



CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPRING 2021

30 YEARS SINCE
"SHOCK AND AWE!"

OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM
1990-1991



SALUTING OUR YOUNGER VETERANS!

The Catholic War Veterans has been pleased to add to its ranks Veterans from more recent wartime actions. These wars have been shorter in duration, but no less dangerous than the great World Wars. War is always hell and the uncertainty of its outcome adds to the stress of those involved and their families at home. In the case of Desert Storm, some 700,000 allied troops were dispatched to engage the world's fourth largest military.

An Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein in August of 1990, arising from oil pricing and production disputes, resulted in hostilities between Iraq and a military coalition of 39 nations assembled under the diplomatic efforts of President George H.W. Bush's administration.

Operations leading to the buildup of troops was codenamed Operation Desert Shield. The combat phase would come to be known as Operation Desert Storm. A series of United Nations Security Council resolutions set a deadline of 15 January 1991 for Iraq to withdraw. When Iraq ignored the deadline, the allied coalition commenced a naval and aerial bombardment that would continue for five weeks. This was followed by a ground assault under the command of U.S. Army General Norman Schwarzkopf. After 100 hours, the coalition had liberated Kuwait and advanced into Iraq before declaring a ceasefire.

It was the first war to feature live television coverage of the initial aerial attacks during the evening news, as well as live broadcasts from the front lines on a regular basis by CNN and other networks. The war is remembered as the "Video Game War" as nightly news broadcasts brought images from cameras on board aerial bombers and even "smart bombs" as they devastated military installations, bunkers and convoys.



A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL COMMANDER DAVID CRUM

Your National Officers have been meeting virtually and working hard to serve you and our organization, and the results are beginning to show. Membership recruitment and retention are up. The Scholarship program has been completely revised (see page 8.) Planning is moving forward for an in-person National Convention in August.

We've added new items to our store and sales are up. Our National Chaplain, Fr. Sheehan, has enlisted many of our member Clergy to celebrate Masses requested via our new Mass Cards. We have also enhanced and improved our websites to be more user-friendly.

We join all our families in mourning those lost to the pandemic, but we hope that available vaccines will bring us a truly Happy Easter!

FROM OUR THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT ANNA MCMASTER



Hello, and greetings to all! This last year has been a long year and we never thought it would last this long. We will soon be in the Easter Season and we need to count our blessings. Looking forward to the Spring and Summer and maybe getting together in person finally.

A big welcome to PNC Frank Kowalski as the new Auxiliary Liaison Officer. I know he will keep us well informed. Let's keep working on membership and all the other programs that are so important to us all. Always remember God, Country and home.

2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is time to gather for the 86th Catholic War Veterans National Convention on August 1st - 7th 2021.



Location is the **IBIS LaGuardia Airport Hotel**
100-33 Ditmars Blvd., East Elmhurst, NY 11369

Finalize your plans now by using this form to reserve your rooms, Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' luncheon, Convention Banquet, a guided tour of the USS INTREPID, Dinner Cruise, and Casino Trip.

PROGRAM JOURNAL & ADVERTISEMENT INFORMATION

Submission Deadline is July 16th 2021

Booklet size is 8.5" X 5.5" (landscape 8.5" x 11" paper folded in half). Please provide high quality images and please make sure images are not reduced when sending. If you are having trouble sending large files, we recommend sending via wetransfer.com; you can send up to 2GB through this free service.

Size	Color
Outside Back Cover*	\$300
Inside Back Cover*	\$250
Inside Front Cover*	\$250
Full Page	\$150
Half Page	\$100
Quarter Page	\$75
Business Card	\$50
Sponsor(Max. 75 Characters)	\$50
Supporter (Max. 50 Characters)	\$40
Booster (Max. 30 Characters)	\$30

*Equivalent Full-Page ad will be substituted if cover position is not available

Please CIRCLE the type and price of the ad you are placing. Art work and symbols can be sent electronically to: admin@cwv.org

