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



2022

20th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 234

"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.





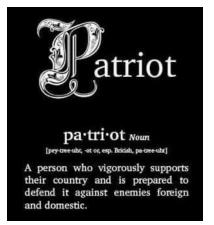


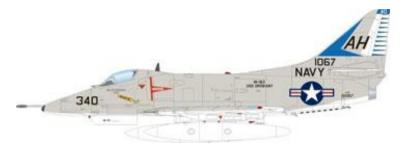














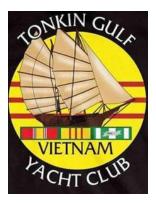












 ${f St}$ anding the Watch



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























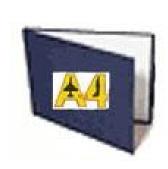




ATKRON 163



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 01 August 2022

"Over a million views"

1,116,834 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 password: Saints4ever capital S

31,222 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 (2)

Roger Meyer
Pete Munro
Floyd Oakes
Richard Odegaard
MA Petty
John Roosen (2)
Seth Rossman (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 12 funerals
Ken Adams
Raymond Baker

Dennis Dooley

John Roosen

Earl Groff

Seth Rossman

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

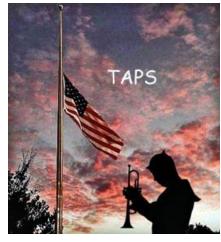
Anthony Stabile

Ed Chadwick

Daniel Lestage (2)

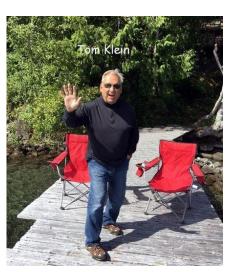
Lucille Stickley (3)

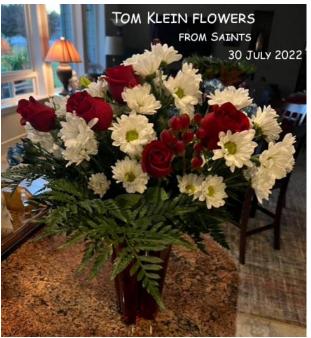












TAPS: https://www.facebook.com/richard.niven.1/videos/1582752928788556/

Thomas E. "Tom" Klein passed away: Rest in Peace, Slow Salute

Saints ATR-2, VA-163, 1965-68 (Electronics Technician)

Tom received his angel wings on 13 April 2022. He was forever proud of serving his country and being part of the VA-163 Saints Attack Squadron.

Obituary:

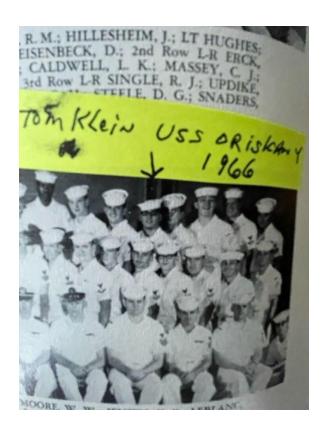
https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/10715249

Celebration of Life Thomas Eldred Klein 30 July 2022

Thank you to the Saints for the remembrance of Tom...the red, white and blue theme flowers were fantastic....our yard has 10 large American flags and your very thoughtful flowers makes it even more special.

Please thank all...you have truly touched my heart.

Linda





Saint Wally Spain issues:

After all these years, Wally is finally receiving his VA disability claim payments. He appreciates phone calls from all Saints, 434-203-4758 or 434-250-0204





Saints/Ghostriders in Las Vegas 2014



Ron Tardio's birthday: Submitted by Tony Chibbaro
A copy of the email I sent to my Children and oldest Grandson - ALL know who Ron
Tardio was and that he saved my life!!

ALL - (7/25) would have been **Ron Tardio**'s 79th birthday - he died at age 23 in the ship fire on 26 Oct 1966.

