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**Billman, Brian B**

**Nickname** OS2 **Division** OI  
**Spouse** Eileen **Hometown** Rehrersburg, PA  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1970 **Years To** 1973  
**Civilian Occupation** General Mechanic  
**Special Hobbies** Wood Working and Camping  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 7  
**Special Comments**

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**Boutwell, Carleton W**

**Nickname** Carl **Rate** SK1/SKC&Ensign **Division** Supply  
**Spouse** Carole **Hometown** Woburn, MA  
**Ship** USS CROMWELL/LESTER **Years From** 1954-09/1956 **Years To** 1959-06/196  
**Civilian Occupation** Supervisor of Testing- Inc  
**Special Hobbies** Reading, Gardening  
**Favorite Memory** Cromwell's visit to Scotland  
**Worst Memory** No bad memories  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 7  
**Special Comments**

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**Bowes, Edward T**

**Nickname** Ed **Rate** RD3 **Division** O  
**Spouse** Mary **Hometown** White Plains, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1957 **Years To** 1959  
**Civilian Occupation** Retired from Walt Disney World Merchandising  
**Special Hobbies** Music, Movies, Theme Parks  
**Favorite Memory** A standout memory was the USS LESTER participating in the rescue efforts of the Italian Freighter "Bonitas" off Cape Hatteras in Feb 1958.  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 5 **Grandchildren** 2  
**Special Comments**





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## Condon, Douglas

**Nickname** Rate FTG2 **Division** Fox  
**Spouse** Camille **Hometown** West Islip, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1972 **Years To** 1974  
**Civilian Occupation** CPA  
**Special Hobbies** All Sports  
**Favorite Memory** Foreign ports. People I met  
**Worst Memory** The watches and being away from home  
**Children** 0 **Grandchildren**  
**Special Comments**

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## Conning, Bruce G

**Nickname** Rate QM1 **Division** OC  
**Spouse** Geri **Hometown** Freeport, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1967 **Years To** 1968  
**Civilian Occupation** Building Manager  
**Special Hobbies** Boating, Fishing and Golf  
**Favorite Memory** Shooting stars  
**Worst Memory** Quarter deck watches at night in winter in Newport, RI  
**Children** 4 **Grandchildren** 1  
**Special Comments**

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## Connolly, Thomas L

**Nickname** Rate SN **Division** Deck, Ship's Office  
**Spouse** Cheryl **Hometown** Bricktown, NJ  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1972 **Years To** 1974  
**Civilian Occupation** Navy Defense Contractor, Manpower Analyst, Budget Analyst  
**Special Hobbies** Antique Furniture  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 5 **Grandchildren** 9  
**Special Comments**

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## Crawley, Clarence W

**Nickname** Rate E-4 **Division**  
**Spouse** **Hometown** Pontiac, MI  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1969-01 **Years To** 1971-03  
**Civilian Occupation** Retired GM/Saturn Plant  
**Special Hobbies** R C Plane  
**Favorite Memory** Homeport Naples  
**Worst Memory** Bad storm while in Med, lost steering. Fire on board damage to ship store twice.  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## Cullen, Gerald

**Nickname** Jerry **Rate** RM3 **Division**  
**Spouse** Sharon **Hometown** East Haven, CT  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1962 **Years To** 1964  
**Civilian Occupation** Healthcare Executive - Retired  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** Unitas III Cruise. Spring Break visit to Ft Lauderdale 1964.  
**Worst Memory** Cattle cars in Gitmo. Assassination of Pres Kennedy. Mess Deck duty.  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 5  
**Special Comments**

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## Daum, Jim

**Nickname** **Rate** YN2 **Division**  
**Spouse** Alyce **Hometown** Butler, PA  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1960 **Years To** 1961  
**Civilian Occupation** Financial Officer -Retired  
**Special Hobbies** Golf, Wood Working, Reading  
**Favorite Memory** Trip to Antigua, BWI  
**Worst Memory** First day on board  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 2  
**Special Comments**

