

**USS COLE (DDG 67)
Memorial Dedication**



**Naval Station Norfolk
October 12, 2001**

Memorial Entrance Plaque

"Determined Warrior"

At 11:18 on the morning of October 12, 2000, as USS COLE (DDG 67) was refueling in Aden Harbor, Yemen, suicide bombers detonated an explosive-laden boat directly against the port side of the ship. The resulting blast killed 17 Sailors, wounded 37 others, and tore a hole forty by sixty feet in the ship's hull. In the aftermath of the explosion, the crew of USS COLE fought tirelessly to free shipmates trapped by the twisted wreckage and limit flooding that threatened to sink their ship. The crew's prompt actions to isolate damaged electrical systems and contain fuel oil ruptures prevented catastrophic fires that could have engulfed the ship and cost the lives of countless men and women. Skillful first aid and advanced medical treatment applied by the crew prevented additional death and eased the suffering of many others. Drawing upon their Navy training and discipline, the crew heroically conducted more than 96 hours of sustained damage control in conditions of extreme heat and stress. Deprived of sleep, food and shelter, they vigilantly battled to preserve a secure perimeter and restore stability to engineering systems that were vital to the ship's survival. As a permanent symbol of that strength and resolve, steel from the ship's damaged hull is forged into this plaque. By their sacrifice and bravery in the face of daunting adversity, the crew of USS COLE personified Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Navy Hymn

*Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, bear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!*

*Eternal Father, grant, we pray,
To all Marines, both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength, and skill
Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore
From every peril to the Corps.*

*And when at length her course is run,
Her work for home and country done,
Of all the souls that in her sailed
Let not one life in thee have failed;
But bear from heaven our Sailor's cry,
And grant eternal life on high!*

Memorial History

At dusk on October 18, 2000, following the national memorial service for COLE's fallen Sailors, a small group of family, crew, and friends of COLE gathered in the area where the USS COLE Memorial now stands, and planted the USS COLE Memorial Tree. Placed along side on a piece of paper were special words of remembrance. In this simple way, the idea for a USS COLE Memorial was born.

The building of the COLE Memorial is a direct result of extraordinary public generosity, and a unique cooperative effort among the U. S. Navy, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, and numerous private businesses. Immediately after the terrorist attack on COLE, private citizens and organizations across America sought to express their support and sympathy for COLE with an outpouring of donations. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, at the request of the Navy, supported the COLE Memorial by managing the thousands of individual contributions to the COLE Memorial Fund, and administering the plans and contract for the construction of a "lasting and proper" memorial to the men and women of USS COLE.

The design for the memorial began as a vision of USS COLE crewmembers. The ship then joined forces with Navy architects and engineers, and the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Together they transformed COLE's vision of honoring their fallen shipmates and courageous ship into a realistic plan. On May 14, 2001, the final design plans for the COLE Memorial, developed by Mr. John Blackburn of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division, were approved by the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and submitted to Commander, Naval Surface Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society then selected the general contractor, and ordered the granite and bronze plaques needed to build the memorial.

Included within the memorial are more than 17 tons of finished or polished Rushmore granite, with the granite centerpiece alone weighing some 25,000 pounds. This granite frames five bronze plaques located throughout the memorial. The first small piece of granite and bronze plaque to comprise the memorial were placed beside the USS COLE Memorial Tree in late May 2001 by COLE crew members.

Ground was broken for the memorial on July 12, 2001, by Naval Construction Battalion, Unit 411. Scores of civilian workers, led by Ms. Susan Jaworski of Norfolk Monument Company, continued to ready the site and memorial over the next several months. In early October, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society presented the completed memorial to the Secretary of the Navy as a gift.

In addition to those organizations noted above, the dedication of the following businesses and Navy commands in building the USS COLE Memorial are gratefully acknowledged:

Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc.

Dakota Granite

Irrigation Works, Inc.

J.C. Driskill, Inc.

Matthews International Corp.

Pembroke Construction Company, Inc.

United Turf

Waterfront Marine Construction, Inc.

Westcon

Winn Nursery of Virginia

Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic

Naval Station Norfolk

Sewell's Point Public Works Office

ROICC Sewell's Point



Memorial Symbology

Seventeen granite slabs represent the Sailors who lost their lives. The low level of these markers represents the youthfulness of the Sailors whose lives were cut short.

Three raised granite bands represent the three colors of the American flag that flew proudly in USS COLE during her ordeal. The two outer brass plaques list the names, ranks, ages and hometowns of the crewmembers lost in the blast. The center plaque memorializes the crew's service and sacrifice.

The monolith points upward symbolizing the hope and brightness of the future for USS COLE and her crew.

The circular pavers surrounding the granite slabs are brown in color, symbolic of the darkness and despair which prevailed over the ship and its crew during the first days following the explosion.

