

CALVERSION

VOL. NO. 77 –July, 2019

OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MEN OF THE U.S.S. CALVERT APA 32
“The Ship and Men of Distinction”

John L. Cole, Original Founder & Publisher

Present newsletter compiled by

Glynna Morse, Recording Secretary

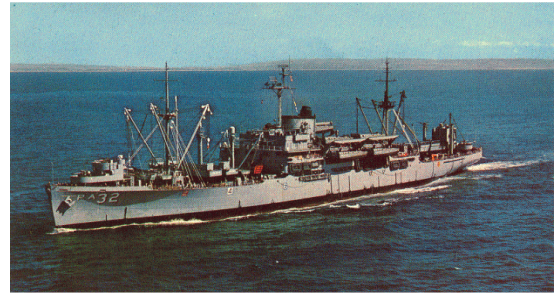
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IMPORTANT REUNION INFORMATION!

2019 USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee Reunion

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Sept. 18-22, 2019

Deadline for Hotel & Reunion Reservations – August 15, 2019

(Make your reservation ASAP)

(See pp. 3 & 5 for reservation forms)

Commander's Corner:

Just a note to say “Hi” and to let you know the reunion in Alaska has been moved to one year later (2020), due to circumstances beyond our control. Glynna had knee replacement surgery scheduled in June and will be in rehab for about 6-8 weeks. We wish her well and speedy recovery.

In the mean time we will have a 2019 reunion in Albuquerque New Mexico, September 18 through 22, with Willie and Susan Carrillo stepping up to be the hosts. Everything works out in the end. Note that future USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee Reunions for the next two years will be: 2020 (July 29-Aug. 2) - Fairbanks, Alaska and 2021 (dates to be announced) - Charleston, West Virginia.

I hope every is doing well and coping with the weather. Shirley and I had a motor trip to Missouri in June where I had meetings in Branson and Kansas City. Glynna will be mailing out the CALVERSION soon with any new details. I look forward to seeing you in Albuquerque in September and will see you in Fairbanks next year. -- Tom Upchurch, Commander

Tom Upchurch, Commander
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Clarence Hoyt Worthington

April 26, 1926 - February 25, 2019

USS Calvert Associates people were saddened to learn of the passing of Hoyt Worthington in February. Hoyt served on the USS Calvert during World War II (1944-1946) as a Gunners Mate. Hoyt attended the first USS Calvert Reunion held in Rochester, MN in 1979 and was elected to the position of Executive Officer (VP) of the newly formed USS Calvert Associates. Hoyt and his wife, Sara, also were the photographers for that 1979 reunion as well as the USS Calvert reunions for several decades, taking hundreds of group and individual photos. The second USS Calvert Reunion held in Atlanta, GA in 1981 was hosted by Hoyt and Sara. Hoyt served as the Executive Officer from 1979 through 2013 and was the Acting Commander after the death of John Cole in 2013. Because of health considerations, he declined to continue in an officer capacity after 2013; however, he continued to attend most of the reunions in the following years. Hoyt and his grandson, Robert Alred, attended the 2018 reunion in Springfield last September. Below is the obituary for Hoyt:

Obituary of Hoyt Worthington

Mr. Clarence Hoyt Worthington, age 92, of Cedartown, passed away on Monday, February 25th, 2019. He was born on April 26, 1926 in Cedartown, Georgia. He was the son of the late Dee and Winnie Upchurch Worthington.

Mr. Hoyt Worthington was a veteran of the United States Navy. He was an active member of First Baptist Church, Cedartown since 1956 and was a member of the L.D. Wheeler Sunday School Class. He was also Mason of the Caledonia Lodge # 121, Yarab Shriner, and a member of the American Legion Brewster-Cleveland Post #186.

Mr. Worthington is survived by his sons, Dennis Worthington (Marie) and Steve Worthington; and sister, Betty Moore; Grandchildren; Robert Alred (Carla), Jason Alred, Mandie Fossett (David), Morgan Worthington (Jannell), and Mitchell Worthington, (Megan). Great grandchildren; Olivia Fossett, Rachel Fossett, Lacey Worthington, Josie Worthington, Sara Alred, Brittney Alred, Brooke Alred, Christie Alred, Wyatt Alred, Anna Belle Alred, Alyssa Baird, Ashley Elkins.

Mr. Worthington was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mrs. Sara Worthington; daughter, Kathy Alred; and brother, William Lester Barnwell.

