



# Commemorating USS Indianapolis CA-35

**PLEASE JOIN US AT THE  
USS Indianapolis CA-35 Survivors Reunion  
July 23-26, 2020  
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis**

**Registration form is included in this mailing.**

***A message from Harold Bray, Chairman, USS Indianapolis CA-35 Survivors Organization  
and Jason Witty, Chairman, USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization***

July 2020 marks the **75th Anniversary** of the tragic sinking of USS Indianapolis CA-35. Please join us as we honor the service of the 1,195 men who sailed on the final voyage. We will celebrate the legacy of USS Indianapolis, honor the 316 men who survived, and cherish the memory of the 879 men who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. As of this writing, ten Survivors remain.

***The Survivors Organization gratefully accepts the assistance of the Legacy Organization for the 2020 Reunion.***

### **USS Indianapolis CA-35 Survivors Organization**

Chairman – Harold Bray  
Vice Chairman – Dick Thelen  
Treasurer – Elko Perchyshyn  
Secretary – Peggy McCall Campo  
Master-at-Arms – Jim Jarvis  
Chaplain – Ed Harrell  
Board – Bill Toti  
Board – Michael Hussey  
Public Relations – Susie Ankrom

### **USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization**

Chairman – Jason Witty  
Vice Chairman – Ray Wilson  
Treasurer – Bonnie Buckett  
Secretary – Jane Gwinn Goodall  
Member at Large – Sara Vladic

#### **Rescue Ships**

USS Bassett APD-73  
USS Cecil J Doyle DE-368  
USS Dufilho DE-423  
USS Madison DD-425  
USS Ralph Talbot DD-390  
USS Ringness APD-100  
USS Register APD-92

#### **Recovery Ships**

USS Aylwin DD-355  
USS Cockrell DE-366  
USS French DE-367  
USS Helm DD-388

#### **Aircraft**

PV-1 Ventura - Pilot Lt. Chuck Gwinn  
PBV - Pilot Lt. Adrian Marks  
PBV - R. Alcorn  
PBM - S. Worthington  
B17s - 3<sup>rd</sup> ER Squadron

#### **Medical**

USS Hollandia  
USS Tranquility AH-14  
Samar Medical  
Peleliu Medical  
Guam Medical Unit 18

### **For questions about the reunion, contact:**

Peggy McCall Campo (217) 377-9783, [pcampo4@yahoo.com](mailto:pcampo4@yahoo.com); Elko Perchyshyn (612) 270-9345, [elko@ukrainiangiftshop.com](mailto:elko@ukrainiangiftshop.com); Sara Vladic (310) 270-8872, [sara@filmsbyserendipity.com](mailto:sara@filmsbyserendipity.com); or Jane Goodall (805) 340-7788, [janegwinngoodall@gmail.com](mailto:janegwinngoodall@gmail.com).

**The majority of events of this special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion start early on Friday morning and continue through Saturday evening. Please plan ahead and come on Thursday so you won't miss out. Some of the highlights include:**

- ★ Thursday evening, July 23 – **Welcome Program**
- ★ Friday morning, July 24 – **Special Program with the Survivors**
- ★ Friday evening, July 24 – **Exclusive, Original Play by Saltbox Theatre Collective**
- ★ Saturday morning, July 25 – **Memorial Service**, a solemn remembrance of the final sailing crew.
- ★ Saturday evening, July 25 – **Banquet Dinner** with special guest speaker (seating is limited; pre-registration and fee required).
- ★ Sunday morning, July 26 – **Prayer Service** and time for visiting with each other.

Additional details will be communicated by email.

**You can also refer to [www.ussindianapolis.com](http://www.ussindianapolis.com) for timely updates.**

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**To register for the 2020 reunion, please complete and return the enclosed form or visit [www.ussindianapolis.com](http://www.ussindianapolis.com) to register online. Registration deadline is Friday, June 19, 2020.**

**Early bird priority is available to families** of USS Indianapolis CA-35 crew members before the registration will be opened to the general public. Survivors, their families and friends, as well as families of Lost-at-Sea Crew, Former Crew, Rescue and Recovery Crew are encouraged to attend this important milestone anniversary. Others invited include Honorary Survivors, Namesake Crew of USS Indianapolis SSN-697 and USS Indianapolis LCS-17, USS Indianapolis Museum Gallery and Radio Room volunteers, educators, and anyone interested in the incredible story of USS Indianapolis CA-35. Space is limited.

