
Aportadera, Nick

Nickname Rate MM1 Division M
Spouse Hometown
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1963 Years To 1964
Civilian Occupation
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children Grandchildren
Special Comments Came aboard when the ship was undergoing Fram conversions at Puget Sound Naval Shipyards at Bremerton, WA in 1963. Shake down cruise to San Diego/underway training. Changed homeport to San Diego in 1964. Very neat Engine Room and a swell of a Tin Can.

Beishuizen, Thomas

Nickname Dutch Rate EM2 Division A
Spouse Cele Hometown Chicago, IL
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1951-12 Years To 1955-04
Civilian Occupation Electrician (Construction)
Special Hobbies Bowling and Traveling
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 4 Grandchildren 13 GG2
Special Comments

Berger, Ronald A

Nickname Rate CDR Division CO
Spouse Norene R Hometown edia, PA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1969 Years To 1971
Civilian Occupation Retired
Special Hobbies None
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 0 Grandchildren
Special Comments

Bernard, Dennis M

Nickname Rate SFM3 Division R
Spouse Theresa **Hometown** Philadelphia, PA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1965 **Years To** 1968
Civilian Occupation Supt of Maintenance
Special Hobbies Fishing
Favorite Memory All the guys I served with. I enlisted as a boy of 17 and returned a man.
Worst Memory I was the ships rescue swimmer and picked up a pilot who missed the flight deck. I remember he had red freckles and wedding band. I never found out his name. He was dead when I got to him. I still see his face sometimes. I wish I had his name so I could contact his family.
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 5
Special Comments

Beslow, William

Nickname Rate YN3 Division Ops
Spouse Wai Ling **Hometown** Randle, WA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1971 **Years To** 1973
Civilian Occupation Self Employed
Special Hobbies Snowmobiling and Hiking
Favorite Memory So many. Loved the travel to many different countries
Worst Memory Riding out the typhoons
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments

Betschart, Charley G

Nickname Rate BT2 Division B/Eng
Spouse Cherry **Hometown** Sebastopol, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1950 **Years To** 1954
Civilian Occupation Machine Shop-Welding, Concrete Finisher, Firewood Business, Ops Sup- School Dist, President of a Credit Union
Special Hobbies Guns, Coins, Camping, Building Tractors
Favorite Memory Making Raisin Jack & Making guns
Worst Memory Getting shot at Inchon, cleaning boilers
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 6
Special Comments

Bisel, Glenn

Nickname Rate RD2 **Division** Operations
Spouse Spouse Deceased **Hometown** Fresno, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1950 **Years To** 1951
Civilian Occupation Public Health Sanitarian for Fresno County, CA
Special Hobbies Reading and Photography
Favorite Memory Riding Ice flows for the length of the ship
Worst Memory Star shell party off the west coast of Korea in the Yellow Sea
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 8
Special Comments

Bobbett, Andy P

Nickname Rate SN **Division** 1st
Spouse Linda **Hometown** Great Falls, MT
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1960 **Years To** 1962
Civilian Occupation Sheet Metal Worker
Special Hobbies Motorcycles
Favorite Memory Australia
Worst Memory Typhoon
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments

Botonis, Jim

Nickname Rate SFM2 **Division** R
Spouse Sharon **Hometown** Los Angeles, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1968 **Years To** 1969
Civilian Occupation Aero Space Manager
Special Hobbies Cross Country Motorcycling/Camping
Favorite Memory Liberty in Hong Kong
Worst Memory River duty in Vietnam
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments

Boutwell, James S

Nickname Jim **Rate** MM2 **Division** M
Spouse Judy **Hometown** Scottsville, NY
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1959 **Years To** 1962
Civilian Occupation Corporate Mgt
Special Hobbies Coins, Reading, Gardening, Skiing, Golf, Hunting
Favorite Memory Great shipmates, Travel to great places
Worst Memory
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments

Bradley, Bruce E

Nickname **Rate** Lt (jg) **Division** Deck
Spouse Shirley **Hometown** Pelham, NY
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1967 **Years To** 1968
Civilian Occupation Director Health Care Policy, General Motors Corp
Special Hobbies Sailing, Skiing, Scuba Diving, Running (marathon)
Favorite Memory Hong Kong visit
Worst Memory 6 months of watches in 3 sections with frequent "un-reps" between
Children 3 **Grandchildren**
Special Comments