Advertiser's Name _____

Seller's Name _____

Post# _____ Phone# _____

Sponsor / Supporter / Booster message: _____

LUNCHEON AND BANQUET INFORMATION

Submission Deadline is July 16th 2021

Please indicate your entrée preference as listed below:

Commander's, President's, and Chaplains' Luncheon Thursday, August 5th

qty	Entrée	total
	Buffet x \$40 each person	\$

Convention Closing Banquet - Saturday, August 7th

qty		total
	Buffet x \$40 each person	\$

Entrées include:

Chicken Marsala, Roasted Pork Loin, Pot Roast Eggplant Rollatini, and Fried Flounder

Banquet also includes:

Open bar serving beer, wine, soda and water

TRIP & ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Reservation Deadline is July 16th 2021

qty	Activity	total
	USS INTREPID GUIDED TOUR Aug 3rd - 10:AM - NOON	\$
	Veteran / Active Duty with ID. - \$20.00 ea	\$
	Adult (13-64) - \$45.00	\$
	Senior (65+) - \$40.00	\$
	Student (College or H.S. w/ ID) - \$35.00	\$
	Child (5-12) - \$30.00	\$
	SKYLINE DINNER CRUISE Aug 4th - \$50 ea. 4 hour cruise: Includes hors d'oeuvre & cocktail hour, Almond Crusted Salmon, Roasted Turkey Breast, and Honey Glazed Ham	\$
	EMPIRE CITY CASINO TRIP Aug 5th- \$50 ea. includes round trip bus fare from Convention Hotel	\$

Total Amount for Activities \$

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Reservation Deadline is July 11th 2021

\$179 Per Night, Cash or Check made payable to the CWV Convention Corp
<http://cwvstore.org/86th-national-convention-hotel-reservations-august-1st-august-7th-2021-see-description-below-for-more-info/>

PAYMENT AND SUBMISSION OPTIONS

All Deadlines are as stated on this flyer. Mail this form and a check or money order to:

CWV Convention Corporation
237-20 92nd Rd., Bellerose, NY 11426

Or if paying by credit card thru the CWV Store, mail this form to the above address AND Go to: cwvstore.org

An additional 2% will be added to the total order for processing costs.



DAY OF INFAMY!

Emphasizing that national veterans awareness days are not holiday shopping days, but days of reverence, reflection and prayers for comrades, American Legion and Catholic War Veterans assembled at the Hudson River to toss memorial wreaths in honor of those lost on December 7th, 1941 in the Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor Naval Base.

New Windsor NY Assemblyman Jonathan Jacobsen presents souvenir challenge coin to CWV Post 386 Commander Robert Murphy at Pearl Harbor commemoration

“IN FLANDERS FIELDS, THE POPPIES GROW, BETWEEN THE CROSSES ROW ON ROW ...”

Catholic War Veterans from Kulka Brothers Post 1957 in Stamford CT distribute memorial poppies on Christmas Eve at Beverage Max. Pictured are Post Treasurer Giuseppe Pamplona (left) and Post Commander Cortland Mehl.



SECRET SANTA

While the parents of CWV active duty member, LT Nicholas Pope, USMC were away in Pennsylvania, Mario Massa, President of CWV Auxiliary Post #1 in Astoria NY, surprised them by decorating the tree in front of their house in Astoria in honor of their son!



LT Nick Pope
Post 1



Mario Massa
Post 1 Auxiliary President



National Chaplain Fr. John Sheehan, S.J. addresses members of Post 1976.



Fr. John was welcomed by Fr. Kenneth Walker, Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish and Chaplain of Post 1976, who concelebrated the Mass, and Commander George 'Bud' Erler.

PASTORAL VISIT!

Fr. Sheehan, who recently relocated to Fort Wayne, Indiana as Chaplain for the University of St. Francis, accepted an invitation from Commander George 'Bud' Erler to address members of Post 1976, Bishop Simon Brute, Servant of God, in Martin County.

After a 3 1/2 hour drive to Loogootee, Indiana, Fr. John celebrated Mass at the local Church, and then attended a post meeting. He impressed upon the group that working together and getting people involved, if only doing small things, was a way of strengthening the post.

