

Toooo Weeeettt..Attention on Deck...Now hear this...Standby to hear a message from the bridge.... "Saints *May* 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.



20th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 231

“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God’s gift, that’s why we call it the present”

“Remember today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday”

**Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Be Well, Salute to all you heros**

**Military Enlistment Oath:** I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution Of The United States against **all enemies, foreign and domestic**; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States.

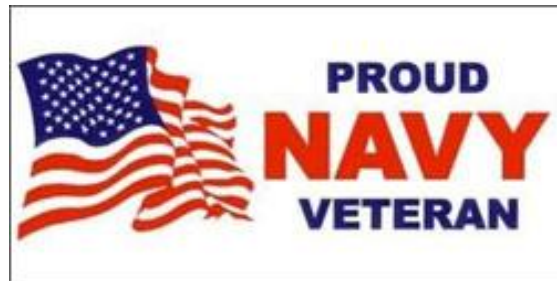
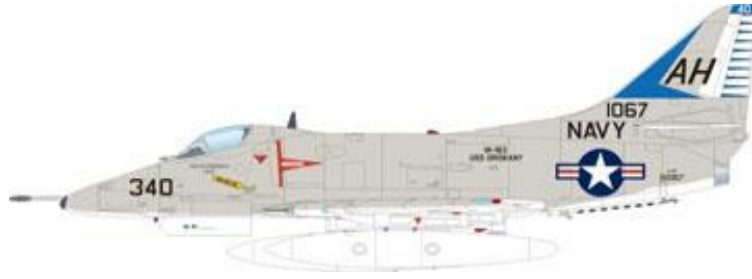


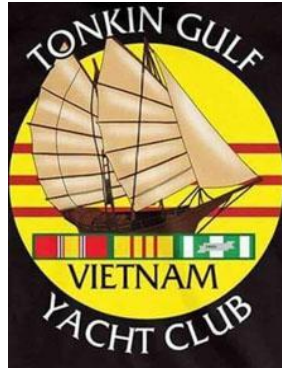


**Patriot**

**pa·tri·ot** *Noun*  
[pey-tree-uhz, -ot or, esp. British, pa-tree-uhz]

A person who vigorously supports their country and is prepared to defend it against enemies foreign and domestic.





### Standing the Watch



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

### **"Keeper of the Flame"**

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows

Daring us to '...catch me...if you can!'

As time steadily treads its own meandering path,

It's hard to trace old members of the clan.

Then someone steps up with lantern and blade

Shouting, "Let's gather them in for us all, good neighbor!

We'll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and

Share them with one and another!

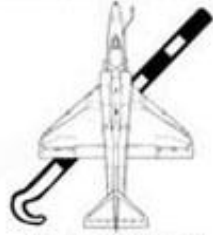
"I'll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,

That our friends may never be lost in the dark!"

ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT



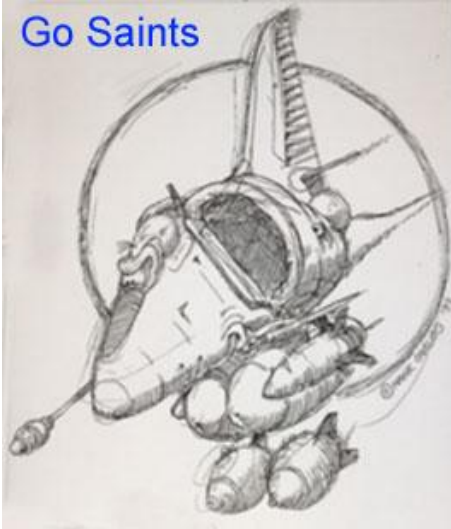
**Tailhook Navy**



**A-4 SKYHAWK**









ATKRON 163





## *Saints Photos Website*



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/sets/>

Also on Saints website, PHOTOS section

**Contains 80 Albums.... 4,832 Photos**

**View Counts as of 03 May 2022**

**“Over a million views”**

**1,116,275 views**



“Saints Reunion Virginia Beach” 49 photos & 1 video

Click on link below

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/albums/72157720165688053/with/51698826279/>

\*\*\*\*Paid **\$76.00** to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 27 April 2022

