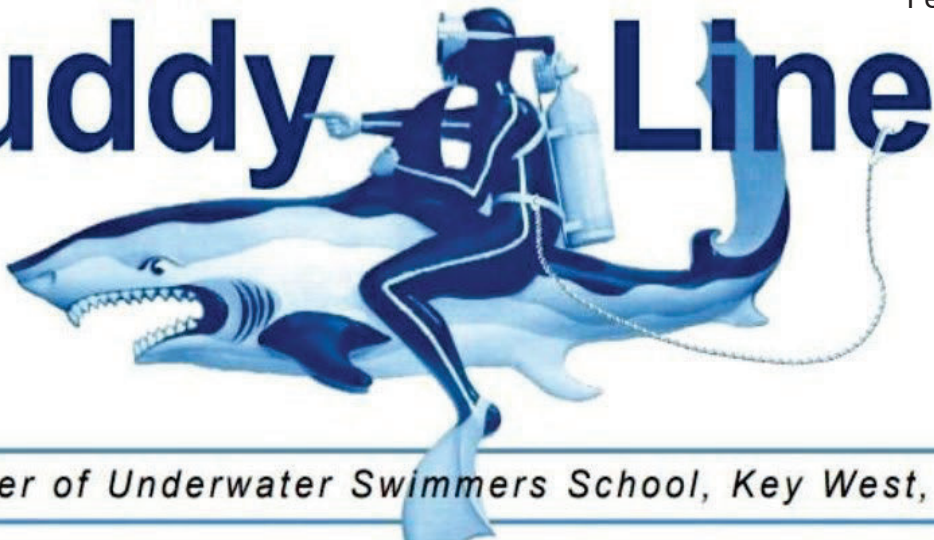
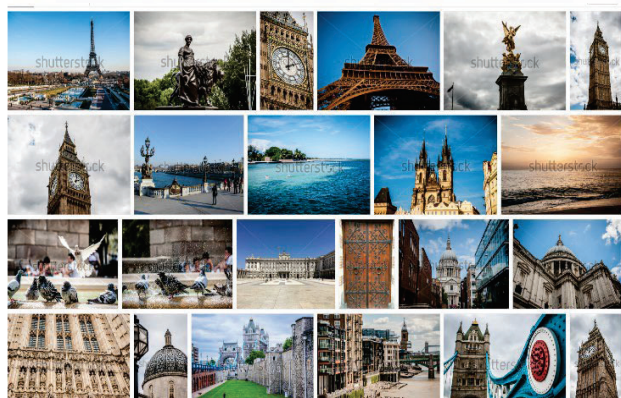


# Buddy Line



*Fraternal Order of Underwater Swimmers School, Key West, Florida*



## Here is to hoping your New Year Started Well.

### EXECUTIVE'S CORNER: By DAVE GHOLSON

Our long awaited, once cancelled reunion in Key West, Florida is going to be the best one yet. Most reunions are a group of old dudes sitting around drinking their beverage of choice and telling sea stories about the glory days. But this reunion will be different.

We have scheduled a reunion full of things for the wives to do, along with things we enjoy. Before the reunion starts on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, those who want to go deep sea fishing will have their day.

Thursday, June, 15 10:00, officers and interested members will gather at the Chief Petty Officers Mess on Boca Chica. We are preparing the logo gear for sales and organizing the day. We will grill all scheduled meals during our stay. The cost of catering is very high, amounting to over \$400.00 per person if we held this function at a local hotel. By meeting on the base, our meals will be reasonably priced. We are planning on steak, chicken, burgers and sides. Elsewhere in this issue you will be asked what you like, so we may adjust. Please volunteer to grill if you like to. We also have the use of a commercial kitchen in the mess, which is a fully functioning club.

**At 4:00 PM registration begins.** This process will take a few hours, and we are going to entertain ourselves with a Sea Story contest. I am sure some of you old divers will have some interesting stories. The best story will be determined by applause and prizes will be given.

The Gateway Inn is no longer under the command of the Base. They are independent contractors. So, the base has no influence. We are forced to make reservations no more than 30 days in advance. Thus we have decided to do is take reservation ourselves and pile them in at the earliest time. The same thing goes for the excursions, the sunset sail, Conch Train tour, and boat trip to the reef for snorkeling will have two prices the higher price is at the gate. The lower price is you pay with registration, and we will go to ITT on base and get your tickets early. We will give the tickets to you at registration.