Briggs, Carroll G

Nickname **Rate** Lt (jg) **Division** Ops
Spouse Ardith **Hometown** Carmel, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1953
Civilian Occupation Vegetable breeder
Special Hobbies Theater, Videography/editing/TV Production, Writing, Watercolors
Favorite Memory USS Gurke
Worst Memory OGU NTC San Diego
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 10
Special Comments Reunion attendance depends on casting and timing of the spring show GAVTV18 commitments, finances and health

Carney, Herman J

Nickname Rate MMCS **Division** Admin
Spouse Noriko **Hometown** Guilford, NY
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1972 **Years To** 1974
Civilian Occupation Boiler Plant Equipment Mechanic
Special Hobbies Antique clocks, Tools, Engines and Flat Belt Machinery
Favorite Memory USS CIMARRON (AS-22)
Worst Memory USS JOHN R CRAIG (DD-885)
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments I carried a secondary NEC OF Command Career Counselor for 10 yrs and encompassed the last 6 duty stations including the Gurke. It was really gratifying helping my fellow shipmates all those years.

Carter, Robert T

Nickname Rate SK3 **Division**
Spouse Marilee **Hometown** Hayward, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1970 **Years To** 1972
Civilian Occupation Communications Contractor-Self Employed
Special Hobbies Music
Favorite Memory Meeting the greatest shipmates, firing runs off Vietnam, group rap sessions on the fantail, mining hipong harbor, living in Yokosuka, Japan. Remembering the time Dunlap painted the supply dept safe, lock numbers and all
Worst Memory Meeting Chief Lynn for the first time and being marched directly to the ships barber shop. Chief Lynn was real Navy. God bless him. Port and starboard watches in Vietnam. Hearing that Willie died in Bangkok. Very good lad. The EM club slot machines, took all my money.
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments

Cheatum, Thomas G

Nickname Tireless Tom **Rate** FT3 **Division** Gunnery
Spouse Spouse Deceased **Hometown** Frederick, OK
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1955
Civilian Occupation Avionics
Special Hobbies Golf
Favorite Memory Shore leave in Yokosuka
Worst Memory Being asleep and missing the Gurke going to sea
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments

Cortese, Vincent L

Nickname Vince **Rate** GM2 **Division** Gunnery

Spouse Wanda **Hometown** Stockton, CA

Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1954

Civilian Occupation Construction Mgmt

Special Hobbies Fishing, Boating, Photography, and Coin Collecting

Favorite Memory

Worst Memory

Children 4 **Grandchildren** 8 GG8

Special Comments I was able to meet Rick Wertz (CO's Yeoman "1952-54, who lives less than 5 miles from me thru a telecom with Jimmie Jones. I invited him to our VFW Christmas party and told the "mall World Story". It had been 57 years since we last met. I left the GURKE in Jan 1954-Completion of a Kitty Cruise.

A second small world story. I was Project Mgr for a Frank Moolin and Asso's in Anchorage. I received a bill from a Anthropolist for work on the North Slope. He claimed \$35.00 an hour (19840> His contract was for \$32.00 per hour. He was in Fairbanks, and I called him and told him of the problem. He said "Opps" could I correct the bill and I said sure. He said he was going to Barrow on next Monday and as I was already scheduled to them I said I'll save you a seat. Wein Airlines had 2 flights to Barrow both originating in Anchorage and stopping in Fairbanks. I asked him how I would know him and he said he had a "Burgie" red stocking cap, I told him I'd be wearing my Frank Moolin ball cap. Cool.

We stopped at Fairbanks and he got on board, the 737 was now full. We spotted each other and he sat down. We took off for Barrow and started shooting the breeze. He after he got out of the Navy attended UW and got his Doctor's Degree from the Univ of Alaska. I said what did you do in the Navy? He replied "I was aboard a destroyer" I said "Oh which one?" and he said "The Gurke" and I replied "DD 783" and he said. "You know the Gurke?" I said I was a Gunners Mate and left her in Jan 1954. He came on board in early 1954 as a Fire Control man and we were in the same tier of bunks. We talked of several of our mutual shipmates.

