

## **2024 USS Nimitz (CVN-68) Association History**

The 2024 USS Nimitz Association reunion was held September 16<sup>th</sup> – September 19<sup>th</sup> in Charleston SC at the Hilton Garden Inn Mt. Pleasant. Hosted by Tim and Kathy Gildea, they did a fantastic job. Thank you

On Monday registration and meet and greet was held in the hospitality room where the open bar, silent auction items and various memorabilia was located. Lots of sea stories were told and memories made. It was a GREAT way to start the reunion.

Tuesday morning our general meeting took place in the Ball Room. The Spouse Advocate ushered the ladies out for their meeting. Election nominations for open positions were discussed (2 candidates for the office of president). A discussion was held about running for an open position while holding an elected position with time left in that position. A motion was made to address this was put out to the members that were present to vote for clarification in the by-laws. Non-elected positions that are open included Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chairman and Nomination Chairman. Also it was brought up for a clarification on Scholarship eligibility to include Trade School Applicants and changes be made to the by-laws to reflect such. The future reunions were discussed, 2025 Indianapolis, Indiana – Rudy Law will host. If you're looking for any Nimitz accessories check out the new Ship Store on the Association website because there will no longer be any at the reunions. Meeting was adjourned.

Wednesday the membership voted on who would be the incoming President. Gary Rollins was selected as the new President in an extremely close vote of 24-22. Past President John Wilder will assist Gary through the transition. The addition of Trade Schools to Scholarship Eligibility was passed. The future reunion sites were selected with; 2026 San Diego – David Wood will host, 2027 Boston – Joe Murphy will host. With the future of "OUR" Nimitz unknown at this time, these future reunion sites MIGHT change at anytime to be able to see her before she gets scrapped. DO NOT believe any of the social media outlets regarding the USS Nimitz Decommissioning. The Nimitz Association is in direct contact with the Captain and will keep us informed. Meeting was adjourned.

Thursday we held our closing banquet with a cash bar and the winner of the \$3,000 scholarship was announced. Our guest speaker David H. Hanks was a crew member of the Nimitz from 1979 – 1983 in the reactor dept. He was a Noble Peace Prize recipient in 2005 and a author of 4 published books and retired from the NRC in 2021. His resume and experiences were very impressive. A very good speaker. The reunion was a success and well see you in Indianapolis Indiana in August