

# **Vought Retiree Club** News

Vol. 29

#### January – March 2024

No. 1

## President's Message

Larry Skinner

Hello, fellow Retirees! Hope you're able to enjoy this mild spring weather before the summer heat sets in, and you can bet it will set in.



Did you catch any of the Women's NCAA Basketball Tournament? Never thought I'd ever watch even one game in my lifetime, but saw at least eight games, and thoroughly enjoyed every one of 'em. Ratings were through the roof, and not just for Caitlin! Message to NCAA: "Don't ever let the men play on the women's teams, and it'll remain a success!" Duh!

Congrats to Cathie Barrington, Chairwoman and President of the Vought Heritage Foundation, for completing her 19<sup>th</sup> year of volunteering to do taxes for seniors (and others who qualify) through the AARP tax filing program. Very worthwhile, but very "taxing" endeavor. Oh yeah, she also devotes a lot of volunteer time and effort to the VAHF restoration projects, and we appreciate her very much!

Your thoughts and prayers are needed for one of our Vought Retiree Club volunteers. Pat Patterson (retired Vought M&S/Lockheed Martin engineer) is in rehab following treatment for a serious illness. Is getting stronger, but needs every bit of support he can get. Take care of yourself, Pat!

Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought Boeing would be in the trouble they're in. What happened to pride in workmanship and Quality control? Could care less about what happens to Bud Light, but I care very deeply about Boeing, and I hope they can turn it around; but I've been hoping that for what, five years now? Definitely not the same company for which we built structures for over fifty years, and don't believe I'll be buying their stock on the dip.

On a brighter note, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control seems to be performing quite well in

support of the war in Ukraine and other conflicts. Hope they're saving some for the good ole U.S., but sure hope we don't need 'em. Is it just me, or is anyone else getting worried about Putin and his autonomous nuclear torpedo, his hypervelocity nuclear missile, and his other nuclear weapons? Might not want to corner him in his present state of mind.

OK, I'm through rambling. Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting & BBQ, sponsored by Texas Trust Credit Union, at the Ruthe Jackson Center in Grand Prairie on June 12<sup>th</sup>. If not, have a great summer, and we'll talk again.

## Larry

Save the Date ! Annual Meeting and BBQ Wednesday, June 12, 2024

# In Memoriam

by Ann Christmas

The Retiree Club has been notified since our last newsletter of the following deceased *members*. Our sincere sympathy goes out to the families of those listed. Each will be missed.

Susan Breitenbach – 8-18-2018 Norma Jean Bertrand Johnson – 3-10-2021 Nancy Lee Locke Cox - 3-23-2022Carey Kenneth Westbrook – 4-15-2023 Frederick Charles (Fred) Zimmerman – 12-12-2023 Dorothy Louise Taliaferro - 12-18-2023 Maurice Jerome Stanglin, 1-18-2024 John Gerald Szczesniak - 1-20-2024 Joyce Evelyn Holden Haynes – 1-27-2024 Stephen Baxter Hardin – 2-9-2024 John Daryl Dalby – 2-29-2024 William "Bill" Walton Rhoades - 3-2-2024 George Franklin Carlisle – 3-13-2024 Carolyn L. Wadsworth Guthrie – 3-26-2024 Ernest "Ernie" Richard Breitenbach - 3-28-2024 Thomas W. Clingingsmith - 4-7-2024

# 2024 Dues !

by Gaye Kortegast

It's time to send in your 2024 membership dues! (If you're not sure whether or not you've renewed, you may check the mailing label on this newsletter for status of your membership.)

If you would like to <u>renew for 2024, please send</u> your dues as soon as you can !

The cost is still only \$5.00 per person per year. You may renew for as many years as you desire. Or, Lifetime memberships are only \$50 per person.

> We hope to hear from you soon ! Thank you !

Renew your membership for 2024, and continue to get your Vought Retiree Club News!

Call the Club at (817) 478-1885 or Email: retireeclub@vought.org membershiprc@vought.org

# Volunteer Events

by Johnnie Johnson

Volunteering gives us the opportunity to make a positive impact in our communities by helping those who are in need.

Retirees, families, and friends are always invited to participate. Please join us at our next volunteer event.

For more information, call Johnnie Johnson at 817-845-7576, or the Retiree Club at 817-478-1885. Thanks for your help!

Johnnie Johnson

## **Chance Vought Survivors**



Dick Guthrie (<u>richardguth56@msn.com</u>) is the contact for the Chance Vought Survivors.

*Texas Governor Greg Abbott Reappoints Texas Trust CEO to Credit Union Commission; Jim Minge will be Chairman through February 2029* 



Texas Governor Greg Abbott has reappointed Jim Minge, CEO of <u>Texas Trust Credit Union</u>, to another term on the Texas Credit Union Commission. He will serve as Chairman of the Commission through February 2029.

