



How the McCard Saved Christmas

Tw'as the night before Christmas
and all through the fleet,
the ships were all birthed,
their sailors asleep.

When up came a call,
from the Admiral in charge,
A fast ship he needs,
a greyhound with speed.

The CO did answer,
The McCard Sir is ready.
The watch not a whimper,
No time to be petty.

From bunk to bunk
the watch did run.
Through darkness and
hallways he woke every son.

The siren did blare
The boatswain's whistle did blow.
To general quarters
each sailor did go.

The boilers did light
and steam arose
the pressure is building
she's ready to go.

The ship's in Greece
decked in holiday style.
The crew thought they'd
be there for a while.

So bright and beautiful,
they lit up her path,
she got under steam,
her mission to hatch.

To Corfu they went
just as fast as she can,
a meeting with Santa
on Corfu's dry ground.

So, around the island
she sailed, almost she flew,
to see Santa waiting
with a sick reindeer or two.

The problem assessed,
the reindeer were sick,
too many carrots,
cookies and milk.

Unable to fly
a plan was in need
or else many children
not Santa would see.

They loaded the sleigh
on the fantail with flair.
The reindeer were left
in good elfin care.

Quick as a wink
below decks he flew,
some magic dust
on the turbines he threw.

While on the flight deck
the Dash was rolled out,
her crew it made ready,
Santa's in need there's no doubt.

Her officer and crew
stood fast in their place,
fueled up and tethered
now ready to race.

A plan was hatched,
a map drawn out,
the turbines did whine,
Santa was ready to follow the route.

They launched the Dash
and Santa's sleigh that night,
a tow line between them
and a cold wind that bites.

From town to town
the Dash swiftly flew,
towing Santa's sleigh was
a real breakthrough.

The ship did sail,
so fast do not blink,
with turbines now magic
no time to think.

It felt like she only touched
the top of each wave
and the Dash refueled
as she went on her way.

From Corfu to Turkey,
to Crete they did make,
they made all of the coast
never applying a brake.

To Malta and islands
all the way into Spain,
not missing a port
as fast as a plane.

(Next Page)

USS Robert H McCard DD822 4th Quarter Flag Hoist

(Continued)

And finally in Rota
The reindeer now fit,
they retired the Dash
amazed she wasn't ready to quit.

And it was heard by all,
Santa now on his way,
Merry Christmas to all
thanks McCard for saving the
day.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AND FACEBOOK

[https://www.ussrobert
hmccarddd822.com/](https://www.ussrobert
hmccarddd822.com/)

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Mail Call



The Mission of the USS Robert H McCard Alumni Association Officers and Crew is to perpetuate memory, history, and comradery of the men who gave themselves to protect the freedoms we have today. Thirty-four years of service 1945-1980.

BINNACLE LIST

O God, be with the weak and injured, give aid to those who watch and wait, and comfort to all: Mercifully accept our prayers on behalf of any who are in need. Grant to him the help of your power, that his illness may be turned to health and our cares for him to joy, by the strength of Your Holy Name. Amen



John Hagen CS-2 70-72 hip replacement.

Frank Augustyn LT 64-66, Triple Bypass Surgery

Ron Perceful ET3, Double Hernia Surgery

Glenn Anderson ET2, Stents

REMEMBER - a card, letter, or email would do wonders to cheer up friends or shipmates.

Please contact Ron Perceful revperceful@gmail.com, 2913 Woodcreek Rd. Midwest City, OK 73110, 405-326-2337 for any information update, or to update the Last Watch or Binnacle Lists.

LAST WATCH

Shipmates, let us remember our brother who has passed from us to a greater glory. He is now in the arms of his maker in eternal rest. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Wayne Allen Day SO3, 57-59

William T. Chelsdine BMSN, 75-78

John J Neill (Plank Owner) 45-47

Day is done, Gone the sun, From the lakes, From the hills, From the sky.

All is well. Safely Rest. God is nigh.

C O Comments

Happy Holidays, Shipmates.....

As the year draws to a close, and from my home to yours, I wish you peace, joy, and all the best that this wonderful holiday has to offer. May this incredible time of giving and spending time with family bring you the joy that lasts throughout the year.

The Tampa Bay reunion in 2018 seems like only a faded memory. As I said at the time, "I didn't come to Tampa looking for a job." I will say though that the time spent working for the McCard Alumni Association has given me a sense reward, honor, satisfaction and frustration.

Reward: Meeting and working with XO Doug McKay, Paymaster Glenn Anderson and Yeoman Ron Perceful as the current members of the McCard Alumni Association Officer Group. I have enjoyed their collaboration in performing the work of the Association.