**\*\*\*SAINTS WEBSITE\*\*\***

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

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

**30,688** 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**

**\*\*\* 14 March 2022 paid \$15.45 to "Active-Domain" website hosting for 1 year renewal\*\*\***

\*\*\*5 OCT 2021 paid \$306.75 to "GoDaddy" website  
hosting for 2 year renewal\*\*\*

15 Jan 2022 paid \$120 to "Webmaster" for maintenance of site, annual renewal

01 March 2022 paid \$14.45 for "Domain Name" one year renewal

Any donations are appreciated

Ed Copher

1211 Gruene Vintage

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Folks that have sent in "website" donations 2017-21: A big shout out... "Thank You"

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dave Carey

Ed Chadwick

Dennis Dooley

David Farley

JC Ferris (2)

Bob Feuillerat

Earl Groff (3)

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk

Tom Kline (2)

Dale & Mary Landroth

Daniel Lestage (2)

George Lundy

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

Richard Odegaard

MA Petty

John Roosen (2)

Bill Sargent

Fritz Schroeder

John Shore (2)

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stabile

Lucille Stickley (4)

James Marcely (VA-164)

Steve Cutting (VA-164)

Tommy Wimberly (other)

**Folks that have donated to the “Saints Flower Fund”: Thank You**

***Flowers have been sent to the last 10 funerals***

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dennis Dooley

Earl Groff

John Roosen

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Anthony Stabile

Ed Chadwick

Daniel Lestage (2)

Lucille Stickley (3)





Hancock 1968



Hancock 1968

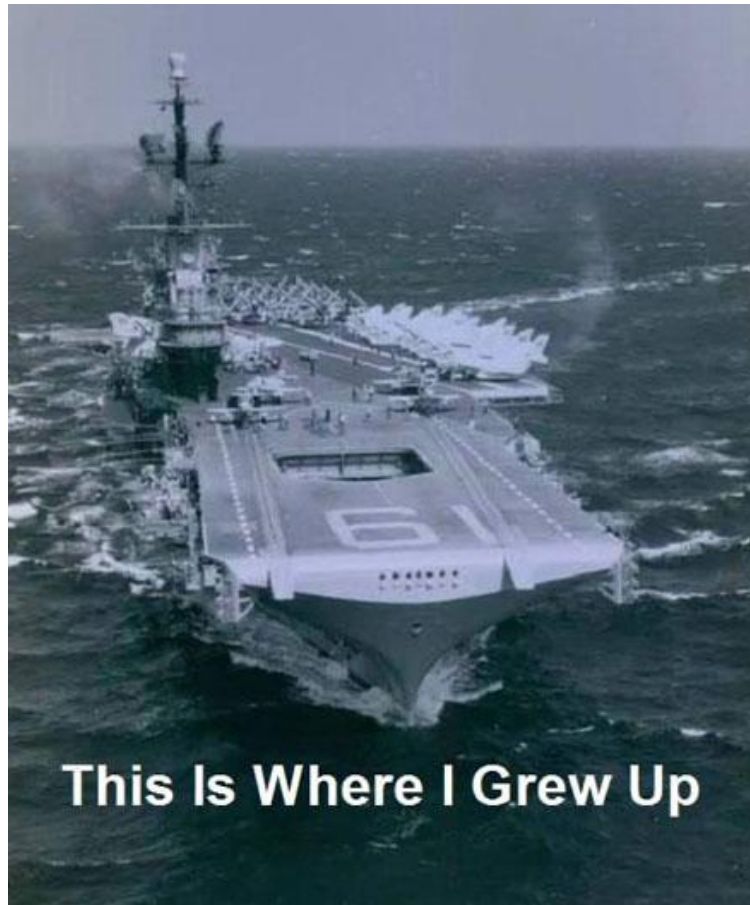
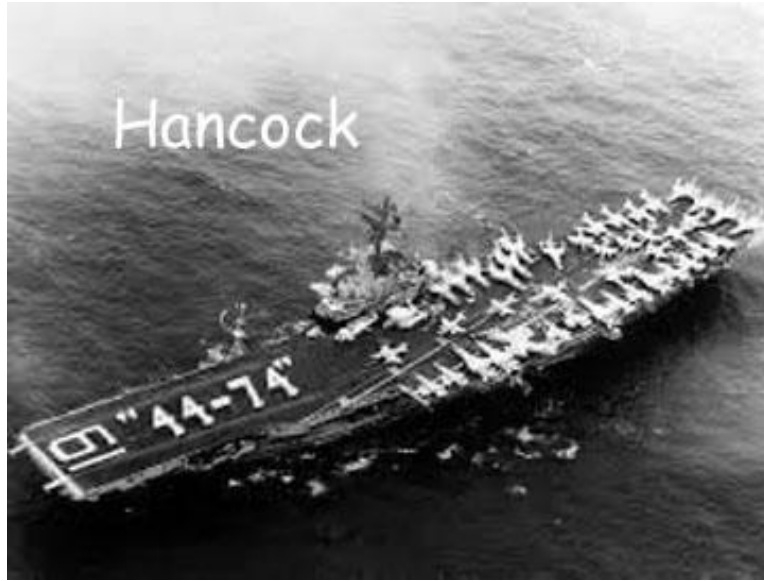






