



**FAREWELL & GOD SPEED  
BILL LATTA PC3 65-67**



Bill Latta passed away January 26, 2021 due to complications from COVID-19. He was a shipmate of mine in 1965-1966. Bill's smiling face always brought joy to our crewmembers because, as a Postal Clerk aboard Gearing, he had mail from our families and friends back in the states while we were underway. I met up again, after forty-four years, with Bill in 2010 when he attended his first Gearing Reunion in Charleston, South Carolina. Bill and his wife, Faye, hosted our 2014 Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee and played an important part in our Association. Bill served as the Chairman of the Gearing Association for the past four years. Thanks for being part of the Gearing legacy and sharing your life with us.

Bob Witkowski, Secretary

**FAREWELL & GOD SPEED  
CARL LLOYD RM3 45-46**



Carl Lloyd passed away August 23, 2020. Carl was a Plankowner on the Gearing and Chairman of the Gearing Association for three years. We enjoyed having Carl as our Auctioneer at the Ladies Auction for many years. Thanks for giving us a Great Ship to serve on.

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Gearing Shipmates. 6 April 2021

Some of the Gearing Shipmates have been inquiring about the 2021 Reunion so I will update everyone with information I have at this time. COVID 19 has caused a lot of problems for the people planning and organizing the reunion.

2021 Reunion will be held from 12 – 15 September in Warwick, Rhode Island. Diane and Bobby Harris are the reunion chairpersons. Bob Witkowski will mail the Gearing newsletter to all shipmates as soon as the schedule is finalized. The letter will include registration information and a day-by-day schedule.

2022 Reunion will be held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September 2022 in Northern New Jersey. Andre DiLullo is the reunion chairperson. I will post the firm place and dates when the information becomes available.

The past year has been tough because of the virus and the passing of some of our shipmates. Please bear with us while we resolve all the problems with the reunions. Thank you and stay safe.

Ken Baker

President, U.S.S. Gearing (DD 710) Association

**GEARING REUNIONS**

As some of you might not know, the Thirty-Third Annual Reunion, June 11-14, 2020, in Livonia, Michigan was cancelled due to the coronavirus COVID-19. We thank Reunion Chairman, Jack Cole (QM2 70-72) for all the work he had put in for setting up the reunion and tours.

Our 2021 reunion in Warwick, Rhode Island will be hosted by Diane and Bobby Harris (BT1 65-69). It was scheduled for June 2021 but this one had to be rescheduled, again due to COVID-19. The **NEW DATES** are **SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2021** in Warwick, Rhode Island. Diane and Bob Harris will still be the Reunion Chairman. A lot of the venues in the area are still under COVID restrictions, so no dates for tours or activities are available yet. Hopefully we will all be able to get together on these dates.

Our 2022 reunion Chairman, Andre DiLullo (MM3 72-73) is still working on his reunion. Dates are still undecided, but September 2022 in New Jersey area were mentioned.

As soon as I get details for the 2021 reunion, a separate reunion notice will be sent out to all dues paying members.

**GET WELL & SYMPATHY CARD PROGRAM**

**Please send all sickness and death information to our Treasurer, Dan Donohue – 30 Downer Avenue – Scarsdale, NY 10583-4945, so that we can publish it and remember your loved ones and our shipmates.**

**DEPARTED SHIPMATES**

In your prayer, remember the following crew and family members who are no longer with us bodily but will never be forgotten by their loved ones.

I have listed years, 2019, 2020, and 2021 in case some of you haven't seen the list before and are looking for some of your shipmates.