The Commission supervises the Texas Credit Union Department, which regulates all credit unions organized and chartered in the state. The governorappointed board works closely with the Commissioner of the Texas Credit Union Department, who oversees daily operations of the agency. Texas' state chartered credit unions have more than \$57 billion in combined assets and 4 million members.

"The CU Commission helps ensure the Texas CU Department has effective policies in place that serve the collective body of the state's 4 million members," said Minge. "As a part of this commission my role is to help strengthen the credit union movement so that every credit union can successfully carry out its mission of people helping people."

Minge has been serving the credit union industry for more than 30 years. He is a member of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Fort Worth Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants. He received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

# T-shirt – O3U-3 Corsair I

The blue T-shirts featuring the O3U-3 Corsair I are available for a donation of \$15.

Shipping charges (if mailed, instead of being picked up at the Vought Retiree Club office) are \$9 for one shirt, \$12 for two shirts, or actual shipping cost for over 2 shirts.

Pick one up at, or order one from, the Retiree Club office (retireeclub@vought.org or 817-478-1885). If you want to come to pick up T-shirts at the Vought Retiree Club office, please call first to make an appointment.

The blue O3U-3 Corsair I T-shirt –



The *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chance Vought* T-shirt is available for \$15 for the restocked 2XL and 3XL sizes, and \$12 for sizes M through XL.

Shipping charges (if mailed, instead of being picked up at the Vought Retiree Club office) are \$9 for one shirt, \$12 for two shirts, or actual shipping cost for over 2 shirts.

## The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chance Vought T-shirt --

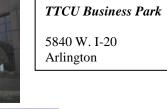




A Century of Aviation Excellence CHANCE VOUGHT AIRCRAFT FOUNDED 1917

# Executive Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month







*VHF Restoration Facility* 4224 S. Carrier

Parkway Grand **Prairie** 

The **Executive Committee** of the Vought Retiree Club meets at 9:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. We meet in alternating months either in the offices of the Vought Heritage Foundation Restoration facility in Grand Prairie, or in the office suite generously provided by **Texas Trust Credit Union** in the Texas Trust Business Park at 5840 W. I-20 in southwest Arlington.

<u>Next meeting</u>: Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at the Restoration Facility in Grand Prairie.

## **Restoration News**

The **Vought Heritage Foundation** Restoration volunteer crew works in a facility rented from the Grand Prairie Independent School District. They currently meet every Tuesday and Thursday -- from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Anyone who wants to help restore the company's old aircraft, come join the Restoration Volunteers ! every Tuesday and Thursday --

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Donuts, snacks, coffee, and soft drinks provided. Join the Fun !

Contact <u>voughtheritage@vought.org</u>, with your questions.

The Vought Restoration facility is located at 4224 S. Carrier Parkway, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052, south of I-20 behind the State Farm Insurance office (Charles England and Kirk England). As you go south on Carrier from I-20, turn right immediately before the State Farm office. It is suggested that you call 214-702-6406, or email

<u>voughtheritage@vought.org</u>, beforehand for exact directions, or to make sure we haven't taken a holiday.



You can support the efforts of our Retiree Volunteers ! Even if you can't work on the aircraft, you can help by donating to support their restoration work! (Donations are tax-deductible.)



Vought Heritage Foundation, Inc. a 501(c)(3) non-profit Corporation P.O. Box 532794 Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-2794 Voughtheritage@vought.org

## Restoration Updates from Rusty Branum

Activities of the Restoration Group are shown here for February 1, 2024 through April 7, 2024. (*The last issue showed activities for the period September 14, 2023 through January 4, 2024.*)

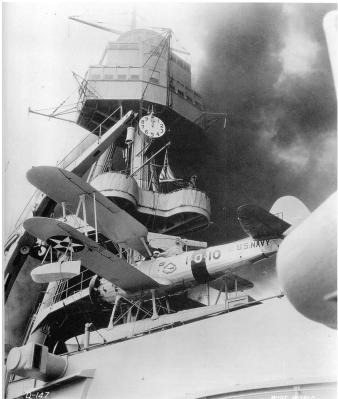
As of April 11, 2024, Stick a fork in it, the O3U-3 airplane is officially done !!!

(read below for all the details)

Nathan Clay told Rusty Branum that he found an old photo of the O3U-3 #10 that our volunteers are restoring !

He found the photo of #10 on

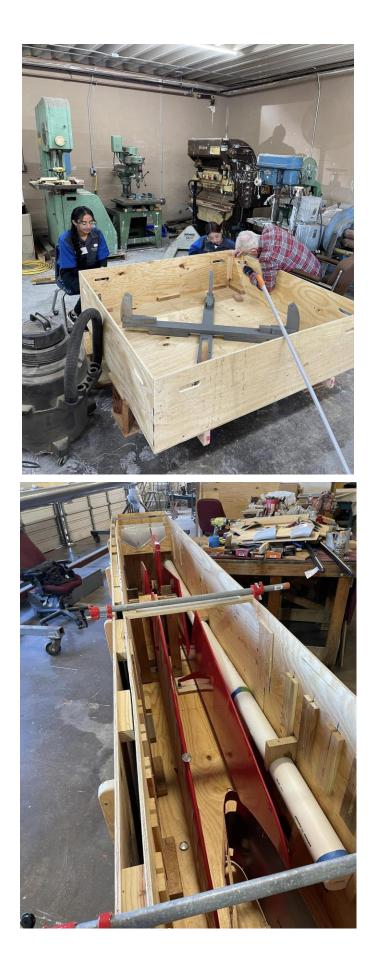
https://www.navsource.org/archives/01/38a.htm "Vought O3U-1 # 1-0-10 running up its engine on turret catapult of the Pennsylvania (BB-38) in 1936."



