

After-Action Report
Dispersal of Ashes at Sea

Auxiliarist and USCG Veteran
Richard Fisher

off

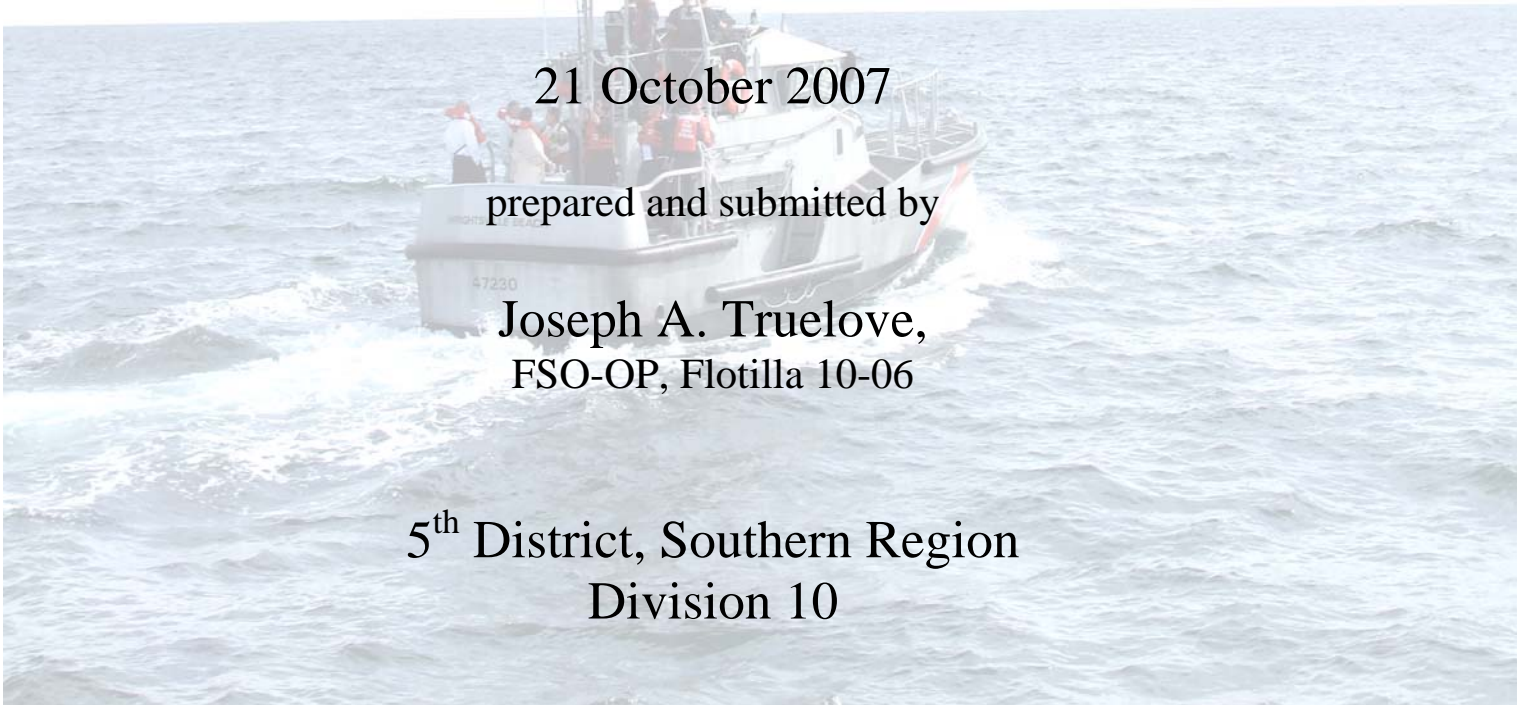
US Coast Guard Station
Wrightsville Beach NC

21 October 2007

prepared and submitted by

Joseph A. Truelove,
FSO-OP, Flotilla 10-06

5th District, Southern Region
Division 10



AFTER ACTION REPORT
BURIAL AT SEA FOR
Auxiliarist Richard Fisher
21 October 2007

SUMMARY:

On Sunday 21 October 2007, in accordance with his family's wishes, former U.S. Coast Guardsman and Auxiliarist Richard Fisher's ashes were committed to sea. Station Wrightsville beach MLB-47230 was the Vessel of Honor.

Auxiliarist Christine Fisher, Richard's wife, and Fisher family members were guests aboard the 47230 escorted by Auxiliarist Wallace Bartlett. (List of guest is on page 3.)