**2020-2021**

Jerome F. Baxter MM3 68  
Glenna, widow of S. Tony Zarbano MM3 45-49  
Richard T. Pieczarka YN3 45-49  
William H. Ostermeyer RM3 53-54  
Gary L. Elwood SK2 69  
Charlotte, wife of Thomas E. Mattingly STG3 64-66  
Robert W. Doudrick S1C 46  
Patricia, wife of William E. Nichols LTJG 51-54  
Mary, wife of H.E. "Gene" Young RM3 60-61  
Wanda, widow of David L. Mays YN 55-57  
Marietta, widow of Donald G. Naylor MM1 46-55  
Bill McSwain LTJG 57-58  
Ina, widow of Carl Seagraves F1C 45-46  
Edwin Ghigliotty RD1 61-65  
Jim H. McVicker SM2 58-61  
Richard B. Swain GM3 51-53  
Patricia, wife of Carl B. Grimmatt SFP3 57-61  
Carl B. Grimmatt SFP3 57-61  
Everett E. Clark FT2 51-55  
Tony M. Pissos FN 59-60  
Willa, widow of Sam L. Carter S1C 46-47  
Stirling Mansur Dougherty F1C 45-46  
Raymond E. Fox Jr. BT3 66-70  
Parker Remes MM2 51-55  
Carl T. Lloyd RM3 45-46  
Raymond J. Sullivan S2C 44-46  
Daniel R. Donovan LTJG 59-61  
John F. Reeves SN 56-58  
James C. Holloway SA 63-64  
Sherwood Espenshade RD3 61-64  
Anthony P. Sullivan S1C 45-46  
Dot, widow of Fred W. Hoffman BT2 48-58  
August P. Tomenillie EN2 51-55  
John E. Sabine FN 47-52  
Richard A. Durante MM3 51-54  
Fred Wells BM1 51-54

Jean, widow of Thomas Lyons CDR 62-64  
Virginia, widow of Emerson C. Phillips BT2 50-54  
Lois, widow of James W. Martin CDR 64-66  
George H. Moehle FTG3 62-65  
Alan G. Marsh LT 65-67  
John K. Boardman LTJG 53-55  
Pat, wife of Harold D. Hollifield MM3 55-58  
Michael L. Barrett CSSN 54-58  
Karl K. Ralston EM2 57-58  
Joyce, widow of Barney B. Willis PN2 56-58  
Mary, widow of Clint H. Courtney QMSN 60-61  
Edward M. McCabe MAM3 46-47  
Terry K. Martin ET3 61-63  
Audrey, widow of Gene F. Benike SOM3 45-46  
Leroy B. Cobb FN 53-54  
Dave Davies RM1 67-70  
George H. Cirish YN2 70-72  
Richard M. Owens FN 57-58  
John William "Bill" Latta PC3 65-67  
Sharon, wife of Rodney E. Thompson RD3 63-66  
Linda, wife of Charles E. Crossfield SN 56-58

**2019**

William H. Frame SN 52-55  
Jane, widow of Darrell L. Keene MM3 52-56  
James F. Featherstone LTJG 60-63  
Roland P. 'Pete' Buist YN2 50-52  
Donald M. Zugay FT3 54-56  
Eileen, wife of Frank Schmidt PFC 61  
Hazel, wife of Richard Lesandro TM3 54-56  
Harold E. Faulkner SO3 49-50  
William A. Underwood MMFN 57-59  
Donald E. Stevenson GM3 60-61  
James W. Martin CDR 64-66  
George W. Weber FPG3 51-55  
Jesse E. Cranford Jr GMG1 67-70  
Roy W. LeClaire SN 57-60  
Laurence H. Schongar LTJG 63-65  
Jackie, wife of James Philip Scanlan Jr. MM2 58-60  
George F. Fay TMS1C 45-46  
Joseph M. Patton F1C 45-46  
Henry R. DeSoto BM3 45-46  
Edward C. Motta EN3 52-57  
LeRoy S. Lindbloom FTCS 64-67  
Richard S. Karahan SN 49-52  
Darrell Kuhlmann SK3 62-65  
Carroll N. Ellis GM3 56-59  
John A. Jumper MM3 64-67  
Frank J. Mogavero SM3 62-64  
John E. Daniel ETN3 58-61  
Estelle, widow of Fulton O. Wright CS1 58-59  
Nancy, widow of Robert A. Heckman SN 49-52  
David O. Ceresoli FN 50-52  
George C. Jones Jr. BM3 56-59

Barbara, wife of John Thibadeau BM3 62-66  
Patricia, widow of Robert K. Calhoun MM3 55-59  
Peter F. D'Arrigo BM1 66-68  
Lennart G. Holmberg CAPT 70-72  
Conrad T. Hebert MM2 48-52  
David W. Bish BMSN 65-68

### **THANKS**

We would like to thank the following people who have made a donation to our Association. We appreciate their generosity.