Some story eh? Well here is the worst part-I can't recall his name. Any of y you shipmates know who I'm talking about. He was working out of the University of Alaska and could now be retired and in his 70's, I'm 76.

Wills that's it I have 2 more small world stories, but the Gurke is not in them. Fair Winds and Smooth sailing.

On the real time world-We had a full moon on Dec 2, 2009 and we'll have a Blue Moon (The 2nd full moon in the same month) on Dec 31-New Years Eve!!You'll have to look way back to see a Blue Moon on New Years Eve.

Cox, Larry G

Nickname **Rate** Lt (jg) **Division** OPS

Spouse Melody **Hometown** Pampa, TX

Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1960 **Years To** 1962

Civilian Occupation Engineering Project Developer

Special Hobbies Travel

Favorite Memory WestPac Cruise of 1961

Worst Memory Deck watch in port in San Diego

Children 4 **Grandchildren** 8

Special Comments

Dell, Bill

Nickname Rate ET3 **Division** OE
Spouse Cindy **Hometown** Alhambra, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1963-10 **Years To** 1965-10
Civilian Occupation Sales Engineer
Special Hobbies Tennis, Fishing
Favorite Memory Station ship in Hong Kong for 3 weeks, Dec 1964
Worst Memory 6 weeks of underway training, June 1964
Children 0 **Grandchildren**
Special Comments

Ellingsworth, Bill J

Nickname Rate SH3 **Division** SUP
Spouse Norma **Hometown** Springfield, MO
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1951 **Years To** 1954
Civilian Occupation Motel Management
Special Hobbies Fishing, Golf, Working with Boy Scouts
Favorite Memory First night aboard, arriving there in the middle of the night. So many, such a great crew.
Worst Memory Arriving in the coast of Korea and all that ice. Still have shivers.
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 2 GG2
Special Comments I feel that it was an honor to serve with the crewmates while I was aboard the Gurke.
What a ship!!!

Elliott, Larry R

Nickname Rate EN2 **Division** A
Spouse Sue **Hometown** Columbus Junction, IA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1955
Civilian Occupation Information Processing
Special Hobbies Golf
Favorite Memory Visiting different parts of the world and serving with a great bunch of shipmates
Worst Memory None were really that bad
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 4
Special Comments

Gassett, Norman L

Nickname
Spouse Jane
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Elec Engineer
Special Hobbies Fishing, Photography, Hunting, Flying
Favorite Memory I came aboard on 1-12-46 in Buckner Bay, Okinawa. This was to be my ride home to the states. I left her on 7/2/46 in San Diego
Worst Memory
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 14 GG15
Special Comments Dale Strine SK2/c was a very close friend of mine. I miss him very much

Gauvin, Albert L

Nickname
Spouse Dottie
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Upon retirement USN I worked for City of Houston Health Public Works Depts retiring in 8/87
Special Hobbies It was traveling, but have slowed down
Favorite Memory Visiting Sydney, Australia 1956-57
Worst Memory Leaving Sydney, Australia
Children 7 **Grandchildren** 13
Special Comments We will not be attending the reunion.

Geiger, Elsie

Nickname
Spouse Spouse Deceased
Ship (Sister of Henry Gurke)
Civilian Occupation
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 7
Special Comments I am 86 years old. If he had lived, my brother, Henry would be 84. I would like to come to this reunion if possible. Elsie

Gross, Michael W

Nickname Gunner **Rate** GMG3 **Division** GMG3

Spouse Alicia **Hometown** Harrisburg, PA

Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1974 **Years To** 1975

Civilian Occupation Civil Service-DON-Retired 1999

Special Hobbies Pistol shooting, Fishing and Computing

Favorite Memory Liberty call. The times we pulled into Subic Bay!!! Best liberty in the WestPac in my view.