**Friday, June 19,** after lunch, we will have our business meeting and election of officers. If you are interested in holding an office, please, make it known.

**At 3PM,** A underwater photography presentation by two of our members, Bernie Campoli and Jim Houle, were navy underwater photo journalists. In Bernie's case, he worked as a Navy GS photographer for 50 years, taking pictures of whatever the Navy wanted. They recorded SEALAB 1 & 2, space recoveries,

disasters, presidential visits, and the list goes on and on. Saturday, we will have a memorial for departed brothers, followed by our beach party and steak cookout. We have reserved the pavilion at Truman Beach so this will be a great event. Monday June 18, there is a 4-day western Caribbean cruise leaving from Miami. Those of you who want to extend your stay and enjoy a cruise are welcome to join us. There are several planning of going and we are looking for hotels that will pick us from where we turn in the rental cars, and take us to the cruise dock. More information can be found elsewhere in the Bud

**Repeating EXECUTIVE'S CORNER by Art Stone from February2020 is still applicable today. (Thank you Art)**

Key West is calling us back once more to the place where our UWSS memories were made. This place, a long way from anywhere, still draws former students at US Naval School Underwater Swimmers to celebrate with classmates and instructors, the few weeks spent here makes some of the best memories of their lives. Your reunion committee has worked hard to make this reunion more fun for everyone, to include wives and guests in more activities, and to send you home closer friends with each other. Security is tight on the bases so it is important that any reunion attendee who does not have an active duty or retired ID card include the requested ID information on the Reunion Registration so you can be added to a gate list for access to bases.

Otherwise, you will be refused entry or have a long wait while security tries to find someone who can come to the gate in person and vouch for you. IDs for nonmilitary must comply with the **REAL ID Act** see for more information. <https://thepointsguy.com/guide/real-id/>

**FO UWSS Board**

PRESIDENT: Dave Gholson  
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(207) 943-0711

VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Houle  
[uwssvp@gmail.com](mailto:uwssvp@gmail.com)  
(352) 422-2838

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**FO UWSS SECRETARY/TREASURER'S  
REPORT: By Ken Recoy**

FO UWSS Membership as of January 31, 2023,  
Members in database = 294

Total Active Members = 241

Active Members behind on Dues = 96

We learned of one members passing away this  
Quarter.

We currently have 4 brothers in Hardship that FO  
UWSS is helping.

Donations are always accepted and appreciated. New  
Members this Quarter = John Cocowitch joined us  
November 12, 2022. John Graduated UWSS March  
1971.

**FO UWSS Treasurer's Quarterly Report:**

Account Balance November 1, 2022, = \$12,743.08

Dues Income + \$300.00

Label Fees Income + \$0.00

Logo Gear Sales Income + \$257.00 Other

Income (Donations) + \$151.00

-----  
Reunion Expenses - \$0.00

Logo Gear Expenses (Purchases, mail) - \$26.89

BuddyLine Expenses Danny Mize donated -  
\$0.00

Business Expenses (Ink, paper, postage) - \$0.00

Account Balance January 31, 2023, = \$13,424.19

**FO UWSS Secretary's Notes and updates.**

1. As I noted in our BuddyLine, I am in the process  
of stepping down as the FO UWSS Secretary /  
Treasurer. I plan to stay until the June 2023  
Reunion at which time a new FO UWSS  
Sec./Treasurer can be Voted in. If you are  
interested in being our next FO UWSS Secretary  
/ Treasurer, please send me an email as soon as  
possible. Tom Hodgins has agreed to receive the 2023  
FO UWSS Reunion checks and Registrations. Watch  
for details on the UWSS Website and in the  
BuddyLine.

2. Dave Gholson FO UWSS President is also the  
Reunion Committee Chair. Note: Dave Gholson has  
appointed Jim Houle as UWSS Vice President.

3. Jim Houle is our Logo Gear Chair. You can Order  
Logo Gear by going to the UWSS Website and  
printing out the Order Form and sending us a check.  
The address is in the BuddyLine and on our UWSS  
Website. Note: FO UWSS does not collect taxes

and never has. Be sure to pay your "Label Fees" to  
continue receiving your BuddyLine in paper copy by  
regular mail. Due to cost, please do your best to get  
an email address, as we expect mailing paper copies of  
the BuddyLine to be a thing of the past. Label Fees  
are \$5.00 per year. We currently have 17 members  
that receive their Buddy line by regular mail.

