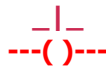


Toooo Weeet... Attention on Deck... "Saints...September newsletter"...Arriving!

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.



2017

15th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 178



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

Listen to music as you read the newsletter:

[When the Saints Go Marching In – US Navy Seventh Fleet Band](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related> at the top right of your screen, click the Minimize minus sign (-). It will then go back to the newsletter with the music playing. When finished listening to music, go to your desk top home page, on the bottom tool bar, right click on [When the Saints...](#), and select close.

[Vietnam Memorial Wall Song](https://www.facebook.com/100000531380774/videos/1142596289101406/): <https://www.facebook.com/100000531380774/videos/1142596289101406/>

[Sea Cruise](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5tIHtbtFQ&feature=em-share_video_user): Frankie Ford: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5tIHtbtFQ&feature=em-share_video_user

[Goodnight Saigon](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Qjzjhl-QztE&feature=share): Billy Joel <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Qjzjhl-QztE&feature=share>

[VN Vets song](https://www.facebook.com/groups/215020061882554/permalink/1206478169403400/): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/215020061882554/permalink/1206478169403400/>

[Vietnam War Song](https://www.facebook.com/TheWarriorConnection/videos/721229604627086/): <https://www.facebook.com/TheWarriorConnection/videos/721229604627086/>



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk



CAG-16 patch 1967







NAS Lemoore memorial



Exquisite Oil Painting my Nieces Husband aka Dutch in Houston, Texas had researched, designed and commissioned by a Professional who specialized in Aircraft. He chose to do it at the standard 3.000 ft Elevation level ,after a Bridge attack ,and featured my PC name on the plane to both honor the Saints all Vets and me by my assigned Plane, which I am so proud of. What a Huge Honor and Surprise. It was Pilot Lt. JG Dave Small's plane in 1965. I now proudly display it on a prominent place in our home. This photo does not do the painting details justice but wanted to share. Dutch's wish was to Keep the Saints Flame burning for me, my kids and grand kids and VA163. Dutch supports many Vets anonymously generously, and appreciates ALL their sacrifices/service in many different wars and ways. A some what rare breed these days. (Since he is humble and does not want to draw attention, I use his alias to respect his privacy). Wanted to share both the Saints 353 Painting and let everyone know there are still many Wonderful Patriots and Supportive young men and women out there that care about us old farts. You can post in the News letter /web site if you see fit. God Bless the Saints and Dutch. W.J.Tomko



Birds of a feather... Flock Together





Click Here

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

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

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

View Counts as of 05 Sept 2017

Photos

742,131 views

Albums

30,758 views

Total

798,892 views



www.Flickr.com charges \$24.95 per year to keep the [SAINTS Photo Albums](#) on their web site.

****Paid the one year fee on 15 Nov 2016****



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

MAKE SURE AND VIEW THE WEBSITE. IT HAS BEEN RECENTLY UPDATED WITH LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER

Saints website www.va163.org (password: *Saints4ever* (capital S))

13,586 Visitors since Mar 09

*****Total cost for the Website is \$173.97 per year**

NOTE: Paid GoDaddy for two years, **\$239.00** for Website Hosting 26 July
(They went up on the price \$55 more for the 2 years). Last 2 years was \$183.95)

\$239.00 to renew GoDaddy website hosting (paid for 2 years on 26 July 2017)

\$80.00 to renew Domain Name (va163.org) (paid for 2 years on 07 Mar 2016)

\$30.00 to renew Domain Provider (paid for 2 years on 27 Mar 2016)

\$10.00 to renew Domain Protector (paid for 2 years on 27 Mar 2016)

\$25.00 to Saints Photo Site, Flickr.com: \$25 per year (paid 15 Nov 2016)

Donations are appreciated

Ed Copher
242 Toye Blvd
Canyon Lake, TX 78133

Saints Website and Photos site FEES:

Jim Houston, Palm Coast FL, is the Saints webmaster, designed the website, and does all the updates etc.