Worst Memory I had \$982 STOLEN from my footlocker!!! which was every penny I had to my name at the time. When I re-enlisted for my guaranteed orders to NAVMAG Subic, my lat night aboard the Gurke in Yokosuka my LPO and a few of the other "Gun Gang" mates had taken me out on the town for one last blast! Obviously, many people knew I was leaving and also knew that I had taken out ALL my pay I had saved up that I had been carrying on the books- I'm sure you remember how fast "the scuttlebutt" could spread aboard. I took it out the day before left because the next morning I was leaving very early and didn't want to hang around trying to get something out of the DK's that early in the morning. I put the cash in my footlocker as I didn't want to be carrying that much money out in town that night. BIG, BIG MISTAKE on my part! I hope the low-life who stole it have had nothing but bad luck their entire miserable life! I remember what I said to the guys in the "Gun Gang" the morning I left the ship. I said " In a crazy sort of way, I'm lucky. Why, because I was leaving and you all still had to live with the low life SOB that did this to me!" My last and parting words were-"Always keep your eyes open and have someone watching your back Mates"! The XO had NIS come aboard, but the thief or thieves were never caught to my knowledge nor was I ever reimbursed in any way shape, or form. I'm not saying it was someone in the "Gun Gang", but it had to be someone who was in our berthing area and we had more than just the "Gun Gang" back aft in that area. It was an absolute terrible way to end a tour that I had really enjoyed up to that point, as the Gurke was the best "Tin-Can" I served aboard. It's a bad memory that I will never forget.

Children 0

Grandchildren

Special Comments After 30+ years, I've had the pleasure of keeping in touch with my LPO from the Gurke (then GMG1 Richard "Scotty" Scott). He stopped by our home and spent a few days with us while on his way to another reunion he was having in Kentucky a few years ago. I really enjoyed seeing him and we stay in contact via e-mail and an occasional phone call. Other than that, I'd like to see any of the crew that I served with

Guerin, Don R

Nickname Donnie **Rate** BT3 **Division** Engr

Spouse **Hometown** Baton Rouge, LA

Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1970 **Years To** 1973

Civilian Occupation Law Enforcement

Special Hobbies Fishing, Coin Collecting

Favorite Memory

Worst Memory The last time I left the ship

Children 2 **Grandchildren** 6

Special Comments

Hansen, Kerry D

Nickname Rate FT3 **Division** Fox
Spouse Dixie **Hometown** Chehalis, WA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1958 **Years To** 1959
Civilian Occupation BSEE, Design Div BR. Mgr Dept of Navy
Special Hobbies Hunting, Fishing, Building Custom Fishing Rods
Favorite Memory Cruises to South America to meet and escort newly built USS Ranger CV61 to Alameda, and WESPAC cruise where got a chance to see other cultures on both cruises. Getting to go in the Captain's Gig to small Islands of the Marianas to take them supplies, Pettycab racing in Formosa.
Worst Memory Being a new Shellback with a very sore and totally purple butt from crossing the equator in 1958 on the way to Chile and the typhoon between Midway and Yokosuka that put us into dry dock in Yokosuka, although that got us out of Plane Guarding, which was a good thing.
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 4 GG2
Special Comments I really liked my time in the Navy especially on the GURKE. It transitioned me from a High School kid who joined at age 17 to being ready to tackle College. University of Washington class of '65. I owe a great debt to the Navy and thus I worked for them until my retirement in 1997. One of many funny things was seeing fellow FT LONG who got a very large dish pan from the cooks. He had some serious Boils on his rear and had to sit in this pan full of water and Epsom salts while the ship was underway sliding around on the steel deck in our Birthing compartment just forward of after steering.

Harkema, Kenneth

Nickname Harky **Rate** RD3 **Division** Operations
Spouse Dagni **Hometown** Walla Walla, WA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1959-06 **Years To** 1961-03
Civilian Occupation Executive with Honeywell, Inc
Special Hobbies Drag Racing, Golf, Horses
Favorite Memory Fun times during liberty
Worst Memory Confined CIC and 4 Hrs on and 4 Hrs off while on Carrier duty
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments

Haskin, Clifford J

Nickname Doc **Rate** CPhM **Division** Medical
Spouse Joyce **Hometown** Hastings, NB
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1945 **Years To** 1946
Civilian Occupation Retired MD
Special Hobbies Golf
Favorite Memory Changing ships via Boson's chair
Worst Memory
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 18 GG5
Special Comments