4. Please check to make sure you have paid your  
UWSS Membership Dues. Dues remain at \$25.00  
for 2 years.

5. UWSS Graduating Class pictures. If you do Not see  
your Class picture on the FO UWSS Website, please  
send in a copy for the FO UWSS Archives.

6. If you have changed your address, phone  
number/s, or email address, please send us an  
update, so we can be sure to stay in contact for  
important News, Updates, and your BuddyLine.

7. So, we may honor them in the BuddyLine, if  
you know of a UWSS brother that has passed,  
please let us know and include a copy of the  
Obituary.

8. About 6 years ago, I created a UWSS Facebook  
Page and if you are interested in joining, the Link is  
below. Membership is free. Only members of the  
UWSS FB Page can see who a member is and read  
member only Posts. Note: My UWSS Facebook Page  
is not part of FO UWSS and never has been.

9. It is important to reach out to our UWSS dive  
buddies and check on each other from time to time.  
Especially in this time of COVID. And none of us are  
getting any younger. It is always good to hear from  
a brother. Stay in touch. Stay safe. Ken Recoy, FO  
UWSS Secretary/Treasurer UWSS Graduation  
Class March 1972. Submariner, Radioman and US  
Navy Diver.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/682196168496022>

[www.uwss.org](http://www.uwss.org)



## Key West UWSS Reunion Jun 15-17, 2023

**Wed, Jun 14**

Deep Sea Fishing (added excursion possibility for earlier arrivals)



Deep Sea Fishing various vessels and trip lengths can be scheduled and ticketed through the MWR as well as other adventurers. <https://MWR-NEWSLETTER-KEYWEST>

**Thu June 15 ARRIVALS Day 1 of Reunion**

Arrivals times will vary. However, those wishing for accommodation at the Gateway Inn will need to wait until 30 days prior to the reunion to call for vacancies to get a room. The Board has been discussing getting a block of rooms, but we will need an accurate head count of folks. Be sure to read and mark your resignations as appropriate.

**4 PM CPO Mess Registration.**

Get the old name tag, find out who has made the reunion, meet, and greet. Don't forget story telling courage may be found in the BAR for the next event. Guys you may not get a door prize, since I have been assured that several wives will be all around winners.

**6 PM C P O Mess Dinner/Story Telling**

Sailors Sea Story contest where a great lie just might be better than the boring truth. Wives Sea Story As told by some of the story characters of Mark Twin, Will Rogers, Jerry Clower, Jeff Foxworthy, or a repeat from your favorite comedian step up and tell the story as you know it. I have been put on notice that the wives

contest will embellish: "Great stories are usually built on particle truths that bring fear to the real participants of the story." (If this is true Thursday night might be the best moneymaker for the Cash Bar.)

**Fri, June 16**

**9 AM SEBAGO docks Reef Snorkeling**

Trip tickets through ITT, MWR, etc., will be determined closer to the time of the reunion.



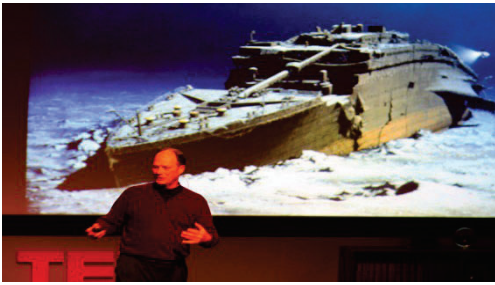
**1 PM CPO mess Business Meeting**



There will be Board elections and votes on several issues of concern such as increased member fees, recruiting new members to avoid withering away, and other topics that may arise. Join us in determining the future of our organization. Some possible big changes may need an absentee ballot of current paid members. So, please join us. If you by chance noticed the New Zealand flags in the picture we will have the good old red, white and blue flags.

## BuddyLine

### 3 PM Underwater photography presentation.



By Jim Houle and Company especially for those who missed the Reef

Snoring Trip. These guys will have a presentation covering two careers with an added time of 100 years plus. The presentation promises some first time publicly seen pictures maybe. One rumor is they got the pictures in the last six months using the James Webb Space Telescope by looking back in time.

