



# Base Memorials And Ceremonies Handbook



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# BASE MEMORIALS AND CEREMONIES HANDBOOK



## INTRODUCTION:

**This handbook is intended to be a reference for Base held Memorials and Services. The elements shown are a guide and each Base is free to vary a ceremony as it may see fit. Also included is helpful information about available U.S. Military Honors services provided to veterans by the Department of Defense by Executive order of the President of the United States.**

This handbook will be updated periodical as comments and recommendations are accumulated and each update will be marked with a revision date on the front cover.

# **CHAPTER 1: TYPES OF SERVICES**

## **National Holiday Ceremony Honoring Our Shipmates Lost at Sea**

- **Memorial Day**
- **Veterans Day**
  - **Appropriate date for a local submariner on eternal patrol due to loss at sea**
- **Submarine Veteran Remembrance Service**
  - **In the event that your base has not identified any local area Submariners that were lost at sea, you may select either of the nationally recognized Holidays for your service**

## **Elements of a Memorial Service**

- **Post The Colors**
- **Sound Diving Alarm-Klaxon (If Available)**
- **Opening Remarks By Master Of Ceremonies**

*"We are gathered here today to honor United States Submarines and Submariners who voluntarily gave their lives serving in Submarine Warfare. May we never forget their sacrifice to insure our freedom and prosperity "*
- **Invocation-Chaplain**
- **Pledge Of Allegiance**
- **Roll Call Of Attending Submarine Veterans**
- **Presentation Of Wreath**
- **Dedication Of Wreath-Chaplain**
- **Guest Speaker(S), If Any**
- **Tolling Of The Boats Ceremony - One Toll For Each Boat**
- **Volley Via Rifle Brigade**
- **Echo Taps-Echo Via Bugle and Trumpet (If Available), Or Recording**
- **Closing Prayer-Benediction-Chaplain**
- **Amazing Grace-Bagpiper(S)**
- **Surface Alarm-Klaxon**

*NOTE: Scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments, may be inserted if so desired by the chaplain or clergyman. Elements listed for reference only, order or deletion of elements are up to the base memorial committee*

## **Honors for a Deceased Submarine Veteran**

- 1. Graveside Service**
- 2. Church Sanctuary Service**
- 3. Funeral Home Service**

**These services should be coordinated with the family of the deceased and the church or funeral home director and in accordance with the family's wishes.**

**Often the family clergyman will perform a service at both the funeral home and the cemetery for interment. You might ask if the Base Chaplain might assemble the attending submarine veterans and say a prayer for the departed shipmate, during the funeral service. This would usually be sufficient .In the event that the Base Chaplain is asked to perform the service he may use one of the two examples in the prayer section of this document section of this document.**

## **Chapter 2: U.S. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS**



### **Eligibility and Arrangement for Burial at Sea:**

- **Active duty, retired, honorably discharged veterans and their family members, U.S. civilian marine personnel of Military Sealift Command, other U.S. citizens who are determined eligible by the Chief of Naval Operations because of notable service and/or other contributions to our government.**
- **Anyone desiring burial at sea should indicate that preference in writing (in a will or other legal document). During funeral planning, the executor/executrix of the estate should contact:**

**Military Medical Support Office (MMSO)  
Mortuary Affairs, Bldg. 38H  
Great Lakes IL 60085-5200  
Toll Free: 1-800-876-1131**

**For further information contact**

**Casualty Assistance Branch  
Naval Personnel Command (NPC-621)  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington TN 38055-6210  
Toll Free: 1-800-368-3202**



- **Information Provided the Next of Kin After Committal Services Completed**
- **Disposition at sea is normally accomplished within 8 to 10 weeks from the time the Fleet Commander-in-Chief is notified of a request.**
- **The Commanding Officer of a ship directed to conduct an at sea disposition, will within 10 days after the committal mail the next of kin a personal letter giving the date and time of committal and include photographs or video tape of the ceremony, the commemorative flag and a chart showing where the burial took place. Copies of the basic letter only will be forwarded to Naval Office of Medical/Dental Affairs, Great Lakes, IL; and Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington DC.**
- **Military Honors Functions at Funerals for Veterans**
- **Availability Of Funeral Honors Detail Assured**
  - **The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, upon request, a Funeral Honors Detail will be provided for the funeral of any veteran.**
- **Composition Of Funeral Honors Details**
  - **The Secretary of each military department shall ensure that a funeral honors detail for the funeral of a veteran consists of two or more persons.**
  - **At least two members of the Funeral Honors Detail for a veteran's funeral shall be members of the armed forces; at least one of whom shall be a member of the armed force of which the veteran was a member. The remainder of the detail may consist of members of the armed forces or members of veteran's organizations or other organizations approved for purposes of this section under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense. Each member of the armed forces in the detail shall wear the uniform of the member's armed force while serving in the detail.**

## **Ceremony:**

- **A General Honors Detail shall perform at a minimum, a ceremony that includes:**
  - **Folding of a United States flag and presentation of to the veteran's family**
  - **Playing of Taps. Unless a Bugler is a member of the Detail, the Honors Detail shall play a recorded version of Taps using audio equipment that the Detail shall provide if adequate audio equipment is not otherwise available for use at the funeral.**
  
- **Veterans Affairs Dept Head Stones and Grave Markers**
  - **On December 27, 2001, President Bush signed Public Law 107-1 03, (codified as 38 U.S.C. § 2306(d)) the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001.**
  
  - **This law includes a provision that allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to furnish an appropriate headstone or marker for the graves of eligible veterans buried in private cemeteries, whose deaths occur on or after December 27, 2001, regardless of whether the grave is already marked with a non-government marker.**
  
  - **Visit the Veterans Administration Internet Website at <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm hm.asp> for the latest information regarding headstones.**

## **Presidential Memorial Certificate**

1. **A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.**

*This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.*

## **Administration**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers The PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces. Visit <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/pmc.asp> on the internet for the latest information about PMCs.

- Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided.
- **Application**
- Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via e-mail. There is no form to use when requesting PMC.
- Please be sure to include a return mailing address with your request and a copy of the veteran's discharge documents.
- If you would like to request a Presidential Memorial Certificate, or you requested one more than six (6) weeks ago and have not received it yet, we ask that you either:
  - Fax your request and all supporting documents (copy of discharge and death certificate) to: (202) 565-8054, or
  - Mail your request and all supporting documents using either the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial mail service, such as one of the overnight or express mail delivery services, to:

**Department of Veterans Affairs  
National Cemetery Administration  
(403A) 810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20420-0001**

If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in or about the program in general you may call (202) 565-4964. Or you may e-mail them at: [PMC@mail.va.gov](mailto:PMC@mail.va.gov)

*NOTE: The above telephone number and e-mail address is for questions about the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program only. They do not administer other VA programs or have access to other VA records.*

## CHAPTER 3



### U.S. FLAG PROTOCOLS

#### Saluting the Flag:

- Salute the flag when it is six paces from the viewer and hold it until the flag has passed six paces beyond.
- Salute the flag at the first note of the National Anthem and hold the salute until the last note is played. Never use a flag as a decoration (use bunting.)
- When in civilian attire - Non Veteran MEN remove hats and hold at left shoulder with hand over heart; without hat, place right hand, palm open, over heart. Non Veteran WOMEN should place right hand, palm open, over heart.
- Veterans, Active and Reserve service members alike may hand-salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not.
- When in athletic clothing, face the flag or music, remove hat or cap and stand at attention; a hand salute is not given.