Hickam, Frank

Nickname Rate RM1 Division O
Spouse Helen P. Hometown Denver, CO
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1954-09 Years To 1956-05
Civilian Occupation Insurance Agent
Special Hobbies Ham Radio, CW Operator (Call Sign) N3RSD Extra Class
Favorite Memory All good
Worst Memory None to speak of
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments

Higgins, J C

Nickname Rate MM3 Division M
Spouse Joan Hometown Pontotoc, MS
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1955 Years To 1957
Civilian Occupation US Government
Special Hobbies Hunting and Gardening
Favorite Memory To many to mention
Worst Memory To many to mention
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 3 GG1
Special Comments

Hinton, Kenneth J

Nickname Rate SM3 Division O
Spouse Judy Hometown Chattanooga, TN
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1960 Years To 1961
Civilian Occupation Retired-Reynolds Metals Co
Special Hobbies Hunting and Fishing
Favorite Memory Crossing equator
Worst Memory Dominic I & Dominic II
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments

Kaspar, George B

Nickname
Spouse
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Retired
Special Hobbies Northing Special
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments

Keenan, Edward

Nickname
Spouse Kay
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Iron Worker
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory None
Worst Memory None
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 6
Special Comments

Kissling, John R

Nickname Lt (jg) **Division** OPS
Spouse Alison **Hometown** Indianapolis, IN
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1968 **Years To** 1969
Civilian Occupation Chief Deputy Insurance Commissioner, Indiana Dept of Insurance
Special Hobbies Sailing, Porsche Club and BMW Club events
Favorite Memory While in Subic Bay during the 1969 WestPac deployment, one of the Gurke Chiefs got into a fight at one of the local night clubs in Olongapo. The Chief hit the night club manager in the mouth and knocked out one or two of his teeth. The Shore Patrol was called. The SPs took the Chief into custody and placed him in the base brig for the night. At the time I was a young 24 year old Ensign with the collateral duty of being the ship's legal officer. (This meant that I had completed the two-week course on the UCMJ.) Early, the morning after the fight, CDR Bender, the XO, came to my stateroom to personally inform me of what had happened. He ordered me to arrange for the release of the Chief into my custody and take him to the Olongapo Town Hall for arraignment. (He even authorized me to use the Ship's car and driver for this assignment, which I thought was pretty neat.) during the trial, I acted as legal counsel for the Chief and pled his case before the judge. Fortunately, there were no criminal charges; just the civil matter of the night club manager's personal injuries. We were able to obtain a full and final release of damages--all for a payment of \$50 to the night club manager. The Chief and I walked out of the court room elated over the settlement.
Worst Memory
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments Released from active duty on the Gurke during the fall of 1969 and returned to Indianapolis to join father in the family business, Kissling Agency, an independent insurance agency. Also affiliated with the local Naval Reserve Center in Indianapolis. In 1995, sold Kissling Agency and transitioned into fee-based Risk Management and Insurance Consulting. In 2005, accepted, and continue to hold, the appointment by Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels to the position of Chief Deputy Insurance Commissioner of the Indiana Dept of Insurance. In 2008 became a member of the Adjunct Faculty of the College of Business at Butler University teaching Risk Management and Insurance.

Kresin, George L

Nickname **Rate** **Division** Ops Ofcr
Spouse **Hometown**
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1955 **Years To**
Civilian Occupation
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children **Grandchildren**
Special Comments

Kuncas, John W

Nickname
Spouse Judith D.
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children
Special Comments

Rate
Hometown Naugatuck, CT
Years From 1952
Years To 1954

Division Gunnery

Grandchildren

Larkins, Larry

Nickname
Spouse Diana
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Fishing
Special Hobbies Bass Fishing
Favorite Memory 1961 WestPac Cruise
Worst Memory Having to pull the electrical cables in preparation for FRAM
Children 2
Special Comments

Rate TM2
Hometown Bluff City, TN
Years From 1959
Years To 1962

Division Fox

Grandchildren 1 GG1

Lee, Bobby B

Nickname
Spouse Kathryn
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Quality Assurance Manager
Special Hobbies Golf
Favorite Memory Liberty in Hong Kong, Japan and Hawaii
Worst Memory The cold weather in North Korea, eight hours on watch in the main battery and four hours off. Preparing for the over seas readiness inspection before every trip over seas (3)
Children 6
Special Comments I will always have fond memories of the best crew and ship in the Navy