The funeral arrangements for Mr. Hoyt Worthington were held on Thursday, February 28th, at one o'clock in the afternoon from the chapel of the Olin L. Gammage and Sons Funeral Home with Rev. Wayne Benefield officiating. The family of Mr. Worthington received family and friends on Wednesday, February 27th from six o'clock to eight o'clock in the evening at the Gammage Funeral Home.

The family respectfully request that all floral donations be omitted and that memorial contributions be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, Florida, 33607. Messages of condolence can be made to the family by visiting our website and signing the online guestbook at <http://www.gammagefh.com>.

Source: Olin L. Gammage & Sons Funeral Home, 106 N. College Street, Cedartown, Georgia 30125. <http://www.gammagefh.com>.

USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee 2019 Reunion Registration Form

Albuquerque, New Mexico - Sept. 18-21, 2019

Homewood Suites by Hilton – ABQ Uptown

(Registration & check due by August 15, 2019)

(Please Print Legibly)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Phone(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Ship Affiliation: () USS Calvert () USS Harry Lee () Relative/friend of USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee veteran

In case of emergency, contact phone No.: _____

Expected Arrival Date & Time: _____ Arrive by () Car () Air () Other

Call Susan Carrillo with any questions. 505-250-8202

Registration for Tours and Meals (please indicate No. & total tours & meals below)

		<u>Cost Per</u> <u>Person</u>	<u>#of</u> <u>People</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registration Fee:	Hospitality Suite, beverages, snacks, supplies & expenses	\$15	_____	_____
Wed. Sept 18.	Arriving – Light Complimentary Dinner provided by hotel (or restaurants nearby)			
Note: Gratuities for all tours, meals, bus drivers, etc. are included in cost shown below:				
Thurs., Sept. 19	10:15 Albuquerque City Tour by Trolley	\$70	_____	_____
	12:30 Lunch at Hacienda Del Rio in Old Town			
	1:45 – 3:30 Tour Historic Old Town			
	Light Complimentary Dinner provided by hotel (or on your own at restaurants nearby)			
	Hospitality Room Open until 10:00			
Fri., Sept 20.	10:00 Sandia Peak Aerial Tram (may need a jacket)	\$70	_____	_____
	12:00 Lunch from Dion's			
	12:45 National Museum of Nuclear Science & History			
	Dinner on your own – Restaurants near-by.			
	Hospitality Room Open until 10:00			
Sat., Sept 21.	10:00 Indian Pueblo Cultural Center/performance	\$60	_____	_____
	12:00 Lunch at Route 66 Diner			
	2:30 Business Meeting			
	4:00 Memorial Ceremony			
	5:00 Banquet & Program – El Pinto Restaurant	\$60	_____	_____
Total for Registration, Tours & Meals				\$_____

Please make check payable to: Susan Carrillo. Reservations must be received by Thursday **Aug. 15, 2019**

Call with questions or late reservations: 505-250-8202.

Mail Reservation form & check to: Willie Carrillo, 14394 County Rd 19, Fort Morgan, CO. 80701



Mail Call

(GM Note: Some of these letters, e-mail, or telephone conversations have been edited for space considerations. We welcome letters or e-mail from veterans or relatives about experiences on the USS Calvert or USS Harry Lee. Send or call Glynna Morse at information given in left hand corner, top P. 1)

July 31, 2018. Hi Glynna, The Calversion Newsletter was delivered today, but sadly, I must report that my father, Vince Saldutti passed away last December at age 98. I also saw your note requesting information about the deaths of shipmates, and I know that at least four of the six USS Harry Lee attendees at the 2012 Reunion in Philadelphia have passed. Jim Vannest (10-15-13), which you have listed; John Collier (1-2-16), who was also a Calvert Shipmate; Patrick Smith (4-4-16), who had published the Harry Lee newsletter; and Vince Saldutti (12-6-17), who had posted the Harry Lee website. Bill Smyrl is living in Havertown, PA, and Wally Ward is in the Boston area. I was unaware of Emory Parker's passing last September, and I will also make note of it on the website: www.ussharrylee.com. Thank you for all you do for the Calvert and Lee shipmates and their families. --Jim Saldutti *(GM Note: See p. 7 for information about the USS Calvert and USS Harry Lee "connection.")*

