

USS Arizona Memorial

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



USS Arizona Memorial
Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i



USS ARIZONA SURVIVORS INTERVIEW

A. TESLOW	GM2c	1982	F. M. CAMPBELL	Ens	200
H. MILLIKIN	Sea2c	1984	D. H. STARKS	MM1c	200
J. PEIL	BM2c	1988	F. M. FALGE	Sea1c	200
L. PITZ	Sea1c	1989	L. P. ROBINSON	GM2c	200
E. OLIPHANT	GM3c	1990	E. H. PECOTTE	GM3c	200
S. FLANAGAN, JR.	Ens	1992	J. L. LAWSON	AMM1c	200
R. CORNELIUS	Sea2c	1992	G.D. PHRANER, JR.	Sea1c	200
H. EGAN	FC3c	1993	W. E. JEFFERS	Sea1c	200
G. L. NELSON, JR.	Sea2c	1993	R. A. LOTT	Sea1c	200
H. W. GAUT	Sea1c	1995	J. H. GARFIELD	Ens	200
N. W. COPLIN	Sea1c	1996	A. F. CZARNECKI	MM1c	200
J. W. GREEN	GM3c	1996	N. B. CHAPMAN	Sea2c	200

It is a hard thing to have survived when we owe our place to the dead.

Rene Quinton
Soldier's Testament

The Fortunate Few

During the Pearl Harbor attack, 1,512 officers, sailors, and marines were assigned to the battleship USS *Arizona*. Only 335 survived the "Day of Infamy." Many of these survivors were aboard the *Arizona* during the attack. Others were away on liberty, attending training, or assigned to special duty ashore. Since that tragic day all of these men have worn the mantle of "survivor" with grace and reluctance. Many feel fortunate to have survived but some are haunted by the loss of their friends and fellow shipmates. As you read through this list you may wonder, as they have, why were they spared from the sea of death that engulfed their shipmates on that fateful day in 1941?

Their Stories

"Were you scared? Yes, one does get scared. Then you think, Will I ever see home again? Will I see my family? How can I get out of this alive?" That's when you pray a lot and tell yourself to remember your Navy and Marine Corp training; stay calm, and try to be like Major Shapley and [Lieutenant] Commander Fuqua. Those who have seen war carry unforgettable memories of their fellow men."

Russell J. McCurdy, Lt Col, USMC Retired

"There was a tremendous explosion as I reached the quarterdeck ladder, and a terribly burned sailor laid under the ladder. I got him by the hand to get him to safety when the forward part of the *Arizona* blew up. We were thrown back toward the stern. This sailor I managed to save; my twin [brother] I could not."

John D. Anderson, BMC, USN Retired
Twin brother, Delbert, died on the *Arizona*.

Vincent Vlach was at home with his wife in Honolulu at the start of the attack. He hurried to Pearl Harbor amidst the air strike to help men from their boats as they came ashore. Many were badly burned, injured, and covered with oil. Vincent said his "whites [uniform] were a bloody and oily mess."

Vincent J. Vlach Jr., LCDR, USN Retired



Vincent Vlach with wife, Jeanne, September 3, 1941

Honoring a Final Request

In the Shrine Room at the USS *Arizona* Memorial, a large wall lists the names of the *Arizona*'s dead. A smaller wall (top of page) contains the names of *Arizona* survivors who chose to rejoin their shipmates in their final resting place. Each of these men asked that their remains be placed back into the *Arizona*. To honor this final request, National Park Service divers ceremoniously transport the urns of survivors back to the ship (at right). Resting their remains in the sunken wreck allows them to finally reunite with their brothers who died on December 7, 1941.



