



USS HUGH PURVIS 1945-1972

27 Years of Proud Navy Service - 1945 to 1972

Quarterly Newsletter - MAY, 2016

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Reunion Schedule

SEPT 29 - OCT. 2, 2016
Memphis, TN

June 2017— Harrisburg, PA



HPRA REUNION - MEMPHIS - 2016

It Is Time for our 25th Annual Reunion!!!!
by George Baker

Can you believe we have been having reunions for 25 years? If you have never been to a reunion, well I think it is about time you got it in gear and joined your old shipmates in Memphis!!!! We guarantee you a great time, with lots of laughs and more sea stories than you can imagine getting packed into one weekend!

Look out Memphis, here comes the Hughy P, Sept. 29th to Oct. 2. We will be staying at the Whispering Woods Hotel & Conference Center. We have a great rate of \$111 a night, which includes your breakfast, free parking, free Wi-Fi, and so much more! There is a free airport shuttle, but it must be prearranged with the hotel a minimum of 10 days prior to your arrival. If you want to go ahead and make your room reservations now, you can do so by calling the hotel at 1-662-895-2941 or 1-866-851-0393. Identify yourself as being part of the Hugh Purvis reunion group. Rooms will be held until August 1, 2016. Or you may go online to:

www.wvconferencecenter.com

and enter group code: USSH to confirm/book your reservation.

Reunion registration will begin at 3:00PM on Thursday afternoon. You will receive your name badges, weekend schedule, shirts (if you ordered them), and reunion gift. This is when we will open the hospitality room for some snacks and your beverage of choice and your registration gift. We are working on something pretty special for this reunion and hope to be able to pull it off

So what do we have planned for Friday and Saturday? Friday is Elvis Day!!! You asked for Memphis to see Graceland, but I will warn you that the cost is not cheap, but there isn't anything we can do about it. Your audio tour of Graceland Mansion is full of music and interesting stories about how Elvis lived in the home he loved so much. You will see the largest privately owned collection of gold records in the world and Elvis' elaborate stage costumes and jewelry. The mansion tour ends with a quiet visit to Meditation Garden where Elvis and members of his family are buried. On this Platinum Tour you will see Elvis' famous 1955 pink Cadillac in the Elvis Presley

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Whispering Woods Hotel

Automobile Museum and climb aboard his custom jet the "Lisa Marie" and tour the Sincerely Elvis Museum and the new Elvis Fashion King exhibit. We will then have lunch on your own at the Chrome Grille, which offers Southern-style plate lunches and world-famous Memphis barbecue in an automotive-themed atmosphere with Elvis' favorite motorcycles on display in the dining room. Plate lunches include a Meatloaf Din-



Beale Street—Memphis

ner with 2 sides (an Elvis Favorite), Catfish Dinner with USA Farm Raised Catfish Fried to perfection, a Vegetable Plate-Choice of 5 sides and an array of Sandwiches and Make you own Chef Salad Bar. Desserts Fresh Baked Cookies and another Elvis Favorite Banana Pudding! We will leave there and head over to the famous Sun Records Studio. Sun Studio is the birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll where Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, B.B. King, Rufus Thomas, Howlin' Wolf, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, and many others launched their careers. Your tour will include the Sun Studio Café, Music museum/gallery featuring hundreds of rare recordings, memorabilia, photographs, and vintage recording equipment and the highlight of the tour, the original recording studio where the million dollar quartet rehearsed. Imagine standing on the same spot where Elvis recorded the first Rock n Roll song! By the time we head back to the hotel at 4:00, we will all be exhausted!!!

On Saturday, we will do a windshield tour of Memphis, including the Mississippi Riverfront and through downtown Memphis where tradition and modern progress collide to form an exciting modern city filled with historic sites, fun and adventure. Also, a special stop will be made at the Peabody hotel to view the "March of the Peabody Ducks." The tour should include Mississippi River Front (if there isn't been too much rain) and new Beale St Landing, Tom Lee Park, Harbor Town, Mud Island, the Pyramids, Jude's Children's Hospital, Historic Cotton Row, Beale Street and South Main Historic District, the National Civil Rights Museum / Lorraine Motel, and Slavehaven Underground Railroad House. We will stop on Beale St. for lunch on your own. You will have 1 1/2 hours for lunch and to take in some of the wonders of Beale St, including Nightclubs and restaurants which offer a variety of food and live music including traditional Blues, Rhythm and Blues, Jazz, and Rock'n' Roll. Shops and boutiques throughout the district provide visitors with the opportunity to purchase souvenirs, t-shirts, memorabilia, and novelties. The world-famous street also features a statue of W.C. Handy, and a musical "Walk of Fame. Visit A. Schwab's Dry Goods Store at 163 Beale, a mainstay on the street since 1876, Schwab's stocks everything from voodoo potions to 99-cent neckties. We will then head to the National Cemetery for our Memorial service, and return to the hotel for our annual business meeting followed by our formal dinner.

You will find included in this newsletter the registration form for the reunion, including the tours you would like to attend and your meal choice for the banquet. I know the reunion is quite a few months off, and many of you will put off completing the form and making your room reservations because there is plenty of time until the reunion. NO there is not!!! The sooner you make the reservations and send the completed registration form and check to me, the easier my job is to get everything ready for the reunion. You have no idea how tough it is to have to call people up because they have sent in their registration form but forgot to make a room reservation or vice versa. I then have to call people and give them a not so gentle nudge to get their act together. There is a ton of work and it takes hundreds of hours putting together one of our reunions and all I ask is to please send in the form as soon as possible.

Sunday, we get together for our last breakfast together and then we all head back home, tired but happy from three great days together. If you have not been to a reunion, maybe this is the year you change that! The reunions are so much fun and every year the sea stories get bigger! For me personally, my only regret is that I did not start attending them sooner. Why miss out on anymore reunions? We do our best to keep the prices as reasonable as possible so everyone can join us, and you won't find any prices lower than the hospitality room, where everything is FREE!!!

I am up for reelection this year as VP/ Reunion Planner. I am willing to stay on for 2 more years, unless someone would really like to take over. I have already completed most of the work for 2017. Don't forget to bring your ideas for reunion cities to the annual business meeting so we can select our location for 2018. We need to know what hotels are available, and what attractions are in the area that would be good for our tours. We do not need pricing, as I will negotiate the hotel contract. Having done 7 reunions, I know what we need and try to make sure we get everything we can for a reasonable rate.

Use the reservation form on the next page and get it to George as soon as possible.

The Shirt/Cap order form will be in the JULY Newsletter.