September 11, 2018. Glynna, I spoke with Commander Upchurch last month about my Dad's (James Chambers Hatch) passing on 18 April 2016. Mom passed away 11 April 2015. My Mom and Dad loved the Navy for 26 years and he retired in 1972 as a Captain, SC, USN. My parents were happily married for 62 1/2 years with 5 children. --CDR Robert Hatch. *(GM Note: James Chambers Hatch served on the USS Calvert during the Korean War. His son (also a Navy officer) sent a link to the obituary for James Chambers Hatch which describes much of Commander Hatch's service in the Navy: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/sandy-springs-ga/james-hatch-6895526>)*

November 22, 2018. My dad is Robert Burnon Hile. He is 87. We are trying to find information about when he was a sailor on the USS CALVERT during the Korean war. All I know he was a boatsman mate. I would like to know where I can get any information about his years served. Thank you, --Robert L. Hile. *(GM Note: If any of you served with Robert Hile, he would enjoy hearing from you. Please e-mail or write me, and I will give you the contact information for Robert Hile.)*

February 25, 2019. Chris Funk, Webmaster of the USS Calvert web site, forwarded this e-mail from Dennis Habrat: "This note is to inform you that my father William J. Habrat passed away on Sunday February 24th at approximately 8:30 p.m. EST just shy of his 95th birthday on March 2nd. Please inform Glynna of this so she can put it in her next newsletter and he can be remembered at the next reunion. --Dennis M. Habrat *(GM Note: Bill Habrat was a long-time attendee of USS Calvert reunions. He and several members of his family attended the Bahamas Cruise Reunion in 2016. Bill served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years as a Chief Petty Officer, and the majority of his service was on the USS Calvert. He served on the Calvert until it went out of commission. During his Navy career, he also volunteered as a sea diver.)*

June 16, 2019. Norm Durr phoned to ask about World War II veterans. Norm served on the Calvert from 1943 to 1946, and he and Jim Hart hosted the 1999 reunion in San Diego. Norm has lived in Oceanside for several years and enjoys the climate. He would enjoy sharing experiences with any USS Calvert or USS Harry Lee guys who served during WW II. His phone no. is (760) 721-7236.

**2019 USS Calvert/Harry Lee Reunion – Albuquerque, New Mexico
September 18-22, 2019**

**Hotel Reservation Form
Homewood Suites By Hilton ABQ Uptown**

7101 Arvada Ave. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110

Tel: 505-881-7300 or 1-800-548-8690

Deadline for Hotel Reservations: August 15, 2019



Dates of Reunion: Arrival day -Wed., Sept. 18, 2019; Reunion Tour Events - Thurs.-Sat., Sept.19-21,2019
Departure day - Sun., Sept. 22, 2019

Hotel Amenities:

- * Complimentary hot breakfast
- * Complimentary evening social M-Th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- * Complimentary parking
- * Business Center/copying/printing
- * Fitness Room
- * Outdoor pool
- * On site 24-hour convenience store

Special USS Calvert Reunion rates: The hotel is a non-smoking hotel. All-suite rooms include a separate living room with pull-out sleeping couch & fully equipped kitchen with refrig., stove, and microwave.)

\$99 -- King Suite (1 to 4 persons)

\$119 -- Two Queen Suite (1 to 6 persons)

(Reunion room rates are available before and after reunion dates)

Shuttle Service: Available to & from airport M-F, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., \$12 each—preferred you schedule ahead by calling hotel but can call from airport. For other days & times, check with hotel desk or phone hotel for scheduling other taxi or shuttle service. Free shuttle service to places within 3 mi. of hotel.

Phone Reservations. (*Hotel deadline is August 15, 2019*) Homewood Suites Albuquerque Uptown, Albuquerque, NM. Phone **505-881-7300 or 1-800-548-8690**, and ask for “**USS Calvert Associates** rate.” (Be prepared to provide information below when phoning in reservations):

Guest Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone No.: _____

Room Type Requested: [☐] King Suite [☐] Double Queen suite -- **All Rooms are Non-Smoking**

No. of Rooms: _____ No. of Guests: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Your Credit Card info: _____

Save Hotel Room Confirmation # here: _____

2018 USS Calvert Reunion Held in Springfield/Branson

Forty-three people attended the 2018 USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee Reunion held in Springfield, Missouri on September 26 through 30. Glynna Morse was the host of the 2018 reunion.