Website Hosting Provided by **GoDaddy** cost **\$239** for two years (*Paid up until 10 Sept 19*)

Domain Name: Provided by **Internet Domain Name Services** www.idns.ae an annual charge for keeping the www.va163.org is \$40 p/yr, paid for 2 years (*Paid up until 15 Mar 2018*)

Domain Provider: Provided by **Active Domain** \$15 p/year, paid for 2 years (*Paid up until 31 Mar 2018*)

Domain Protector: Provided by **Domain Admin** \$5 p/year, paid for 2 years (*Paid up until 31 Mar 2018*)

Photos Site: Saints Photos on the **Flicker site** is \$25 p/yr (***Due 15 Nov of each year***) ***Paid 15 Nov 2016***



Profile in Courage: The Most Decorated Enlisted Sailor in Navy History

In the history of the United States Navy, only seven men have earned all of the big three valor awards: Medal of Honor, Navy Cross, and Silver Star. Six were World War II officers, including one aviator. The seventh was James Elliott "Willy" Williams - considered the most decorated enlisted man in the history of the Navy.

Williams, a Cherokee Indian, was born November 13, 1930, in Fort Mill, South Carolina. Two months later he moved with his parents to Darlington, South Carolina where he spent his early childhood and youth. He attended the local schools and graduated from St. John's High School.

In August 1947, at the age of 16, Williams enlisted in the United States Navy with a fraudulent birth certificate. He completed basic training at Naval Training Center San Diego. He served for almost twenty years, retiring on April 26, 1967, as a Boatswain's Mate First Class (BM1). During those years, he served in both the Korean War and Vietnam War.

During the Korean War, was stationed aboard the Destroyer USS Douglas H Fox (DD-779) from November 1950 to June 1952. He was detached off the Destroyer and operated off the coast of Korea by taking raiding parties into North Korea on small boats. From 1953 to 1965 he served tours on a variety of naval vessels.

In 1966, with only a year before he was to retire from the Navy, the burly man, 5-foot-8 and 210 pounds Williams volunteered for combat duty in Vietnam.

Williams arrived in Vietnam in April 1966 as a BM1. He was assigned in May to the River Patrol Force, River Squadron Five, in command of River Patrol Boat 105 (PBR-105). The force's mission was to intercept Viet Cong and North Vietnamese arms shipments, supplies, and personnel on the waterways of South Vietnam's swampy Mekong Delta and to keep innocent boat traffic on the river and canals safe.

On July 1, 1966, Williams led a patrol that came under fire from the Vietcong sampan. His deft maneuvers and accurate fire killed five VC and resulted in the capture of the enemy boat, earning Williams a Bronze Star Medal with a V for Valor. Twenty-two days later his crew captured another sampan, earning Williams a second Bronze Star Medal for Valor. Less than a month later, he received his Silver Star and the first of three Purple Hearts he would eventually receive.

On the night of October 31, 1966, Williams was commanding PBR 105 alongside another PBR searching for Viet Cong guerrillas operating in an isolated area of the Mekong Delta. Suddenly, Viet Cong manning two sampans opened fire on the Americans. While Williams and his men neutralized one sampan, the other one escaped into a nearby canal. The PBRs gave chase and soon found themselves in a beehive of enemy activity as the VC opened fire on them with rocket-propelled grenades and small arms from fortified river bank positions.

Williams, who knew the area well from months of patrols, directed his two boats in a high-speed detour to a spot he knew the fleeing sampan would eventually emerge. Both threaded an alternative channel too narrow for the boats to reverse course. At nearly 35 knots they roared up the twisting passage, the heavily jungled bank

passing in a green blur. Then as they rounded a bend to an area of more open water, to the surprise of all aboard, they stumbled into a major staging area for the North Vietnamese Army. Thirty to forty sampans were crossing the channel, each loaded to the gunwales with NVA troops and supplies.