#### Carrying the Flag:

- When marching - Carry the flag on the right in any procession or parade. If there are many other flags, carry the flag in the front center position.
- If you are carrying a flag -Hold the flag at a slight angle from your body.

- **You can also carry it with one hand and rest it on your right shoulder.**

### **Displaying the Flag Outdoors:**

- **On a vehicle - Attach the flag to the antenna or clamp the flagstaff to the right fender.**
- **Do not lay the flag over the vehicle.**
- **On a building - Hang the flag on a staff or on a rope over the sidewalk with the stars away from the building.**
- **Over the street - Hang the flag with the stars to the east on a north- south Street or north on an east west street.**
- **Above other flags - Hang the flag above any other flag on the same pole**
- **Other flags, separate poles - Hang all flags on equal poles. Hang the U.S. flag on its own right, hoist it first and lower it last.**
- **In a window — Hang the flag vertically with the stars to the left of anyone looking at it from the street.**
- **Half-mast - This is a sign of mourning. Raise the flag to the top of the pole then lower it to the halfway point. Before lowering the flag, raise it to the top**
- **Upside down - An upside-down flag is considered a distress signal.**

### **Displaying the Flag Indoors:**

- **Multiple staffs - If you display the flag on a staff with other flags around it, place the flag at the center and highest point. Crossed staffs - Keep the flag staff higher and on its own right.**
- **Behind a speaker — Hang the flag flat on the wall. Do not decorate the podium or table with the flag. Use bunting for decoration.**
- **Next to a speaker — Place the flag in a stand on the speaker's right. Use the same placement for a religious service.**

- In a hall or lobby — Hang the flag vertically across from the main entrance with the stars to the left of anyone coming through the door.
- On a casket - Drape the flag with its canton at the head and over the left shoulder of the body. Do not lower the flag into the grave.

*Source: Information Courtesy of U.S. Navy*

### **U.S. Flag Folding Procedure (Grave-Side Service):**

- **Folding the U.S. Flag**
  - Hold the flag waist-high.
  - Fold the lower striped section of the flag over the blue field
  - The folded edge (the edge nearest the reader in step b) is then folded over to meet the open edge.
  - A triangular fold is then started by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to the open edge.
  - The outer point is then turned inward (parallel with the open edge) to form a second triangle.
  - The triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in this manner.
  - When the flag is completely folded, only the blue field should be visible.

*Source: U.S. Military*

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

- **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Manner of Delivery**

**"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."**

*The Pledge should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag. Veterans and service members not in uniform may salute. Non Veterans should remove their head dress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.*

# **U.S. Flag Disposal Ceremony**

## **Ceremony of Final Tribute**

- a) One flag is used in the ceremony, which is representative of all the flags to be burned at the service. The remainder of the flags collected should be incinerated after the ceremony.
  - b) The ceremony should be conducted out-of-doors, preferably in conjunction with a campfire program, and it should be a solemn, special event. The public is encouraged to attend.
  - c) The ceremony involves the Base Commander Vice Commander, Chaplain, Chief of the Boat, a Color Guard, Color Party (a detail of two persons carrying the flag(s) to be incinerated), an eight person firing party (seven Rifles and a "Squad Leader") and a bugler (recorded field music may be used).
  - d) Just before sunset the flag, which has been flying a day, is retired (lowered) in the normal ceremonial procedure for that location-or group.
- The color party responsible for the flag receiving the final tribute moves to front and center. The Commander should present the color party with the flag, which has been selected for the final tribute and subsequent destruction. The leader should instruct the color party to "Raise (or Hoist) the Colors."
  - The Commander comments: (when the flag has been secured at the top of the pole)
    - "This flag has served our nation well and long. It has worn to a condition in which it should no longer be used to represent the nation. This flag represents all the flags collected and retired from the service this day. The honor we show here today for this one flag, we are showing for the flags, even those not physically here."

- **The Commander should then:**
  - **Call the group to attention;**
  - **Order a salute;**
  - **Lead the entire group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag;**
  - **Order the flag retired by the color guard.**
  - **Slowly and ceremoniously lower and then respectfully fold the flag in the customary triangle.**
  - **Deliver the flag to the leader and then dismiss the group.**  
**This concludes the Ceremony of Final Tribute.**

### **Ceremony for the Disposal of Unserviceable Flags:**

- **The Base members assemble out-of-doors**
- **Fire Preparation:**
  - **A fire is burning center field in a fire pit. It is important that the fire be sizable, preferably having burnt to a bed of red hot coals to avoid bits of the flag being carried off by a roaring fire, yet be of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.**
- **Alternate Procedure for Fire Preparation**
  - **A fire pit is located center field. There is an A-frame rack over the fire pit. Draped over the A-frame are the flags to be incinerated, save one.**
  - **The flags are prepared earlier by dipping them in kerosene. There is no fire lit at this time.**

### **Flag Preparation (one flag):**

- **The Detail assigned to the flag opens up the tri-corner fold flag, refolds the flag in a coffin-shaped rectangle, and hands the flag to the COB.**
  - **COB: "Commander, we wish to present a number of unserviceable flags of our Country for inspection and disposal."**
  - **Commander: "Chief of the Boat advance and present the Flag for disposal and inspection."**



- (COB comes to attention, takes the Flag that is to be inspected, marches down center until opposite the Past-Commander, turns and halts two paces in front of the Base-Commander. The COB steps one pace forward and salutes.)
- COB "Commander, we present this unserviceable flag for your inspection."
- Base-Commander: " Is the present condition of this Flag the result of its usual service as the Emblem of our Country?"
- COB: " This Flag has become faded and worn over the graves of our departed comrades, the soldier, sailor, Marine, and airmen dead, both men and women, of al our nation's wars, and our community"
- Base Commander: " Present this Flag to the Vice-Commander for his inspection."
- (The COB salutes, about faces, and marches until opposite the Vice-Commander, turns and halts two paces in front of the Vice-Commander. The COB steps one pace forward and salutes.)
- COB: " Vice-Commander, we present this Flag which has been inspected by the Base-Commander, for your further inspection."
- Vice-Commander: " Has this Flag served any other purpose?"
- COB: "This Flag has been displayed in various public places."
- Vice-Commander: " Present it to the Base Commander for final inspection and fitting disposal."
- (The COB salutes, about faces, and marches until opposite the Commander, turns and halts two paces in front of the Commander.
- The COB steps one pace forward and salutes.)
- COB: " Commander, we have the honor to present for final inspection and proper disposal these Flags of our Country."
- Commander: " Have these Flags been inspected by the Vice-Commander?"
- COB: " They have."