Thursday, the group headed to Branson to tour the Shepherd of Hills Homestead including Uncle Matt's cabin and grounds where Harold Bell Wright based his famous book, *Shepherd of the Hill*. Lunch was held on the paddle wheeler, the *Branson Belle*, followed by a luncheon show and cruise on Table Rock Lake. After departing from the paddlewheeler, the bus went to the American Bandstand Legends in Concert show. Upon arriving back at the hotel, the group then had a deli buffet dinner.

Friday the reunion attendees boarded the bus to Seymour, MO where they saw Amish homes and countryside on our way to Uncle Rooster's Restaurant for lunch. Next, the group toured the Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum, Mansfield, MO, as well as Rocky Ridge Farm and homestead where Laura and Almanzo Wilder lived for six decades, the home where Laura wrote her *Little House on the Prairie* books. From the Rocky Ridge Farm, the bus then headed a few miles from Mansfield to Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds Pioneer Village, the site of Ozark pioneer buildings, gardens, etc.

Saturday, the bus took passengers to the History Museum on the Square in Springfield which featured a large exhibit of U.S. Route 66 memorabilia. Next, the bus went to Wonders of Wildlife exhibit, followed by lunch at Lambert's Café, Ozark, MO, home of famous "throwed rolls" and extra helpings of food!

Saturday afternoon the business meeting was held at 3:30 p.m. The Memorial Service was held at 5:00 p.m. honoring 20 deceased USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee shipmates. The banquet dinner was held at 6:30 p.m. The following persons attended the reunion:

Laura Arkema, Evanston, IL
Kate Morse Bariteau, Louisville, KY
Dan & Candyce Carlberg, Villa Park, CA
Willie & Susan Carrillo, Fort Morgan, CO
Lyn Cole Clarke, Kenyon, MN
William & Eleanor Conway, Washington Twp, MI
Rosalie Dierkes (& Dan, Barb, Tim, Mary,
Kelly & Nicole Dierkes), St. Louis, MO
Jacqueline Haggarty (& Colleen, Cathleen, &
Bill Haggarty, Jr.), Maryland Heights, MO
John & Cindy Hartman, Fayetteville, PA
Richard & JoNell Hickok, Downey, CA
Norman & Donna Jones, San Diego, CA
Glynna Morse, Windsor, MO

Royal & Launa Lilly, Rocky Mt. VA
Sharon Parsons, Kenyon, MN
John Regan, Ridgefield, NJ
Saretta Rowland, Weatherford, TX
Alan & Annette Sherian, Fresno, CA
Gloria Skillman, Garden Grove, CA
Pat Snyder, Yukon, OK
Thomas & Shirley Upchurch, Spokane, WA
Robert Upton, Conyers, GA
Ivan Vail, Fairbanks, AK
Dale Willhite, Yukon, OK
Hoyt Worthington, Cedartown, GA
(+grandson Robert Alred, Leesburg, AL)



**Uncle Matt's Cabin, Shepherd of the Hills
Homestead, Branson, MO**



**Rocky Ridge Homestead, home of
of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Mansfield, MO**

The USS Calvert and USS Harry Lee Connection

USS Calvert men serving in the World War II era will frequently mention the USS Harry Lee. Here is how the USS Harry Lee came to be associated with the USS Calvert as written in *History of USS Calvert*, by Dave Cullen, Jr. (1986) in which the Task Group Commander, Admiral Lyal A. Davidson, USN, commented on the Calvert's action in the North African Campaign:

"On the morning of 22 October 1942, while exercising off Cove Point Light in the Chesapeake, the USS Harry Lee, combat-loaded and prepared to leave in Operation Torch (to South Africa), suffered a machinery derangement which necessitated the transfer of the embarked troops and the entire cargo to the USS Calvert, a newly-commissioned vessel, undergoing organization, untrained and untried in amphibious operations. Captain J. W. Whitfield, USN, with 23 of his officers and the crews of his landing craft exchanged ships and combat equipment, combat-loaded the USS Calvert, and sailed from base HYBO to join the overseas expedition on 25 October 1942. So well and efficiently was the transfer accomplished that upon arrival off SAFI, FRENCH MOROCCO on the morning of 8 November 1942, the ship-to-shore movement from the USS Calvert in coordination with the USS Harris and the subsequent unloading of the transport was carried out with expedition and timeliness to the end that the USS Calvert made her full contribution to the success of our aims in Operation Torch. Captain J. W. Whitfield, USN, commanded first the USS Harry Lee, then the USS Calvert, and the officers and men under his command in the USS Calvert are commended to the Task Force Commander for special recognition of the meritorious performance of an arduous, exacting and dangerous task."