### 6 PM SEABGO docks for a Sunset Cruise

The Cruise sail-boat leaves from SEABGO docks. As the name implies, an obstacle's free view of daylight fading



to evening darkness. While the sun displays a unique array of colors reaching skyward for help as it appears to drop into the depths of the sea over the horizon without creating even a ripple.

## Sat June 17

### 10 AM TBA, the Conch Train tour



My understanding is that you must not mess with the pronunciation around the locals. I read the comment about pronunciation in an article I read about the Chickens of Key West. The tour cost is not included in the registration fee.

## February 2023

### 3 PM Truman Beach, Memorial Service

The memorial service will be assisted by the divers from the Special Forces Combat Divers Training Center. If you have memorabilia or remains you need to advise on the registration so we can get the certificates and mementos made with the names of your loved ones. There is an example of the certificate for the families of the interned. We will need full name ahead of time to get the certificates completed.



### 4 PM Cook out. (Cash Bar)

Okay, we will just have chicken, and if anyone catches a fish on Wednesday we will have fish, too! We are requesting volunteers for the cookout. Needs are as follows: Folks to set up, cook, cleanup, and hungry folks. If you can volunteer, please put your name next to the activity on the registration.



### Sun Jun 18 Is farewell - clear sailing wishes.

**Mon Jun 19** (Added Excursion for the party all night folks)

### 10 AM Miami, 4-day Western Caribbean Cruise

For added Excursions check out the following link: <https://MWR-NEWSLETTER-KEYWEST>



# ***U.S. Navy Underwater Swimmers***

## *Bronze Little Jake Statue Raffle*



The 21" bronze statues with a polished teak base, weighing 37 pounds were originally sold for \$2000.00 each to raise funds for the 10' Big Jake Statue that currently stands at NDSTC Panama City Beach. This Little Jake is Number 255 of 300 made and comes with a limited-edition coin. The widow of Don Stone, HMCS SEAL-HALO, has donated his statue to UWSS to be raffled off at our next reunion, June 15-17, 2023, in Key West, Florida. Tickets are \$20 each and limited to 300.

Tickets may be purchased through the LOGO gear page at [UWSS.org](http://UWSS.org).



## BuddyLine

### Diving Vendors

	Gate	MWR
<b>Lost Reef Adventures (305) 296-9737</b>		
Dive (no gear)	\$ 80.00	\$ 70.00
Dive (tanks & weights)	\$ 105.00	\$ 92.00
Dive (full gear)	\$ 130.00	\$ 114.00
Dive w/ Nitrox (tanks & weights)	\$ 121.00	\$ 106.00
Dive w/ Nitrox (full gear)	\$ 146.00	\$ 128.00
Open Water Certification *E-Learn extra.	\$ 475.00	\$ 418.00
Advanced Open Water Cert *E-Learn extra.	\$ 525.00	\$ 462.00
Discover Scuba	\$ 210.00	\$ 185.00
Snorkeler (Adult)	\$ 65.00	\$ 57.00
Rider	\$ 50.00	\$ 44.00
Wetsuit Rental	\$ 15.00	\$ 13.00
Dive Computer	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.00
<b>Southpoint Divers (305) 292-9778</b>		
Dive (no gear)	\$ 95.00	\$ 80.75
Dive (tanks & weights)	\$ 104.00	\$ 88.00
Dive (full gear)	\$ 135.00	\$ 114.75
Dive (full gear w/ computer)	\$ 150.00	\$ 127.50
Computer Rental	\$ 15.00	\$ 12.75
Night Dive (full gear)	\$ 110.00	\$ 93.50
Refresher Course	\$ 209.00	\$ 177.00
Discover Scuba	\$ 209.00	\$ 177.00
Snorkeler	\$ 55.00	\$ 46.75
<b>Looe Key Reef Resort &amp; Dive Shop (305) 872-2215</b>		
Snorkel - Adult (13+)	\$ 49.99	\$ 43.00
Snorkel - Child (0-12)	\$ 39.99	\$ 35.00
Gear Package	\$ 35.00	\$ 30.00
Reef Dive (tanks & weights)	\$ 99.99	\$ 86.00
Wreck/Night Dive (tanks & weights)	\$ 109.99	\$ 95.00
Open Water Cert	\$ 675.00	\$ 583.00
Advanced Open Water Cert	\$ 585.00	\$ 505.00
Experience Scuba Course "Basic Diver"	\$ 240.00	\$ 207.00
Refresher Course	\$ 275.00	\$ 238.00
Aquatic First Aid/CPR	\$ 425.00	\$ 367.00
Wreck Guide 1st Diver / Additional Diver	\$65.00 / \$40.00	\$56.00 / \$35.00
Reef Guide 1st Diver / Additional Diver	\$55.00 / \$30.00	\$47.50 / \$26.00
*Private Charter (\$350.00 not included)	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,470.00