- **Commander: " Vice-Commander, what does your inspection show and what do you recommend?"**
- **Vice-Commander: " Commander, since these flags have become unserviceable in a worthy cause, recommend that they be honorably retired from further service and fittingly destroyed."**
- **Commander's Remarks:**
  - § **" We have presented here these Flags of our Country which have been inspected and condemned as unserviceable. They have reached their present state in a proper service of tribute, memory and love. A Flag may be a flimsy bit of printed gauze, or a beautiful banner of finest silk. Its intrinsic value may be trifling or great; but its real value is beyond price, for it is a precious symbol of all that we and our comrades have worked for, ved for, and died for, a free Nation of free men, true to the faith of the past, devoted to the ideals and practice of Justice, Freedom and Democracy. Let these faded Flags of our Country be retired and destroyed with respectful and honorabe rites and their places be taken by bright new Flags of the same size and kind, and let no grave of our soldier or sailor dead be unhonored and unmarked. Chief of the Boat, destroy these Flags by burning. Would the audience please rise."**
- **(The COB takes position in front of the fire, holding the Flag to be incinerated)**
- **Commander: "The Chaplain will offer prayer."**
- **Chaplain: "Almighty God, Captain of all hosts and Commander over all, bless and consecrate this present hour. We thank Thee for our Country and its Flag, and for the liberty for which it stands. To clean and purging flame we commit these Flags, worn-out in worthy service. As they yield their substance to the fire, may Thy Holy Lght spread over us and bring to our hearts renewed devotion to God and Country. Amen."**
- **Commander: "Hand salute."**

- (Color Guards present arms. The Flags are dipped per Section 10, Flag Code. All officers and members except the COB and Firing Party, salute.)
- The COB dips the condemned Flag in kerosene and places it on a rack over the fire and lights the Flags.
- After the Flag is placed on the rack and is being incinerated, the COB salutes. The Firing Party is commanded to "Come to the Ready" and the Squad Leader orders the firing of three volleys. At the conclusion of the three volleys, the Squad Leader commands the firing party to "Present Arms", about faces and salutes.)
- Bugler Sounds "Taps." (In lieu of a Bugler, a recording of Taps may be played.)
- Commander: "Ready,.. To!"
- (When the flags are basically consumed those assembled, with the exception of the Base Commander, Chief of the Boat, and the Color Guard, should be dismissed single file and depart in silence. *(Optional: Pipe Band or lone Piper plays "Amazing Grace" as all exit. )*)
- The Post Commander, Chief of the Boat, and the Color Guard remain until the flags are completely consumed. The fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried.)

**This concludes the Ceremony for the Disposal of Unserviceable Flags.**

## **CHAPTER 4: PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION**



### **Print Media (Newspaper, Magazine, etc.)**

- **Make an appointment to meet the Military Affairs editor or column writer of your local newspaper acquaint him or her with our organization. If possible bring a condensed version of the history of the submarine service, explain your pending event and elicit an article in the paper which will advise your local citizens of the coming event.**
- **You should follow up with a thank you message after the article has been published.**
- **Keep this person informed of your base activities. They may not publish everything, but it keeps the lines of communication open and friendly.**

### **Electronic Media (TV and Radio)**

**Usually the radio stations monitor the newspaper for news and community events that they can mention on the air. They are required to air public service type information by the FCC. You might casually remind them of that if they give you a cold shoulder.**

### **Posters;**

**A simple color poster done by a base member on their PC that gives the pertinent information about the event is usually sufficient. These may be posted at your local American Legion or VFW organizations, with their consent.**

### **Base Newsletter/e-Mail:**

**Events planned far enough in advance should be highlighted in your base newsletter.**

**E-mail and or telephone should communicate short notice events, such as funeral services, as soon as possible.**

### **Local "Pennysaver" Publications:**

**These small local publications are often inexpensive to place small ads in. These ads could bring attention to your upcoming memorial service or to make local citizens aware that you exist. This may also bring in potential new members.**

## **CHAPTER 5: TOLLING THE BOATS CEREMONY**



### **How Submarines are selected for inclusion to the Lost Submarines Listing in the Tolling Ceremony**

**By Jim Christley**

**Counting the losses incurred by the US Naval Submarine Force in World War II and arriving at a firm number for use in memorial ceremonies, speeches, presentations and writing should not be difficult and the number should be easily agreed on. Such is not the case. The number normally used is 52. This has been the traditional number used since the end of World War II. It is useful to the discussion to understand where that number came from.**

**In 1949, the Preliminary Design Branch of the Bureau of Ships issued a multi-volume work which formalized the "lessons earned" in ship design in World War II. This work detailed damage to selected submarines and listed "Depth Charge, Bomb, Mine, Torpedo and Gunfire Damage including Losses in Action". The 52 submarines listed in the "Losses in Action" became the core listing for US submarine losses.**

**The criteria for what constituted a loss is generally straight forward.  
It included:**

- 1. Submarines lost at sea by enemy action with or without personnel loss.**
- 2. Submarines lost by stranding & foundering regardless of personnel loss.**
- 3. Submarines lost at sea by collision with personnel loss.**
- 4. Submarines lost for unknown reasons.**
- 5. Submarines lost due to material or operational causes with or without personnel loss.**
- 6. Submarines lost due to scuttling.**

**The period for actions for which a lost submarine could be listed in this report was that of the U.S. declared involvement in WW II, 7 December 1941 to 15 August 1945. The portion of WW II from September 1939 to December 1941 was not included even though we lost several ships including one submarine during this period. The list only accounts submarines that were lost while under US flag during the stated period.**

**At the time of this writing, using the criteria above and expanding the time to cover the entire history of our submarine force, a corrected total for our submarine losses may be obtained.**

**Sixty Five Submarine Losses since establishment of the U.S. Submarine Force. (53 in Wartime, 12 in Peacetime.)**

**Total Losses in Wartime: 53 Submarines:**

**The two declared wars in the 20th century were World Wars I and II. World War I period of US involvement was from August 1917 to November 1918. The USS F-1 (SS-20) was lost on 17 December 1917, during World War I, by collision at sea (Criteria 3). This boat's loss plus those lost during WW II bring the total of submarines lost by our submarine force in wartime to 53. These are:**

USS F-1 (SS-20)  
USS Sealion (SS-195)  
USS S-36 (SS-141)  
USS S-26 (SS-131)  
USS Shark (SS-174)  
USS Perch (SS-176)  
USS S-27 (SS-132)  
USS Grunion (SS-216)  
USS S-39 (SS-144)  
USS Argonaut (SS-166)  
USS Amberjack (SS-219)  
USS Grampus (SS-207)  
USS Triton (SS-201)  
USS Pickerel (SS-177)  
USS Grenadier (SS-210)  
USS Runner (SS-275)  
USS R-12 (SS-89)  
USS Grayling (SS-209)  
USS Pompano (SS-181)  
USS Cisco (SS-290)  
USS S-44 (SS-155)  
USS Wahoo (SS-238)  
USS Dorado (SS-248)  
USS Corvina (SS-226)  
USS Sculpin (SS-191)  
USS Capelin (SS-289)  
USS Scorpion (SS-278)  
USS Grayback (SS-208)

