
USS Compton Organization

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The Compton at war



Commissioned November 4 1944
Decommissioned—September 27 1972



Picture on top of page—The Compton during WW2.
Above picture: Compton in full “Friendship Dress”.
Sigward Pohl collection—1962 Med Cruise

The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our active WEB site
Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 34 past newsletters from February 2009
to the present on our below listed Internet Website...

WEB SITE: www.usscompton705.com



Rose and Joe Napoli



Nancy Siple and Dan Greenless



Surprise visit—Rhode Island Piper and Drum Corps



Ralph and Gloria Breitenbach



Carol and Bill "Chaplain-Doc" Eames



Bill and Betty Pearson



Dave Scott enjoying his first reunion



Rosie and Bill Judge—who is the real sailor??



Eva and Boyd Crannell



Pat and Mike Flannery with Howard and Anne Bouffard



Maggiano's in Boston's Little Italy



Heidecker and Eames—What does this word mean???

Robert White (1966-68) BT2 with the Compton off the US Saint Thomas VI—1967



Bob White—Liberty on St Thomas VI—1967



Person in Bosun Chair—going to get Dunked



5 inch 38 caliber— forward



Compton docked and on liberty—VI 1967

Fellow Compton sailors: please send me your pictures from your days on our ship.
I promise to send them back very quickly, after I receive those special memories.

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Annual USS Compton Association dues are \$20.00 per year. If you received an envelope with this newsletter the dues are due now or will be due within a short period of time...look for the hand written date on your address label. This is the date when your membership has expired or will soon expire...

Ship's Plaque Donation



A recent article in the Tin Can Sailors magazine stated that they have a room, at their headquarters in Somerset, MA., dedicated to the display of ships plaques. They went on to appeal for veteran groups to donate plaques to add to their collection. Since our Association is in possession of three plaques the Board of Directors, meeting at the reunion in Warwick, agreed to donate one plaque. A USS Compton plaque was mailed to the Tin Can Sailors and will be proudly displayed.

The USS Compton plaques are brass castings, circular, about 8 inches in diameter, mounted on a wooden base. The castings contain the sea serpent crushing a submarine like that on our patches and decals. Noteworthy is the fact that the plaques have the background triangle inverted, with the base of the triangle on the bottom, unlike our decals and patches which have the two legs of the triangle meeting at the bottom. I don't know when the format of the logo was changed but I have heard that the patch was designed in the early 1960's. The triangle on the patch allows more of the serpent to be highlighted on a white background.

The ship's plaques were, at one time or another, displayed on the USS Compton. How they fell off the ship and landed in our custody is a mystery. They must not have been secured properly for us to have three of them.

I guess we are the last generation!!!