## February 2023

### Fishing Charters

	Gate	MWR
<b>NEW! Michael O'Brien Flats Fishing (305) 304-4089</b>		
Full Day (8hr) (2 ppl)	\$ 800.00	\$ 735.00
3/4 Day (6hr) (2 ppl)	\$ 700.00	\$ 656.00
1/2 Day (4hr) (2 ppl)	\$ 600.00	\$ 577.00
<b>Flatzlife Charters (239) 595-5887</b>		
Shark Trip 2hr (2 ppl)	\$ 212.00	\$ 200.00
Morning or Afternoon Trip 4hr (2 ppl)	\$ 370.00	\$ 350.00
<b>Hunter Sport Fishing (305) 304-2221</b>		
Full Day (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,082.00
3/4 Day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 900.00	\$ 873.00
1/2 Day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 700.00	\$ 675.00
<b>Captain Conch Fishing Charter (305) 304-5816</b>		
Private 3/4 day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 946.00
Private 1/2 day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 800.00	\$ 770.00
Split 3/4 day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 225.00	\$ 220.00
Split 1/2 day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 200.00	\$ 181.00
<b>Reel Easy Charters (305) 923-3721</b>		
Flats/Backcountry Full Day (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 880.00
Flats/Backcountry 3/4 day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 850.00	\$ 700.00
Flats/Backcountry 1/2 day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 600.00	\$ 530.00
Sunset Trip (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 600.00	\$ 530.00
Marquesas Trip (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,100.00	
<b>Hillbilly Hookers (305) 731-8755</b>		
Full Day (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,260.00
3/4 day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,050.00
1/2 day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 900.00	\$ 840.00
Dry Tortugas Fishing Trip (6 ppl)	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,100.00
Dry Tortugas Family Trip (6 ppl)	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,100.00
<b>Keys to Fishing (305) 783-8617</b>		
Full Day (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,080.00
3/4 Day (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 864.00
1/2 Day (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 800.00	\$ 648.00
Full Day Sandbar Trip (8hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 800.00	\$756.00
3/4 Day Sandbar Trip (6hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 700.00	\$648.00
1/2 Day Sandbar Trip (4hr) (6 ppl)	\$ 600.00	\$540.00

Prices are subject to change without notice. Revised 1/1/2023.

### *Party Boat Fishing*

	Gate	MWR
<b>Cora Beth Fishing (305) 394-3659</b>		
Daily Reef (5hr) - AD (13+)	\$ 81.00	\$ 71.50
Daily Reef (5hr) - CH (12 and under)	\$ 67.00	\$ 49.50
Sunset Snapper (4hr) - AD (13+)	\$ 69.00	\$ 60.50
Sunset Snapper (4hr) - CH (12 and under)	\$ 44.00	\$ 40.70
Full Day Private Charter (25ppl)	\$ 2,204.00	\$ 2,100.00
1/2 Day Private Charter (25ppl)	\$ 1,398.00	\$ 1,365.00
<b>Fish Monster MAX (305) 432-0046</b>		
Stern Seat (5hr)	\$ 105.00	\$ 84.00
Regular Angler (5hr) - AD (13+)	\$ 85.00	\$ 66.00
Regular Angler (5hr) - CH (12 and under)	\$ 70.00	\$ 53.00
Party Boat Rider	\$ 60.00	\$ 44.00
<b>Gulfstream IV (305) 296-8494</b>		
Party Boat (6hr) - AD (13+)	\$ 71.97	\$ 64.00
Party Boat (6hr) - CH (6-12)	\$ 42.95	\$ 38.50
Party Boat (6hr) - Infant (Under 5)	\$ 26.82	\$ 23.50
Party Boat (6hr) - Rider/Sunbather (0+)	\$ 49.40	\$ 44.00
Individual Season Pass (20 Trips)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 966.00
Private Charter (25 ppl)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,890.00
Private Charter (45 ppl)	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,100.00

