# Our 2021 Ranger CV-4 Reunion - Annapolis, Maryland

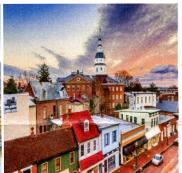
## September 14-17 The DoubleTree by Hilton - use BWI Airport

210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 \*\*\*\$139 per night plus taxes

Arrive by Monday 9/13 - Reunion Activities Tuesday thru Friday - Depart Saturday 9/18









Reunion Planners: Ann Wertman and Cynthia Pyle

Questions/Concerns: Contact Ann at

annawertman@verizon.net or (610) 298-3254

How did we get to July already? While it was wonderful to begin to see all my acquaintances again as the various organizations, I continue to be active with resumed their missions, each group seemed to want to catch up with their events as fast as possible and soon I found myself

overwhelmed with new duties in addition to my 3-acre property...basket socials, our historic 114 year old Allentown Flag Day Association's concert and flag raising, my Grange having me plan their 105<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner which should have been in 2020...just endless. I am so thankful that my home Lehigh County and neighboring Northampton County in Pennsylvania have 75% of those eligible with at least their first vaccination to return to near normalcy!

So now it is crunch time for Annapolis and I apologize that pulling this together has not been timely. We did forward a "save the dates" weeks ago but was void of many details. And we have two items that will make this reunion both different and special:

1. This reunion, our reunion attendees have the honor of joining our Treasurer, Marlene Mozgala, and her family in burying the ashes of her Father, USS RANGER (CV-4) shipmate Teofil ("Mo") Mozgala, at Arlington National Cemetery on September 15th. I have asked Cynthia Pyle to assist Marlene in working out the details in hope that during our Arlington visit we will be able to honor fellow CV-4 shipmates buried there. We will provide information sheets for everyone regarding ceremony etiquette, touring specific grave sites, touring the cemetery, etc. Cynthia lives in nearby Baltimore and her Dad, George Pyle, is resting at Arlington, so she can be hands on.

2. Two people, who prefer to remain anonymous, have generously offered to help defray the reunion costs for each RANGER shipmate and one of their guests. They will pay for one hotel room for each shipmate and his guest (assuming they stay in the same room) and all tours. The only expenses for our shipmates and one of their guests will be transportation to/from the reunion, food and incidentals. Our country's WWII veterans hold special places in the hearts of our donors, and they want to show their appreciation to members of The Greatest Generation. RANGER SHIPMATES: Please take advantage of this amazing opportunity and join us! Just reserve your rooms and tours as usual, and Marlene will take care of the rest. Questions? Contact her at cdrm2@verizon.net or 413.532.6146

Our \$139 room rate (plus taxes) this year is high, but Annapolis is a popular destination, with Navy football and numerous boating shows occurring in September. Our number of attendees has also diminished so we no longer can bargain for special perks such as a free breakfast or hospitality room. On a positive note, the hotel is located about three miles from the downtown harbor but offers a free shuttle service up to five miles distance. We are also located adjacent to a substantial shopping area.

Aside from our day at Arlington which requires an earlier departure and longer day, I have kept the other two days' outings at 4-5 hours each to be less demanding. I also eliminated a Thursday trip to the historic town of St. Michaels so Thursday would be a free day to relax or take the shuttle to a site that caught your fancy during our Tuesday city tour. If you are driving, you may wish to check out the quaint coastal town of St. Michaels, about 50 miles from Annapolis.

Annapolis is within a comfortable driving distance for most attendees. If you need to fly into BWI and are not renting a car, a cab fee from BWI to the hotel is in the range of \$60 each way so, perhaps with pre-planning, several of you may share the costs.

New this year, we will not have a formal banquet during the last evening as the food/beverage requirements for such an event are far too costly. The 15 of us who participated in the 2019 Carnival Cruise Reunion to New England and Canada found that gathering each night at two large adjacent tables was lots of fun and we really enjoyed our mealtime to chat with each other. There is a separate area in our hotel's dining room that might be reserved for our group each evening.