USS Trout (SS-202)  
USS Tullibee (SS-284)  
USS Gudgeon (SS-211)  
USS Herring (SS-233)  
USS Golet (SS-361)  
USS S-28 (SS-133)  
USS Robalo (SS-273)  
USS Flier (SS-250)  
USS Harder (SS-257)  
USS Darter (SS-227)  
USS Seawolf (SS-197)  
USS Shark (SS-314)  
USS Tang (SS-306)  
USS Escolar (SS-294)  
USS Albacore (SS-218)  
USS Growler (SS-215),  
USS Scamp (SS-277)  
USS Swordfish (SS-193),  
USS Barbel (SS-316)  
USS Kete (SS-369)  
USS Trigger (SS-237)  
USS Snook (SS-279)  
USS Lagarto (SS-371)  
USS Bonefish (SS-223)  
USS Bullhead (SS-332)

### **Total Losses in Peacetime: 12 Submarines**

The portions of the 20th century not included in WWI and WWII are considered, for the purposes of this discussion, peacetime. This is a point of semantics and it will be argued by participants and historians for many decades to come.



- **Criteria 1: 0 Lost**  
During these peacetime periods we lost no more due to enemy action.
- **C r i t e r i a 2 : 1 L o s t** By stranding and foundering, we lost USS H-1 (SS-28).
- **Criteria 3: 4 Lost**  
By collision we lost USS O-5 (SS-66), USS S-51 (SS-162), USS S-4 (SS-109) and USS Stickleback (SS-415).
- **Criteria 4: 2 Lost**  
Losses for unknown reasons we lost USS O-9 (SS-70), and USS Scorpion (SS-589).
- **Criteria 5: 5 Lost**  
Due to material or operational causes we lost USS F-4 (SS-21), USS S-5 (SS-110), USS Squalus (SS-192), USS Cochino (SS-345) and USS Thresher (SS-593)
- **C r i t e r i a 6 : 0 L o s t**  
We lost no more boats under Criteria 6.

There are indeed other criteria that could be used to count a loss. One could count those submarines which, by action of the enemy or by accident, became "constructive total losses" and add Salmon, Nathaniel Greene, Bonfish and others. However, those boats and others like them were brought home by their crews and decommissioned alongside the pier with appropriate ceremony

The decision whether the boats structure would be repaired or discarded was made not by the sea, enemy or others of those things beyond our control, but by a considered process with the boat in port and the remainder of the crew safely ashore, which is why they are not reflected in the totals above.

There are two websites that I have found that are very good for the history of the Lost Boats, the Submariners who served on them and Submariners who lost their lives while on the Boats when the Boat was not lost. They are:

[www.oldsubsplace.com](http://www.oldsubsplace.com) by Jim Christley

Sections of the site are:

[Lost Boats and Crews](#)

[Lost Submarine Force Personnel](#)

[Selected Statistics](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

[Submarine Force History Elements](#)

[Main inductions](#)

[www.oneternalpatrol.com](http://www.oneternalpatrol.com)

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This site has the following sections.

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## PREAMBLE TO THE TOLLING THE BOATS



**SHORT VERSION:** Honoring our fallen submarine heroes is fundamental to our creed as members of U.S. Submarine Veterans (USSVI), which is "*To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in pursuit of their duties while serving their country.*"

**In our participation we remember those gallant submariners who made the supreme sacrifice while performing their duties with honor integrity and courage and we demonstrate to our families and to our youth by our deeds that we honor them, we pay tribute to them, we salute them, as should all citizens of our great nation.**

**The "*Tolling the Boats*" ceremony was originally established by the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. It is a unique and time-honored memorial service and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the Navy. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal, and it honors the memory of those submariners who lost their lives in the line of duty, and especially those who perished during World War II. In the heart of the ceremony the names of each of the U.S. submarines lost, along with the fate of its crew, are read aloud as a bell is tolled for each in turn.**

**The tolling of the ship's bell reminds us of the debt of gratitude we owe to both our departed shipmates and to those in active service who silently guard the honor of our country who serving silently under the sea. In many ways the "*Tolling the Boats*" ceremony formally reaffirms to serving Navy submarine personnel that their current "*deeds and sacrifices*" follow in the footsteps of their fellow submariners who preceded them.**

**We shall never forget the ultimate sacrifice they made so we all, and especially our families and loved ones, enjoy the fruits of freedom**

## **THE LONG VERSION: PREAMBLE TO THE TOLLING THE BOATS**

**For the enlightenment of our guests who may not understand the significance of our ceremony of "Tolling the Boats," I shall give you a brief explanation of this solemn remembrance of our Shipmates: the officers and enlisted men who sacrificed their lives aboard submarines in the service of our country.**

**John F. Kennedy once said, "A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces, but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers."**

**It is true that the sea has always taken its toll of seamen. This is especially true for the submariner. Over the years, some four thousand young men have lost their lives in circumstances serving our country in the U.S. Submarine Force. In all, a total of seventy-two U.S. submarines have been lost in war and in peace.**

**It is also true that no maritime power has ever survived unless its men have been willing to fight back with successively better ships manned by professional seamen who have profited by the lessons learned from the past. Those of us who go to sea in today's submarines and those who will do so in the future are forever indebted to those submarine sailors who gave their lives testing different innovations in submarine warfare during times of peace.**

**These losses, while tragic, have served to provide us with invaluable knowledge to enable us to improve succeeding classes of submarines and are gallant extensions of the traditions of duty, professional competence and self-sacrifice which have always been the hallmark of the U.S. Submarine Force.**

**The U.S. Submarine Force came into existence on October 12, 1900, with the commissioning of the USS Holland (SS-1). The early 1900s were a period of intense development, resulting in adoption of the gasoline engine for surface propulsion, the periscope, and improvement in double hull design. By 1906, with most of the fleet in the Atlantic, the Secretary of the Navy approved submarines as the only way to defend the West Coast of the United States if attacked. Yet, on the eve of World War I, 1914, the U.S. Submarine Force only numbered 34 submarines.**

**During World War I, the Secretary of the Navy adopted the position that submarines would defend the vital fleet port at Subic Bay, Philippines and positioned boats there.**

**Between 1914 - 1940 the U.S. Submarine Force would suffer the loss of 11 submarines and 150 submariners in testing new designs. Despite these setbacks, the U.S. Submarine Force continued to grow. One U.S. Submariner, TM2(SS) Henry Berault, received the Medal of Honor for his selfless courage.**

