



## **Robert Joseph Reardon Fireman Second Class**

Robert was born on June 7, 1923, in Brighton, Massachusetts, to Patrick P. A. Henry and Mary Mildred Reardon. Robert's father passed away three years later and his mother remarried to a man whose last name was Igoe. By 1940 he had also passed away and Mary Mildred was again the head of the household. This is why if you look at the casualty listings, the next of kin does not have the same last name.

Robert enlisted September 24, 1942. After training, he reported to R-2 for hands on Submarine Training on May 19, 1943. He then reported aboard USS Corvina at commissioning.

## **John Levering Redman**

### **Machinist's Mate Third Class**

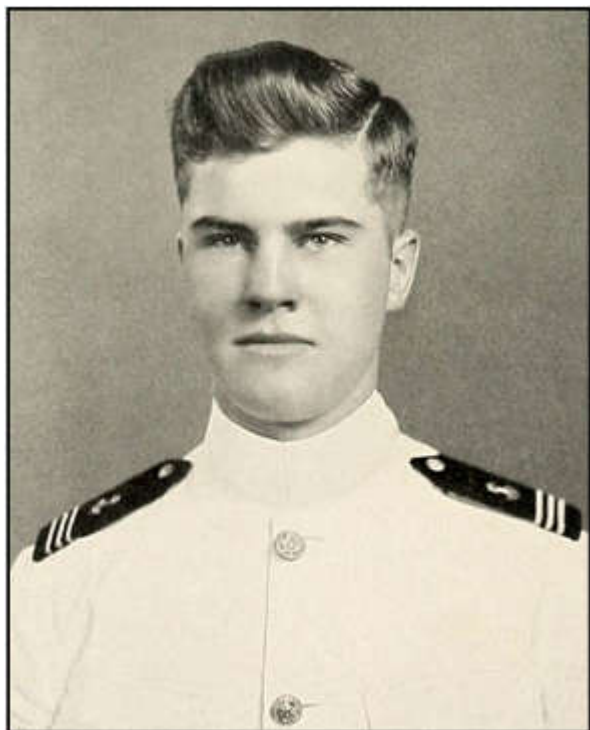


John was born March 29, 1925, in New London, Connecticut, to John Chinn and Helen Frances Redman. John's was given his mother's maiden name as his middle name.

John enlisted on July 24, 1942. After training he was assigned to USS R-2 for instruction on May 19, 1943. He was only there for a month being transferred to new construction on June 16<sup>th</sup>. He was received aboard USS Corvina at commissioning. He reported as a Fireman First Class but was listed as Machinist's Mate Third Class before they left Hawaii on their first patrol.

## James Bonnyman Roak

### Lieutenant



John was born on September 29, 1919 in Kanab, Utah, to John Craigie and Lucille Louise Roak. His middle name, Bonnyman, was in honor of his grandmother, it was her maiden name.

By 1930, the family was living in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This was James' home until he entered the Naval Academy.

James had a connection with Nevada. During his teen years, James spent his summers working at the Dangberg Ranch in Minden, Nevada. He eventually had a relationship with one of the Dangberg daughters. Their friendship continued until he was at the Academy. Although she eventually told him that she could not marry him, the Dangberg house, which is now a museum, has James' Academy first year "Plebe" uniform on display.

James entered the US Naval Academy in 1939 as a member of the class of 1942. His nick names while there were "Jim" "Squeegee" and "Rumdum". He was athletic and participated in Cross Country, Wrestling and Track. The comments in the yearbook were "After wasting the early part of his life chasing jackrabbits in New Mexico, Squeegee ventured into civilization to accomplish greater achievements. The experience at chasing jackrabbits earned for him a top position on the cross country team. His class standing has proven him to be a man mentally as well as physically. Squeegee's quiet good nature and subtle wit have won him many friends."

James was a member of the class of 1942, scheduled to graduate in May or June. As a result of the war being declared on December 8<sup>th</sup> and increased need for personnel, the class of '42 was pushed through and graduated on December 19, 1941, at which James received his rank of Ensign. He also received his first set of orders and was transported to San Francisco where he boarded the USS Wharton (AP7) for her initial voyage, after overhaul in Mare Island Navy Yard, to Pearl Harbor.