The hotel's email address below allows you to see the footprints of available rooms with one King size bed or two Queen size beds. Also, the hotel will hold the room rate 3 days before and 3 days after our reunion dates to extend your time in Annapolis.

#### TO RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM:

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Annapolis 210 Holiday Court Annapolis, MD 21401

BY EMAIL: https://doubletreeannapolis.guestreservations.com

Group Name: USS Ranger – CV-4 Dates: 13-18 Sept 2021

BY PHONE: 1-800-222-8733 OR 410-897-1049

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**Notes:** (1) <u>Cut-off date for making room reservations is 8/18/2021</u>. (2) Shipmates should use their credit cards to make/hold the reservations. Some time between checking in and checking out of the hotel, your hotel room bills will be removed from your credit card.

### Let's look at our itinerary....

<u>Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup></u> – Towne Trolley will pick us up at the hotel and take us on a narrated city tour and find us an area to get a bite before dropping us off at the dock for a harbor tour which promises great views of the Naval Academy. The Trolley will also return us to the hotel. Service with a smile!

Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – We will leave the hotel at 7:30 AM for Arlington National Cemetery to be on site the required 45 minutes prior to the 10 AM military burial. After the ceremony there will be about 1 ½ hours to honor other CV-4 shipmates' graves and/or hop on the cemetery's jump on/jump off trolley that stops at many sites including John F. Kennedy's grave and the Tomb of the Unknown. We will join Marlene and her family for a free buffet lunch at the Fort Myer's Officers' Club and then visit the National WWII Museum in Washington, D.C. before returning to our Annapolis hotel. Our reunion group visited the new WWII Memorial in 2011 but only a handful of shipmates left the bus as it was raining cats and dogs. Let's hope the sun is shining this round!

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>September 16<sup>th</sup></u> – Sleep in if you like and then enjoy your day exploring what Annapolis has to offer. After gathering together for dinner at the hotel, we will hold our annual business meeting in the hospitality room and promote ticket sales for our raffle; lucky winners to be drawn Friday evening.

<u>Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup></u> – We will tour the grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy per van/coach with a guide from their visitor's center and hopefully be able to visit the Chapel and crypt of John Paul Jones as well as view the traditional noon meal formation. Hiring a coach to drive us to such a nearby destination is costly but the only other two ways to tour the Academy are extensive walking OR watching a PowerPoint presentation in their theatre. And we hope to arrange for a 90-minute round-trip cruise to the twin spans of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel – more info on this cruise at the hotel.

Friday evening, we will gather in our hospitality room for fun and say our goodbyes for another year. And perhaps a few surprises and to draw our raffle's lucky winners!!

Ann A. Wertman
- of course in honor of my CV-4 Hero AEC Joseph R. Zeller 1918-2018

## ~ ~ ~ RESERVATION FORM FOR TOURS ~~~

# 54th USS RANGER (CV-4) Reunion – Annapolis, Maryland Tuesday, September 14 to Friday September 17, 2021

Please provide your phone n	umber or email addres	ss if we have questions on this form:
My Donation toward the Reu	inion Expenses	\$
Attending Reunion will be Sh	ipmate	
Spouse	/Widow	
Family / Guests (first and last		
Emergency contact: the nan	ne and phone number	of a person not attending the reunion:
I/WE PLAN TO PARTAKE IN Tues., Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> – Tour of An Attending	napolis and Harbor Bo	at Tours @ \$40 per person \$
Wed. Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> – Arlington N Attending		Monument @ \$70 per person \$
		ver tips @ \$50 per person \$
		Bay Bridge: pay at reunion
TOTAL ENCLO	OSED, PAYABLE TO: US	SS Ranger CV-4 Reunion Group \$
<u>Remember</u> : All tours are		ites and 1 of his Guests but you DO need to sign the tours!
		er than <u>August 8th</u> to reunion planner Ann A. PA 18066 <b>or call her</b> at 610.298.3254
We will be	flying or	driving to the 2021 Reunion.