The post mounted a publicity effort in advance of the visit with invitations to local groups and individuals as well as local newspapers and a mention at all Masses. The general public, veteran and non-veteran of all denominations, was also invited.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Our National Chaplain
Fr. John R. Sheehan, S.J.

Fr. Sheehan, a Jesuit Priest, is our National Chaplain of the Catholic War Veterans. He is also National Chaplain of the National Association of Blind Veterans, and a Board Member of the Global Leadership Foundation. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and a 4th Degree Member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana and Regis College, Toronto, Canada. Before entering the Jesuits in 1980, Fr. Sheehan received one of the first three degrees in Theatre awarded by Notre Dame. He then spent a number of years working in professional theatre and broadcasting, and had his own public relations agency for five years.

After ordination, he spent 12 years in Nigeria and Ghana, 3 years as a Chaplain on a military base in the South Pacific (Marshall Islands), 9 years in Manhattan running the Xavier Society for the Blind and, most recently, was Pastor of the English Language Parish in Amman, Jordan. During his time in New York, he was Chaplain of American Legion Post 2001, the 9/11 Memorial Post meeting aboard the USS INTREPID Museum.

He also assisted at St. Malachy's Church, the Actors' Chapel in New York City. He has enjoyed singing and performing with such companies as Jazz at Noon, the Amore Opera Company, the Village Light Opera, the Bill Hill Troupe and Light Opera of Manhattan. He has sung a number of solo concerts, has over 1,000 appearances to his credit, and has published four CD's.



Belting out an aria in a professional production.

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER CENTENNIAL 1921-2021 REPLICA AVAILABLE TO POSTS FOR LOCAL DISPLAY

The monument dedicated to American service members who died without their remains being identified is located in Arlington, Virginia. The replica is owned and managed by the Americanism Committee of the Exchange Club. Constructed by volunteers, its materials include pine, composite materials, carbon-fiber sheets for added strength, aluminum framing and retractable wheels. All of the artwork was carved with a hand Dremel and painted to resemble the marble of the original.

The Exchange Club of Rome, Georgia has initiated a project called “A Call To Honor: The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Replica.” It is a half-scale replica of the actual tomb, and they participate in events across the country to educate visitors on the Tomb and its Sentinels. Many communities are reaching out to have them come and set up. We offer this to our Posts as a suggested Americanism project.



Replica of the Monument on full display!

For information and inquiries, contact:
The Exchange Club of Rome, Georgia
P.O. Box 1184
Rome, Georgia 30162-1184
(706) 766-8451
kingglfnt@yahoo.com
<http://tomb.romeexchangeclub.com/>



Other participants in centennial activities include the U.S. Army Band, “Pershing’s Own.” The Band was founded in 1922 by General of the Armies John J. “Black Jack” Pershing to emulate European military bands he heard during WWI.



CWV MOURNS THE LOSS OF TOM MORAN, SW REGIONAL COMMANDER

Long-time, popular member Tom Moran, age 80, passed away in January. He was a member of Our Lady of Peace Post 1947 in Las Vegas. He was born in Philadelphia, the son of RADM Henry G. Moran, USN. He earned a BA Degree and an MBA Degree in Economics at the Columbia Graduate School of Business in New York.

Tom was a Veteran of the U.S. Navy (1963-1969), serving in USS DAHLGREN (DLG-12) and USS BIDDLE (DLG-34). He then went to work for the U.S. Department of the Treasury as a Foreign Credit Reporting System Manager and Data Administrator. He married his wife Grace in 1971. She passed away in November of 2012.

Tom was an Eagle Scout and later a State Officer and 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus; National Rifle Association; former National Treasurer of the Catholic War Veterans; and Scottish-American Military Society. He was a staunch supporter of the Catholic Church. He embraced new technology and loved shooting and fishing. He was also a movie buff.

Tom Moran is survived by six children and four grandchildren.



CWV MASS CARDS

Now Available in Our Store!

"It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead."

2 Maccabees 12:46

"People never think of having a Mass celebrated for someone as a gift."