The shrub bed is symbolic of the ever growing determination and strength of U.S. Naval Forces to defend America's interests and the cause of freedom throughout the world.

There are 28 black pine trees surrounding the memorial. They represent the 17 Sailors who lost their lives and the 11 children they left behind.

Reflecting the difficult journey from loss to reaffirmation, a pathway of one-hundred seventy feet winds from the memorial entrance to its center point.

Representing the COLE Sailors who gave their lives on October 12, the number 17 is prominent in the symbology of the memorial. For instance, the center plaque on the monolith contains a rendition of the COLE coat of arms that is precisely ten inches tall by seven inches wide - totalling 17. The phrase beneath the coat of arms, "In Lasting Tribute To Their Honor, Courage, And Commitment," is nine words on eight lines - again, totalling 17.

As a reminder that the crew's ultimate goal is the mission accomplishment of their ship, a relief of the ship's crest is placed above all other plaques.



Kenneth E. Clodfelter, 21
Hull Maintenance Technician
Second Class
Mechanicsville, Va.



Richard D. Costelow, 35
Chief Electronics Technician
(Surface Warfare)
Morrisville, Pa.

This memorial
pays tribute to the
men and women
who fought
valiantly to save
USS COLE, and
honors their 17
shipmates who
made the ultimate
sacrifice in defense
of freedom...



Lakeina M. Francis, 19
Mess Management
Specialist Seaman
Woodleaf, N.C.



Timothy Lee Gauna, 21
Information Systems
Technician Seaman
Ennis, Texas



Cherone Louis Gunn, 22
Signalman
Seaman
Virginia Beach, Va.



James R. McDaniels, 19
Information Systems
Technician Seaman
Norfolk, Va.



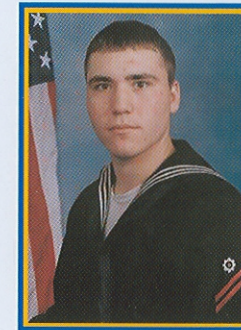
Mark Ian Nieto, 24
Engineman Second Class
(Surface Warfare)
Fond du Lac, Wis.



Ronald Scott Owens, 24
Electronic Warfare Technician
Second Class
Vero Beach, Fla.



Lakiba Nicole Palmer, 22
Seaman
San Diego, Ca.



Joshua L. Parlett, 19
Engineman
Fireman
Churchville, Md.



Patrick Howard Roy,
19
Fireman
Keedysville, Md.



Kevin Shawn Rux, 30
Electronic Warfare Technician
First Class
Portland, N.D.



Ronchester Manangan Santiago, 22
Mess Management Specialist
Third Class
Kingsville, Texas



Timothy L. Saunders, 32
Operations Specialist
Second Class
Ringgold, Va.



Gary Swenchonis, Jr., 26
Fireman
Rockport, Texas



Andrew Triplett, 31
Lieutenant (Junior Grade)
Shuqualak, Miss.



Craig B. Wibberley, 19
Seaman
Williamsport, Md.



USS COLE (DDG 67) Memorial Dedication

Schedule of Events

*Presentation of Colors
and National Anthem*

Invocation and Silent Remembrance for All Victims of Terrorism

Commander James Pipkin, CHC, U.S. Navy

Welcoming Remarks

Rear Admiral David Architzel, U.S. Navy

COMMANDER, NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Remarks

Rear Admiral John R. Dalrymple, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

NMCRS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Principal Speaker

Rear Admiral John B. Foley III, U.S. Navy

COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE FORCE, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

Final Roll Call

Wreath Laying

Rear Admiral John B. Foley III, U.S. Navy

COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE FORCE, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

Commander Kevin M. Sweeney, U.S. Navy

COMMANDING OFFICER, USS COLE (DDG 67)

Twenty-One Gun Salute

Taps

Benediction with Navy Hymn

Commander James Pipkin, CHC, U.S. Navy

A Reception For All Guests Immediately Follows the Dedication

The wreath laid at the USS COLE Memorial today is composed of 48 white roses representing the 17 fallen COLE Sailors, their surviving parents, spouses and children. Eighteen separate white roses, a gift of Sergeant Cole's family, also placed at the Memorial today in memory of the crew and Sergeant Cole. Wreaths of seventeen white roses will be placed by local veterans organizations at the permanent burial markers of each of those Sailors throughout the day.

In honor and remembrance of the lost crew of COLE, a wreath of red and white carnations was placed earlier today next to the statue of the

Lone Sailor at the U.S. Navy Memorial in our nation's capital.

This background image of COLE is depicted in bronze relief on the entrance plaque to the memorial.