Rate BM3
Hometown Summerfield, LA
Years From 1951
Years To 1954

Division 2nd

Grandchildren 13

Marshall, Claude H

Nickname Rate MM3 **Division** Eng
Spouse Paulette **Hometown** Ankeny
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1971 **Years To** 1973
Civilian Occupation Engineer
Special Hobbies Rock hounding in the desert...ther's gold in them tar hills!
Favorite Memory Liberty....top secret...eyes only!
Worst Memory Bangkok, when Willie Peterson fell off Liberty Launch and drowned. You would get the smell of fresh baked bread in the wee morning hours, and knew it wasn't going to be to long before Willie would be coming by with loaves of hot bread, butter, and jam. He took care of us Snipes..sorely missed, but not forgotten.
Children 0 **Grandchildren**
Special Comments

Martin, Dwight N

Nickname Rate FT3 **Division** G
Spouse Martha **Hometown** Laurens, SC
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1955
Civilian Occupation Supervisor, Laurens Glass
Special Hobbies Collecting old tools
Favorite Memory Friends
Worst Memory Typhoons
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 5
Special Comments

McAuliffe, Kevin

Nickname Rate MM3 **Division** Engineering
Spouse Kathleen **Hometown** Long Beach
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1972 **Years To** 1975
Civilian Occupation CPA
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 0
Special Comments

McFadden, Richard (Dick) L

Nickname Rate SN Division 1st
Spouse Bobbie Hometown Seattle, WA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1950 Years To 1951
Civilian Occupation Letter Carrier
Special Hobbies Fishing
Favorite Memory Inchon
Worst Memory Pusan
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 10
Special Comments

Melton, Edmond Lee

Nickname Rate FTG3 Division G
Spouse Hometown Fresno, CA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1959 Years To 1965
Civilian Occupation Construction, Heavy earthmoving and paving
Special Hobbies Leather crafts
Favorite Memory Crossing the Equator
Worst Memory Crossing Equator
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments

Metz, James A

Nickname Shorty Rate ET3 Division Engineering
Spouse Frances Hometown Bloomsdale, OH
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) Years From 1948 Years To 1950
Civilian Occupation Engineer & Contractor
Special Hobbies Fishing & Hunting
Favorite Memory The Crew
Worst Memory No Bad ones
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 4 GG1
Special Comments

Powers, Edward

Nickname
Spouse Patricia
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Contractor
Special Hobbies He enjoyed boating, traveling, long walks with his dog and all the kids
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 7 **Grandchildren** 14
Special Comments

Rasor, George G

Nickname
Spouse Mary Lu
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Rent a Car Manager
Special Hobbies Golf, Deep Sea Fishing
Favorite Memory Hong Kong liberty
Worst Memory On liberty in San Francisco over slept and missed ship that went to sea for the day
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 2
Special Comments

Reusser, Sam

Nickname
Spouse Divorced
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783)
Civilian Occupation Electronic Sales Engineer
Special Hobbies Computers & Golf club maker
Favorite Memory Visiting five ports in Australia 26 April-16 May 1961
Worst Memory Shifting berths 5 times in one day in Subic in late July 1961 and catching pneumonia as a result
Children 1 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments

Scroggins, Billy O

Nickname Lt (jg) **Division** GUN
Spouse Mary **Hometown** Natchitoches, LA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1953-01 **Years To** 1955-10
Civilian Occupation Geophysical Analyst
Special Hobbies Golf
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 5
Special Comments

Simmers, Billy J

Nickname FC3 **Division** G
Spouse **Hometown** White Castle, LA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1948 **Years To** 1951
Civilian Occupation Bell South Electronic Tech
Special Hobbies Wood Working & Playing Golf
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 9
Special Comments

Smith, Craig M

Nickname ATN-3 **Division** Weapons
Spouse Jill **Hometown** Peck, ID
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1967 **Years To** 1968
Civilian Occupation Employment Consultant
Special Hobbies Restore cars
Favorite Memory Going to Hong Kong
Worst Memory Storm on the way to North Korea
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 5
Special Comments