**Hotel Information:** The Hyatt Regency is located in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, at One South Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Toll free: (888) 421-1442; Telephone: (317) 632-1234.

The hotel is offering a special room rate of **\$159 + tax + fees per night** for reunion guests. **To make your room reservations, please contact the Hyatt directly.** Inform the registration staff that you are

with the USS Indianapolis Survivors Reunion. **There are a limited number of rooms available at the discounted rate.** We encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible. If you require a handicapped-accessible room or special accommodations, please indicate that when you make your reservation. **Survivors, please note, our reunion planning team is available to assist you if you have questions or encounter any difficulties with the registration process.** We have asked the Hyatt to make sure all Survivors are guaranteed rooms at the discounted rate.

**Visiting Indianapolis:** While you're in Indianapolis, please visit the **USS Indianapolis CA-35 National Memorial**. Located on the Canal Walk, this beautiful monument is a tribute to all who served on the heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis. You will also enjoy the **USS Indianapolis CA-35 Museum Gallery and Radio Room** located at the Indiana War Memorial, 55 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis.

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### **In Memoriam**

Since last year's Survivors Organization Newsletter in the Spring of 2019, we have learned of the passing of Survivors Richard Stephens, Arthur Leenerman, and Don Howison.

We hold these gentlemen dear in our hearts. Rest in Peace.

## A Note About the Fees

The registration fee includes the banquet dinner and all reunion programs. **All participants must register and pay in advance. Space is limited for the banquet, and we encourage you to send in your registration as soon as possible.** Educational programs are open to the public, however, guests must complete advance or onsite registration to access the events.

Frequent attendees will notice that we have made a small increase to our registration fee this year to help cover reunion expenses. We sincerely appreciate and welcome additional financial support of generous donors to help us defray costs. We especially thank all of the presenters and volunteers who graciously donate their time and talent.

If you would like to help support the USS Indianapolis CA-35 Survivors Reunion, please consider making a charitable gift to honor these great veterans and their legacy. Funds will assist with travel, lodging, meals, and miscellaneous reunion and educational expenses at the discretion of the organization. Charitable donations to the nonprofit USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization (Tax EIN 82-5498677) are tax deductible.

Make donations payable to:  
**USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization-2020 Reunion**  
**c/o Bonnie Buckett, Treasurer**  
**P.O. Box 16042**  
**Chattanooga, TN 37416**

*To donate online, please visit our website at [www.ussindianapolis.com](http://www.ussindianapolis.com). Thank you!*

## Important News Since the Survivors Organization's Spring 2019 Newsletter

- ★ On October 26, 2019, USS Indianapolis LCS-17, the latest ship to bear the name Indianapolis, was commissioned in Burns Harbor, Indiana. Four survivors (Edgar Harrell, James Jarvis, Richard Thelen and Robert Witzig) were honored guests.
- ★ The survivors' first-person accounts in the book Only 317 Survived!\* has been updated and expanded into an e-book (Kindle edition), now available on Amazon.com as Only 316 Survived: USS Indianapolis (CA-35) – Navy's Worst Tragedy at Sea...879 Men Died! All proceeds go into a fund to keep this title available and readily accessible to future generations. *\*Following the revelation that RT2c Clarence William Donnor did not participate in the final sailing of USS Indianapolis, nor was he lost at sea, as had been listed in previous reports, the official number of crew members and sailors confirmed for the final sailing is 1,195 sailed, 316 survived.*
- ★ Recently, President Donald J. Trump signed a bill acknowledging the entire crew of USS Indianapolis CA-35 with a Congressional Gold Medal. The Medal is expected to be presented to the survivors and available to crew families in 2020.

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**Mailing List Updates/Adds:** Would you like to switch from our US Postal Service mailing list to our email list? Or add someone you know who would like to be on our mailing list for invitations and newsletters? If so, please send your name and email address to [Admin@ussindianapolis.com](mailto:Admin@ussindianapolis.com).