**The years of 1941 through 1945 were years of monumental struggle and sacrifice for all Americans. The objectives were to protect and preserve the freedoms of the United States of America, as well as those of our friends and allies. To this end, our entire national efforts, both civilian and military, were rendered to a full measure of devotion.**

**Immediately following the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on 7 December, 1941, with the Pacific Fleet in ruins, Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, a submariner himself, upon taking command as Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet, recognized the true military value of the submarine. In January 1942, he raised his official flag on the submarine Grayling and upon relinquishing command took down his flag on board the submarine Menhaden. *“It was to the Submarine Force,”* stated Nimitz, *“that I looked to carry the load until our great industrial activity could produce the weapons we so sorely needed to carry the war to the enemy. It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril.”***

**And that they did. This small force, composed of about 50,000 men, including staffs and back-up personnel (less than 2% of the U.S. Navy’s personnel and by war’s end consisting of 288 submarines) inflicted a staggering 55% of Japan’s maritime losses. Of approximately 6,000,000 tons comprising the entire Japanese merchant fleet, from 1941 through 1945, U.S. submarines sank 1,113 Japanese merchant marine vessels for a total of 4,859,634 tons. During that same period, U.S. submarines sunk 214 naval warships for an additional 577,626 tons, about a third of all Japanese warships destroyed.**

**Seldom, if ever in history, had so small a naval force accomplished so much. Japan’s war effort depended on shipping. It was sunk in the main by U.S. submarines.**

**However, these successes did not come without a price. 52 American submarines were lost during World War II. Many of our numbers were lost in the performance of these duties. Some men lost their lives individually, but by far the greater number died as boats failed to return from patrol. In some instances, the cause of the submarine’s loss was known, but in most cases, the report "submarine overdue--presumed lost" was the epitaph for both submarine and men. A few were rescued by the Japanese and imprisoned until the war's end. From these were then learned the fate of their ship and crew.**

**The price, overall, was that the U.S. Submarine Force suffered the highest percentage of losses of any branch of the Armed Services. 3,500 submariners quietly paid the ultimate price in the defense of their country which quickly earning the U.S. Submarine Force the nickname –The Silent Service.**

**Seven submariners were awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II; two posthumously.**

**More than fifty (50) years have passed since the lost men of World War II departed on their eternal patrol. We Submarine Veterans endeavor to keep alive the memory of our departed Shipmates at every gathering of our organizations. We do this by honoring their memory in prayer and by *“Tolling the Boats”* -- calling the roll of those U.S. Submarines lost since the US Submarine Force was established in 1900.**

**Still, no one close to the Submarine Service can reflect on those tragic times without again experiencing the shock and sadness felt upon learning of the loss of the USS Thresher (SSN-593) and USS Scorpion (SSN-589). And yet, these losses added an awareness to the initial emotions; the submariners and those persons closely associated with this branch of the service today know feelings of kinship, of pride, of gratitude and of profound respect for the gallant men lost on these submarines. They are remembered not as men who were, but as men who are; men, who because of dedication to their profession of the undersea, have given us greater knowledge of its mysteries, and opened broader paths for its exploration and use.**

**For many of us they live on as specific individuals, each contributing his special skill to this ever-broadening knowledge. To us they will be more vivid in memory for much longer time than others who in the physical sense are nearby.**

**They, all of them, have served you and this great land of ours in a way far beyond the contributions of most of us. Their contributions continue, by providing others close to this undersea Navy inspiration, new challenges, new ideas and new operational methods.**

**No, they are not nearby in flesh, but to us who know them they are very real –in contribution –in memory –in spirit.**

**We shall not forget them. We shall now proceed with this ceremony.**

**"LIST OF THE LOST SUBMARINES"**

<b>USS F-4 Skate (SS-23)</b>	Lost with 19 Men on 25 March 1915 when t foundered off Honolulu Harbor.	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS F-1 Carp (SS-20)	Lost with 19 Men on 17 December 1917 when t was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (SS-22) off San Clemente, California.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS H-1 Seawolf (SS-28)</b>	<b>Lost on 12 March 1920 with the loss of 4 men when it sank after being grounded off Santa Margarita Island, Baja California, Mexico</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS S-5 (SS-1 10)	Lost on 1-Sep-1 920 off the Delaware Capes. All the crew escaped through a hole cut in hun the tiller room	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS O-5 (SS-66)</b>	<b>Lost on 29 October 1923 with the oss of 3 men when it was sunk after a collision with the SS Ababgarez (owned by the United Fruit company) off the Panama Canal. Torpedomans Mate 2d Class (SS) Henry Berault received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS S-51 (SS-1 62)	Lost on 25 September 1925 with the loss of 32 men when it was sunk after a collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island, Rhode Island.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS S-4 (SS-1 09)</b>	<b>Lost with 38 men on 17 December 1927 when t was sunk after being rammed by USCGC Paulding off Provincetown, Massachusetts.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Squalus (SS-1 92)	Lost on 23 May 1939 with a loss of 26 men when t flooded and sank off Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The boat was salvaged and recommissioned under a new name.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS O-9 (SS-70)</b>	<b>Lost on 20 June 1941 with 34 men when t foundered off the Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth, New Hampshire.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Sealion (SS-1 95)	Lost with 4 men on 10 December 1941 by aeria bombs during a Japanese air attack at Cavite Navy Yard, Republic of the Philippines.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS S-36 (SS-1 41)</b>	<b>Lost on 20 January 1942 when t was destroyed after she ran aground on the Taka Bakang Reef in Makassar Strait, Indonesia, near Makassar City. The crew was rescued.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS S-26 (SS-131)	Lost with 46 men on 24 January 1942 n the Guf of Panama, 14 miles West of San Jose Light when USS PC-460 rammed it. 2 men survived.	<b>[BELL]</b>

<b>USS Shark (SS-174)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (59 men) on 11 February 1942 when it was sunk by surface craft East of Menado, Celebes Island as a result of one of three Japanese attacks.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Perch (SS-176)	Lost on 3 March 1942 when it was sunk by Japanese surface attack 30 miles NW of Surabaya, Java. 60 men were taken prisoner, 8 men died as POWs. 52 survived the war.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS S-27 (SS-132)</b>	<b>lost on 19-Jun-1 942when it grounded off Amchitka Island. All the crew were rescued</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Grunion (SS-216)	Lost with all hands (70 men) on 30 July 1942 off Kiska Island, Aleutians (Alaska) to unknown causes.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS S-39 (SS-144)</b>	<b>Lost on 14-Aug-1 942 when it was destroyed after grounding on reef south of Rossel island Louisande Archipelago. All the crew were rescued</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Argonaut (SS-166)	Lost with all hands (105 men) on 10 January 1943 in the Java Sea by Japanese surface attack.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>U S S Amberjack (SS-219)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (74 men) by Japanese aerial bombs and surface craft on 16 February 1943 off Rabaul in the Solomon Sea.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Grampus (SS-207)	Lost with all hands (71 men) by Japanese surface attack on the Solomon Islands on 5 March 1943.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Triton (SS-201)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (74 men) by Japanese Surface Attack off New Guinea on 15 March 1943.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Pickerel (SS-177)	Lost with all hands (74 men) by Japanese Surface Attack off Honshu, Japan, on 3 April 1943.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Grenadier (SS-210)</b>	<b>Lost on 22 April 1943, 10 miles west of Lem Voalan Strait in Indian Ocean. Scuttled after being badly damaged by bombs. 61 men were taken prisoner, 4 men died as POWs. 57 men survived the war.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Runner (SS-275)	Lost with all hands (78 men) by possible Japanese mine between Midway Island and Japan in June 1943.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS R-12 (SS-89)</b>	<b>Lost with 42 men off Key West, Florida, to unknown causes on 12 June 1943. 3 men survived.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Grayling (SS-209)	Lost with all hands (76 men) to unknown causes on 9 September 1943 when it was sunk in or near Tablas Strait, Republic of the Philippines	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Pompano (SS-181)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (76 men) by possible Japanese mine off Honshu, Japan in September 1943.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>