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## Deebs, Tom

**Nickname** Rate SN **Division** Supply  
**Spouse** Irene **Hometown** Hornell, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1971 **Years To** 1972  
**Civilian Occupation** Retired New York State Trooper  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## DeGray, Bruce E

**Nickname** Rate TM3 **Division** Gunnery  
**Spouse** Roberta **Hometown** Marlborough, CT  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1957 **Years To** 1959 PO  
**Civilian Occupation** Carpenter/Tool, Die, Gage Maker  
**Special Hobbies** Skiing, Boating, Lionel Trains  
**Favorite Memory** Rescuing the two survivors from the Bonitas  
**Worst Memory** Losing my class ring on Gitmo Bay liberty  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 5  
**Special Comments** Looking forward to meeting all my "Liberty" buddies. Hi, to all. To be able to "Greet" all the Plank Owners.

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## DeMers USN (Ret), William Capt H

**Nickname** Rate CO **Division**  
**Spouse** Barbara **Hometown** Troy, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1963 **Years To** 1964  
**Civilian Occupation** Systems Engineer  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** Enjoyed all aspects of command and the fine group of officers and men serving on Lester  
**Worst Memory** None  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 6  
**Special Comments** Regret that I will not be able to attend this reunion. My best to all those attending. Regret that there were no officers from Lester attending the 2004 reunion.



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## Duchemin, Emile J

**Nickname**  
**Spouse** Marilyn  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Quality operations planner for Grumman  
**Special Hobbies** Sag Harbor Volunteer Fire Dept  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 2                      **Grandchildren** 6  
**Special Comments**

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## Dugan, Larry E

**Nickname**  
**Spouse** Spouse Deceased  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Attorney  
**Special Hobbies** Golf, Spectator Sports  
**Favorite Memory** Going South for most of the 2 winters  
**Worst Memory** None  
**Children** 5                      **Grandchildren** 4  
**Special Comments**

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## Dunlap, Raymond R

**Nickname**  
**Spouse** Cathrine  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Mechanical Engineer  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 4                      **Grandchildren** 5  
**Special Comments** I was assigned to the USS LESTER on completion of MM Service School at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. I was part of the original commissioning crew. The ship was commissioned in Charleston, SC.









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## Hough, Sr, David A

**Nickname** Rate SH3 L **Division**  
**Spouse** Nora **Hometown** Clairton, PA  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1964-10 **Years To** 1965-01  
**Civilian Occupation** Labor-jack of all trades  
**Special Hobbies** Like to listen to the opera or play CD with opera voice  
**Favorite Memory** Only served a short time  
**Worst Memory** Get ready for inspection before going to sea  
**Children** 4 **Grandchildren** 16  
**Special Comments**

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## Hudson, John M

**Nickname** Rate ETN3 **Division** OI  
**Spouse** Gwen **Hometown** Macon, GA  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1966 **Years To** 1968  
**Civilian Occupation** Drove for a Courier Express Service  
**Special Hobbies** Genealogy, NASCAR, Traveling, especially cruises  
**Favorite Memory** Being high-lined from ship to ship to repair crypto gear  
**Worst Memory** Do not really have any  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 7 GG4  
**Special Comments**

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## Hyde, Ronald G

**Nickname** Ronnie **Rate** SH2 **Division** Supplies  
**Spouse** Elaine **Hometown** Watertown, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1968-08 **Years To** 1970-01  
**Civilian Occupation** Machine Operator  
**Special Hobbies** Auto Racing, Hunting  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**







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## Knouse, Kurt G

**Nickname** Rate MM2 **Division** M  
**Spouse** Joan **Hometown** Palmyra, NJ  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1967 **Years To** 1968  
**Civilian Occupation** Taught Automotive Technology for 31 Yrs. Retired 6/01. Will teach one Course at local College  
**Special Hobbies** Hunting, Fishing, Golf, Old Cars. Finish building my new home!  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory** Being told I could muster out on a weekend!  
**Children** 1 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## Kohn, Robert