National Chaplain, Fr. John Sheehan

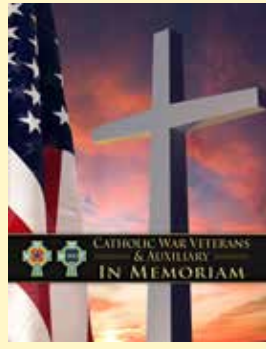
Go to Catholic War Veterans Online Store at: cwvstore.org. Under "Post Administrative Items," choose item AD-34 for the In Memoriam Folder for a Deceased Member Certificate; item AD-35 for a Deceased Member Mass Card; item AD-36 for a CWV Mass Card for a Non-Member, and item AD-37 for a CWV Mass Card for a Living Person/Special Occasion. You might also consider item AD-7, Deceased Member Citation; item AD-38 for an Auxiliary Deceased Member Citation; item AD-8, Deceased Member Medal; or item AD-8a, Auxiliary Deceased Member Medal;



AD-8



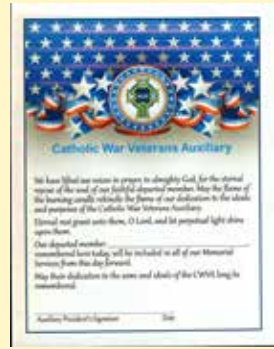
AD-7



AD-34



AD-8a



AD-38



Msgr. McClancy High School (NY) Students Donate to Support Veterans

Students at the school voted to donate funds from their "dress down day" to the Catholic War Veterans. Members of the Student Council presented a \$1,300 check to National Commander Dave Crum. School President Gunnar Mills and Co-Vice President Sarah Kosakowski were in attendance via Zoom. Co-Vice President Matthew Wenz and Secretary Sofia Maldonado were present in school.

*Photo courtesy of Emilia Sciame Doddato
Student Council Moderator*



Members of Post 1897, Centereach, NY Remember Brother Veterans

The pandemic did not stop Post 1897 from holding its annual Veterans Day Program. (From left) Richard Gallagher, PC Tom Donnelly, Dennis Sullivan, Craig Cornelius, Commander Vincent Zecca, Sal DeFillipo and Angus Johnson during ceremonies at the local VFW Hall.

Photo courtesy of Vincent Zecca



SEEKING SCHOLARLY ADVICE FROM OUR POSTS!

Are You Taking Advantage of Our Scholarship Program?

One of the more underutilized programs of the Catholic War Veterans is our scholarship program. It was established to perpetuate the aims and ideals of the Catholic War Veterans by rendering financial assistance and by encouraging the Catholic youth of our nation to seek greater achievement through higher education. The program is

named the Thomas J. Cuite Memorial Scholarship in honor of our Past National Commander, and Immaculate Conception Burse Scholarship Foundation.

Our Posts should be using this program as a recruiting enticement and as the focus of its Youth Programs. Any high school senior who is a Catholic is eligible if his/her relative (Parent, Grandparent, Aunt, Uncle or Sibling) is an active or deceased member of the Catholic War Veterans or Auxiliary in good standing. Five recipients will receive a \$1,000 scholarship grant in the applicant's name paid directly to the applicant's accredited college or university upon proof of acceptance from that school.

Additional information and an application form should be requested directly from CWV National Headquarters or downloaded from the Headquarters website. Go to <https://wp2.cwv.org/our-national-programs/youth-activities>. The application must be completely filled out and signed by both the applicant and his/her parent/guardian. Poorly completed applications may jeopardize competitiveness.

The portfolio must contain the following items and be returned to National Headquarters by June 1, 2021: 1. Application completed in full. 2. The applicant's high school transcript in a sealed envelope. 3. Two letters of recommendation (one of which must attest to the applicant's Catholic identity). 4. Applicant's self-described written response as to how his/her Catholic identity has influenced their life experience and how they think it will influence their future (maximum one page typed, double spaced). 5. Sacramental records.