James reported to USS Detroit (CL-8) on January 10, 1942. *Detroit* took up convoy escort duty between her home port and the West coast. On one of these voyages (on or after March 3), she took 9 short tons (260,000 ozt; 8 metric tons) of gold and 13 short tons (350,000 ozt; 12 metric tons) of silver from *Trout* (which had evacuated it from Corregidor) and delivered them to the United States Treasury Department at San Francisco. In September 1942, *Detroit* escorted two convoys to Naval Station Tutuila in Pago Pago, American Samoa, rescuing the crew of a downed PBV Catalina during one passage.

*Detroit* sailed from San Francisco on 10 November 1942 for Kodiak, Alaska, to become flagship for Commander, Task Group 8.6 (TG 8.6), and patrol between Adak and Attu Islands to prevent further enemy penetration of the Aleutians. On 12 January 1943, she covered the unopposed landings made on Amchitka to gain a base from which to cut the Japanese Supply line, and after



repairs at Bremerton from February–March, returned to patrol duty to intercept reinforcements trying to reach the Japanese garrisons on Kiska and Attu. In April, she bombarded Holtz Bay and Chichagof Harbor on Attu, returning the next month to join in the assault and capture of the island. In August, under the command of Captain H. G. Sickel, she took part in the bombardments of Kiska, then covered the landings of 15 August which revealed that the island

had been secretly evacuated.

I am not sure when he was able, possibly during the 18 days of travel time from Annapolis to San Francisco, but at some point, James married Norma Evelyn who lived in San Antonio, Texas. Being a west coast sailor, James probably reported to USS *Corvina* in Pearl Harbor.

## Arthur Forest Robb

### Torpedoman's Mate First Class

Arthur Forest Robb was born on April 15, 1917, in Smithville, Ohio to William E. and Clara Robb, the youngest of eight children. The family lived on farm in Baughman Township where William worked as a carpenter and two of his sons worked as laborers. In 1930 the family had moved to Chester, Ohio.



Arthur was twenty-one years old when he enlisted on April 20, 1938. After training he reported to the USS *New Mexico* (BB-40) as a Seaman. In 1937, USS *New Mexico* arrived in Hawaii to sail to Dutch Harbor, Alaska, where she and several other ships were sent to help the Navy evaluate fighting in sub-arctic conditions. As the prospect of war grew, *New Mexico* was based at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. While on board Arthur made Seaman First Class on August 16, 1939.

The record shows that he was transferred to SubBase New London and then on February 19, 1940 reported to the S-25 (SS-130), who was in New London for repairs and then was assigned to a test and evaluation division there. In December, S-25 was detached and ordered to Key West, Florida, where she provided training services until May of 1941 when she returned to New London to prepare for transfer to the Polish Navy under the Lend Lease Program. During this period Arthur changed rate to TM3 on November 16, 1940 and then to TM2 on November 1, 1941. He was then transferred to Commander Submarine Squadron 7, November 4, when the S-25 was transferred to the Polish Navy.

Arthur's time in New London changed his life in other ways. It gave him the time to meet Dorothy Lamoureaux. They were married October 31, 1940, and created a home in Norwich, Connecticut.

On November 5, 1941, Arthur reported to the USS *R-15*. She was doing patrol duties off the coast followed the entry of the United States into World War II. In February 1942 she again sailed south. In early March she patrolled in the Virgin Islands area then shifted to training and patrol duties out of Trinidad. Relieved in early August, *R-15* returned to the Virgin Islands thence continued on to Bermuda and with the fall, back to New London.

I could not find a record of when Arthur departed the *R-15*, but he reported aboard the *Corvina* at commissioning.

## Maxwell Howard Roberts

### Yeoman First Class



Maxwell Howard Roberts was born December 25, 1920, in Norfolk, Virginia, to Merle Wilder and Willie Dell Roberts. Merle Wilder was a Mill Wright at an automobile factory and the family lived in Norfolk for all of Maxwells young life. He attended Deep Creek High School in Chesapeake, Virginia.

On April 6, 1939, at the age of 18, Maxwell enlisted in the Navy at the Naval Receiving Station, Norfolk, Virginia. He was transferred to Naval Training Station for Recruit Training.