COURTESY/MI Vlach - USN PHOTO COLLECTION #719
UNITED STATES NAVY

Survivors of the December 7, 1941, Attack on the USS Arizona

United States Navy & Reserve (320)

AMACHER, Charles Andrew	Sea1
ANDERSON, John Delmar	BM2c
BAGBY, Walter Franklin	SF3c
BALL, Masten "A"	F1c
BALLARD, Galen Owen	F1c
BARTH, DeWayne	BM1c
BASS, Edward Forester	F2c
BAUMEISTER, William Nicolas	ACMM
BECKER, Harvey Herman	GM2c
BEMIS, Edwin Wallace	Sea1c
BENNETT, Earl Dean	GM3c
BERDOLLT, George Anthony	FC3c
BIRD, Leroy Alexander	CTC
BIRDELL, Estelle	MM1c
BIRTWELL, Daniel Thomas Jr.	Lt Comdr
BODEY, Edward Raymond	BM2c
BOWEN, Andrew Jackson Jr.	CMM
BRADSHAW, Harry Frederick	Sea1c
BRAYDIS, John	Sea1c
BROWN, Gene R.	Sea1c
BROWNING, Robert James	Sea2c
BRUCE, John Franklin	GM3c
BRUNER, Lauren Fay	FC3c
BRUNS, Martin Benjamin	Y2c
BUEHL, Herbert Vincent	F3c
BURCHAM, Jimmie Charles	Sea1c
BURK, Leland Howard	GM3c
BUSH, William Jack	Ens
BYARD, Ralph Duncan	CCStd
CAMPBELL, Frank Monroe	Ens
CAMPBELL, George Kilgore	CTC
CARLSON, Ray Christian	Sea2c
CARSON, Carl Malvin	Sea1c
CHANDLER, Edwin Ray	Sea1c
CHAPMAN, Noel "B"	Sea2c
CHAPPELL, William Robert	Sea1c
CHRISTIANSEN, Harlan Carl	AS
CHUNG-HOON, Gordon Patea	Lt
CLOUSER, Marion Howard	GM1c
COBURN, George W.	Sea1c
COKER, Charles Walter	Lt
COMBS, Clyde Jefferson	Sea1c
CONDON, Daniel Jerome	Lt(jg) (MC)
CONTER, Louis Anthony	QM3c
COOK, Lonnie David	Sea1c
COOLE, Lloyd Edward	Sea1c
COPLIN, Norman Walter	Sea1c
CORBIN, Ralph Victor Leon	Sea1c
CORNELIUS, Lyle Richard	Sea2c
COSBY, Ray Charles	Sea1c
COX, John Madison Jr.	Lt Comdr
COZAD, Francis Bernard	Sea2c
CROTHERS, Lee Raymond	BM1c
CRUZ, Henry Mesa	MAtt1c
CULP, Donald Arthur	Sea2c
CZARNECKI, Anthony Francis	MM1c
DANIEL, Alfred Eugene	GM1c
DARE, James Ashton	Ens
DAVIS, Carl Everette	GM3c
DAVIS, Elvin Clay	Sea1c
DAVISON, Henry Donald	Ens
DEAN, William Ernest	BM1c
DEARING, John Davis	WT2c
DECKER, Deward	Cox
DESERANO, Joseph Charles	Mldr1c
DICKERSON, William Charles A.	RM2c
DICKINSON, Merle Edward	GM3c
DOBSON, Clarence Junior	GM3c
DOHERTY, John Andrew	CGM
DONEGAN, Timothy Albert	Pttr1c
DOUCETT, John Walter	GM3c
DUNCAN, Henry Barnett	FC3c
DUNCAN, Tommie Wilson	BM2c
EDMONDSON, Kenneth Eugene	Cox
EGAN, Paul Howard	FC3c
ELKINS, Merle	Sea1c
ELLIOTT, Lawrence Emmitt	MM1c
ELLIS, George William	SC1c
ENOS, James R.	Sea2c
ESKEW, Weldon Virgil	MM1c
EVANS, John Willard	Sea1c
EVERSOLE, Elmer Everett	Sea1c
EYMAN, Lawrence Oliver	Sea1c
FALGE, Francis Marion	Lt
FARQUHAR, Lawrence Albert	FC2c
FAULKNER, Paul Harding	Sea1c
FAY, Lawrence Edward	GM3c
FELTON, Nathaniel	MAtt1c
FIELD, Jennings Pemble	Ens
FINGER, William Ralph	SM1c
FITCH, Harry Lionel	Ens
FLANAGAN, Guy Spalding Jr.	Ens
FLANNERY, Wendell Lee	Cox
FLORY, Dale Frederick	WT2c
FORBIS, James Leamon	Cox