USS Cisco (SS-290)	Lost with all hands (76 men) on 28 September 1943 during a Japanese Air and Surface attack in the Sulu Sea.	[BELL]
<b>USS S-44 (SS-155)</b>	<b>Lost on 7 October 1943 with the loss of 54 men when it was sunk by surface craft off Paramushiru, Kuriles. 2 men survived and were taken prisoner.</b>	<b>BELL]</b>
USS Wahoo (SS-238)	Lost with all hands (80 men) during a Japanese air and surface attack on 11 October 1943 in La Perouse Strait off northern Japan.	[BELL]
<b>USS Dorado (SS-248)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (76 men) by an Air Attack on 12 October 1943 in the SW Atlantic.</b>	<b>BELL]</b>
USS Corvina (SS-226)	Lost with all hands (82 men) on 16 November 1943 during a Japanese submarine attack off Truk.	[BELL]
<b>USS Sculpin (SS-191)</b>	<b>Lost with 40 men on 19 November 1943 when it was sunk by a Japanese surface craft north of Groluk Island near Truk. 42 men were taken prisoner but only 21 men survived the war</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Capelin (SS-289)	Lost with all hands (78 men) on 2 December 1943 by an unconfirmed Japanese Surface attack in the Celebes Sea.	[BELL]
<b>USS Scorpion (SS-278)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (76 men) on 5 January 1944 by possible Japanese Mine in the Yellow Sea off China.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Grayback (SS-208)	Lost with all hands (80 men) on 27 February 1944 during a Japanese Air and Surface attack off Okinawa.	[BELL]
<b>USS Trout (SS-202)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (81 men) on 29 February 1944 during a Japanese Surface Attack in the Philippine Sea.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Tullibee (SS-284)	Lost with 79 men on 26 March 1944 north of Paau. Sunk by her own torpedo. One man survived and was taken prisoner.	[BELL]
<b>USS Gudgeon (SS-211)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (78 men) during a Japanese air and surface attack on 12 May 1944 in Northern Marianas.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS Herring (SS-233)	Lost with all hands (84 men) on 1 June 1944 by a Japanese shore battery and surface craft off Matsuwa Island, Kuriles.	[BELL]
<b>USS Golet (SS-361)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (84 men) during a Japanese Surface attack off Honshu, Japan, on 14 June 1944.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
USS S-28 (SS-133)	Lost with all hands (50 men) when she foundered off the Hawaiian Islands 4 July 1944..	[BELL]
<b>USS Robalo (SS-273)</b>	Lost with 77 men by possible Japanese Mine off Palawan on 26 July 1944. 4 men survived as	<b>[BELL]</b>

	POWs but they were never recovered.	
USS Flier (SS-250)	<b>Lost with 78 men on 13 August 1944 when sunk by Japanese mine in the Balabac Strait south of Palawan. Eight men survived and were later rescued by USS REDFIN (SS 272).</b>	[BELL]
USS Harder (SS-257)	<b>Lost with all hands (79 men) during a Japanese depth charge attack off Luzon, Republic of the Philippines, on 24 August 1944.</b>	[BELL]
USS Darter (SS-227)	Lost on 24-Oct-1 944 when it became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan then was destroyed All the crew were rescued by USS Dace.	[BELL]
USS Seawolf (SS-197)	<b>Lost with all hands (82 crew and 17 U.S. Army) on 3 October 1944 when it was mistaken for a Japanese submarine and sunk by friendly destroyers just north of Morotai, Republic of the Philippines.</b>	[BELL]
USS Shark (SS-314)	Lost with all hands (90 men) on 24 October 1944 when it was sunk by Japanese surface craft in the channel midway between Hainan and Bashi Channel.	[BELL]
USS Tang (SS-306)	<b>Lost with 78 men on 25 October 1944 when it was sunk by her own torpedo in the north end of the Formosa Strait. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner and survived the war. Her Commanding Officer, Richard O'Kane, received the Congressional Medal of Honor.</b>	[BELL]
USS Escobar (SS-294)	Lost with all hands (82 men) by possible Japanese Mine in the Yellow Sea off China on 17 October 1944.	[BELL]
USS Albacore (SS-218)	<b>Lost with all hands (86 men) by possible Japanese Mine on 7 November 1944 between Honshu and Hokkaido, Japan.</b>	[BELL]
USS Growler (SS-215)	Lost with all hands (85 men) on 8 November 1944 by a possible Japanese Surface attack in the South China Sea.	[BELL]
USS Scamp (SS-277)	<b>Lost with all hands (83 men) probably on 16 November 1944 from progressive damage in multiple air and sea attacks east of Tokyo Bay.</b>	[BELL]
USS Swordfish (SS-193)	Lost with all hands (89 men) by a possible Japanese surface attack or mine on 12 January 1945 off Okinawa.	[BELL]
USS Barbel (SS-316)	<b>Lost with all hands (81 men) on 4 February 1945 during a Japanese air attack off the entrance to Palawan Passage.</b>	[BELL]
USS Kete (SS-369)	Lost with all hands (87 men) in March 1945 to unknown causes between Okinawa and Midway	[BELL]

<b>USS Trigger (SS-237)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (89 men) in the East China Sea on 28 March 1945 during a Japanese air and surface attack.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Snook (SS-279)</b>	Lost with all hands (84 men) on 8 April 1945 to unknown causes off Formosa.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Lagarto (SS-371)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (85 men) on 3 May 1945 in the Gulf of Siam during a Japanese surface attack.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Bonefish (SS-223)</b>	Lost with all hands (86 men) on 18-Jun-1 945 when it was sunk in Toyama Wan in the Sea of Japan.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Bullhead (SS-332)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (84 men) off the Bali Coast by a Japanese air attack on 6 August 1945.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Cochino (SS-345)</b>	Lost with one man lost on 26 August 1949 off the coast of Norway due to a battery explosion and fire. Six men from <b>USS Tusk (SS-426)</b> were also lost in the rescue operation.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>U S S Stickleback (SS-415)</b>	<b>Rammed on exercises off Hawaii by USS Silverstein (DD-534) on 28 May 1958. All crew safely evacuated prior to sinking.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Thresher (SSN-593)</b>	Lost with all hands (129 men) on 10 April 1963 off the New England coast.	<b>[BELL]</b>
<b>USS Scorpion (SSN-589)</b>	<b>Lost with all hands (99 men) on 22 May 1968 possibly due to own torpedo detonation 400 miles southwest of the Azores in the Atlantic.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>
	<b>Finally, we remember all the brave submariners who died in the course of their duties aboard submarines, some individually and some in groups, but where the submarine itself was not lost.</b>	<b>[BELL]</b>