Forever etched in my memory is Ron pulling the curtain of my bunk, shaking me, telling me - "Tony, it's really bad, you have to get up" - and before I could say a word to Ron, he unknowingly ran out of the bunk room aft towards the fire - died in the fire of smoke inhalation. The same would have happened to me IF not for . . a 'mid-watch' on the Bridge . . at the encouragement of CDR Juntilla, CIC Officer (he died in the fire) . . I wanted to transfer to CIC from COMM.

Had I not had that "mid-watch" of 4 hours on the Bridge (in addition to the 12 hours I'd already stood in Communications during the previous day 10/25) - getting to my bunk about 0430 hours 10/26 - was tired - did hear the alarm "fire, fire" - but turned over to go back to sleep - lots of "coincidences" - just wasn't my time "to buy the farm".

IF you Google Search - "Ron Tardio" - his picture shows up on 'The Virtual Wall.org'.

I sure am very thankful for ALL seven of my Family . . thankful for Ron getting me to get up to save my life.



Anniversary of the Forrestal Fire:

At about 10:50 (local time) on July 29, 1967, a Mk-32 "Zuni" rocket, from an F-4B Phantom II, accidentally fired causing a fire on the flight deck of the USS Forrestal (CVA-59), as it was engaged in combat operations in the Gulf of Tonkin. The blaze eventually destroyed 21 aircraft, killed 134 sailors, injured 161 others, and utterly ravaged the ship – damages exceeded US\$72 million (equivalent to \$500+ million today). It was one of the worst post WWII disasters suffered by the Navy. Today marks the 55th anniversary of the sad event.