**Nickname** Rate SOG3 **Division** Fox  
**Spouse** Genevieve **Hometown** Union, NJ  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1961-02 **Years To** 1963-01  
**Civilian Occupation** Commercial Photography Studio Owner (17 Years)  
**Special Hobbies** Gun Collecting, Ice Skating  
**Favorite Memory** Making 3rd Class Petty Officer  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 1 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## Lander, Larry C

**Nickname** Rate RM2 **Division** Comm  
**Spouse** Jo Lynn **Hometown** St. Petersburg, FL  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1957 **Years To** 1959  
**Civilian Occupation** Moving & storage  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** USS Lester  
**Worst Memory** USS Lester  
**Children** 0 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## Lawing, Charles A

**Nickname**  
**Spouse** Juanita  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** Liberty in Palma, Barcelona, Ibiza, Corfu, Bizerti, Athens, Naples, Sicily  
**Worst Memory** 46 degree roll in bad storm  
**Children** 1                      **Grandchildren** 1  
**Special Comments**

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## Lawton, Bruce

**Nickname**  
**Spouse** Vickie  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Contractor  
**Special Hobbies** Golf, Horses  
**Favorite Memory** UNITAS III  
**Worst Memory** Winter parking lot watches in Newport  
**Children** 2                      **Grandchildren**  
**Special Comments**

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## Lee, William G

**Nickname** Snook  
**Spouse** Gladys  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022)  
**Civilian Occupation** Tractor Trailer Driver  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** North Atlantic  
**Worst Memory** De-promotion  
**Children** 5                      **Grandchildren** 21  
**Special Comments**



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## Moore, James P

**Nickname** Lt (jg) **Division** Engineering  
**Spouse** Lee **Hometown** Barneveld, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1957 **Years To** 1958  
**Civilian Occupation** Nuclear Engineer  
**Special Hobbies** Wood Carving  
**Favorite Memory**  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 5  
**Special Comments**

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## Nitz, Albert W

**Nickname** Al **Rate** SM **Division** Fire Control  
**Spouse** Donna **Hometown** Akron, OH  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1959 **Years To** 1961  
**Civilian Occupation** Facilities Manager  
**Special Hobbies** Reading, Genealogy, Music, Home repairs & remodeling  
**Favorite Memory** When the USS LESTER had an open house for family and friends. My wife and I climbed the mast to the crows nest. It was just a short time and someone was screaming for us to come down. I probably got a verbal reprimand, but I don't know for sure.  
**Worst Memory** Sea sickness. It usually took me several days to get my "sea legs". I didn't eat for days.  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments** I remember going to s motion picture operators school. I was responsible for showing reel-to-reel movies each night to the officers.

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## Noonan, George F

**Nickname** **Rate** SH3 **Division** Supply  
**Spouse** Marion **Hometown** West Hartford, CT  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1968 **Years To** 1970  
**Civilian Occupation** US Postal Service Clerk  
**Special Hobbies** Hunting, Fishing, Soccer  
**Favorite Memory** Liberty call in Newport, RI and Bermuda  
**Worst Memory** Captain's Mast, XO's Mast  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**







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## Priest, Mark J

**Nickname** Rate YN2 **Division** Admin  
**Spouse** **Hometown** Schuylerville, NY  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1971-07 **Years To** 1974-12  
**Civilian Occupation** Owner & President Financial Services Co  
**Special Hobbies** Golf, Baseball, Memorabilia Collector  
**Favorite Memory** Time spent with friends I made  
**Worst Memory** Living conditions on board ship  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren**  
**Special Comments**

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## Rempel, Richard F

**Nickname** Rate RM3 **Division** Communications  
**Spouse** Cindy **Hometown** St Clair Shores, MI  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1971 **Years To** 1973  
**Civilian Occupation** Automotive Seating  
**Special Hobbies** Motorcycles  
**Favorite Memory** Going to the Azores  
**Worst Memory** Hurricane at sea  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