USS COLE (DDG 67) COAT OF ARMS

SHIELD

Dark blue and gold represent seafaring excellence and are traditionally associated with the Navy. Red, for blood and courage, denotes Sergeant Cole's valor and sacrifice. The trident symbolizes sea prowess and COLE's modern warfare capabilities. The three tines represent submarine, surface, and air warfare capabilities. The three grenades commemorate Sergeant Cole's heroic one-man grenade attack against enemy emplacements during the assault on Iwo Jima. The broken chevron alludes to Sergeant Cole's breaking the enemy's hold, enabling his company to attain its ultimate objective.

CREST

The blue reversed star represents the Medal of Honor posthumously awarded to Sergeant Cole. The crossed Navy sword and Marine Mameluke signify cooperation within and the fighting spirit of the Naval Service. The French horn underscores his service as a Field Musician and is combined with the swords to symbolize his nickname "The Fighting Field Musician." The laurel wreath is emblematic of honor and high achievement.

MOTTO

GLORIA MERCES VIRTUTIS
"Glory is the Reward of Valor"

SGT Darrell S. Cole, USMC

USS COLE (DDG 67) is the first warship named for Sergeant Darrell S. Cole, USMC (1920-1945). Sergeant Cole was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his conspicuous gallantry in the campaign at Iwo Jima.

On August 25, 1941, Cole enlisted in the Marine Corps for the duration of the National Emergency. Following boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, he was appointed to the Field Music School for training as a Marine Corps Field Musician (a bugler). He was unhappy in his role of Field Musician, because he had joined a fighting outfit to fight. He applied for a change in rating, but was refused due to the shortage of buglers. He completed instruction and was transferred to the First Marine Regiment, First Marine Division. On August 7, 1942, he reached the shores of Guadalcanal for the first American offensive of World War II, where he had an opportunity to fill in as a Machine Gunner in the absence of the regular gunner.



Cole completed his first overseas tour of duty and returned to the United States in February 1943 where he joined the First Battalion, Twenty-Third Marines, a part of the Fourth Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. When the unit moved to California he again asked for relief as a Field Musician and for permission to perform line duties. Due to the continuing shortage of buglers, his request was disapproved.

During the first engagement of the Fourth Division at Roi-Namur in the Kwajalein Atoll, Cole, again forsaking his bugle, went in to action as a Machine Gunner. Later, during the battle for Saipan, Cole was actually assigned to a machine gun unit and was even designated as a machine gun section leader. During the battle his squad leader was killed and Cole, although wounded, assumed command of the entire squad. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for "...his resolute leadership, indomitable fighting spirit and tenacious determination in the face of terrific opposition." He was also awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action.

A few days after the battle of Saipan, Cole again led his squad ashore in the invasion of the neighboring islands of Tinian. He continued to build his reputation as "The Fighting Field Musician."

After the Marianas campaigns, he resubmitted his request for a change of rating. This time his request was approved. He was redesignated corporal "line" and was subsequently promoted to sergeant in November 1944.

On February 19, 1945, Sergeant Cole led his machine gun section ashore in the D-Day assault of Iwo Jima. Moving forward with the initial assault wave, a hail of fire from two enemy emplacements halted his section's advance. Sergeant Cole personally destroyed them with hand grenades. His unit continued to advance until pinned down for a second time by enemy fire from three Japanese gun emplacements. One of these emplacements was silenced by Cole's machine guns. When his machine guns jammed, armed only with a pistol and one hand grenade, Sergeant Cole made a one-man attack against the two remaining gun emplacements. Twice he returned to his own lines for additional grenades and continued the attack under fierce enemy fire until he had succeeded in destroying the enemy strong points.

Upon returning to his own squad, he was instantly killed by an enemy grenade. By his one-man attack and heroic self-sacrifice, Sergeant Cole enabled his company to move forward against the fortifications and attain their ultimate objective.

USS COLE Memorial Tree



"Words of Remembrance"

In Loving Memory
USS COLE (DDG 67)
12 October 2000

You will forever be in our thoughts, our memories never forgotten, you will live on in our hearts, and may this tree remind every ship rolling by of your sacrifice.

The USS COLE Memorial Tree was planted by friends, family, and shipmates at dusk on 18 October 2000 to mark the ship's national memorial service, and is a gift of the Hampton Roads Council of the Navy League of the United States.