Photo © 2001  
Gary Campbell

















**FIGHTS ON DECALS**

**SKYHAWK FOD4B001**  
**A-4/TA-4 PART I**  
**ADVERSARIES**

**NFWS** **VF-126** **VF-45**

SCALE TO THE HORIZONTAL AXIS  
**1/48TH**

DECALS PRINTED BY **cartograf**

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[HTTP://STORE.VAGABONDDECALS.COM](http://store.vagabonddecals.com)







# THE A4 EVER

SKYHAWK ASSOCIATION JOURNAL VOL 28-1



## *Contents:*

- The Death Flight
- Great Escapes: VMA-533
- Vietnam - After the Tactical Jets
- AQM-37 Mission

*HOOK 22, A-4 Reunion  
September 8-10  
Nugget Casino, Sparks, NV*

Spring 2022

<http://skyhawk.org>





Oh how I miss that delicious Monkey Meat



**If students think their Senior Year  
has been ruined, remind them that**



**from 1964-70, many seniors  
took their Senior Trip to Vietnam**





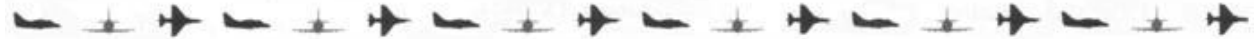


## A Sailor's Life

### *Welcome Aboard...*

In the days of sail, a sailor's life was hazardous in his duties and often monotonous in its routine. His personal life was austere, with few personal pleasures while at sea. All of his possessions had to fit into a seabag or chest, as his space was confined to that of his hammock or bunk. Music, carving or whittling small objects, scrimshaw, ships in bottles and fancywork (macramé) were some of the available pastimes for his off watch periods.





### [Oriskany Reunion:](#)

Oriskany Annual Reunion **Oct. 9-13 2022 Kansas City** Dennis Young is the host PH# (816) 686-0197, hope to see all shipmates there!!

The 2023 Reunion will be at The Oriskany Museum in NY.

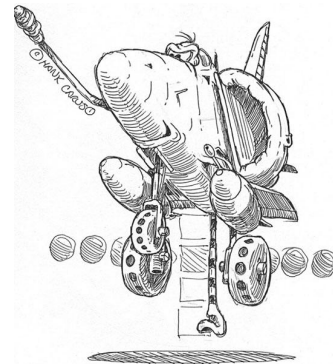


### [Join the "VA-163 Saints" Facebook group:](#)



Please join the "**VA-163 Saints**" Facebook group. Updates on reunions etc. and other interesting Saints postings. You can post pictures and other info for others to enjoy. Just go to Facebook Groups and search for **VA-163 Saints**.

Ed Copher is the group administrator and will approve your joining.



**The Skyhawk Association** has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

**Home page:** Click here: [Home Page | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**VA-163 page:** [VA-163 | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**YouTube page:** [Skyhawk Association - YouTube](#)

**Please join the Skyhawk Association. A great Quarterly Magazine, allot of A-4's and Saints articles.**

**Only \$30 per year.**

**To Join:** <http://skyhawk.org/>

## Websites of Interest

**BOMBS AWAY!**

[How Blue Water Navy Ships were exposed to Agent Orange - BLUE WATER NAVY ASSOCIATION](#)

<https://www.bwnvva.org/how-blue-water-navy-ships-were-exposed-to-agent-orange.html>