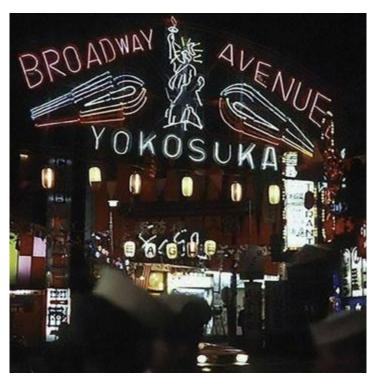


Found new Saint: Ernest "Larry" Desha: Added to roster

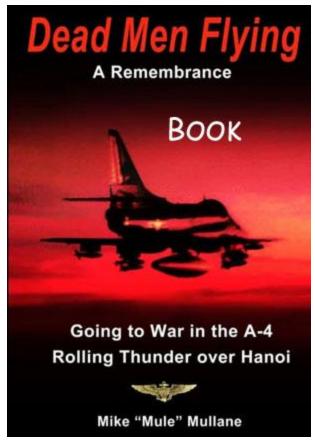












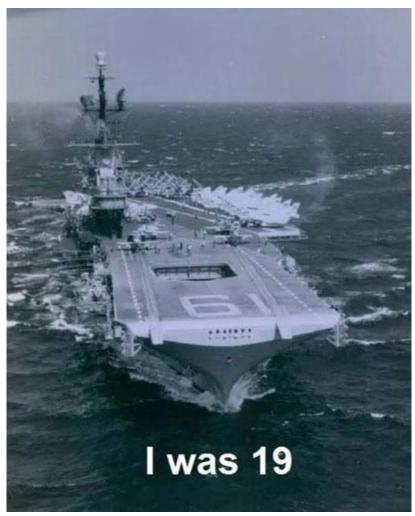


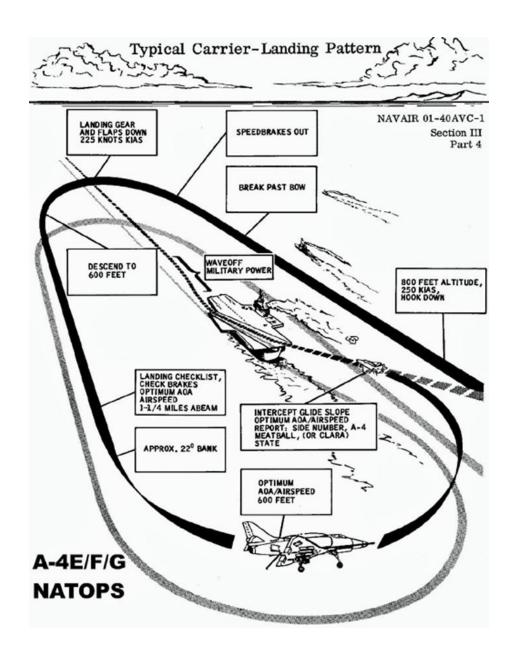






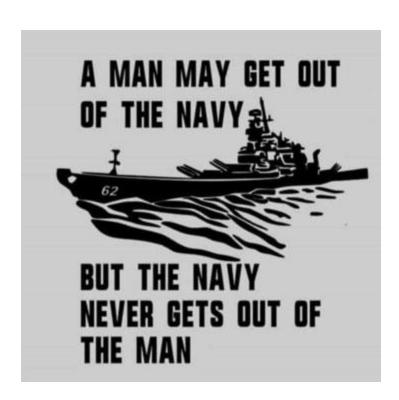


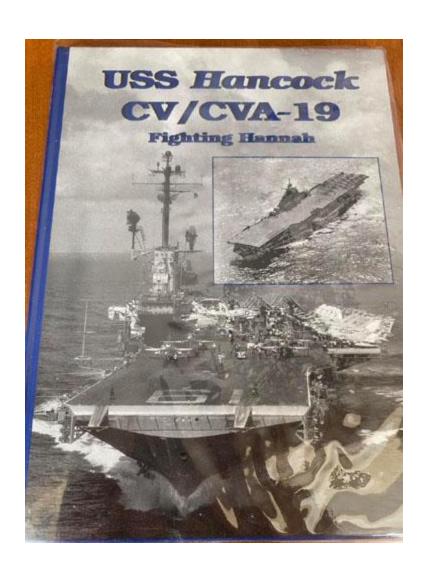


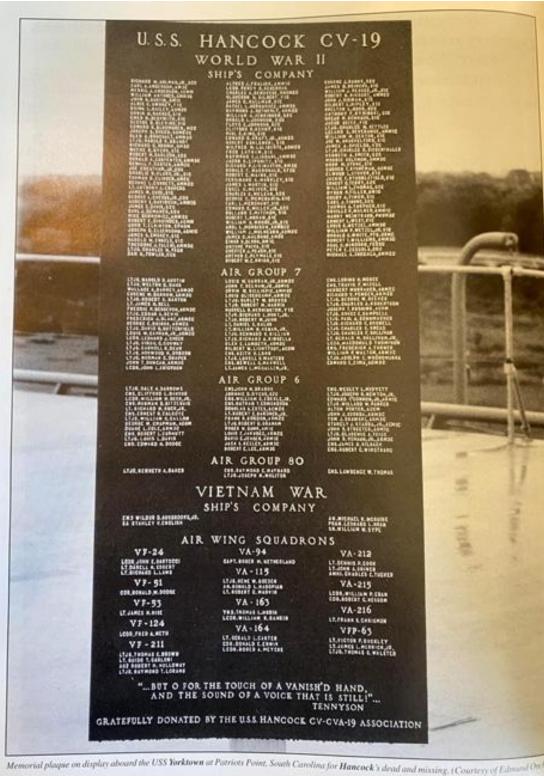










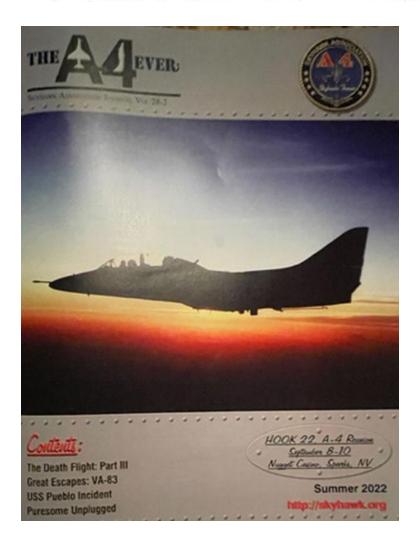


Fighter jet blows off USS Truman during bad weather

I thought you would be interested in this story I found on MSN: Fighter jet blows off USS Truman during bad weather -