RESOURCES:

Vessel of Honor: Station Wrightsville Beach: MLB 47230

Auxiliary Escorts: Auxiliary Facility 33092
Auxiliary Facility 21979
Auxiliary Facility 20431
Auxiliary Facility 20436
Auxiliary Aircraft N792JH

PERSONNEL

Station Wrightsville Beach Auxiliary Liaison: BM2 Justin Shackleford

PATCOM: MLB 47 Coxswain: BM2 Jancauskas
AUXPATCOM: Joe Truelove, Flotilla 10-06 VFC/FSO-OP, 20431

Auxiliary 33092 Coxswain: Ronald Hurley
Auxiliary 21949 Coxswain: Paul Dowty
Auxiliary 20431 Coxswain: James Belluche
Auxiliary 20436 Coxswain: James Beecher
Aircraft N792JH PIC Kenneth Link

Bag Piper: Auxiliarist Bessie Tyner

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

0930-0945

Family and guests arrived at Station.

Auxiliary facilities rendezvoused in Banks Channel in vicinity of Station Wrightsville Beach.

0950

Piper commenced playing. 47230 prepared for departure; family and guest went aboard.

1000

47230 departed Station, rendezvoused with Auxiliary escorts, transited Masonboro Inlet with 47230 in the lead, followed by 33029, then 21979, 20436, and then 20431 and proceeded to burial site 34° 10.00N 077° 44.50W. Auxiliary facilities took station aft of and to either side of 47230.

1030

47230 dipped the Ensign to half mast and announced, "Bury the Dead." The family conducted the ceremony. 47230 crew and Auxiliarists rendered hand salute. Aircraft 2JH made several fly-overs and orbited in vicinity.

1045 - 1115 (approximately)

The vessels transited inbound to and through Masonboro Inlet in single file with 47230 in the lead, followed by 33029, then 21979, 20436, and then 20431 to vicinity of Station Wrightsville Beach.

47230 moored at station to disembark guests.

Auxiliary resources were released and continued normal safety/training patrol.

AIRCRAFT COORDINATION:

Due to failure of hand-held radio on 20431, 33092 coordinated with 2JH on Channel 83A.

OPERATIONAL CONTROL:

47230 assumed OPCON of, and communications Guard for Auxiliary facilities. 47230 relinquished OPCON upon return to the station.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Auxiliary Facilities: Marine channel 23A.

Auxiliary Aircraft: Marine channel 83A

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD:

<http://www.seapath.com/auxiliary/DickFisher'sBurialAtSea/>

CONTACTS

BM2 Shackelford - 910 256 4224 (Station)
BM2 Jancauska - 910 256 4224
James Beecher 910 270 3193 (H): 910 398 5524 (C)
Ron Hurley - 910 458 4413 (H): 910 620-1312 (C)
Paul Dowty - 910 686 4479 (H): 910 620 0233 (C)
James Belluche - 910 458 9598 (H)
Joe Truelove - 910 458 1920 (H): 910 232 2616 (C)

Guests aboard MLB 47230

Christine Fisher - Wife
Liane Fisher - Daughter
Noelle Bornholz - Daughter
Martin Fisher - Brother
Terrance Fisher - Brother
John Fisher, Jr. - Nephew
Scott Bornholz - Son in law

A note from Auxiliarist Christine Fisher.

On behalf of the Fisher Family, I wish to express our very sincere thanks to all who participated in Dick's final voyage.

BM2 Justin Shackleford - Station Wrightsville Beach Liaison to Auxiliary Flotilla 10-06, working with Joe Truelove - 10-06 VFC/FSO-OP for their help in the Operations Plan for the ceremony.

Dan Meigs for putting everyone at ease as you took pictures on the dock and also onboard the escort vessel.

Thank you Bagpiper Bess Tyner for your beautiful renditions of Amazing Grace and Going Home Hymn as we departed the dock. It was truly touching.

Wally Bartlett who represented the Auxiliary onboard the MBL-47 and who patrolled many times with Dick and for accompanying the family on his final voyage.

The Vessel of Honor - MBL-47[230, coxswain BM2 Jancauska] and the entire crew for their courteous and comfortable ride to the burial site and the return to the station.

To the Coxswains onboard the Escort Vessels -

33092 - Ron Hurley & Crew
21949 - Paul Dowty & Crew
20431 - Jim Belluche & Crew
20436 - Jim Beecher & Crew

The AuxAircraft - N792JH - Kenneth Link, Bob Searl and the entire AuxAir crew for the magnificent fly-over which was incredibly touching.

Lastly, to Flotilla Cmdr. Liz Randall for her thoughtfulness in setting up a table with a lovely narcissus plant, fresh coffee & an assortment of very delicious homemade desserts for everyone to enjoy. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to each and every one of you.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Fisher
FSO-SR 10-06