The National Scholarship Committee shall give careful consideration in selecting the best qualified candidates based on: high school academic record indicating a strong potential for success on the college level; service to the high school, church or community demonstrated by initiative, leadership and participation in other activities; evidence of the applicant's Catholic identity as stated in letter(s) of recommendation. The National Board of Officers will ratify the decision of the judges. The decision of the National Board shall be final. National Headquarters will notify the winners.

Please direct all questions to:

Catholic War Veterans of the USA National Headquarters: (703) 549-3622



They're Our Valentines!

Pope John Paul II Post 1959 in Willoughby, Ohio joined local student artists in presenting Valentines Day Coloring Contest Awards. Front row (left to right): Juan Rodriguez-TeXidor, Gionni Formica, Delaney Ursick and Madeleine Murphy. Standing (from left) are National Historian Mike Strainic Sr., Commander Ken Kirchner, Welfare Officer Joe Meiers, 3rd V/C Jim Steel.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S ART CONTEST

National Auxiliary Winners



1st Place: Reilly Killian, St. Nicholas School, Minersville PA. with Kindergarten Teacher, Mrs. Ashley Thompson (left), Mom Jennifer, and Pastor Fr. Mark Fesniak.



2nd Place: 1st Grader Emery Forney is congratulated by Principal Mrs. Teresa Keating, Assumption BVM School in Pottsville, PA



3rd Place: Hannah Matthews is awarded her certificate and check by a smiling Principal, Mr. Murtha, of Kutz Elementary School in Doylestown, PA

And, On The Veterans Side ...(Grades 3-5)



John Paul II Post 1959 presents award to Department of Ohio winner Eva Vrban. (From left): Commander Ken Kircher, 3 V/C Jim Steel, Mom Kay Vrban, Dad Jim, National Historian Mike Strainic Sr. and Welfare Officer Joe Meiers.



Department of Illinois 3rd Vice Commander Dale Smith (left) joins Department Treasurer Don Werner in presenting 1st Place Award to 3rd Grader Camille Winkler.



Camille's work of art!



Ohio's 2nd Place Winner was Laurel Reindel of St. Dominic School in Shaker Heights, nominated by Post 1954.



**3rd Vice Commander
Children's Programs
= Positive Publicity!**

St. Peter of the Fields Post 1954 also sponsored the 3rd Place awardee, Taraja Grimes, also from St. Dominic School.



FATHER GIORGIO TRIANGLE

WILLIAMSBURG – The reflections of a diverse, gentrified neighborhood flashed across the face of a shiny stone memorial on a speck of parkland called “Father Giorgio Triangle.” Etched into the memorial is the portrait of a young man – the park’s namesake. The monument’s inscription bears the words: “Capt. Edward J. Giorgio, U.S. Army Chaplain Corps, WWII. He gave his life for his country. His greatest love was God, his greatest devotion was humanity, his greatest heritage, a living inspiration to us all.”

As people rushed by, local Veterans noted: “that’s OK, after all, it’s a free country. People like Fr. Giorgio wanted to keep it that way, so they donned the uniform.” But local Veterans aim to save this priest’s story. They belong to Father Edward J. Giorgio Post 689, of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America. World War II Veterans created the post in honor of Fr. Giorgio, a beloved leader in the community, even before the war.



*Capt. Edward J. Giorgio,
U.S. Army Chaplain Corps, WWII.*

“They loved him,” said Paul D’Elia, a long-time post member, “and they thought he was a great guy.” D’Elia is a former post commander, but also its go-to historian. He served as a door gunner on Army helicopter medevacs during the Vietnam War. He explained the post’s members who first sought to honor Fr. Giorgio were contemporaries of the priest, who also served in World War II. Many of them knew the Brooklyn-born Giorgio from the mid-1930s when he was a newly-ordained priest assigned to the nearby parish of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

“A lot of the old-timers told me he ran a lot of youth activities before the war to keep kids off the streets,” D’Elia said. “He started a marching band (the Mount Carmel Cadet Corps), which was an unusual thing at the time.” Father Giorgio was 32 when the U.S. entered the war in 1941, according to records kept by the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps Museum at Fort Jackson, S.C.