#### **2020**

Randolph G. Smith Jr PN1 64-67  
Larry Leaver ETR2 67-68  
Stephen K. Chadwick LTJG 62-64  
John R. Kelley EM2 63-67  
Perry S. Benson ENS 60-61  
Vivian, in memory of her husband,  
Donald Worsfold SN 54-56  
Faye H. Baumgarten, in memory of her husband,  
Kenneth L. Byrne LTJG 45-46  
William F. Mueller BT2 50-54  
Arlene, in memory of her husband,  
Arnold A. Anger GMGSN 56-58  
Anthony P. Sullivan S1C 45-46  
Lois, in memory of her husband,  
Steve J. Peelish FP2 53-55  
Nick, in memory of his father,  
Chester N. Wasilewski TM2 46-48  
Ronald B. Leach IC3 62-65  
Richie Roberts MM3 72-73  
Beverly, in memory of her husband,  
Thomas C. Forth RMSN 46-47  
Joan, in memory of her husband.  
Russell L. Sickles RD2 50-54  
Lillian, in memory of her husband,  
Paul Allen Lodwick RD2 45  
Joseph R. Dent BT3 55-59  
John William Latta PC3 65-67  
Betty, in memory of her husband,  
Francis B. "Tom" Howard Jr. ETSN 50-54  
Maureen, in memory of her husband,  
Roy W. LeClaire SN 57-60  
Frank W. Goetschius LTJG 63-65  
William S. McFadden SK3 62-64  
Charles H. Adamo RM3 60-63  
William E. Nichols LTJG 51-54  
Philip P. Meilak CSSN 62-64  
Richard J. Hanley LT 55-56  
Raymond D. Garceau QM2 68-71  
Harold D. Hollifield MM3 55-58, in  
Memory of Pat Calhoun  
Ronald J. Elwell PC2 68-70

#### **2019**

Ronald B. Leach IC3 62-65  
Joseph R. Dent BT3 55-59  
Larry Leaver ETR2 67-68  
William F. 'Buck' O'Connor GMG2 60-61  
Thomas Emmons LTJG 70-72  
John R. Kelley EM2 63-67  
William F. Mueller BT2 50-54  
Lois, in memory of her husband,  
Steve J. Peelish FP2 53-55  
Randolph G. Smith Jr PN1 64-67  
John William Latta PC3 65-67  
William A. Hiles RM2 67-69  
Faye H. Baumgarten, in memory of her husband,  
Kenneth L. Byrne LTJG 45-46  
Richard A. Durante MM3 51-54  
Beverly, in memory of her husband,  
Thomas C. Forth RMSN 46-47  
Stephen K. Chadwick LTJG 62-64  
Joan, in memory of her husband,  
Russell L. Sickles RD2 50-54  
Arlene, in memory of her husband,  
Arnold A. Anger GMSN 56-58  
Harold D. Hollifield MM3 55-58  
William D. Young SN 53-56  
Vernon E. Clark LT 70-72  
Perry S. Benson ENS 60-61  
Frank W. Goetschius LTJG 63-65  
Pat, in memory of her husband,  
William A. Underwood MMFN 57-59  
Betty, in memory of her husband,  
Francis B. "Tom" Howard Jr. ETSN 50-54  
James Philip Scanlan Jr. MM2 58-60  
Peter F. Gerber FTG1 66-67  
John S. Howie BT3 69-72  
Carl T. Lloyd RM3 45-46  
John F. Reeves SN 56-58  
Maureen, in memory of her husband,  
Roy W. LeClaire SN 57-60  
Wallace Prince DC3 56-58  
Richie Roberts MM3 72-73  
Kathy, in memory of her husband,  
Laurence H. Schongar LTJG 63-65  
Nick, in memory of his father,  
Chester N. Wasilewski TM2 46-48  
Ronald J. Elwell PC2 68-70  
Lillian, in memory of her husband,  
Paul Allen Lodwick RD2 45

### **GEARING ASSOCIATION TODAY**

At the end of 2020, we had 498 names on our mailing list. There were a total of 130 dues paying members, 83 Honorary members, and 5 Life members. Life membership is currently presented to past Association

Chairmen and Gearing Shipmate, Vern Clark LT 70-72, who was Chief of Naval Operations. **Only dues paying members will receive newsletters.**

### **WEB PAGE**

Visit our Gearing Web Pages; they are loaded with lots of Gearing information. If you have an E-Mail address, send it to me and I will add it to our E-Mail address list on the Web Page.