The enemy was equally surprised and sprang to their guns. Along the shore, the familiar "thunk" of mortars could be heard. Williams had no choice but to gun his engines straight at the enemy! Tracers streaked across the water. Williams ran his boat directly at several sampans, splitting them in half under the sharp bow of his rocketing speedboat. The PBR's twisted and jinked blazed their weapons and spilled hundreds of dead and dying NVA troops into the water. The speed and maneuverability of the Americans kept them ahead of the enemy return fire. They blasted through the enemy formation and back into the narrow channel beyond. Momentarily safe, the PBR's sped onward. Williams called in heavily armed UH-1B Huey helicopters from the Navy Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron 3 "Seawolves" for air support, but as his speedboats rounded another bend they found themselves smack in the middle of a second staging area as big as the first. Again, the narrow channel determined their fate, and both PBR's sped boldly at the enemy. For a second time, their machine guns blazed and splinters flew from enemy sampans and NVA soldiers spilled into the water. And for a second time, the two American gunboats sliced through the enemy, blasting and ramming as they went. Secondary explosions from several of the larger junks confirmed Williams' suspicion that they were ammunition and supply vessels.

Despite three hours of intense combat, Williams' crew received only two casualties--one gunner was shot through the wrist, and Williams himself was wounded by shrapnel. For his conspicuous bravery above and beyond the call of duty he was put in for the Medal of Honor - which he received from President Lyndon B. Johnson on May 14, 1968, during the dedication ceremony of the Pentagon's "Hall of Heroes."

On January 9, 1967, the Navy dredge Jamaica Bay was blown up by mines and PVR-105 arrived to pick up seven of the survivors. Another man was trapped in the rapidly sinking dredge. Williams dove into the water and, with a rope attached to a nearby tree, pulled clear and obstruction, then swam through a hatch to recover the Sailor. For this, he was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.

Six days later Williams was wounded while leading a three-boat patrol that interdicted a crossing attempt by three VC heavy weapons companies and 400 fighters. He and his boat accounted for 16 VC killed, 20 wounded in the destruction of nine sampans and junks. Williams was awarded the Navy Cross and his third Purple Heart.

Williams transferred to the Fleet Reserve in April 1967 and returned to his native South Carolina with a list of awards unmatched by any enlisted man in Navy history. His awards included the Medal of Honor, the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars and the Legion of Merit, three Bronze Stars, and the Navy Commendation Medal. He also received three Purple Hearts and was twice awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for rescue operations under fire.

He retired after 20 years of service and was appointed in 1969 by President Richard M. Nixon as United States Marshal, serving more than a decade in the Marshals Service. His initial assignment was U.S. Marshal for the District of South Carolina where he served until May 1977. He then transferred to Federal Law Enforcement

Training Center in Glynco, Georgia as an instructor and National Armorer. He was called back to South Carolina in July 1979 to resume his appointment as U.S. Marshal and functioned in that position until April 1980. His next assignment was with the U.S. Marshal service Headquarters, Washington, D.C. as Program Manager, Health and Safety and In-District Training Officer where he performed his assigned duties until his retirement from the U.S. Marshal Service.

In the fall of 1999, he was in Florence, South Carolina where he suffered a heart attack and died on the Navy's birthday, October 13th. He was buried with full military honors at the Florence National Cemetery in Florence, South Carolina. The procession of dignitaries at his funeral included seven Medal of Honor recipients and state and national legislators.

In addition to his wife Elaine, he was survived by three sons, James Jr., of Darlington, S.C.; Steven, of Dorchester, S.C., and Charles, of Charlotte, N.C.; two daughters, Debbie Clark of Palm Coast and Gail Patterson of Florence, and seven grandchildren. Navy Guided Missile Destroyer USS James E. Williams (DDG-95) was named and christened in his honor on June 28, 2003, at Pascagoula, Mississippi. His widow Elaine was present at the ceremony.



Burial at Sea 72 Years Ago

"It is the only time in U.S. Navy history (and probably U.S. military history) that an aviator was buried in his aircraft after being killed in action." Sound on!

Here's footage you'll see only once in a lifetime. Just imagine being there to join it!