## **CHAPTER 6:**

### **SERVICE ACTIVITIES, DISPLAYS AND ARRANGEMENTS**



#### **Wreath:**

**Size : Approximately 26" - 30" in diameter Banner: " Lost Shipmates" or similar**

#### **Music:**

**Patriotic such as:**

**"Star Spangled Banner" "America  
The Beautiful" "Anchors Aweigh"**

**"Navy Hymn"**

**Amazing Grace" Bagpiped if possible, etc.**

#### **Navy Hymn (Eternal Father, Strong to Save) with Submariner verse**

**Eternal Father, Strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bid'st the mighty Ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
hear us when we cry to thee,  
for those in peril on the sea.  
Christ! Whose voice the waters heard**

**And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walked'st on the foaming deep,  
and calm amidst its rage didst sleep;  
Oh hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea!  
Most Holy spirit! Who didst brood  
Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion, peace;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea!  
Lord God, our power evermore,  
Whose arm doth reach the ocean floor,  
Dive with our men beneath the sea,  
Traverse the depths protectively.  
hear us when we pray, and keep  
Them safe from peril in the deep.**

**Patriotic Military Burial Ceremony:**

Outside, Fire three rifle volleys;

Inside chapel, sound "Sweet Liberty" on trumpet

## **Burial Ceremony:**

**We are a privileged people to live in this free country.**

**Our freedom was paid for with a tremendous cost.**

**Freedom is never free!**

**Our flag does not fly today over our nation's capitol because some president decreed it... Our flag does not drape this casket because some brave American men and women have fought and died for our flag and the freedom it represents.**

**Let us cherish the blessings of liberty that was secured for us by those who served in the armed forces of the United States of America. While history may overlook many of the brave deeds of our gallant men and women, their memory will ever live in the hearts and minds of freedom loving people of this great nation.**

**The heart of every true American, must throb with wondrous pride as we honor our American Heroes. For those who died in the service and others who are now gone, the honor and glory is theirs.**

## **May Their Glory Forever Ring — WWII Subvet Prayer**

**(WW II Sub Vet's Name) served in the United States Submarine Service. He heard our country's call. He went forth and counted not his own life dear, but offered it gladly in humanity's name, for God and for the right. The greatest war in the history of the world came to a close August 14, 1945 when the warring nations laid down their arms. The Germans,**

**Japanese and all their allies lay prostrate, they were defeated They who knew no mercy and who had violated every law of humanity and civilization, begged for mercy, the victory was ours. (Name) was a part of that history of keeping this nation free.**

**We are assembled here to offer a last tribute of respect and affection to our departed comrade (Name) The years toll by as the ranks of our veterans diminish. One by one our Comrades leave us; one by one they pass on to join that company of heroic men and women who have defended our Country under arms.**

**With the help of God they have kept America free for you and for me, so that we truly can be One Nation under God.**

**(Name of Deceased), United States Submarine Service, well done, the warfare is past. The battle is fought, the battle is won and thou are crowned at last.**

**There is but one word that describes our American Flag, that word is Freedom. We do not live under the Nazi Swastika, the flag of the Rising Sun, or the Hammer and Sickle.**

**No way! Because of men like (Deceased Name), we live in a free country, and we live under this flag. This is our Red White and Blue. This is our Stars and Stripes we call "Old Glory"!**

**This is the flag we teach our young people to honor and respect. "Old Glory" always shines brightly, Always, because it acquires its brilliance from the American Veterans who have fought and died to preserve it.**

**It sure seems to me, that our flag shines much brighter today as we honor (Name of Deceased), The love and devotion that he gave to our beloved country is the reason we are giving him military honors.**

**The sounding of "Taps" you will hear has honored our country's hero's since the Civil War. These are the words to "Taps".**

***"Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the skies. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh. Thanks and praise, for our days, n'eath the sun, n'eath the stars, n'eath the sky. As we go, this we know, God is nigh."***

**(Of course 'nigh' means near or very close by, God is very close by.)**

## **PRESENTING THE BURIAL FLAG:**

- **By the Honor Guard, the Flag is held stretched over casket**
- **Bugler sounds Taps -**
- **Bagpipes sound Amazing Grace).**
- **Flag is very carefully folded with white gloved calculated hand movements while bagpipes are playing)**
- **Presentation of the Flag:**

*"His flag was folded very carefully because it is precious to the American people. Since the revolutionary war 42 million Americans have served under this flag and over one million of those have died on the battlefields or were lost at sea. They were defending the freedom that this flag represents. This Flag is our nation's very highest honor! There is none higher! A grateful nation and the American veterans who have fought and died to preserve it offer this flag. The United States of America in memory of (Name of Deceased) gives this flag. It is for his honorable and faithful service to our beloved country."*
- **Flag is Presented:**

**"On behalf of the American people and the President of the United States, I present to you, flag. May God be with you and the family. I am privileged to give this service! God Bless you! (Salute Flag ).**

**A shorter prayer that may be used at funeral home, grave side, etc.**

### **Prayer For Our Departed Shipmate:**

**"Almighty God, our heavenly father, who art our refuge and strength and a very present help in times of trouble. Help us at this time to put our trust in thee, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to see us through this time of sorrow.**

**We thank thee for the life and love of our shipmate (Name of Deceased), and we ask that the work that he started on this earth be carried on in the hearts and hands of his family and friends. Because he leaves more behind than just memories.**

**Help us to go our way bravely, even though alone and to do our tasks faithfully day by day. Make our true love and brotherhood**



**be a constant inspiration to our lives and may his memory live on through us.**

**Grant us peace and strength for the battle of life while it lasts, and rest at the close of day, when work is done.**

**Father, when we too are tired, and would prepare ourselves to slip beneath the final wave, grant that we may let loose the moorings and sink slowly into the deep waters, trusting like them, to wake with thee.**

**We commend into your hands of mercy, most merciful father, the soul of our shipmate, (Name of Deceased), may he be found acceptable in thy sight.**

