosgpsmap.com](http://www.laosgpsmap.com)

Ho Chi Minh Trail Tours:

[www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-tours/](http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-tours/)

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### **Vietnam War Stories:**

<http://cherrieswriter.wordpress.com/category/the-vietnam-war-story/>

Tags : [book sites](#), [books war](#), [cherry soldier](#), [combat](#), [Combat Infantry](#), [digital books](#), [firefigths](#), [Grunts](#), [Hispanic](#), [Historical fiction](#), [jungle warfare](#), [Military](#), [novels](#), [The vietnam war](#), [The Vietnam war story](#), [Veteran](#), [Vietnam blog pages](#), [Vietnam book](#), [Vietnam conflict](#), [Vietnam veteran](#), [war books](#), [war stor](#), [Wars and Conflicts](#)

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**Number of Vietnam Vets Still Alive:**

This has a lot of the statistics on Vietnam Vets.....

<http://www.nationalvietnamveteransfoundation.org/statistics.htm>

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**1956 Navy All Hands Meeting:**

Thought you might find this 1956 All Hands..... interesting.

[http://www.navy.mil/ah\\_online/archpdf/ah195603.pdf](http://www.navy.mil/ah_online/archpdf/ah195603.pdf)

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**A good day to revisit the Virtual Wall:**

Vietnam Wall

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear.

Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it.

I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our

country. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bio's and other information on our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

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**Do you remember these?**

This will bring back memories

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=puGQsQux80k](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=puGQsQux80k)

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**Vietnam Photos:**

[http://news.yahoo.com/photos/a-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow/vietnam-photo--](http://news.yahoo.com/photos/a-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow/vietnam-photo--599932980.html?format=embed#mediaphotosbobaspotlightgallery=%252Flightbox%252Fa-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow%252Fvietnam-photo--599932096.html)

[599932980.html?format=embed#mediaphotosbobaspotlightgallery=%252Flightbox%252Fa-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow%252Fvietnam-photo--599932096.html](http://news.yahoo.com/photos/a-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow/vietnam-photo--599932980.html?format=embed#mediaphotosbobaspotlightgallery=%252Flightbox%252Fa-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow%252Fvietnam-photo--599932096.html)

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**Military Video** ~ Ending is Fabulous

Please take the time to view this and watch till the end. I was so very touched. And once again.....

Thank you to ALL who have served our country! I live in a free nation because of your sacrifice! God Bless you! Because of the warriors of the past, the present, and the future, we Americans can walk tall.

For those of you of may not know, or have forgotten, Lt. Col. Oliver North was wounded in Vietnam many times and never left the men he commanded. I am now passing this on for you to watch. It's not just

enjoyable, it is riveting! When you are done pass it on too, I think it's important ... don't you? If you are a veteran, I say thank you, for everything! You are SO special! Take the time for this one. You won't be disappointed ... the end is a kicker.

<http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/index.html>

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**NAS Lemoore April 1968:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sRIO4kvjVE&feature=youtu.be>

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**Photos/History of Vietnam:**

Excellent Viet Nam Pictorial History

From the Denver Post.

Click here: [VietamPictorialHistory](#)

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**Vietnam War - Source list**

I am passing this along because it is probably the best search list ever compiled about the Vietnam War. This simply has to be shared with anyone who ever served in Vietnam. It would take months (*more like years*) to look at everything this site offers:

<http://www.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam.html>

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**A-4 Skyhawks:**

<http://a4skyhawk.org/>

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**When the Saints Go Marching In - US Navy Seventh Fleet Band**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related>

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**VA Benefits Blog on Facebook:**

VA Benefit Blog

[https://www.facebook.com/vabenefitblog?sk=app\\_129722457108553#!/vabenefitblog?sk=wall](https://www.facebook.com/vabenefitblog?sk=app_129722457108553#!/vabenefitblog?sk=wall)

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**Douglas A-4 Skyhawk:** 6:10 min video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hApICSSZqAs&feature=related>

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**Vietnam War Documentary Trailer:**

[http://www.v-prod.com/trailer\\_vietnam.html](http://www.v-prod.com/trailer_vietnam.html)

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**A-4 Skyhawk Photo Galleries on Flickr.com website:** Some of our Saints photos are in there!!!

[www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623353551691/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623353551691/)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623815542532/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623815542532/)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623727604239/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623727604239/)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854694748/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854694748/)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854748712/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854748712/)

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**RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 Dec** to read the **Articles** go to the web site at:  
[http://post\\_119\\_gulfport\\_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html](http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html)



# SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

**“Muster Call”**

**Revised 03 Dec 2018**

New or changed address:

Ed Copher: [newsman242@gmail.com](mailto:newsman242@gmail.com)

**See website roster**

*Please advise if you have any additions or corrections.*

**Complete Muster Call can be found on the Saints website –**  
[www.va163.org](http://www.va163.org) (password, **Saints4ever**) capital **S**