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**August 2, 1945!** This day changed the lives of the Indianapolis Survivors forever. When Navy pilot Lieutenant “Chuck” Gwinn spotted the Indianapolis crew, he saved the lives of 316 men, earning him the nickname of “Angel.” **The USS Indianapolis/Gwinn “Angel” Scholarship Fund** provides scholarships to college-age family members of Survivors, Lost-at-Sea Crew, Rescue Crew, and Honorary Survivors. Apply at <https://gtrcf.academicworks.com/opportunities/flexible>. The application period is February 1 - March 31, 2020.

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Post reunion, there is a separate event taking place in Frankfort, Indiana where a new airport terminal hanger complex has been built and named in honor of Adrian Marks, a longtime resident. A dedication in the hangar is planned for mid-day. Frankfort is 50 miles north on I-65. For more information about the event, please contact Mike Nichols, Airport Board Member, phone 317-281-1949, or email [mpnichols@gmail.com](mailto:mpnichols@gmail.com)

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**The Legacy Organization** is working on a commemorative book and we need crew family’s help. We are trying to gather the young Sailor/Marine photos for each member of the crew and rescue crew that we can find, in addition to photos from past reunions. If you have photos of your loved one to share, please contact [Admin@ussindianapolis.com](mailto:Admin@ussindianapolis.com). Deadlines will be applied, so please don’t delay. Further details will be posted on [www.ussindianapolis.com](http://www.ussindianapolis.com).

## About the USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization

Federal Nonprofit Tax EIN 82-5498677

The nonprofit Legacy Organization was established in 2018 and has been endorsed by the USS Indianapolis Survivors Organization to promote and perpetuate the memory of ALL who served on USS Indianapolis CA-35. We are committed to telling their story and ensuring that their Legacy will not be forgotten.

The Legacy Organization is almost completely comprised of family members of Survivors, Lost-at-Sea crew, recovery crew and former crew. Its membership is also open to people who are connected to the story in some way, such as friends, reunion volunteers and others who have been involved in sharing the story of USS Indianapolis CA-35.

The Legacy Organization supports programs and events that are meaningful to the Indy family at large. **Join Us!** Please visit [www.ussindianapolis.com](http://www.ussindianapolis.com) for the latest information on the group, events, Survivor appearances, news, and to learn how you can become more involved.

# 2020 REGISTRATION FORM

**Thursday July 23 – Sunday July 26, 2020  
at  
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana**



\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Relationship to USS Indy \_\_\_\_\_

*Examples:*                      *Richard Thelen*                      *Survivor*  
    *Sue Wasiniak*                      *Daughter of Survivor Jim Jarvis*  
    *Michael William Emery*              *Nephew of Lost-At-Sea*  
    *Joe Smith*                              *Friend of Survivor...or other*

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\* Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list guests:**

| *Name | *Relationship | *Email |
|-------|---------------|--------|
| _____ | _____         | _____  |
| _____ | _____         | _____  |
| _____ | _____         | _____  |

\*Add a separate page if you have additional guests.

Include special notes about seating requests or questions on the back of this form.

### REUNION/BANQUET REGISTRATION FEES

|                           |                                     |  |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Survivor                  | _____ x \$0                         | = No Charge for Survivor                 |
| Total adults #            | _____ x \$100                       | = \$ _____                               |
| Total children #          | _____ x \$50 (12 years and younger) | = \$ _____                               |
| <b>Total Fee Enclosed</b> |                                     | = \$ _____ <i>Send to address below.</i> |

Special Requests available for the banquet:

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian meal option        | Number requested _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gluten-free meal option       | Number requested _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Dietary Concerns: _____ |                        |

Special Assistance Requests:

|                         |  |                             |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Wheelchair(s) requested | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (How many? _____) | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Walker(s) requested     | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (How many? _____) | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Please mail this registration form along with your check made payable to:**

**USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization-2020 Reunion  
c/o Bonnie Buckett, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 16042  
Chattanooga, TN 37416**

**REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020**

**For questions about the reunion, contact:**

Peggy McCall Campo (217) 377-9783, [pcampo4@yahoo.com](mailto:pcampo4@yahoo.com); Elko Perchyshyn (612) 270-9345, [elko@ukrainiangiftshop.com](mailto:elko@ukrainiangiftshop.com); Sara Vladic (310) 270-8872, [sara@filmsbyserendipity.com](mailto:sara@filmsbyserendipity.com); or Jane Goodall (805) 340-7788, [janegwinngoodall@gmail.com](mailto:janegwinngoodall@gmail.com).