FOSTER, James Park Jr.	Sea1c
FOWLER, Ralph Edward	BM1c
FOWLER, Robert Dale	Sea2c
FRAZIER, Glen	CGM
FRYE, Everett Ellsworth	Sea1c
FUQUA, Samuel Glenn	Lt Comdr
GALLAGHER, William Fred	CEM
GARFIELD, Jerome Harold	Ens
GASKINS, Walter James	Sea1c
GAUT, Harold Woodson	Sea1c
GEISELMAN, Ellis Hugh	Comdr
GENEST, Dayton Merrill	Sea1c
GIBSON, Claude Clenton	Sea1c
GILBERT, Arthur Barnes	Sea1c
GILLEM, Charles "M"	Sea1c
GILLENWATER, Charles Ervin	Sea1c
GILLESPIE, David William	Sea1c
GLENN, Richard Clyde	Ens
GOLDSBERRY, William Joseph	Sea1c
GORDON, Donald Eugene	GM2c
GOSHEN, William Eugene	Sea1c
GRABOWSKY, Leon	Ens
GRAHAM, Donald Alexander	AMM1c
GRAY, James Victor	Sea1c
GREEN, Clay Douglas Jr.	Sea1c
GREEN, James William	GM3c
GRIM, George Edwin	GM1c
GUERIN, Charles William Jr.	Sea1c
GUNA, Andrew	BM1c
HAERLING, Howard Gustave	BM1c
HAERRY, Raymond John	Cox
HAMILTON, Elsworth Fonzo	ACMM
HAMILTON, James Edward	Sea1c
HAND, Vernon	Sea1c
HARGIS, Paul Eugene	Y3c
HARR, Oliver Virgil	MM1c
HARRELL, Allen Boyd	Sea1c
HARRIS, Henry Sherman	Sea1c
HARRIS, John David	Sea1c
HART, James Willard	F1c
HARTLAND, Alfred Jack	Sea1c
HAUFF, Richard	GM3c
HEIN, Douglas	Ens
HEINZ, Robert Henry	Sea1c
HENDON, Robert Marvin	CGM
HENRY, John William	Ens
HETRICK, Clarendon Robert	Sea1c
HILL, Richard Howe	Y3c
HINTON, John Harold	CSM
HJELLE, Clarence Otto	Sea2c
HOLLAND, Fred McKenzie	Sea1c
HOLMES, Roy Willard	Sea1c
HOMANN, Alfred James	Lt
HOOKS, Woodrow Robert	Sea2c
HOOPER, Clifford Charles	RM2c
HOWATT, John Paul	Ens
HUGHES, James Curtis	Sea1c
HULL, Lester DeLance	Sea1c
HURST, Milton Thomas	AMM3c
HUTCHINS, Edward Francis	Lt
HUZAR, Peter	WT1c
HYSLOPE, Charles Edward	F1c
INSELMAN, Donald	Sea1c
JANIKOWSKI, Edward Joseph	Cox
JEFFERS, Warren Edwin	Sea1c
JOHNSON, Donald R.	Sea1c
JOHNSON, Neil Francis	Cox
JOHNSTON, Brooxey "J" Jr.	GM3c
JONES, Hubert Hayes	CWT
KARB, Joe Frank	CWT
KEENER, "C" "H"	GM3c
KEFFER, Carl Emerson	Sea1c
KELLEY, Bruce Draper	Lt Comdr
KIRK, Guy Duane	Sea1c
KISSINGER, Walter Marland	MM1c
KUHN, Harold Joseph	Sea1c
KURTZ, Stanley Robert	Sea1c
LANCASTER, James Daniel	Sea1c
LANDRETH, Ralph William	GM2c
LANE, Glenn Harvey	RM3c
LANGDELL, Joseph Kopcho	Ens
LAWRENCE, Thomas Hurshel	Sea1c
LAWSON, James Lenox	GM3c
LAWSON, Leonard George	Sea1c
LEIGHTON, Lindsay Ray	WT1c
LENCSES, Louie	GM3c
LENNING, George Birmingham	Ens
LEOPARD, Curtis James	BM1c
LEWIS, William Edward	Lt(jg) (MC)
LINDSEY, Jack Lawton	Sea1c
LOTT, Russell Ardell	Sea1c
LUKASAVITZ, Steven Jerome	Sea1c
MacQUEEN, Donald E.	Ens
MAINWARING, Billy Braun	F3c
MALASKI, John	Sea1c