On August 22, 1939, Maxwell boarded the USS Nitro for transport. He then reported on October 10<sup>th</sup> to ComSubRon 3 at Coco Solo, Canal Zone, for duty. He spent a year assigned to the Squadron and then on October 1, 1940,

he reported for duty aboard the USS S-44, the first in a series of boats that he was assigned to as a relief, including USS R-3, USS R-12, USS R-15, USS S-17 and USS S-13. During this time he changed rate to Yeoman Third Class on February 16, 1941 aboard USS S-44, Yeoman Second Class on December 1, 1941, aboard USS S-17 and then to First Class on February 1, 1943, aboard the USS S-13.

On March 18, 1943, Maxwell was transferred from USS S-13 to USS Skate (SS-305) for her commissioning at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. On September 14<sup>th</sup> Max boarded the USS Yorktown (CV-10), for transport to Pearl Harbor to report to Commander Submarine Force Pacific. On November 4, 1943, Max reported as a relief crew, aboard USS Corvina.



**Roderick Shanahan Rooney**  
**Commander**  
**(Commanding Officer)**

Roderick Shanahan Rooney was born October 28, 1908, in Manhattan, New York. His parents were John Jerome Rooney, a New York Lawyer, and Marie Collins Rooney. The family lived in the Lincoln Heights area of Manhattan.

Roderick was admitted to the US Naval Academy on June 17, 1925 and he graduated with the class of 1929.

Midshipmen were not allowed to be married and not long after graduation, Roderick married Mary Spear. Their son Peter was born in 1939 when they were stationed in Long Beach, California.

Ensign Rooney reported to the USS Nevada (BB-36) at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, where she was going through a modernization, replacing the basket towers with tripods, converting the engines to reduction gears and upgrading the weapons. In 1930, she left the yards and were sent back to the west coast fleet. This was before the fleet was moved to Pearl Harbor and they were still operating out of Long Beach, California.

In 1933, LTjg Rooney reported to Submarine Base, New London, for instruction. After training he was assigned,



in 1934, to Submarine Squadron 5, Asiatic Fleet aboard the USS Canopus. He was assigned to USS S-38 (SS-143). They were operating out of Cavite,

Philippines.

In 1936 to 1937, LTjg Rooney was back at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

In 1939, he reported to the USS Tennessee (BB-43), and joined the Staff, Commander Battleships, Battle Force Pacific Fleet, under Vice Admiral William Satterlee Pye. He served on staff, advancing to Lieutenant Commander, until he was assigned to New Construction to take command of USS Corvina. He was advanced to Commander before he took official command of the Corvina at commissioning.



## John Rosta

### Torpedoman's Mate, Third Class



John Rosta was born September 27, 1913, in Perth Amboy, New Jersey to John and Barbella Rosta. The family lived in Raritan, New Jersey.

John's father immigrated in 1906 and his mother in 1910, both from Hungary. John was the first child born in the U.S. By the time John was 16 he was working as a grinder in a celluloid factory.

In 1935, John married Mary Tymko and they set up a home in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. In 1936, Patricia Anne Rosta was born.

On August 22, 1942, John enlisted in the Navy Reserve (V-6). As a reservist, he was sent to Torpedoman training and was a Third Class by the time he reached his first command, USS Corvina, reporting at commissioning.



## **Earl Maynard Ryder** **Radio Technician, Second Class**

Earl Maynard Ryder was born February 23, 1920, in Chippewa, Ohio to Owa Alfred and Blanche Evalina Ryder.

In 1925 the family had moved to Lisle, Broome County, New York, where Owa worked as a laborer in a local creamery. They moved again in 1930 to the town of Triangle, New York where Owa had taken a job as a carpenter for a construction company.

Earl enlisted in the Navy Reserve January 14, 1942. He went to school for Radio Technician and worked at Mare Island, qualifying as a RM2 before he was assigned to the Commander Submarine Division 43 on July 13, 1943. His orders said that he was to report to USS Plunger, the Flag Ship, however, Plunger was on

patrol at the time so he was attached to the staff until on October 16<sup>th</sup> when he was assigned to the USS Corvina when it stopped in Pearl Harbor.