[Navy offer recruits \\$25000 to enlist:](#)

<https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2022/04/08/navy-offers-at-least-25000-to-recruits-w-ho-ship-before-june/?fbclid=IwAR3Fu0DAEuisng2J-x5jWeaNI5sJ9yWsuFOVPMklo8UdapJe16c0ma6cUd4>

[Lockheed new toys:](#)

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=2BAgdKktbE8>

[A-4s on Instagram](#)

[https://www.instagram.com/reel/CZtCO4KDW1-/?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/reel/CZtCO4KDW1-/?utm_medium=copy_link)

[Blue Angels Cockpit video:](#)

<https://youtu.be/Ynvoriv09Ks>

**Oriskany Websites:** USS Oriskany (CVA 34) 25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 1979 Stricken from Navy List 1989. Sold 9 Sep 1995, but the contractor defaulted. Repossessed by the Navy and contract terminated 30 Jul 1997. Sunk off the coast of Florida 17 May 2006 for use as an artificial reef. Click on the ship name for a complete history.

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=9I-wYnlBZis>
8. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: A. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>  
B. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>  
C. <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. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints <https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>
20. USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video
21. 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>
22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>
23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's [https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws)
24. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group
25. **Oriskany Dive video, to the Brig:** 6 Dec 2021  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960059966910/>
26. **Oriskany Dive video, to the XO's stateroom and Officers Mess:** 31 Oct 2021  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960065921910/>

### **Oriskany Fire, Life Magazine**

Life Magazine, November 25, 1966

"A Carrier's Agony — Hell Afloat"

An approximate **15 page article with photos** detailing the tragedy at sea. Click below for complete article:

<http://www.ussoriskany.us/Oriskany/LifeNR.pdf>

### **Oriskany in Western Pacific**

<https://youtu.be/CuznRX9Pa9k>

### **Oriskany Flight Ops and Unrep:**

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/854611>(<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/854611>)

### **Oriskany on YouTube video:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6i8DIJA5DU0&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR210YA4tzW4VITm58zt0aerctBQCmhNBOOrT9okW6Brb7V0Jmzlh9RNEP1g>

### **Veterans - For - Change**

If you have any problems, send an EMail to: [Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org](mailto:Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org)

If you no longer wish to receive these reminders then unsubscribe here

[https://veterans-for-change.org/index.php?option=com\\_regreminder&task=optout&uid=5cdd4cc55f1cfc622bebb36bedf1c2f1](https://veterans-for-change.org/index.php?option=com_regreminder&task=optout&uid=5cdd4cc55f1cfc622bebb36bedf1c2f1)

### **USS Ford video:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR3jxTuYGXRh-atj\\_DI6qKjS3WP\\_7fa\\_YI5KVNJdkQjCUpg\\_SGLI85kQ-3I&v=sJdHh5zn8Zw&feature=youtu.be](https://m.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR3jxTuYGXRh-atj_DI6qKjS3WP_7fa_YI5KVNJdkQjCUpg_SGLI85kQ-3I&v=sJdHh5zn8Zw&feature=youtu.be)

### **Blue Angels:**

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

### **TA-4 inflight video:**

[https://instagram.com/skyhawk518?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://instagram.com/skyhawk518?utm_medium=copy_link)

**Ed Copher Oriskany Fire Interview:** Done at Virginia Beach on 5 Nov, 30 min video  
[ED COPHER RAW INTERVIEW](#) <https://f.io/oxWyqbJo>

**Huggin the Deck video:** 54 min video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSgDIS5I9s8>

**John Shore 1965-66 WestPac Video:**

<https://youtu.be/pWeBAyWfP8>

**USS Hancock:** Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock ("Hannah")

[http://scottymoore.net/USHancock.html?fb\\_action\\_ids=620396487990408&fb\\_action\\_types=og.likes&fb\\_source=other\\_multiline&action\\_object\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action\\_type\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action\\_ref\\_map=%5B%5D#NASNI](http://scottymoore.net/USHancock.html?fb_action_ids=620396487990408&fb_action_types=og.likes&fb_source=other_multiline&action_object_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action_type_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action_ref_map=%5B%5D#NASNI)

**Lots of Oriskany Info:**

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/34.htm?fbclid=IwAR0Onwxj0QPhQRFLCmZ6wzytPb9D9YpRVSIB2Ea6cKhhUKm2gP0SECiqj-k>