Honor: Perpetuating the legacy of GySgt Robert H McCard, our ships namesake.

Satisfaction: (a) Assisting with the officer group in selecting a 2019 reunion site (Philadelphia) and supporting Glenn in his personal attention to detail in delivering a very successful McCard Reunion.

(b) Working with Doug on our membership drive. We made some progress, but there is much more work to do. We welcome volunteers in this effort and thank those that did offer their assistance to Doug.

C) Working with Yeoman, and Flag Hoist Editor in Chief Ron Perceful, on delivering a punctual quarterly newsletter. In 2020, Ron will be rolling out the new, and up to date, USS Robert H McCard website. Stand by for the announcement.

Frustration: There is a lot of work to be done and so little time. We're all getting older and our time seems to be limited, but in order to keep the McCard Alumni Association alive, we need to be attracting more shipmates from a "younger" generation. That's where the frustration lies. That younger generation needs to be found and that's where the hard work is.

My last comment is about a song by Toby Keith that keeps rattling around in my head, "Don't Let The Old Man In." I'm trying my best every day.

Eat well, live well and think young. Let's all do our best.....

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and I'm looking forward to seeing you in Newport in 2020.

NEW TO THE CREW



Richard Dietz YN3 65-67

On behalf of the entire USS Robert H. McCard (DD-822) crew, we welcome anyone who served with us. You don't have to raise your hand or swear to anything, either.

Reunion Announcement

The first phase of our 2020 Reunion plans have been set.

Place: Warwick, Rhode Island

Date: Sept. 16 - 19, 2020

Location: Crown Plaza Hotel

Providence / Warwick Airport

Room Rate: \$139.00 night

A few details: a) Breakfast included. Served in our Hospitality room.

b) Free Parking

c) Complimentary Shuttle provided from Airport, and to other destinations within 3 mi radius of the Hotel.

This is preliminary planning information only. More specific details will be forthcoming.





It's that time again, and the yearly McCard Association Membership dues are due in January. Please remit early so you don't miss a single issue of the Flag Hoist. I'm thanking you all in advance for your early consideration.

Respectfully,
the Credit Dept

2019 Reunion Group Photos Next Page



What a good looking group. See you all in 2020!

Notice: The new web site is partially up and running. The last 3 Flag Hoist are already posted there. Check it out, and there is more to come.

<https://www.ussroberthmccarddd822.com/>

CREW MEMBER RENEWAL AND APPLICATION

USS Robert H. McCard Association

Please Print Clearly

Crew Member: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Years Aboard: From _____ To _____ Final Rank/Rate: _____

Do Not Send Cash...your cancelled check is your receipt.

Make checks payable to: *Robert H. McCard (DD-822) Association*
Mail to: Glenn Anderson, 113 Kemar Drive, Butler, PA 16002

Are you a new member? Yes No

\$10.00 Annual Dues Enclosed (one year) January 1st thru December 31st.

Send Flag Hoist (Check One): _____ **Via U.S.P.S. (Address Above) OR** _____ **Via E-mail**

Comments/Questions: _____

You may contact Treasurer Glenn Anderson directly @ 724/487-7873; glenn.just4fun@gmail.com

Association holds **reunions each year at locations voted upon by the membership. There is a website for members as well as a quarterly Newsletter titled Flag Hoist.**



Ship's Ball Cap: High quality caps with the McCard profile (Before Fram and After Fram available). The hats are adjustable "one size fits all." Cost is \$20.00 includes shipping. **New members** receive one Ship's Ball Cap Free.

Ship's Patch: This official patch measures 3 1/2" x 3 7/8" and is the same high quality as ships patches made for today's Navy. Ideal for sewing on a jacket, sweatshirt, t shirt, etc. Cost is \$3.00 plus mailing.



Ship's Patch and Ball Cap Order Form

Please send me _____ **McCard ship patch** at \$3.00 each + shipping

(1 Patch \$3.00+.49 Shipping, 2 Patches \$6.00+.70 Shipping, 3 Patches \$9.00+.91 Shipping)

Please send me _____ (Before Fram) **McCard Ship Ball Cap** at \$20.00 each.

Please send me _____ (After Fram) **McCard Ship Ball Cap** at \$20.00 each.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send check Payable to "Robert H. McCard Association" with correct amount to: Glenn Anderson, 113 Kemar Drive, Butler, PA 16002



USS Robert H McCard Association
C/O Ron Perceful
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