

Dear Shipmate

30 Sep 92

I am writing to you to ask you for your help. I am going to attempt to write a book about the life and death of our great ship, the USS Frank E Evans [DD-754], but I can't do it without you.

What I need are your accounts of what occurred during your time aboard the Evans - times, dates and events. If you are a plank owner, then tell me what you remember about the commissioning and the battles you were involved in during World War II. If you were on board during peace time, tell me where the ship went during your years and what kind of missions she was involved in. Also, was her home port always Long Beach. Please include the to/from dates you served aboard the Evans, as well as your rate.

Also of interest is how the ship was armed at different times of her life. At the reunion I found out that she was armed differently during different periods. If you were on board when a major refitting occurred, please tell us the approximate date and how she changed. If you were on board when she went down please tell me every thing you remember about that night, where you were, how you got out, how you were treated by the sailors on the Melbourne. I can't do it without your help.

My wife Sharon and myself plan to spend a lot of our spare time during the next year or two researching everything we can about the ship and her adventures. At the next reunion I hope to give all of you an update of how we are coming along with our work. After hearing so many great stories at our last reunion I think Sharon got more excited about writing this book than I did. Well I hope to see all of you next year, take care and please send me your stories as soon as you can.

W. Chris Schocke

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