 $\underline{https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/fighter-jet-blows-off-uss-truman-during-bad-weather/ar-AAZq0zv?li=BBnb7Kz}$





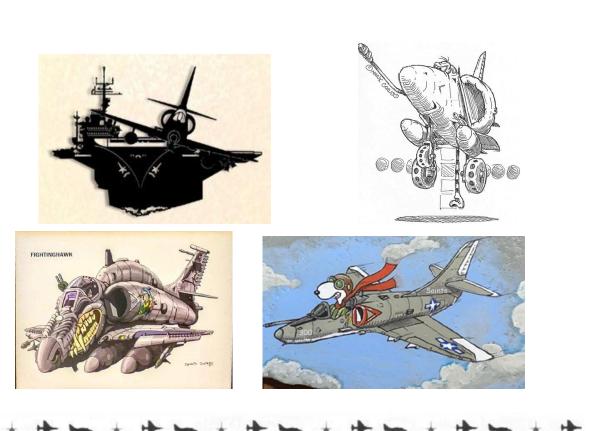




Join the "VA-163 Saints" Facebook group:

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

<u>Home page:</u> Click here: <u>Home Page | The Skyhawk Association</u>

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



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

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
- 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
- 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
- 6.32 Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany-photos.htm
- 7. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-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

- 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=DJ5ykZjRalM
- 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=k9Mh975VCII
- 22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. http://trib.al/t69QQT4
- 23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's 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/85461](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461)

Oriskany on YouTube video:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6l8DlJA5DU0&feature=share&fbclid=lwAR210YA4tzW4VITm58zt0aerctBQCmhNBOrT9okW6Brb7V0Jmzlh9RNEP1g

From Ed Chadwick: Pilot Down

Interestingly in1967, we lost several men and aircraft in 1967 on an attempted rescue of one Navy pilot. Orders came down immediately that no more high threat rescues would be allowed. It's possible that the reactions of many of us may have eventually altered that "no rescue" policy.

http://www.pilo tsofamerica.co m/forum/showt hread.php?t=42 816

Oriskany Video from 1966:

https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461?fbclid=lwAR3-cX6vMpSSO_o0yaSvozse5MfRLnf0VBaByznNGVWA3_U4WZ8OXNJjUGY

Blue Angels:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVxpCHqXQol

TA-4 inflight video:

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/pWeBAyWIfP8

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

http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.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=lwAR0Onwxj0QPhQRFLCmZ6wzytPb9D9YpRVSIB2Ea6cKhhUKm2gP0SECiqj-k

A-4 Skyhawk Wikipedia:

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas A-4 Skyhawk?fbclid=lwAR0lCpJW03arF1pU2JU
3uv5vccB2Y4S9 UXVE mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM

Amazing Carrier Landing:

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. <u>j.slater@fonthillmedia.com</u> <u>via fonthill.onmicrosoft.com</u>

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=lwAR23MVLfw6
9KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs

A-4 Inflight Crash video:

https://fb.watch/8jyVi92eJh/

Oriskany Sinking video:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=lwAR2xrucXr7l2laUx8SM98-IIDXp

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:vvmf.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=blFuGFBw_yl

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_med_ium=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/bwuTlK544cQ

Oriskany Sinking Article & photos:

https://fighterjetsworld.com/naval/the-u-s-navy-blows-up-aircraft-carrier-sets-world-record-that-st ill-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.voutube.com/watch?v=5sRIO4kviVE&feature=voutu.be

SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

"Muster Call"

Revised 01 August 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

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



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



