



USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA-35)

Survivors Organization

Harold J. Bray, Chairman

November 1, 2018

Dear USS Indianapolis Family and Friends,

I write to you on behalf of the survivors of the storied cruiser USS Indianapolis (CA-35). We wish for our legacy to be carried on with honor and good fellowship. All persons who want to further this mission are invited to join the newly established USS Indianapolis (CA-35) Legacy Organization.

In July 2016, family members and friends of the USS Indianapolis approached the Survivors Organization with their idea to form a legacy organization. These sons, daughters, grandchildren, family members, and friends were passionate about their mission and we identified that their goals were aligned with ours.

On May 2, 2018 the USS Indianapolis CA-35 Legacy Organization became an established 501(c)(3) nonprofit in accordance with federal law, and on May 9, 2018 it was incorporated as a non-profit under the State of Indiana. The group's first meeting and call for membership took place on July 21, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis, Indiana. At that meeting, the membership elected its first president, Jason Witty, grandson of Survivor Eugene Morgan. The membership elected as vice president Ray Wilson, whose wife is the niece of William Stier, who was lost at sea in July 1945. At this date, the new group has more than 60 members in good standing.

At our business meeting held on July 21, 2018, the Survivors Organization voted to officially recognize the USS Indianapolis (CA-35) Legacy Organization "to preserve the legacy of our ship and our crew."

We truly appreciate the efforts of the Second Watch, an auxiliary group of family members and friends who have supported the Survivors Organization since 1992. They were successful in sharing the story of the USS Indianapolis and connecting with families of the crew--those who survived and those who were lost at sea. In recent years we found the Second Watch to be less engaged with their original purpose and the Survivors Organization. We wish them well in the future but no longer have any formal or informal understanding with the Second Watch to advance our mission.

To celebrate the history, service, and sacrifice of our great ship and her crew, we wholeheartedly thank and support the USS Indianapolis (CA-35) Legacy Organization. We are confident in their mission, vision, and objectives to preserve the USS Indianapolis story for future generations.

For more information, please contact us via our official websites www.USSIndianapolis.com or www.USSIndianapolis.org, or email us at admin@ussindianapolis.com. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Harold Bray, Chairman