

****DEDICATION****

We, today's TAYLOR Sailors, our spouses, dependants, survivors, friends, and all those others who came before us, desire to dedicate these annals to our ship, The Terrible "T".

This ship, the USS TAYLOR (DD/DDE 468), was first brought to life on 28 August 1942.

She ceased being a living entity for us on 2 July 1969.

However, she will always continue to live on, in perpetuity, as a very warm, beloved, and cherished memory.

Her reputation, and admirable life, was initially fostered by her first Commanding Officer, LCDR Benjamin Katz, USN, and his commissioning "plank owners" crew, who steamed her to the South Pacific, and into harm's way, in WW II. This was truly the beginning of what was to become a legend of grand repute.

Her reputation has become a living legacy to all of us who have ever had the lucky opportunity, pleasure, and certainly the distinct privilege, to have served in her.

In addition to this ship, and her historical legacy, there are certain individuals who have engendered the continuation of her enviable reputation. This permits we TAYLOR Sailors, and other admirers, to continue to meet and regale under her banner. A few, noteworthy of such recognition, are:

Susan Katz Clark: Daughter of Benjamin Katz

Paul Katz: Nephew of Benjamin Katz

David McComb: Destroyer history guru, exemplar (www.destroyerhistory.org)

Several statements attesting to our USS TAYLOR's reputation are as follows:

"Few of us wish to forget the TAYLOR, her victories, and her achievements. Let us all take just pride in having served in her."

Henry H. DeLaureal, CDR, USN (CO: 1945-46)

"All honor to a ship and her crew who have fought so long in the vast spaces of the Pacific. It was the sum total of the efforts of every officer and man which brought about the successful conclusion of the toughest war in history.

I congratulate the officers and men of the U.S.S. TAYLOR for the splendid part they played in this struggle."

C.W. Nimitz, Fleet Admiral, USN (1945)

"It was a privilege to have had the U.S.S. TAYLOR under my command in the South Pacific, and later as a part of the Third Fleet. She admirably performed every mission assigned to her and her officers and men may be justly proud of their fine record."

W.F. Halsey, Admiral, USN (1945)