**Whatever happened?
It's called.....**

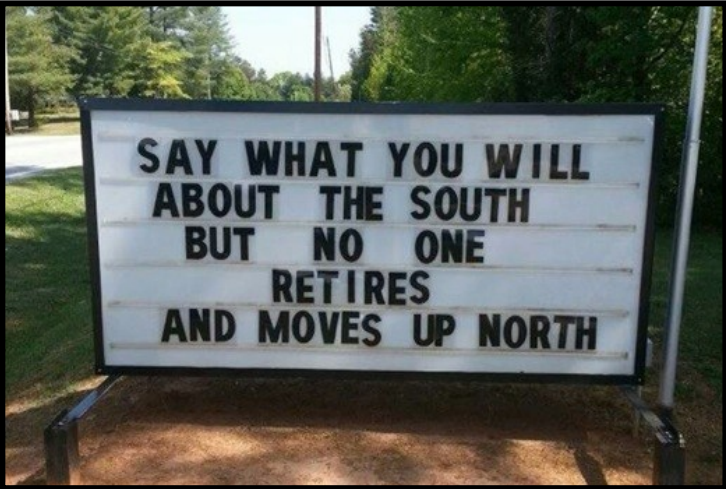
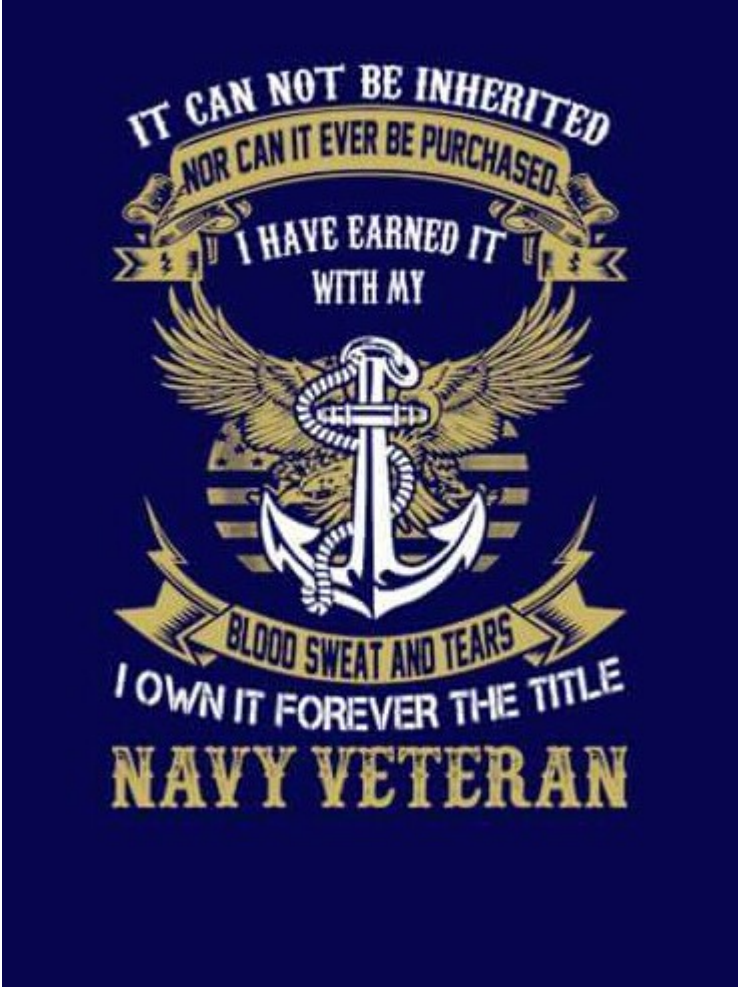
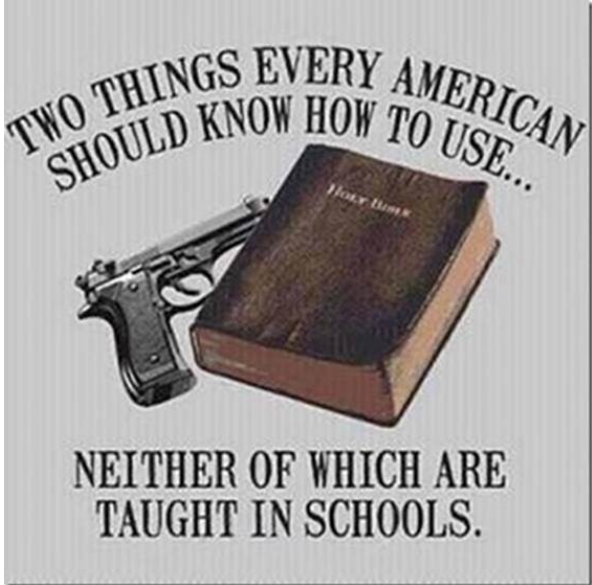
**Political correctness (or "re-education") happened,
Lack of God's name happened,
Lack of personal responsibility happened,
Lack of personal integrity and honesty happened,
Lack of respect and loyalty to our country happened,
Lack of being an American happened.**

**Did all of these things die along with common
sense!?!?**

I'm still going to bingo



**IT'S OK IF YOU
DISAGREE WITH ME.
I CAN'T FORCE YOU TO BE RIGHT.**



Charleston Reunion—April 23—25, 2018 and pay our respects to the—
USS Laffey DD724—last Sumner Class Destroyer...