Tough times, tough people! Here's a sea burial you may not have read about:

Loyce Edward Deen, an Aviation Machinist Mate 2nd Class, USNR, was a gunner on a TBM Avenger aircraft. On November 5, 1944, Deen's squadron participated in a raid on Manila where his plane was hit multiple times by anti-aircraft fire while attacking a Japanese cruiser.

Deen was killed. The Avenger's pilot, Lt.; Robert Cosgrove, managed to return to his carrier, the USS Essex. Both Deen and the plane had been shot up so badly that it was decided to leave him in the plane. It is the only time in U.S. Navy history (and probably U.S. military history) that an aviator was buried in his aircraft after being killed in action.

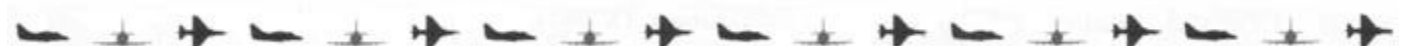
<http://loyceedeen.webstarts.com/uploads/GoingHome.mp4>





[Saint Plane Captian Mike Morell, after he left Saints to join the Army to become a Beret in Vietnam](#)

Mike went on to become much decorated for his actions in Vietnam. Zero decorations while in the Saints. Don't feel alone, Mike. Not any enlisted got decoration awards/medals while in the Saints!



[“ETERNALLY AT WAR” was named a finalist in the Military Writer’s Society of America book awards:](#)

On Saturday night, I was notified that ETERNALLY AT WAR was named a finalist in the Military Writer’s Society of America book awards. On September 9, I will find out if it won a medal at the awards ceremony to be held during the Military Writer’s Society Conference in San Antonio, Texas. This book was a labor of love and I am so very proud of

it. Wanted to share the news with you all.

Here is a link to the finalists: <http://www.mwsadispatches.com/2017finalists>

Here is a link to the review it received: <http://www.mwsadispatches.com/reviews/2017/3/14/eternally-at-war>

With love and respect for all veterans service,

Jeanette

Author of award winning **FLYING SOLO, SOLO VIETNAM, and WAITING IN THE WINGS!**

Watch the book trailers at: <http://www.bit.ly/OOxATD> and <http://www.bit.ly/YpPz4B>

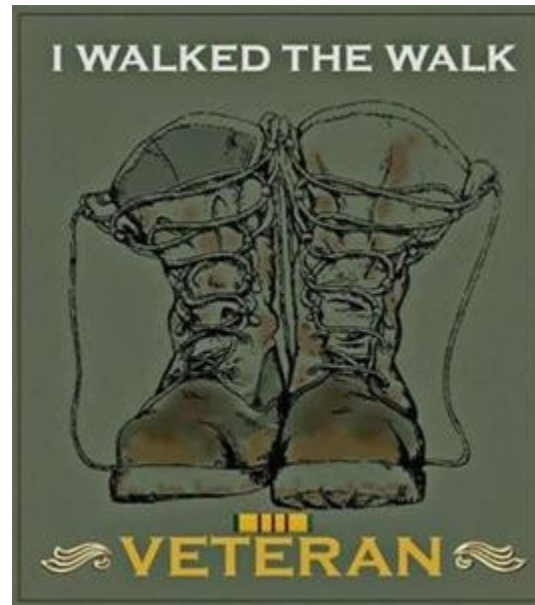
Get your signed copies today from: www.ageviewpress.com

Or order from Amazon: FLYING SOLO <http://www.amzn.to/OatluX>

SOLO VIETNAM <http://amzn.to/1774ZBv>

WAITING IN THE WINGS <http://amzn.to/1yZnwyB>

ETERNALLY AT WAR <http://apple.co/2gt1cwd>



Ed Copher, USS Oriskany 1966: 19 years old

(could join the Navy, go to war, get shot at, but could not vote or get married)



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....