Van Den Bosch, Wallace Raymond

Nickname Lt (jg) **Division** MC
Spouse Avanelle Dean **Hometown** Mooresville, IN
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1939 **Years To** 1951
Civilian Occupation Psychiatrist-Licensed in 5 states
Special Hobbies Owning horses, Owned 9 Tennessee Walkers at a time
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 3 **Grandchildren**
Special Comments

Waddell, William O

Nickname Bill **Rate** EM2 **Division** Elec-Eng
Spouse Linda **Hometown** Ashdown, AR
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1955 **Years To** 1957
Civilian Occupation Computer Analyst
Special Hobbies Wood Working, Hunting
Favorite Memory First trip overseas. It was very enlightening to a boy straight off the farm
Worst Memory Probably the storm we weathered when we were coming back from overseas
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 5
Special Comments

Walls, Carroll D

Nickname **Rate** FT2 **Division** Gunnery
Spouse Janet **Hometown** Kennett, MO
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1951-03 **Years To** 1954-12
Civilian Occupation Southwestern Bell Telephone Co
Special Hobbies Ham Radio, Flying, Boating, Farming
Favorite Memory The Fire Control gang-Their character, dedication and commitment to the job. Serving under Officer John Kuncas
Worst Memory None
Children 3 **Grandchildren** 6
Special Comments

Warren, Wilford

Nickname Rate SN Division OPS
Spouse Hometown East Orange, NJ
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1975-03 **Years To** 1975-10
Civilian Occupation Supervisor for FedEx
Special Hobbies Creative Writing
Favorite Memory Chilling with the fellows on the fantail, and having a ball at all port of calls
Worst Memory Refueling to take the pee pee test and going through the hassle of liberty passes
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments

Waugh, Robert E

Nickname Rate BT3 Division B
Spouse Janet Hometown Hot Springs, SD
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1950 **Years To** 1953
Civilian Occupation Boiler Operator
Special Hobbies Silver Smithing
Favorite Memory Cooking ham and eggs in fwd fireroom after being at sea for a month or so. There was always some ham and eggs missing from the work parties
Worst Memory On restriction there was a lot of it
Children 4 **Grandchildren** 10 GG14
Special Comments

Wells, Jack L

Nickname Brownbagger Rate Lt (jg) Division OC
Spouse Terry Hometown Corry, PA
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1967 **Years To** 1968
Civilian Occupation Technical Director
Special Hobbies Sailing
Favorite Memory Hong Kong cruise around Victoria Island with Ralph, Joe, Bruce, etc
Worst Memory Formation Star in the SOJ, Jan 1968. Cold!
Children 2 **Grandchildren** 1
Special Comments Left active duty Dec 1970 as LT. I wrote a novel about my time on GURKE, but changed names to protect the innocent and the guilty. "Quicksilver a greyhound at sea" published Dec 2007, ISBN 0-7414-4059-8, www.Buybooksontheweb.com.

Whinnery, Marvin R

Nickname Rate MSSN **Division** Supply
Spouse Glenda **Hometown** San Clemente
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1974 **Years To** 1976
Civilian Occupation Cook
Special Hobbies Rock hunting, Making wind chimes
Favorite Memory Fan tail frolic shellback day
Worst Memory S.A.R.
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 3
Special Comments

Wonders, Robert E

Nickname Rate **Division** DM SM
Spouse Deborah **Hometown**
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1952 **Years To** 1955
Civilian Occupation
Special Hobbies
Favorite Memory
Worst Memory
Children 5 **Grandchildren** 8 GG1
Special Comments

Zerr, John J

Nickname Jack **Rate** JG **Division** Ops/OE/OC
Spouse Karen **Hometown** St Peters, MO
Ship USS GURKE (DD-783) **Years From** 1966 **Years To** 1967
Civilian Occupation Program Manager with Boeing
Special Hobbies History, Reading
Favorite Memory Surviving an encounter with a berserk Dash helicopter.
Worst Memory Standing JOOD bridge watch with a lookout and a bucket in a storm.
Children 6 **Grandchildren** 9
Special Comments