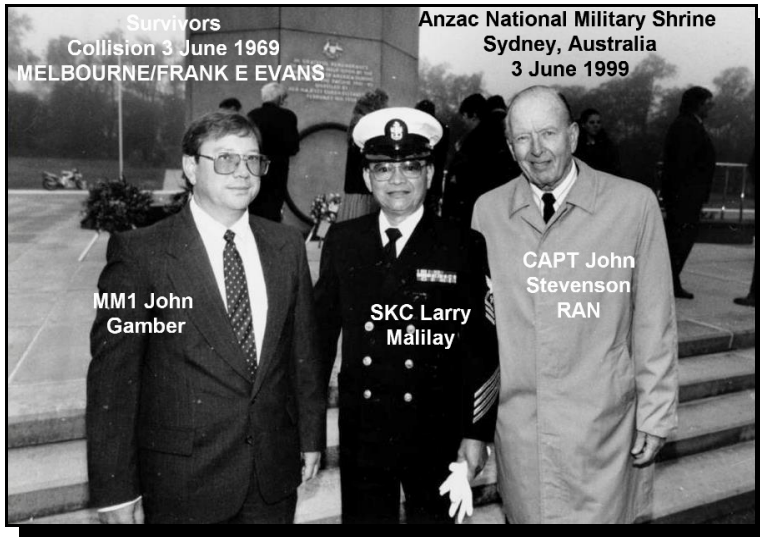


**3 June 1999 - Special Memorial Service
Sydney, Australia**

by Ken Adams

On 3 June 1999, the Australians hosted a special memorial service at the Anzac National Military Shrine in Sydney, Australia. Extraordinary steps were taken by the Australians to make this 30th Anniversary Memorial Service so very special.

In attendance and representing USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD 754): Mrs. Janice Lehman, widow of RD1 E. F. Lehman; Survivors SKC Larry Malilay, and MM1 John Gamber; and Shipmates Ken Adams, JC Campbell, Harold Nichols, Cal Rankin, Bill Rankin, Bill Baldwin, Bob Blythe, Robert Phillips, Charlie Hoog, Alan Arnold and their wives.



Following is information describing the Service to provide you an example of how far the Australians have extended themselves to remember our lost.

Master of Ceremonies: Commander A. W. Greedy AM Royal Australian Navy

Senior Chaplain: Brian Rayner OAM RAN opened with the Hymn "O God, Our Help In Ages Past"

Music: Royal Australian Navy Band

Quote of the Naval Ode with the audience responding, "Lest We Forget"

Reveille

Naval Hymn, "Eternal Father"

Naval Prayer

National Anthems of both countries

Lord's Prayer

Address by Captain B. Swan, AM RANR (President of the HMAS Melbourne Association)

Address by J.C. Campbell, President of the USS Frank E. Evans Association, Inc.

Letter from the honorable Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (Texas) was read

Chaplain's Commemoration

Wreath Laying by: Captain John Phillip Stevenson, (Captain of the HMAS Melbourne the morning of the accident) and by Mrs Janice Lehman (widow of Radarman 1st Class Eugene Francis Lehman who was lost that fateful morning.)

RAN Band quietly played the Naval Hymn while a HMAS MELBOURNE incorrect and a USS FRANK E. EVANS Survivor called the Honor Roll, alternately reading the name of one of the "Lost 74" crewman.

Following, all members of the congregation were invited to enter the sacristy of the memorial to cast a red poppy into the shrine as an act of remembrance. The poppy was the only flower on the fields of Flanders after the fighting in the First World War, and is used in this symbolic way at all services of remembrance. The Congregation proceeded down the stairs for a short reception where a portion of the shrine has been dedicated as a museum to USS FRANK E. EVANS and those crewmen lost. We met special guests such as Australian political and Military Dignitaries, members of the Australian Parliament and sailors aboard HMAS MELBOURNE the morning of the collision. The following evening, there was a formal Dinner/Dance, with transportation provided by RAN bus.

Melbourne Association members even opened their homes to our members to hold down our expenses as much as possible. Additionally, each USS Frank E. Evans Association member arriving in Sydney over a spread of approximately five days was met at the International Airport by a delegation of HMAS Melbourne Association and provided transportation to either the hotel or to their host families. Some flights arrived as early as 0530 hrs. Fifty-two persons from the USS Frank E. Evans Association, Inc. made the trip.