



Lieutenant Hank Huber (Korea), Captain Larry Eddingfield (Vietnam), Commander Jim Lasswell (Vietnam) Lieutenant Commander Russ Judah (WWII, Korea), Lieutenant Steve Cross (Vietnam), Captain Jerry Harken (Vietnam) and Rear Admiral Dennis Conley (Vietnam) all served aboard the USS Frank Knox.

USS Frank Knox veterans reunite at Mt. Soledad

On Sept. 20, 35 former U.S. Navy veterans who served on the *USS Frank Knox* celebrated the 75th anniversary of the launch of the 2,220-ton destroyer by unveiling a plaque in its honor at the Mt. Soledad National Veterans Memorial.

The *Frank Knox* — named for the Secretary of the Navy at the time of its commission — served during World War II, Korea and Vietnam before being transferred to the Greek Navy in 1971. (The Greeks decommissioned it in 1992 and sunk it at sea in 2001.)

The *Knox* veterans — including the oldest, Russell Judah, who playfully gave his age as “93-and-a-half” — flew in from all over the country to share battle

of about 60 former shipmates, friends and family members. The 30-minute ceremony began with “Amazing Grace” on bagpipes.

“It’s a very special day,” said event organizer Steve Cross, who served as the ship’s anti-submarine warfare officer in 1968, when it was awarded the prestigious Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy. “These stories help preserve the history of the ship, to inspire people today and most of all, to educate future generations about what service is all about.”

San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer declared Sept. 20 *USS Frank Knox* Reunion Association Day in San Diego, and District 1 City Council member Barbara Bry issued a proclamation. ♦

Meet Mark.

- Marine veteran
- Unbelievable falsetto
- Was homeless (not today)



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USS FRANK KNOX (DD/DDR-742)

Builder: Bath Iron Works
Launched: 09-17-1944
Commissioning: 12-11-1944

“Roughriders”
 World War II Korea Vietnam
 1963: Ship of the Year • 1968: Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy

Battle Stais:
 World War II Korea Vietnam

MEDALS & RIBBONS:

- Combat Action
- Presidential Unit Citation
- Meritorious Unit Citation
- Navy “E” (9 Awards)
- China Service
- Asia Pacific Service
- WWII Victory
- Navy Occupation
- National Defense Service
- Korea Service
- Armed Forces Expeditionary (12 Awards)
- Vietnam Service (9 Awards)
- Vietnam Cross of Gallantry
- United Nations Service
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign



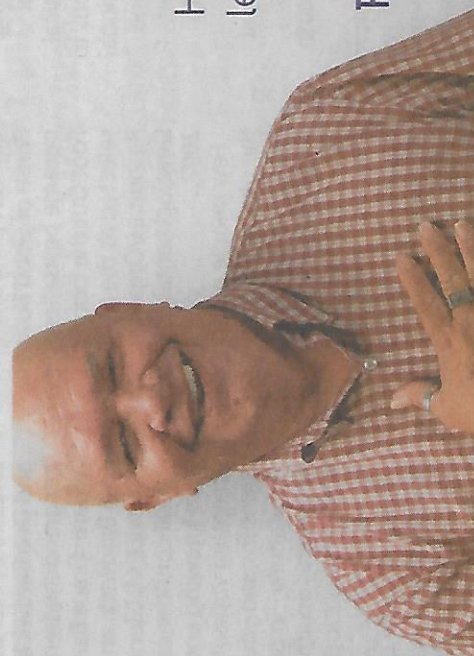
Dedicated by the Frank Knox Reunion Association-2019.
Honoring officers and crew who served aboard.

In WWII Frank Knox attacked enemy subs in Atlantic and Pacific waters, credited with sinking one, and survived three torpedo attacks. Admiral Halsey was embarked on Frank Knox for the final attack on Japan. Survived Typhoon Cobra in 1945. Very active during the Korean War including the evacuation of Tachen Islands. First surface unit to spot Project Mercury capsule in 1963. After grounding and surviving 38 days on Pratae Reef in 1965 was repaired and sailed again. Frank Knox was recognized as the most improved ship in 1968 and awarded the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy. Very active from 1969-70 in Vietnam Service.

Decommissioning: 02-03-1971
 transferred to the Greek Navy: 02-03-1971

PHOTOS BY COREY LEVITAN

The Frank Knox plaque at the Mt. Soledad National Veterans Memorial honors the ship for its service in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.



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