MALCOLM, Everett Allen	Ens
MANCUSO, Joseph	Sea1c
MANN, Charles Clark	Lt
MARCUM, Harry Bedford	CEM
MARKS, Edward Joseph	Cox
MASTERSON, Kleber Sandlin	Lt
MATTLAGE, Herbert	Ens
McCARRON, John Harry	GM2c
McDONALD, Don Erwin	Sea1c
McFALL, Charles William	GM1c
McKENNA, Kenneth Kermit	SM1c
MELVIN, Earle Thomas	CFC
METCALF, John Howard	Sea2c
MIGLIACCIO, Thomas William	Sea1c
MILHORN, Harvey Hollis	GM3c
MILLER, Jim Dick	Ens
MILLIKIN, Donald Hugh	Sea2c
MINI, James Haile	Lt(jg)
MODE, Stanley Robert	EM1c
MOMMER, Roland Earl	BM2c
MURDOCK, Thomas Daniel	Sea1c
MUSICK, Clay Henry	Sea1c
MYLAN, Jack Clement	SM2c
NELSON, Grady Lee Jr.	Sea2c
NEWELL, Bobby Earl	Sea2c
NICHOLS, John Edward	RM1c
NIEMARA, Stanley Joseph	Sea1c
O'BRIEN, Edward Francis Joseph	Sea1c
OLIPHANT, Harold Eugene	GM3c
OLSEN, Vernon James	Sea1c
OSBORNE, William Daniel Jr.	Sea1c
OSMOND, Robert Hugh	FC3c
OSTERBERG, Vernon Magnus	Ens
OTTERMAN, Clarence Wayne	GM2c
OWEN, Paul Ralph	Sea1c
PABLO, Patrocino	OS1c
PACITTI, Louis John	GM3c
PARKER, William Whiteford	Sea1c
PECOTTE, Earl Henry	Gm2c
PEIL, William John	BM2c
PERRY, Seth Harold	Sea2c
PHIPPS, Berwyn Robert	SF2c
PHRANER, George Dewey Jr.	Sea2c
PITTARD, George Franklin	Lt
PITZ, Robert Leo	Sea1c
POLLACK, Francis Lee	SC3c
PORT, Stanley Harrison Jr.	Cox
POSEY, Ernest Mendum	MM1c
POTTS, Howard Kenton	Cox
POUSSON, Alfred Andrew	Sea2c
PROBST, Richard William	Sea1c
PUCKETT, Louis Alfred	Comdr (SC)
PURVIS, William Robinson	F3c
QUILLIN, Wallace Franklin	Sea1c
RANN, Carl Frederick	Sea1c
RAMPLEY, John Watson	GM3c
RAMSDELL, Millard Arthur	Ens
REID, Everett Owen	MM1c
REIFERT, Eldon Ray	Cox
RIDER, Maurice David	BM1c
RIDLEY, William Hull	RM3c
RINER, Earl William	GM3c
ROBINSON, Lewis Perrin	Sea1c
ROURKE, John Paul	Sea1c
ROWLEY, Welton Dana	Lt Comdr
RUHLMAN, Fred Lee	Lt
SADLER, Jack Ivan	Sea2c
SADOWSKI, Joseph Stephen	Sea1c
SANDERS, Elmer Larimore	GM1c
SARGENT, Robert Isaac Jr.	Sea2c
SCHAFER, Herman Leroy Jr.	Ens
SCHUBERT, Anthony Robert	Ens
SCHUMACHER, William James	WT1c
SEELEY, Robert Fox	Sea2c
SHAFFER, John Jackson III	Lt
SHAWN, Ernest Maurice	GM3c
SHEBAK, Joseph	Sea1c
SHEW, Martin Luther	MM2c
SIMMONS, Claude William Jr.	Sea1c
SMITH, Clyde Crockett	CEM
SMITH, Harold Francis	BM2c
SMITH, Roscoe Bryant	GM3c
SMITH, William Hansford Jr.	Cox
SNOW, Rutherford Hayes	WT1c
STANBOROUGH, Thomas William Jr.	Sea1c
STARKE, Don Harrison	MM1c
STOFFER, Bernald Henry	AMM1c
STRATTON, Donald Gay	Sea1c
STRONG, Herbert Ronald	Cox
STUART, Jean Marcelle	Sea1c
SULLIVAN, Aubry Randolph	Cox
TAGTMEYER, Laurence Ernest	Chf Gun
TAPP, Murray L.	Sea2c
TESLOW, Stanley Merlin	GM2c
THOMA, Steven Joseph	EM3c