Skyhawk Association Reunion in Reno 7 Sept:

**SKYHAWK ASSOCIATION
REUNION**
Hook '17 - Nugget Hotel - Sep 7 thru 10

LUNCHEON
Friday, 8 Sep Noon
Poolside
Chalet Terrace

SPEAKER
LCDR Terry Wolf
"Skyhawk
Association and
the IAF"

RESERVATIONS
Mail \$30
Mark Williams
400 Howell Way #102
Edmonds, WA 98020

**ATTACK
READY ROOM**
Open Every Day

Exhibit Booth 722 - a4skyhawk.info

Skyhawk Association Links:

Skyhawk Association SDO. As you probably already know, you can find the web link to your squadron or unit at <http://www.a4skyhawk.org/content/us-navy-skyhawk-units>.

There have been changes to the website structure, however, the **main page remains the same:**

<http://www.a4skyhawk.org/>

The correct link to the VA-163 page is:

<http://www.a4skyhawk.org/content/va-163-saints>

The SDO coordinator contact is sa-sdo-coordinator@a4skyhawk.net or me.

The new SA contact listing is:

<http://www.a4skyhawk.org/content/association-contact-directory>

There is no ready room coordinator any more. Use the contact listing to contact the webmaster. There are no longer any xxx@a4skyhawk.org email addresses they are now xxx@a4skyhawk.net since we have changed our ISP.

Hope this makes sense; give me a shout with any questions. Sorry I did not catch this before.

Great news letter.

Pete Cole, SDO Coordinator



Skyhawk 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 ...



[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, VA-163 page:](#)

VA-163 Page, click here: <http://www.a4skyhawk.org/content/va-163-saints>

Association main page: <http://www.a4skyhawk.org/>

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

Skyhawk Association Members: Use link to access the Ready Room for; recent additions, aircraft histories, photo galleries, our roster, journals, and more.

Need access to email list? The Association email list is on this new hosting service.

So all can start using this new list on Sunday 30 October. xxx@a4skyhawk.net

Contact Directory: <http://www.a4skyhawk.org/content/association-contact-directory>

SDO coordinator contact is sa-sdo-coordinator@a4skyhawk.net

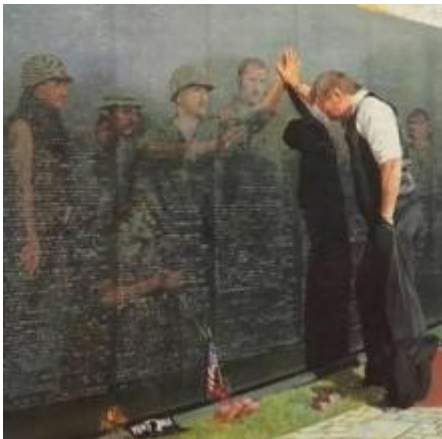
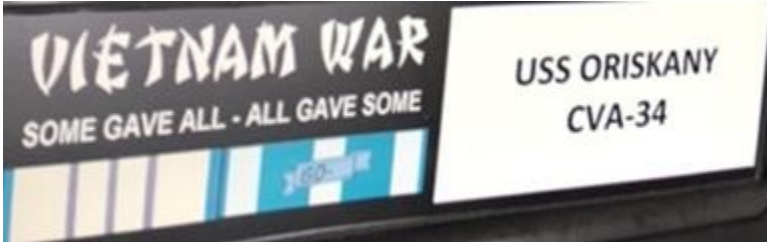
"**Skyhawk Association Members:** Use the new site address to get access to the wealth of info available and contact the webmaster for access to the 'Members Only' information at email webmaster@a4skyhawk.org."



Saints and Military sites for Hats, Shirts, Pins, Decals, and Models: Submitted by Bill Tomko

Go to Saints Website, **Miscellaneous Section**, for details. Also www.usmedals.com

I have done a ton of Internet research looking for Saints, Oriskany and A-4 related collectibles, pictures, books, videos, models, decals, pins, shirts and hats. I was asked to publish some of the links I had been satisfied with. I am happy to share it here and if you need help finding some thing please feel free to email me at Tomkowj@aol.com



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>



SAINTS Newsletters in Archives: *To view the last 12 months newsletters*

Go to www.yahoo.com (click on the link in blue)

On the Yahoo home page, select **Sign-In** (top right side)

Type in Yahoo ID: va163lemoore@yahoo.com

Type in Password: **saints4ever** (lower case)

After Signed In, back on the Yahoo home page, select **MAIL** (left side bar)

When you get into the mail box, select **Inbox** (on left side bar)

Select the newsletter that you want to view.