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## Rock, Ivan L

**Nickname** Rocky Rate RMC **Division** C  
**Spouse** Mary **Hometown** Dayton, OH  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1959 **Years To** 1962  
**Civilian Occupation** Government  
**Special Hobbies** Golf  
**Favorite Memory** European Cruise  
**Worst Memory** None  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 2  
**Special Comments**





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## Tracey, Ronald

**Nickname** Ron **Rate** SK2 **Division** Supply  
**Spouse** Linda **Hometown** Lincoln, RI  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1969 **Years To** 1970  
**Civilian Occupation** Postal Clerk, US Postal Service  
**Special Hobbies** Automotive Travel, Gardening  
**Favorite Memory** Cruise to Bermuda  
**Worst Memory** Standing Mid-Watch  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren**  
**Special Comments**

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## Urbati, Francis N

**Nickname** Skip **Rate** QM3 **Division** O  
**Spouse** Martha **Hometown** Hingham, MA  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1957 **Years To** 1959  
**Civilian Occupation** Research & Development (Guidance Systems Inertial), MIT, Cambridge  
**Special Hobbies** Camping, Golf, Travel, Most outdoor activities  
**Favorite Memory** Time spent with Shipmates  
**Worst Memory** None  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 1  
**Special Comments**

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## Vicchio, Frank P

**Nickname** Vic **Rate** E-5/E-6 **Division** Eng  
**Spouse** **Hometown** Baltimore, MD  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) **Years From** 1956 **Years To** 1959  
**Civilian Occupation** Boiler Operation, Maint & Repair  
**Special Hobbies** Golf and Bowling  
**Favorite Memory** Reporting aboard Lester in Bay City, MI  
**Worst Memory** Lebanon 1958  
**Children** **Grandchildren**  
**Special Comments**

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## Ward, John P

**Nickname** Rate EMC Division R  
**Spouse** Patricia Hometown Wilmington, NC  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) Years From 1960 Years To 1965  
**Civilian Occupation** 1974-96 College Police Chief, 1996-present, Painting contractor  
**Special Hobbies**  
**Favorite Memory** South America 1962  
**Worst Memory**  
**Children** 4 **Grandchildren** 1  
**Special Comments**

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## Watkins III, B James

**Nickname** Jim Rate S06SN Division Deck  
**Spouse** Kaye Hometown Wichita, KS  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) Years From 1957 Years To 1959  
**Civilian Occupation** Handicap Bus Driver for Starkey, Inc  
**Special Hobbies** Weapons  
**Favorite Memory** The First Birthday Party for the Ship on Cargo, Greece  
**Worst Memory** When I first went on board, the Captain's name was LCDR A P Slaff. My sea detail was as lookout of the signal bridge. Whenever we would return to Newport, it was always under full power. He would turn towards the pier, or ship that was there doing about k5kts, then would turn to the XO and say "You have the Conn John" and leave the bridge. John's first command was always "All back Flank". Once the Captain took her in himself and took all the life line stanchions off the starboard qtr. The next morning just below the name on the stern, in bold black letters was MENACE TO NAVIGATION.  
**Children** 3 **Grandchildren** 4  
**Special Comments** If you recognize the name, write. I will write back.

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## Williamson, Stanley W

**Nickname** Rate E6/RM1 Division Comm/Ops  
**Spouse** JoAnn Hometown Versailles, IN  
**Ship** USS LESTER (DE-1022) Years From 1969-09 Years To 1972-09  
**Civilian Occupation** Computer Field Service Technician from 1978-86..now an Environmentalist  
**Special Hobbies** Home improvement projects, Gardening, Camping, Biking, Nature and Wildlife Habitats, Working Outdoors.  
**Favorite Memory** Being home-ported at Naples, Italy for 2 Yrs 1970-1972.. My eldest daughter born at USNH Naples, in Naples in 1971.  
**Worst Memory** None  
**Children** 2 **Grandchildren** 0  
**Special Comments**