The pages can be reached by entering any of the following URL's; they are all linked together so you can get to both of them from either URL listed below:

<http://www.DD710.com>

<http://dd710.proflyersinc.com>

### **DUES NOTIFICATION**

Your 2021 dues notification is enclosed. Although we print a message on the dues notice that some of you had already paid their 2021 dues, we still get money from some members who have already paid. If your dues notification has a message on the bottom that states your dues are satisfied, there is no need to send any dues until the message is no longer present. Also, our Honorary Members are not required to send in any money. Some of our Honorary Members send a donation in honor of their departed husbands.

### **MAIL CALL**

31 January 2020

My Rate was: RD2 I was aboard: 70-72

**EMAIL:** vanmcclendon@sbcglobal.net

Hello Old Salts,

I am considering attending the reunion June, 11, 2020 and I have not ever put my information on this site so I thought it would be a good idea to do it.

Van McClendon from AR

18 February 2020

My Rate was: RMSN I was aboard: 66-67

**EMAIL:** john@erdody.com

Came aboard Gearing while it was in dry dock in Boston in summer of 66. Made our training cruise to Gitmo that fall and then to the Med for the winter. Left for Radio A school when we got back in spring and spent the next three years in west pac but never forgot where I started.

John Erdody from MI

26 February 2020

My Rate was: SM3 I was aboard: 62-64

**EMAIL:** tamibeth14@aol.com

Thank you so much for remembering Frank. He was very proud of being in the Navy and serving on the U.S.S. Gearing.

Mary (Frank J.) Mogavero from MA

28 February 2020

My Rate was: DC1

I was aboard: 57-60

I will be unable to attend this year. I enjoy reading all about what is going on with the members of the crew of the Gearing (even if I don't know them.) Please continue sending me the news letter.

Dorothy (Allan B.) Paul from NC

28 February 2020

My Rate was: QM1

I was aboard: 47-48

**EMAIL:** hinz77@msn.com

I was pleased to be invited to the U.S.S. Gearing Reunion. My family celebrated my 96<sup>th</sup> birthday and I hope we can celebrate the one hundredth birthday. I have been truly blessed to survive when so many others did not. I have fond memories about being at the helm of the U.S.S. Gearing.

Edward Hinz from NY

03 March 2020

My Rate was: HT1

I was aboard: 71

**EMAIL:** pgaboury1246@aol.com

Sorry, we will miss the reunion in Michigan. Bruce just had a total knee replacement and is about to start PT. God willing, we will make Rhode Island as this is a fairly short drive for us.

Bruce Putinas from CT

03 March 2020

My Rank was: ENS

I was aboard: 60-61

**EMAIL:** bensops5177@comcast.net

Enclosed are my annual dues plus some extra for Gearing Association use. Recently had minor stroke which resulted in my retirement of/from Bay County Sheriff's Office after some twenty-five years of various service. Recent hurricane/tornado resulted in destruction of our house. Plans are to rebuild house. Absolute pain in the neck. Cheers to all.

Perry S. Benson from FL

03 March 2020

My Rate was: FP2

I was aboard: 53-55

Sorry I can't make it. Hope everyone has a wonderful time. I do hope to get back coming again.

Lois Peelish from WV

05 March 2020

My Rate was: SN

I was aboard: 54-56

First of all, thanks for including me on your mailing list and accept the check in Don's memory. Second, I want to apologize for my handwriting- my arthritis in my hands keeps getting worse, but at 84 years old, what should I expect!! I don't have a computer or internet access. Don was so very proud of the Gearing - a picture display of him in uniform and two pictures of the Gearing are on our dining room wall. We also have a DD710 license plate on our car. We kept in touch with three of his Navy buddies and wives. They used to all get on the phone together at Christmas time. However, Don and Carol Zugay and Everett and Norma Clark passed away, and this is the first year we didn't get a

card from Paul and Katherine Otrupcak, (better known as "Otch"). I noticed Don Zugay was on your Departed Shipmates List. Everett and Norma Clark lived close to us in Illinois. The last time I saw them was at my Don's funeral. God Bless!