THOMPSON, Norman	Mach
TRANHAM, Glenwood Orris	BM1c
TRAVIOLI, Vernon Alva	Sea2c
TUCKER, Edward Daniel	BM2c
TURNER, Richard Newton Jr.	Sea1c
URBANIACK, Edmund Leo	Carp
VAN WINKLE, Edward Laverne	F2c
VELIA, Keith Lloyd	Sea2c
VESSELS, James Allard	GM3c
VIDAL, Daniel	MAtt1c
VLACH, Vincent James Jr.	Y1c
VON SPRECKELSEN, Charles Albert	Pttr2c
WAGNER, Robert Eugene	Sea1c
WAGNER, Rudolph Louis	CBM
WALKER, James Edward	QM2c
WALSH, Homan Leavell	Ens (SC)
WARD, James Robert	Sea1c
WARRINER, Kenneth T.	Sea2c
WARRINER, Russell Walter	Sea1c
WASHINGTON, Joseph Henry	MAtt1c
WATSON, Howard Lincoln	BM2c
WEAVER, Richard Duncan	BM1c
WELCH, Frank Jr.	Ens
WELLER, Oree Cunningham	Sea2c
WELLS, Harold Leroy	Sea1c
WELTER, Eddie Charles	Sea1c
WENTZLAFF, Edward Louis	AOM2c
WEST, Mark Austin	CMM
WESTBROOK, Clinton Howard	Sea1c
WHITE, Thomas Arthur	Bm2c
WILLIAMS, John Francis	Gm3c
WILSON, Charles Leo	Sea1c
WILSON, Harold Green Jr.	F2c
WISE, James Louis	Sea1c
ZADIK, Edward Albert	Sea2c

United States Marine Corps & Reserve (15)

BAKER, John MacRae	Sgt
BRAHAM, Edward James	PFC
CABINESS, Frank R.	PFC
CARTER, Edward J.	PtSgt
CORY, James Evans	PFC
COURSEY, John Paul	1stLt
CRAWFORD, Lamar Smead	PFC
EARLE, John Horatio Jr.	Capt
GOODMAN, Kenneth Dale	PFC
HARDY, Charles L.	Pvt
McCURDY, Russell J.	Pvt
NIGHTINGALE, Earl C.	Corp
SHAPLEY, Alan	Major
SOLEY, Michael	Corp
YOUNG, Donald George	PFC

My father's memories of the morning of December 7, 1941 were so strong and painful that he seldom was willing to share them with his family. He didn't want to be reminded of the horrors he had witnessed...

Walter M. Kissinger's daughter, Jenny, reflecting on the memories of her father.

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