

910 N. Overlook Drive
Alexandria, VA 22305
September 2, 1984

Dear Reunion Commodore Gene Gallagher USS Taylor
(With copy to Reunion Secretary Tom Brown, Host Jack Lane)

I have watched the past few months go by and have wondered if my medical problems would go way so that I could send in my application for the Reunion in October.

Unfortunately, they are still with me, and I am forced to tell you, with the greatest of reluctance, that I will be unable to attend.

I will miss being with you again and can tell you that I think of the Taylor quite often.

Please give my greetings to all of our shipmates and tell them that I thank the US Navy for designing such a fine ship and giving me command of her. I recall the first time I saw her in Bath and couldn't but help compare her with the WWI 4 stacker, the Dallas, which I commanded in the North Atlantic in the escort of convoys to Iceland and England. The sheer size and engine plant were the first two things that caught my eye.

I want to thank the officers and crew for helping me carry out the many tasks the ship was given:

The Engineers for bringing us to the places where we were ordered to go — many times under full power, with all four boilers on the line — what a physical task it was for them.

The Deck and Bridge personnel — Radar Sonar, CIC, Watch Officers, lookouts who provided me with the necessary information to do the jobs.

The Gunnery and Torpedo Departments for bringing fire to bear at the right times, and their preparation of our Action Reports, so nicely typed by our yeomen that we submitted so quickly and resulted in that wonderful compliment from Admiral Arleigh Burke on the prompt submission of concise, complete, and well conceived action reports.

Our Supply and Commissary who kept us fed despite long hours at Battle Stations and who kept us supplied with spare parts and equipment.

Our Communication Department for the many messages sent and received that kept us abreast of operations.

Our Medical Department for looking after not only our health, but the crews of other damaged ships who were brought aboard the Taylor for medical help.

“B” and I wish you the grandest Reunion and we hope that we can be with you at the next one.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Katz
First CO USS Taylor