

## **CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR**

– The officers and crew listing for 1947-48 aboard the USS Frank Knox includes this man: ENS William L. McGonagle, USN.

He is listed as the 1st Lieutenant then later as the ASW Officer. In letters to our reunion group and when attending reunions ENS and later Captain McGonagle would frequently refer to his time aboard the Frank Knox as the critical foundation of his later successful career.

He loved our ship and what it stood for.

Captain William L McGonagle was assigned to the USS Liberty, AGTR 5 and was in command on June 8, 1967 in the Eastern Mediterranean when the Liberty was attacked by Israel during the fighting known as the Six-Day-War. The ship was severely damaged, several crew

members were killed, other crew were injured including McGonagle. McGonagle maintained control of the ship for many long hours until help arrived as the Liberty steamed away from danger. McGonagle survived and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1968 by then President Lyndon Johnson. He attended at least two reunions that we know of before his death in 1999 in Palm Springs CA.