The Navy Marine Corps Relief Society gratefully acknowledges the following major contributors to the USS COLE Memorial Fund:

ALLTEL Corporation	Incerlik Air Base Chaplain Fund	Rock Church
Alpharetta First United Methodist Church	Independent Packaging Information Handling Services	Ronald McDonald House Charities
American-Oceanic Coatings Corp.	Intl. Schools Group, Al-Khobar	Ms. Nina Rosenwald
AMERIKING Corporation	J-Brice Design International, Inc.	SACLANT Staff Mess
AMVETS Auxiliary Post 2	Kisling NCO Academy Assn.	Fred. Schneider Company, Inc.
AMVETS Post 2	Litton Ship Systems	Sippican, Inc.
Annapolis Branch 24, FRA	Lockheed Martin Corporation	Southeastern Wholesale Corporation
Atlanta Chapter, USNA Alumni Assn.	Lynnhaven Mall	Spectrum Healthcare Resources
Mr. & Mrs. Henry P. Aszkar, Jr.	McCallum-Turner, Inc.	The Family of Mr. & Mrs. David P. Steinmann
Bellevue Christian Jr.-Sr. High School	Mr. & Mrs. Tim McGraw	Surface Navy Association
Mr. Gordon Bethune	Military Car Sales, Inc.	Taishoff Family Foundation
Boston Police Activities League, Inc.	Mr. & Mrs. James A. Morgan	Tin Can Sailors, Inc.
Both Management Services, Inc.	Mr. Jesse E. Morris, III	Dr. & Mrs. Kyle H. Turner, Jr., Ph.D.
C. E. & S. Foundation	National Naval Medical Center Bethesda	United Defense LP
Capodanno Memorial Chapel	Naval Air Transport Service, Inc.	United Way of South Hampton Roads
Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN	Naval Security Group Command	University of Virginia Medical School
Charlotte Hornets	Navy Federal Credit Union	USAA Foundation
Chasmar Properties, Ltd.	Newport News Shipbuilding	U.S. Coast Guard Academy
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	NSGA Medina	U.S. Naval Institute Foundation
CPO Mess, NTTC Corry Station	Mr. Houston Odom, Jr.	USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72)
Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO	Mr. Roger Olson	USS Briscoe (DD 977)
Darling Management Corp I & II	Overseas Military Sales Corporation	USS Caron (DD 970)
Disabled American veterans, Ch. 17	LT Laura Pearson, U.S. Navy	USS Crommelin (FFG 37)
Mr. Willis J. Edel	VADM James B. Perkins III, U.S. Navy (Ret.)	USS George Washington (CVN 73)
EG&G Technical Services	Mr. & Mrs. William J. Perry	USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63)
Federal Bureau of Investigation	NAS Keflavik Chapel of Light	USS Saipan (LHA 2)
COMNAVSURFLANT	NAS Sigonella Men's Bowling Association	USS Supply (AOE 6)
Force Judge Advocate	Perdue Farms Inc.	USS The Sullivans (DD537/DDG 68) Association
Freedom Alliance	PRESEARCH	Virginia Natural Gas, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Freeman	NCSU Quarterdeck Society	Whitebread Management
GEICO Philanthropic Foundation	LCDR Thomas Rancich, U.S. Navy	The Workers Charitable Trust (Kid Rock)
Hecht's	Religious Ministries Department, Rota, Spain	Craig Zimmerman
Holy Cross College, NROTC Unit	Religious Offering, Chapel of the Rising Sun	
Holy Trinity Chapel Fund		

Program Courtesy of Navy League of the United States
Hampton Roads



IN
LASTING
TRIBUTE
TO THEIR
HONOR
COURAGE
AND
COMMITMENT

KENNETH E. CLODFELTER, 21
HELIX MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS
MICHAELSVILLE, VA

RICHARD D. COSTELOW, 35
CIBER ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (SURFACE WARFARE)
MORRISVILLE, PA

LAKEDNA M. FRANCIS, 19
MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST SEAMAN
WOODLAF, NC

TIMOTHY LEE GAUNA, 21
DEBRIDATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN SEAMAN
DUND, TX

CHERONE LOUIS GUNN, 22
BOSALMAN SEAMAN
VIRGINA BEACH, VA

JAMES B. MCDANIELS, 19
INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN SEAMAN
WORLDK, VA

MARK IAN NIETO, 24
ENGINEER SECOND CLASS (SURFACE WARFARE)
FOND DU LAC, WI

RONALD SCOTT OWENS, 24
ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNICIAN SECOND CLASS
VERO BEACH, FL

LAKIBA NICOLE PALMER, 22
SEAMAN
SAN DIEGO, CA

JOSHUA L. PARLETT, 19
ENGINEER FIREMAN
CHURCHVILLE, MD

PATRICK HOWARD ROY, 19
FIREMAN
KEEDSVILLE, MO

KEVIN SHAWN RUX, 30
ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNICIAN FIRST CLASS
PORTLAND, ME

RONCHESTER M. SANTIAGO, 22
MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS
KINGSVILLE, TX

TIMOTHY L. SAUNDERS, 32
OPERATIONS SPECIALIST SECOND CLASS
EDMUNDS, VA

GARY SWENCHONIS JR., 26
FIREMAN
ROCKPORT, TX

ANDREW TRIPLETT, 31
LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE
HUNTSVILLE, MO

CRAIG B. WIBBERLEY, 19
SEAMAN
WILLIAMSPORT, MD



ENCL (7)