

# Admin Search & Rescue

Volume 8, Issue 4 – Insert. By Rich McCamant – mcamantss485@hughes.net November 2007

## Update from the Admin, Search & Rescue Officer

A funny thing happened the other day. I got a call from one of our “Deceased” members! OK, so I blew it on this guy. In the early days of my searching, I had declared him dead based on a matching VA burial record. I even tracked down and spoke with a family member of the deceased and they told me that they didn't know much about his Navy career but thought he was the right guy. Anyway, our resurrected member for the 57-60 Duty Section was **James Ryan** whose information is below with the others. Sirago was his only boat and he says he has a lot of good memories about Sirago and of two fine young officers named Bob Bell and Carl Trost.

We heard from the daughter of “Cush” about his accident and subsequent death and this is written up in a special memorial article in the main newsletter.

I also got a note from Cathy Miller, oldest daughter of David Butler (TM2 55-56) about his recent death in October. She wrote: “His wife Peggy of 50 years had passed away just 10 days before. He was a wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather, Brother and friend. He had 40 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren with another due in February. He took care of mom who had Alzheimer's to the end. After she died, I believe he wanted so much to be with her that he didn't want to live without her. He had many health problems himself; we knew he was living only to be there for her. Now they are together, in full health and strength. What a glorious thought! Thank you all for your friendship and association with my father.”

So... officially we have found 4 new crew members and have learned of the deaths of 6 others, so once again we have lost net crew members. Here is the official list:

### FOUND:

<b>Bob Jones</b>	<b>ETN3</b>	<b>1963-1964</b>
<b>Joe Tucker</b>	<b>FN</b>	<b>1960-1961</b>

<b>James Ryan</b>	<b>END2</b>	<b>1956-1957</b>
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<b>Rick Young</b>	<b>ETR2</b>	<b>1961-1963</b>
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### LOST:

<b>Charles King</b>	<b>EMC</b>	<b>1963-1963</b>
<i>Died 7 February 2007</i>		

<b>“Jack” Jensen</b>	<b>FTC</b>	<b>1958-1960</b>
<i>Died 2007</i>		

<b>Leroy Sorenson</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>1946-1947</b>
<i>Died 30 March 2004</i>		

<b>David Butler</b>	<b>TM2</b>	<b>1955-1956</b>
<i>Died 17 October 2007</i>		

<b>“Cush” Cushing</b>	<b>LT(XO)</b>	<b>1951-1953</b>
<i>Died 29 September 2007</i>		

<b>Don Degenaro</b>	<b>CS3</b>	<b>1948-1951</b>
<i>Died 6 October 2007</i>		

*Sailor.... rest your oar...*

Of course I send out notifications on Lost & Found crew members to those in or near their “Duty Sections” by email. Here is a response I got from **Harold Webster (ET2 55-60)**:

Rich, I knew "Jack" Jensen. As he was single at the time, he and I occasionally went on liberty together. To show you how memory plays tricks on one, as I remember Jack, I thought he was a chief electrician's mate. He was a very clever and charming fellow. He often said that he intended after his retirement to buy a boat on which he could live and leave it docked somewhere in Mexico where his money would go further. He had a fetish about beer. If a bartender began pouring a draft by tilting the bottle so as to not produce a lot of foam, Jack would tell him, “Don't do that. Pour that beer right down the middle of the glass. That foam is what intensifies the flavor.” Whenever he caught me sipping my beer, he would scold me: “Beer is not meant to be sipped. Beer should be quaffed.”

A few years back, after I had reestablished contact with the old crew, I called him and talked to him briefly. He was not in good shape. I gathered that he was suffering from congestive heart failure.

**Harold Webster**

OK – here’s another interesting story. In our last newsletter (August 2007) we reported the death of COB Stanley Robinson (TMCS 66-68). He was certainly a beloved crew member to all. Seems to me that Pat Conroy at the 2003 reunion upon seeing the COB nearly knocked him over yelling “Chief!!” as if he were his long lost father, and proceeded to hug and kiss him... which somewhat embarrassed Stanley but apparently he was everyone’s “Sea Daddy”.

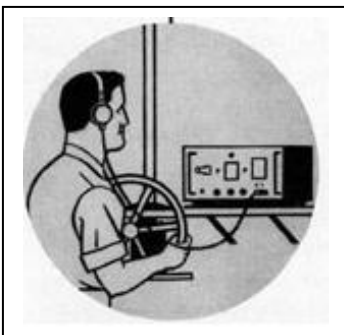
Well his own son, Stanley H. Robinson Jr. is no less passionate than our own Pat Conroy. In memoriam to his father he had a Sirago emblem and dolphins tattooed on his leg with his father’s birth and death years plus the word “COB” below the dolphins. See the photo to the right.

On another subject, our Duty Section “live” count is approximately as follows (I say approximately because we have a couple of guys with 2 addresses in our database):

4548:	75	4952:	63
5356:	81	5760:	121
6164:	181		
6568:	177	6972:	158
		TOT:	856

*Rich McCamant*

*Admin, Search & Rescue Officer*



Don Degenaro (CS3 48-51) shown in this photo (leftmost) with John Ball (middle) and Tom Callahan (right), all from the 4952 Duty Section and now all deceased.