He served with the 347th Infantry Regiment, 87th Infantry Division at Camp McCain, Mississippi, from April to July 1943. Father Giorgio also served at several stateside Army hospitals. D’Elia said the “old-timers” believed Father Giorgio in 1945 was ministering to soldiers somewhere in Europe when an injury to his leg forced its amputation. Later in 1946, while hospitalized stateside, the priest suffered blood poisoning and died. “The men in the neighborhood, mostly World War II Vets, decided to honor him, and that is how Post 689 started,” D’Elia said.

Post 689’s meeting hall is a short walk from the Father Giorgio Triangle. Its members dedicated the first memorial marker in the mid-1950s. A bronze plaque by famed sculptor A.S. Cianfarani held the priest’s image and accompanying inscription which remained a neighborhood fixture until the bronze plaque disappeared in 2008. “Thieves ripped it off and just left the stone there,” D’Elia said.

Post members rededicated the Father Giorgio memorial in 2010, with the etched stone marker that stands today. D’Elia estimated that around 10 World War II-era Vets still belonged to the post in recent years, but only a couple remain. “We’re it,” he said of the current members from the Vietnam era. “When we’re gone, the Father Giorgio Post will be no more.”



I WAS A SAILOR ONCE

I liked standing on the bridge at sunrise with salt spray and the ocean wind in my face, the ship beneath me feeling like a living thing as she drove swiftly through the sea. I liked the sounds of the Navy—the shrill boatswains pipe, the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the 1MC, and the strong language and laughter of sailors.

I liked Navy vessels: fast destroyers, plodding fleet auxiliaries and amphibs, sleek submarines and steady solid aircraft carriers. I liked the proud names of Navy ships: Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea, Antietam, Valley Forge memorials of great battles won and tribulations overcome.

I liked the lean angular names of Navy “tin-cans”: and escorts: Dewey, Farragut, Law, McCloy mementos of heroes who went before us. And the others, San Jose, San Diego, Los Angeles, St. Paul, Chicago named for our cities.

I liked the tempo of a Navy band blaring through the topside speakers as we stood out to sea. I liked Liberty Call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. I even liked the all-hands working parties as my ship filled herself with stores and fuel in order to cut ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe.

I liked sailors from all parts of the land. We trusted and depended on each other for competence, comradeship, strength and courage. They were “shipmates,” then and forever.

I liked the surge of adventure in my heart, when the word was passed: “Now set the special sea and anchor detail—all hands to quarters for leaving port.” I liked the thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pier side.

The work was hard and dangerous, the going rough at times; the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the “all for one and one for all” philosophy of the sea was ever present. I liked the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flitted across the wave tops and sunset gave way to night.

I liked the feel of the Navy in darkness - the masthead and the range lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters - they cut through the dusk and joined with the mirror of stars overhead. And I liked drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad of noises that told me that my ship was well, and that my shipmates on watch would keep me safe.

I liked quiet midwatches with the aroma of strong coffee; the lifeblood of the Navy permeating everywhere. And I liked the hectic watches when the exact minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed kept all hands on a razor edge of alertness.

I liked the sudden cry of “General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations,” followed by the clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship transformed herself in a few seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war ready for anything. And I liked the sight of space-age equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I liked the traditions of the Navy and those who made them. I liked the proud names of Navy heroes: Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones and Burke. A sailor could find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade.

In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, they will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods - the impossible shimmering mirror calm or the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. And then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief's quarters and mess decks.

Gone ashore for good they will grow wistful about their Navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port of call was ever over the horizon. Remembering this, they will stand taller and they will say,

“I WAS A SAILOR ONCE AND I WOULD DO IT AGAIN.”

Thanks and a tip of the Dixie Cup to Larry Houghton, USS INTREPID (CV-11)



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On the evening of 22 February 2021, President Biden, Vice President Harris and their Spouses led the nation in a moment of silence amidst 500 candles at the White House, marking the sad toll of 500,000 deaths in the nation due to the Covid-19 pandemic.