#### ***Save Money \$***

#### ***Rent your gear on base!***

Sigsbee Marina (305) 293-4434  
 Kayaks, Boats, Paddleboards & Fishing  
 Gear Boca Chica Marina (305) 293-  
 2402 Paddleboards & Kayaks  
 Beachside Recreation Center  
 (305) 293-5282

**UNAVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT**

Beach, Snorkeling & Camping Gear



## ***Unites States Navy Underwater Swimmers***

On June 17, 2023,

the earthly remains and remembrances of

### **Don Stone HMCS (SEAL) USN**

was laid to rest in eternal peace with those who served and dived the deep seas before him.

In the Gulf Stream, .5 miles south of Truman

Beach, US Naval Air Station, Key West,  
Florida,

24 Degrees 32' 72 " N    81 Degrees 48' 20.06" S

**United States Navy Underwater  
Swimmers**

On June 17, 2023,  
the earthly remains and remembrances of

Don Stone HMCS (SEAL) USN

was laid to rest in eternal peace with those  
who served and dived the deep seas before him.

In the Gulf Stream, .5 miles south of Truman Beach,  
US Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida,  
24 Degrees 32' 72 " N 81 Degrees 48' 20.06" S

The label will be laminated and securely affixed to the burial container. The burial container will be a pint canning jar with one piece lid. The contents can be any memorialized material from the deceased, Ashes (preferably a partial amount, the rest reserved for gravesite) a part of his dive gear, uniform, personal mementos etc. The survivors may want to write a letter or any other item that will fit into a pint jar. Once deposited in the deep, the burial container will be filled with seawater and returned to the survivor.

## CROSSING THE BAR



### Joseph Thomas Kennedy

Captain Joseph Thomas Kennedy (US Navy, Ret.) was born in Boston, Massachusetts on November 1, 1937, and passed away in Lauderdale By the Sea, Florida on December 10, 2022, after complications from surgery.



He is survived by three children, CAPT Christopher Kennedy (USN Ret.) and his wife Robin of Virginia Beach, VA, Robert Kennedy and his wife Stephanie of Stanley, NC, Dr. Carole Ivey and her husband David, of Midlothian, VA, and 7 grandchildren,

and 4 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his cousin, Russell Lindsay and his wife Sally of Ocean City, NJ.

Raised in Philadelphia, PA and then Somers Point, NJ, he was a 1955 graduate of Ocean City High School where he was a four-sport varsity athlete in football, basketball, baseball, and track. Joe was the leading scorer on the 1954-1955 team, winning the state basketball championship. When he graduated 67 years

ago, he was the all-time leading career scorer in school history and still ranks in the top 25. He was named to the OCHS All-Century teams in both basketball and baseball and was inducted into the Ocean City High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2021. He graduated from LaSalle University. After college graduation he went on to law school at Villanova University. After one year of law school, he realized that practicing law was not his calling. Drafted to serve in the Army, he instead enlisted in the U.S. Navy and attended Officer Candidate School. This led to his serving for over 30 years, specializing in Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Mine Warfare. Senior Naval positions include Commanding the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Center, the Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal School, and the Atlantic Fleet EOD Forces. During this time, he also received master's degrees from both the Naval War College and Central Michigan University. Joe will be remembered for being a devoted husband to his wife Lynne of 57 years, a caring father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and an exemplary leader and mentor. A burial with Military Honors will be scheduled later in Arlington National Cemetery.



The message from Heaven is "All is well. All is well. The Shepard is EOD. I am with all my old Buds.



**Rudy's memoirs Continued from Nov 2022 BL**

In May, I hooked a fish, which I estimate would have weighed more than 175 pounds. I hooked the fish close to Demolition Island north of Fleming Key during the last stage of the incoming tide and shortly before the sun slid under the western horizon. I was using a black and silver 66M deep running Mirror Lure with the strike coming on my third cast. The fish initially headed west making three fantastic jumps, one of which perfectly silhouetted itself on the setting sun. It then reversed direction and ran to the center of seaplane drone where I fought it for a brief period. At high tide it headed north toward Calda Channel, trying to make its way over a shallow bar to the east of Demolition Island. The fish was in less than a foot of water. I had to ground the boat, jump out and follow it. I closed to where I could touch its tail and calculated the fish would soon be grounded by the outgoing tide. I was extremely nervous trying to maintain control. I kept telling myself to be patient. I was only a foot away from a really astonishing and sensational accomplishment. The tarpon was on its side and moving ever slowly to the east until it reached a three-foot propeller channel, which cut through the bar. The fish righted itself, reversed direction, and zoomed into the deep water to the south. My line was stripped before I could reach the boat, so my dream fish escaped. I was heartbroken. In hindsight, I should have jumped on the fish in an attempt to grab its gills. It would have been risky though with the plug still in its mouth. I would have been banged up, but it would have been worth it. This is one case where patience did not pay off. I will never get over this experience.