**He now sails under your orders on his eternal patrol**

**Shipmate rest your oar ---- Amen"**

## **U. S. Submarine Veterans Remembrance Service for Shipmates departed on Eternal Patrol.**

### **SUGGESTED SERVICE**

- **"Those who have served, and those currently serving in the uniformed service of the United States, are ever mindful that the sweetness of enduring peace has always been tainted by the bitterness of personal sacrifice.**
- **We are compelled to never forget that while we enjoy our daily pleasures, remember those who have answered the final sailing order from the Supreme Navigator and/or King Neptune. Let us pause to remember our departed shipmates".**
- **"Direct your attention to this small table which occupies a place of dignity and honor. It is set for one, representing all that are on eternal patrol.**

- **"We call them shipmates. They are unable to be with their loved ones and families, so we join together to pay humble tribute to them, and to bear witness to their absence.**
- **"The table is small, symbolizing the frailty of life compared to the demands of life.**
- **"The table cloth is white, symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to their Country's call to arms**
- **"The single rose in the vase signifies the blood they may have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our absent shipmates.**
- **"The red ribbon on the vase represents the red ribbons in our flag and the countless thousands who gave the final measure.**
- **"A slice of lemon on the plate reminds us of the bitterness of loss.**
- **"The salt sprinkled on the plate reminds us of the countless fallen tears of families as they grieved.**
- **"The glass is inverted, they cannot toast with us any more.**
- **"The chair is empty. They are gone forever.**
- **"The candle is reminiscent of the remembrance in our hearts of our shipmates, husbands, fathers or grandfathers.**
- **"The American Flag reminds us that many never returned, having made the supreme sacrifice to insure our freedom.**
- **"Let us pray to the Supreme Navigator for all our shipmates to be safe in sheltered harbor.**
- **"Let us remember and never forget them or their sacrifices.**
- **"May the Great Navigator forever watch over them and shield them and their families.**

## **CHAPTER SEVEN:**

### **USSVI CHARITABLE FOUNDATION PROGRAM**



### **Memorial Projects Fund:**

**The US Submarine Veterans' Charitable Foundation Memorials Fund was established to receive donations for the construction, repair and maintenance of submarine related memorials.**

**Donations to this fund will be distributed as they become available.**

**USSVI BASES that have projects they wish to be considered for assistance should forward a detailed request, signed by the Base Commander, to the USSVI Memorials and Ceremonies Committee Chairman for review and determination.**

**The request should be directed to the Chairman, USSVI M&C Committee in care of:**

**United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.  
918 Barborek lane  
Russellville, AR 72802**

## **Request for Memorial Project Assistance must include:**

- Base Name and address, Point of Contact, e-mail address, phone number.
- Location of project:
- Proposed use of funds, description of project:
- Are other organizations contributing to, or matching funds raised for this project? If so, provide name of organization(s) and anticipated contribution:
- Total cost of project: materials only (paint, cleaning supplies, parts etc.) Aside from contracted work, direct labor costs will not be considered.
- Anticipated start date of project:
- Anticipated completion date of project:
- Base Project manager: name, US Postal and e-mail address, phone number
- Project manager/ Memorials and Ceremonies Committee (to be assigned by M&C)
- Approval of projects will be determined by pre-approval of the M&C committee

**The USSVI Charitable Foundation Board of Directors will determine final approval of projects.**

## **Guidelines and Rules for Submission of Proposals:**

- **All projects will be considered on their individual merits.**
- **Projects that improve the appearance and presentation of Memorials or Submarine Museum boats will have preference.**
- **The number of projects presented and the available funds for distribution will determine contributions from the Memorials Fund.**
- **A report of the contributions to the Memorials Funds will be made annually to the membership.**

## Museum Submarine Support Fund:



- **Because these submarines are representative of our collective heritage as Sub Vets, this Fund was established to aid in the restoration and maintenance of retired U.S. Submarines that are open to the public.**
- **Several USSVI member bases and other volunteer groups often perform the maintenance and repair of these submarines. This fund is intended to aid them with financial assistance to obtain the necessary materials to accomplish these labors of love.**
- **Projects that fall in to this category often include fund raising campaigns that the Foundation may assist by being a repository for funds and also to provide tax deductibility provisions that the local organization may not possess.**

## **Individual Memorial Scholarship Endowment Funds**

- **The US Submarine Veterans' Charitable Foundation set up this fund to facilitate Scholarship Endowment donations in the memory of deceased Submarine veterans by family members, base acquaintances and others that wish to establish a permanent memorial to a specific individual.**
- **This program will also establish a permanent endowment fund to memorialize those individuals that bequeath funds in their name to the Scholarship Endowment Fund. Individuals that might be interested in this program should contact their attorney or investment counselor to investigate this possibility.**
- **As with most Endowment Funds only the interest generated by these accounts may be distributed to the Current Year Distribution Fund for actual scholarships, with the principal remaining in the trust for future investment.**
- **There is another way that this can be done when you are still alive through the Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) program.**

**For a general overview of the CRT program access:**

**<http://www.saveweathcom/pannng/estate/charitabletrusts>**

**For more information relating to the US Submarine Veterans' Charitable Foundation, on the Internet visit [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org) and click on the Charitable Funds button on the left side of the page.**

## **CHAPTER EIGHT: GRAVE MARKERS**



### **WW II Submarine Veterans:**

**Two versions:**

- a) One that can be mounted directly to the grave stone.
- b) One that has a ground rod and flag holder.

**Contact:**

**Mr. Leonard A. Behlke  
358 E. Main Street Apt. # 6  
Griswold, CT 06351-1129  
(860) 376-9103**

### **USSVI Submarine Veterans:**

**Two versions:**

- a) One that can be mounted directly to the grave stone
- b) One that has a ground rod and flag holder

**Contact:**

**USSVI Long Island Base  
Murray Lewis, Storekeeper 21  
Twin Oaks Dr.,  
Kings Park, NY 11754  
(631) 269-5571  
[twinoaks@nais.com](mailto:twinoaks@nais.com)**

## Examples of Grave Markers



**Designed by Gil Raynor**

It is available through the USSV National Storekeeper  
[subhuey@aol.com](mailto:subhuey@aol.com) or through [www.submarinestore.com](http://www.submarinestore.com)



**Iron Men in Steel Boats- Sub Veteran's Flag Holder** 8 1/2" x 4 1/2" cast iron plaque with 2 flag rings and threaded ring for rod on back. Painted "Submarine Black", includes 18" threaded ground rod and American Flag. May be used for displaying the flag in the yard orto honor the deceased submarine veteran at the cemetery.

**\$45.00 plus \$7.00 shipping.**  
(Allow 6 weeks for delivery.)

\$5.00 from the sale of each plaque will go to the  
U.S. Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation Memorial Fund

**Contact Chad Eells (PLACODERM BASE) to order:**

**[Email: squid@ncn.net](mailto:squid@ncn.net)**

**TEL: 515-832-4687**



**Sources for Memorial Stones include but are not limited to:**

**Outdoor Creations**

**2270 Barney Street**

**Anderson, Ca 96007**

**1-530-365-6106**

**Owner--Scott Puhlman**

**Thompson Monuments**

**1702 Superior Street**

**Webster City, Ia 50595**

**1-800-947-8232**

**Owner--Denis Thompson**