Armament:	6 × 5 in (130 mm)/38 cal dual purpose guns
	12 × 40 mm anti-aircraft guns
	11 × 20 mm anti-aircraft cannons
	10 × 21 in (533 mm) torpedo tubes
	6 × depth charge projectors
	● 2 × depth charge tracks

Name:	Laffey
Namesake:	Bartlett Laffey
Builder:	Bath Iron Works
Laid down:	28 June 1943
Launched:	21 November 1943
Sponsored by:	Ms. Beatrice F. Laffey
Commissioned:	8 February 1944
Decommissioned:	30 June 1947
Recommissioned:	26 January 1951
Decommissioned:	9 March 1975
Struck:	9 March 1975 ^{LI}
Status:	Museum ship berthed at Patriots Point, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina

Class and type:	Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer
Displacement:	2,200 long tons (2,200 t)
Length:	376 ft 6 in (114.76 m)
Beam:	40 ft (12 m)
Draft:	15 ft 8 in (4.78 m)
Installed power:	60,000 shp (45,000 kW)
Propulsion:	2 × steam turbines
Speed:	34 knots (63 km/h; 39 mph)
Range:	6,500 nmi (7,500 mi; 12,000 km) at 15 knots (28 km/h; 17 mph)
Complement:	336
Sensors and processing systems:	Radar

THE SHIP THAT WOULD NOT DIE

USS LAFFEY (DD-724) is the most decorated World War II era US Destroyer still in existence. DD-724 was named in honor of LAFFEY (DD-459), sunk during the Naval Battle for Guadalcanal (13 November 1942). Both ships were named in honor of Seaman Bartlett Laffey, a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient.

April 16, 1945

While operating off Okinawa, she was attacked by 22 Japanese bombers and Kamikaze killing 32 and wounding 71 of the 336-man crew. The heroic crew shot down 9 Kamikaze aircraft and saved the damaged ship earning her the nickname: "The Ship That Would Not Die."

The crew of the USS Compton DD705 will be honored to tour a sister ship at our Charleston Reunion...
A special section on the Laffey's WW2 heroism will be in the November Newsletter

Compton Members—thru May 30th—who additionally contributed to our association

Bill Judge	Robert Schaefer	Mike Flannery	Phil Prekel
Happy Nehring	Ed Brimo	Robert Chiesa	Michael Close
Jack Henderson			



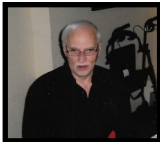
Eternal Father, strong to save,
 Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
 Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
 Its own appointed limits keep;
 Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
 For those in peril on the sea!



"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
 A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

*Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it;
 It flies with the last breath of each soldier/sailor/marine/airman who died to protect it*

Obituaries: USS Compton DD705



Daniel Turkley (SM3) 1958-60 passed on June 2 2017. Daniel was an active Compton Association member and lived in Moundsville WV. He willed his body for scientific research for two years and then he was cremated and interned at the Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek Michigan. A donation in his memory will be made to Tin Can Sailors.



Jack Hunold (BMSN) 1950-53, passed on June 15, 2017. Jack was a past Compton Association President and was very active in bringing our association to its current level of success. As you can see by his picture—he was happiest, at our reunions, with a microphone in hand and telling tall stories. Jack was also a ranked “Commodore “ at the Chester Pennsylvania Boat Club. A donation in his honor will be made to TCS.



Raymond H Fogarty (RM WW2) passed May 16, 2017. Born June 21, 1920—Raymond was 96 years old when he passed in Rockland ME. He served on the USS Compton during WW2 and retired from the US Postal Service after many years of service.



Russell S Funk (rank/rating unknown) passed May 28, 2017. Born in November 9, 1947 he was 69 years old when he passed in Stuart FL. Information is minimal—but, he was is listed as serving on the USS Compton (years unknown) and was buried with full military honors.

Fellow shipmates: Our Compton Association lose members each year and sometimes we cannot find out the real reason but, we do not wish to lose any members for not paying their dues. The generosity of Compton members allow us to help other members.
 We will send a self-addressed postal card to those over one year past due and just check “keep me on the member list” if you cannot afford to pay your dues, for any reason, then return the card to us.