Vivian (Donald) Worsfold from IN

11 March 2020

My Rate was: RD2 I was aboard: 50-54

I'm sorry but I will not be attending reunion in Detroit. May and June are my GREAT Grand Babies Birthday's and I will be in Pittsburgh. Hope everyone has a great time, I will be thinking of you. Enjoy! Hugs from,  
Joan, widow of Russell L. Sickles from FL

25 March 2020

My Rate was: RMSN I was aboard: 46-47

The house and Beverly were getting older and both needed work. So, I sold the house and moved to Iowa City. There is a teaching hospital here and lots of doctors. Also, my oldest son lives here. I always enjoy the newsletter.  
Beverly, widow of Thomas C. Forth from IA

25 March 2020

My Rate was: SN I was aboard: 57-60

I know the "Gearing Crew" is having a good time. The reunions made it a good time to look forward to. Roy is most likely playing cards with his friends, David Petrie and Bill Underwood. Really miss Mike Norfolk, who tried to keep Roy straight and managed to make it happen. He was very patient with him. Anyways, have fun on vacation. Enjoy, because unfortunately, life goes on.  
Maureen, widow of Roy W. LeClaire from CT

25 March 2020

My Rate was: GMG2 I was aboard: 67-69

**EMAIL:** jksaudar@gmail.com

I served aboard from Nov. 1967 to May 1969. She was my first ship out of A school. I went from GM apprentice to GMG2 while on board. A great ship and a great crew.  
James Saudargas from FL

26 April 2020

My Rate was: CSSN I was aboard: 62-64

**EMAIL:** mapmeilak@charter.net

Enclose is my dues for 2020 and a little extra for whatever. Sorry about the reunion, but safety first. Maybe next year. Be Safe. Hope to see you next year.

Philip P. Meilak from MI

29 April 2020

My Rate was: FN I was aboard: 52-54

**EMAIL:** harleycoy@aol.com

Enclosed is Scott's annual dues. I'm so sorry the reunion had to be cancelled. This was the year we were driving to Livonia. Hope to see you all in 2021. Stay well and safe.  
Scott and Joyco Coy from OH

15 June 2020

My Rate was: EM3

I was aboard: 53-55

**EMAIL:** burtong530@gmail.com

Sorry this is late, forgot all about it, with all that is going on. Just found the reunion notice and remembered I hadn't sent in my dues, so here it is. Hope all is well with your family. Regards to all.

Burton Goldstein "Goldie" from RI

21 September 2020

**EMAIL:** ds.gcsnab@gmail.com

Sad to report plank owner Raymond J Sullivan passed away September 3rd. 2020. My father served on the Gearing 1944-1946. He will be greatly missed.

David Sullivan from NH

29 November 2020

My Rate was: MM3

I was aboard: 56-58

**EMAIL:** joe.reeves65@msn.com

Hello Shipmates,

I am the oldest living son of SN REEVES, John F. he served onboard 56' - 58', he also served as Chaplain for the Assoc. I was at the reunion dinner in Philly 2007. I am writing to you for my mom ANNE as she has asked me. Dad was just put in hospice care. And would like you guys & gals to know. If you like you can write her at Anne Reeves, 19 Patricia Lane, Trenton, NJ 08610 Thanks for your prayers  
MM3 REEVES J.J.

MM3 REEVES J.J. / JOE from Mooresville, IN

04 December 2020

My Rate was: MM3

I was aboard: 56-58

**EMAIL:** joe.reeves65@gmail.com

SN Reeves John F. (Jack) / 56' - 58' has passed at 0245 on December 4, 2020

Reeves John J. ( Joe ) from Mooresville, IN

28 December 2020

**EMAIL:** bcartwright@dentonlaw.com

My dad passed on July 6, 2002. After the Gearing, he graduated West Point and served 26 years as a pilot in the USAF, receiving the Purple Heart and Silver Star for his service in Vietnam. He retired from Northrop as an aeronautical engineer. I enjoyed listening to his stories about his time on the sea. He is missed.

Thomas F. Cartwright from Texas

19 March 2021

My Rate was: SHSN

I was aboard: 67-68

**EMAIL:** martyp47@yahoo.com

I DIDN'T KNOW IF I WAS STILL CONSIDERED A CREW MEMBER. I ENJOYED SERVING WITH SOME OF THE BRAVEST MEN I EVER KNEW.

James R. Prass from OH