The landing at SAFI was a comparatively easy one as resistance from the enemy was light. On the afternoon of 14 November, the USS Calvert and other ships had completed the off-loading, and they departed for Norfolk, Virginia, arriving on 24 November, where minor repairs were begun and additional training commenced. According to accounts from crew members on the tour to North Africa, some of the former USS Harry Lee crew remained to serve on the USS Calvert, while others returned back to the USS Harry Lee for the remainder of their service during World War II.

Source: Dave Cullen, Jr., *History of USS Calvert*, 1986, p. 1.

(GM Note: Computer users can go to the USS Harry Lee website originally maintained by Vincent Saldutti. Now after Vincent's death, his son, Jim Saldutti, has been overseeing the web site at: <https://www.ussharrylee.com/>



USS Harry Lee (APA-10)

Plan to Attend the 2019 Reunion in Albuquerque

Our hosts, Willie & Susan Carrillo have planned some great tours for the 2019 USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee Reunion: Albuquerque city and Historic Old Town tour, Sandia Peak tram from 10,378 foot peak in Cibola National Forest overlooking 11,000 square mile panoramic view of Rio Grande Valley, National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, and Indian Pueblo Cultural Center/Performance. See Reunion Registration form on P. 5. Registration deadline is **August 15**.



We mourn the Passing of these shipmates:

**(If you know of the death of a USS Calvert or USS Harry Lee shipmate, please notify Glynna Morse at the address at the top of p. 1 of this newsletter. Also, deceased shipmates are honored at a special memorial ceremony at each USS Calvert/USS Harry Lee Reunion.)*

Phillip B. Aubol, 1952-1956, 3-29-2015
William H. Bridgford, LTJG, 1953-1956, 1-12-2018
Raymond Brink, BT, 1950-1952, 7-10-2018
Louis Byrne, FN1, *USS Harry Lee*, WWII, 4-28-2018
Harry Cunningham, GM3, 1942-1945, 1-27-2017
Jerome Debus, DCFN, Korean War, 1-17-2016
James E. Dierkes, SK3, 1-07-2018
Donald Dunn, ENS, 1963-1965, 2-23-2018
Robert Howard Gentry, S1/C, 1945-1946, 6-28-2017
Darrel Gerard, 10-29-2016
William Habrat, BMC, 1942-1951, 2-24-2019

James Chamber Hatch, LTJG, Korean War, 4-18-2016
Billy G. Hester, CSSN, 1952-1955, 10-11-2013
William E. Ingle, ME3, 1950-1952, 6-16-2016
Thomas F. Kunasek, MM3, 1950-1951, 6-29-2015
Allen G. Menke, LTJG, 1958-1960, 4-22-2017
Vincent Saldutti, 1942-1945, *USS Harry Lee*, 4-28-2018
Russell Stewart, YN, 1950-1953, 2-11-2012
Harry Underwood, YM2/C, 1942-1944, 6-12-2015
Walter F. Ward, WWII, 2-05-2017
Roman Weber, RM3, 1950-1951, 6-27-2017
Hoyt Worthington, GM2, 1944-1946-2-25-2019

Contributions to the USS Calvert Associates

We are extremely grateful to those persons who have donated to USS Calvert Associates to support the printing and mailing of the *CALVERSION* newsletter. The list of donors for the past year is missing for this newsletter because your secretary is printing and sending out this July newsletter while out of state for knee surgery and follow-up physical therapy. I realized I had forgotten to bring my business records which gives the donor names and amounts. I apologize for this omission; I will include the donor names in the next newsletter. G.M.

40th Anniversary of First USS Calvert Reunion Held in 1979

The first USS Calvert Reunion was hosted in Rochester, MN, on July 20-22, 1979 by John Cole and wife, Lila; daughters, Lyn, Wendy, & Sherry; and son, Dean. John Cole had started a newsletter in 1978 which he had compiled from addresses sent to him by friends and through advertisements in American Legion and VFW magazines, and he planned the first reunion in 1979. Seventy-two persons attended this first reunion. At the 1979 Reunion, the USS Calvert Associates was organized. John Cole was elected as Commander, Hoyt Worthington, Executive Officer, with Richard Morse as Yeoman (Secretary). In the beginning, reunions were held every two years until 1995 when the group voted to hold reunions annually.