**A-4 Skyhawk Wikipedia:**

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas\\_A-4\\_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9\\_UXVE\\_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9_UXVE_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM)

**Amazing Carrier Landing:**

[https://fb.watch/8szS\\_yQV97/](https://fb.watch/8szS_yQV97/)

**Website on the A-4 Skyhawk** with much interest as I am very keen to commission and publish further books on this beautiful and iconic aircraft. More on us can be gleaned here:

<https://www.fonthill.media/products/phantom-pilot>



If you are interested in possibly connecting and discussing a proposal on the A-4 Skyhawk or a pilot/ground crew memoir, please do not hesitate to contact me. [j.slater@fonthillmedia.com](mailto:j.slater@fonthillmedia.com) via [fonthill.onmicrosoft.com](http://fonthill.onmicrosoft.com)

**Oriskany Amature flight deck videos:** From Facebook

1. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157816002016910/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815770641910/>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815786321910/>

**Landing on Oriskany Video:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT\\_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs)

**A-4 Inflight Crash video:**

<https://fb.watch/8jyVi92eJh/>

**Oriskany Sinking video:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=IwAR2xrucXr7I2laUx8SM98-IIDXp](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=IwAR2xrucXr7I2laUx8SM98-IIDXpAi3)  
[Ai3](#)

**Vietnam Memorial Wall Faces:**

154 service members with names inscribed on The Wall were born on Oct. 23. Their photos are spotlighted today on the Wall of Faces. Every day, the Wall of Faces changes to honor those who were born on that day. Join us in remembering them today and each of the 58,279 service members with names inscribed on The Wall. Search The Wall here: [vymf.org/wall-of-faces](http://vymf.org/wall-of-faces)

**Oriskany Video Clip:**

<https://youtu.be/-UbU3iMj4zw>

**Petula Clark, Sailor 1961**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Oriskany in Bridges of Toko-Ri:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw\\_yI](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw_yI)

**Sailor Song 1961**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Veterans Benefits Newsletter from the VA:**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/27794cb>

**Military Aircraft photos:**

<http://www.doyletics.com/tidbits/militaryadvice.pdf>

**Oriskany Dive 9 Feb 2020:**

<https://vimeo.com/390358620>

**Blue Angels A-4 Video:**

<https://www.navalhistory.org/2020/01/24/how-the-navy-got-a-hit-recruiting-video-from-van-halen>

**High Flight by John Denver:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1xNGgWNRUf8#>

**F-18 Parking on Flightdeck:**

<https://fbwat.ch/1vthAlcaGlvADom4>

**A-4 Launch 1962:**

<https://www.facebook.com/100026351565698/posts/312902602931456?d=n&sfns=mo>

**I Stand:**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2eBxVxO0nh4>

**Blue Angels In Flight:**

[https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=Evergreen&utm\\_term=Veterans&utm\\_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage](https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Evergreen&utm_term=Veterans&utm_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage)

**Blue Angels Cockpit...**

[WATCH: BLUE ANGELS - Footage Inside the Cockpit](#)

**Saints WestPac 1965-66 Video:**

Saint John Shore had his 8 mm movies converted to a DVD. He said it only took him 50+ years to get it put together. I took the DVD and uploaded it to YouTube.com. What a task for this rookie YouTube user, took many hours, first had to convert the DVD to Mp3, and that took hours of work. Then upload to YouTube took many steps to get accomplished. Click on the link below to view on YouTube.

**LINK** address: <https://youtu.be/bwuTIK544cQ>

**Oriskany Sinking Article & photos:**

<https://fighterjetsworld.com/naval/the-u-s-navy-blows-up-aircraft-carrier-sets-world-record-that-still-stands/10506/>

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

No need to log in.

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

**NAS Lemoore April 1968:**

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

# SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

## “Muster Call”

Revised 03 May 2022

New or changed address:

Admiral Compton has a new home phone number: 334 654 5060. His son David has moved to Demopolis and is the best source to get information on or to the Skipper. David's phone number is 571-286-6161 and email [dtcompton3@gmail.com](mailto:dtcompton3@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**



*Happy trails to you....until we meet again.....*<https://g.co/kgs/3FJhs4>