Division winners in the MMFT receive 8x10 inch wooden plaques, containing a gold metal casting of the fish caught along with an engraved flat metal piece giving name, division, type fish, weight and year caught. I have ten such trophies, which, besides the above, include plaques for pompano, barracuda, chiro, Bonita, mackerel, kingfish, and the 1959 tournament record cobia

(36lbs 6oz). I also have several boxes of citations for fish meeting certain size requirements for MMFT recognition. All toll, they stand as testimony to the many successful and pleasurable fishing adventures I was fortunate to experience while living in Key West. My fishing exploits gained me sufficient notoriety to be asked to participate as a guide in the First Annual World Series of Fishing. The high number of entries far exhausted the limited supply of guides available. It was on a weekend so I didn't mind pitching in, though I had to supply my own boat, gas and time without compensation. I would be fishing Joe Schebo, a Fort Lauderdale sportswriter, along with a fellow from Latin America. They could not have picked a worse day. The wind was strong with overcast skies, terrible conditions for bone fishing. We all met at the weigh in station and had the option of fishing anywhere so long as we returned in time for the 3PM weigh in. I chose to fish the area off Big Pine Key where I caught my winning MMFT bonefish. As it was impossible to sight cast for bonefish, I urged my party to have faith in the location and blind cast for the fish. After a short while, Joe had a strike, but it got cut off in the sharp coral. The way the line screamed off the reel I knew it was a bonefish. An hour later he hooked another fish and managed to land it, an 8 pounder. The guy from South America then tied into a fish, which broke off because he refused to lift his rod high. He too quickly hooked another bonefish, although it was smaller than Joe's fish. Again, he tied into a fish and lost it. I considered him a real pain since he would not listen to advice and complained the entire time. I kept reminding him that bone fishing wasn't like bottom fishing, and we surely had our share of opportunities. Of all the guides that fished the world's greatest fisherman that day, including Ted Williams and Sam Snead, only four fish were caught and half of them were caught off my boat. Had we landed all the fish, we not only would have won the tournament but also out produced the entire field. All this was noted by Vic Dunaway the

## Rudy's memoirs continued

sportswriter for the Miami Herald. He featured me in an article entitled, "Meet Rudy Enders, King of the Met." The article's main point was that I had out performed all the famous guides in the Keys that day.



### VIC DUNNAWAY ARTICLE

One late night I received a call from Jim Sumpter, head of the Key West Chamber of Commerce. He said Ted Williams was coming to town the following day to fish for tarpon. He would only be available for about four hours in the evening. I wasn't keen on the idea since the evening tide was incoming, a time when tarpon hardly feed. Nevertheless, I said yes. Ted was a likable guy but terribly spoiled. He did not take kindly when I told him the odds were slim of hooking a tarpon on artificial bait during the incoming tide. After

listening to him griping when cast after cast produced nothing, I assured him we would see tarpon at our next spot. I then took him to the Shrimp Dock basin where tarpon was always rolling. The only problem is they rarely hit artificial baits. When they do, however, it only takes a few jumps before they run around one of the many pilings and break free. Ted spotted several tarpon and seemed satisfied even though none of the fish were interested in his presentations. I invited him to try again later on an evening outgoing tide when I could guarantee success. He never took me up on the offer. The last thing he cared to talk about was baseball but digested ever word when it came to fishing. I was tempted to ask him about his Marine Corps fighter pilot experience, which in my view elevated him to hero status as a true American patriot willing to put his live on the line for his country in spite of his fame as perhaps the greatest baseball player in history but declined to do so since no fisherman is ever happy when the fish are not biting.



TED WILLIAMS, ME, AND MY FRIEND LENNY BERG