

October 17, 2000

Dear Jerry:

Thanks for the note. Good hearing from you.

The "blurb" you copied was an intentional effort to provide Tom "Charlie" Noble, (whoever he is) with some WWII material for The Evans Report which all of a sudden descended upon all of us on the Evans Association mailing list. Since the very first issue all we have read about was what happened during the Korean era. Several years ago, J. C. Campbell and his crew recognized that the Evans had served during WWII, Korea and Viet Nam, so he aptly referred to us in the three distinct groups and even our reunion pictures were taken with the appropriate group. The WWII group was small at first, but has since grown because of the many members we have been able to resurrect. I just thought that all would be interested in things that happened to the ship other than during the Korean action. I also have grown tired of reading about LTJG Emmett H. Tidd, then later VADM Emmitt H. Tidd.

I am so sorry that "our" group seems to have fallen apart. The Round Robin idea originated around a pool during the reunion in Charleston in 1995. I came up with the silly idea and the group thought that it would be a good idea. It made one complete circuit, including Bob Bendure and you by January 1997, and since it had taken so long, I seriously thought about abandoning the idea. But due to popular demand, decided to go with a SECOND TIME AROUND. Somewhere along the route, the letter was "sandbagged" by one of our shipmates sometime after June 1998.

Dave Schreiber is the last shipmate known to have mailed it on. I believe someone did not follow the routing instructions and it failed. I'm really sorry it fell apart because it seemed to be a good way for us all to keep in touch. We were never successful in locating: Jim O'Brien, Pete Alyea, Lex Taylor, Dake Chamberlain, Chris Fitzgerald, or Jack Wassmer. Of course, Harry Smith, Jonse Hughes, Bill Platt, Ozzie Ozenberger, Julius Young, Bob Kirby, Bob Glass and Milt Eisenberg had all died before the letter was started.

The last couple years of my life have been pretty hectic. My wife, Corinna, of 43 years, had a complete respiratory failure in March, 1999, and has been hospitalized since. She is presently attached to a ventilator in a Skilled Nursing Home in Valparaiso, Indiana - 115 miles from here. I see her twice a week and am on the phone in contact with the facility daily. She appears to be unable to recover. My life has been hell without her. I am fortunate to have a son here in Fort Wayne and a daughter in Marion, my old home town about 50 miles away. I think it is now obvious why I have been unable to attend the last few reunions. When she was well, we made many of them.

I am happy to hear from you and remember talking to Ivan about you. I still see him on local TV doing commercials for his law firm. I believe I remember that your Ruth has suffered a stroke. I do hope that your situation is better now and that she has made some kind of recovery. KEEP IN TOUCH.

Jack



P.S. If you are online, my e-mail address is