



Mom Germaine

Going aboard the USS Des Maine in Villefranche in 1958 as an 18 year old, I had no idea what was in store for the next three years of my life.

The Daisy Mae cruised the Mediterranean and visited just about every port of call from Lisbon to Beirut.

Always, we returned to Villefranche our home port and Mom Germaine, truly our home away from home. Like the sailors before me, I had a special connection to Mom, whether it was a cup of coffee when needed or a conversation about behavior. She was always there for us.

I had the honor of marching in Mom Germaine's funeral. It was one of the proudest days of my life.

It has been almost 60 years since we left our home away from home. I can remember most of it like it was yesterday, especially Mom Germaine.

Sincerely,  
Joe Loch  
USS Des Maine  
1958 to 1961