To get out of Mail, under the top toolbar, find **Yahoo!** click on that to get back to the Yahoo home page.

ALSO: When you first get to the **Yahoo Home Page**, if you are already signed in to a different yahoo account, then you must sign out of that account, and then sign in to Saints account.

“ALSO”

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:

[USS Oriskany \(CVA 34\)](#) 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. **Click on the ship name for a complete history.**

1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: www.mbtdivers.com
2. The best pictures of the reefing. *Going to her final resting place:* <http://www.irishmansoftware.com/Oriskany.htm>
3. Two Memorial Video's of the Oriskany: <http://www.ussoriskanyonline.com/>
4. Oriskany Reunion Association: www.ussoriskany.com
5. Video of Big O going under: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1401279762745553286&q=oriskany>
6. Patriot Media “The Mighty O”: <http://patriotmediainc.com/>
7. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm
8. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnlBZis>
9. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: 1. <http://glewis.us/oobooks.htm> 2. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html> 3. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>
10. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html
11. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: <http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml>
12. Oriskany model: <http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/>
13. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584>
14. USS Oriskany History 1972: <http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html>
15. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project (<http://glewis.us/oobooks.htm>)
16. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email> 10 min
17. 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
18. 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
19. Saints Video on YouTube: Dennis Lund video filmed on the Oriskany including the Oriskany fire!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ5ykZjRaIM>

20. USS Hancock: Click here: [Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock \("Hannah"\)](#)

21. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints <https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>

22. USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video

23. 1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws &
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>

24. O Boat Sinking Video: <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>

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

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

Vietnam Carrier OPS:

<https://www.facebook.com/HistoricalAircraftSociety/videos/1720193218285422/>

Old-time Carrier Landing Hazards:

<https://www.facebook.com/HistoricalAircraftSociety/videos/1721584008146343/>

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

www.youtu.be/1mfdRvzUVtM

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgwEWSjzwz8

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>

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>

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>

[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

[VN 40 years ago...75 pictures](#)

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

[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 shutdown:

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

This is the homepage:

www.laosgpsmap.com

Ho Chi Minh Trail Tours:

www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-tours/

[Vietnam War Stories:](#)

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

Tags : [book sites](#), [books war](#), [cherry soldier](#), [combat](#), [Combat Infantry](#), [digital books](#), [firefights](#), [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](#)

[Number of Vietnam Vets Still Alive:](#)

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

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

[1956 Navy All Hands Meeting:](#)

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

http://www.navy.mil/ah_online/archpdf/ah195603.pdf

[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>

[Do you remember these?](#)

This will bring back memories

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=puGQsQux80k

[Vietnam Photos:](#)

<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%252F%252Fvietnam-photo--599932096.html>

[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>

[NAS Lemoore April 1968:](#)

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

[Photos/History of Vietnam:](#)

Excellent Viet Nam Pictorial History

From the Denver Post.

Click here: [VietamPictorialHistory](#)

[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>

A-4 Skyhawks:

<http://a4skyhawk.org/>

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

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

VA Benefits Blog on Facebook:

VA Benefit Blog

https://www.facebook.com/vabenefitblog?sk=app_129722457108553#!/vabenefitblog?sk=wall

Douglas A-4 Skyhawk: 6:10 min video

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

Vietnam War Documentary Trailer:

http://www.v-prod.com/trailer_vietnam.html

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/

www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623815542532/

www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623727604239/

www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854694748/

www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854748712/

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 Sept to read the **Articles** go to the web site at:

http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html



SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

“Muster Call”

Revised 05 Sept 2017

New or changed address:

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 (password, *Saints4ever*) capital *S*