- photo courtesy of Pieter Bakels

## February 1, 2024

Today's update -- the Grand Prairie ISD student interns are helping Bob Szabados with some shipping box container modifications, more boxes for the control surfaces, and getting the top cowling back on the airplane.







## **February 6, 2024** Big Day for the O3U-3 –





















## February 13, 2024

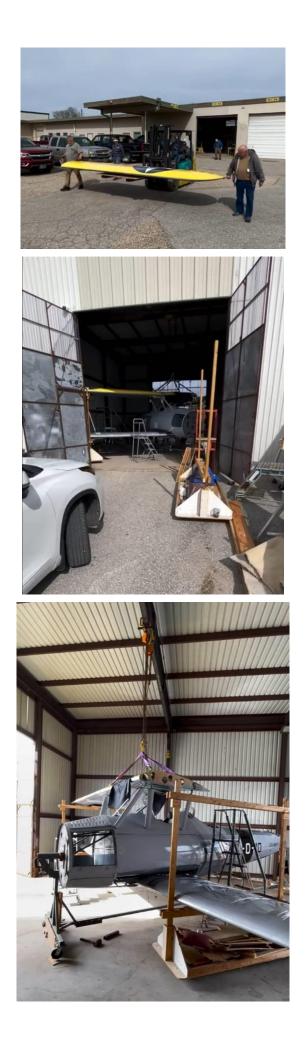
We had a productive day. We ran a little late -- shut down at 2:00 p.m. Right lower wing is bolted up. Right upper wing is waiting on goalpost.

## February 15, 2024

Lots of progress today!

The last wing left the paint area, and headed back to be joined up with the fuselage. All four wings and center section are now installed, we have started with wing struts and wires, and we are cleaning paint out of bolt holes.

Took videos to show how cramped our work space is and how we make use of our homemade wooden supports and another lifting platform built for the forklift. (*The first 4 photos below are still shots from the videos on the Vought Heritage Foundation Facebook page.*)











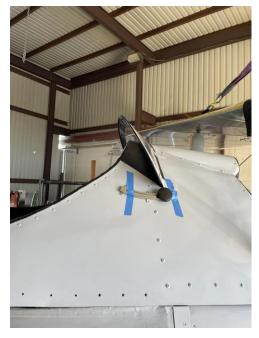
# February 22, 2024

Some more progress today -- more wires, fairings and windscreen hardware being installed.









## February 27, 2024

Got a little more progress today -- with fitting strut boots, and got both javelins installed.



## March 5, 2024

These terrific dedicated people are the HEROES to all Vought employees and retirees !!!

All the Volunteer Restoration Crew Members gathered together today for a group picture --

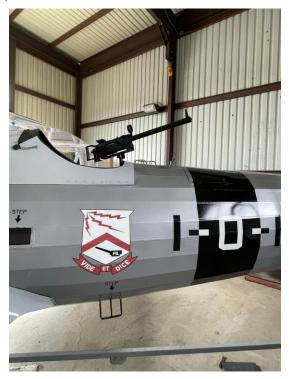


#### March 7, 2024

A lot of small detail work going into the airplane this week -- gun mounts, close out panels, fairings, and strut boots. Richard Sheaner is hand-fitting each boot, a tedious job to say the least; he is about 75% complete, with another couple of days' work to finish.

## March 12, 2024

Don't be trying to sneak up on us, we are armed and ready for action !





Gun sight and telescope installed --



## March 19, 2024

Sitting on her own four legs and float, she's a pretty girl !



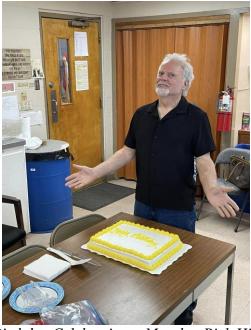
Celebrating our January, February, and March birthdays today. Happy Birthday to all !



Birthday Celebration – January -- Don Branton, 91



Birthday Celebration – February -- Huey Barrilleaux, Earl Hastings, and Jay Johnson



Birthday Celebration – March – Rick Hill



Now, look closely -- the O3U-3 airplane is off the fixture and hanging from the ceiling! I guess it's flying for the first time.





The forward facing gun was installed –



March 21, 2024 O3U-3 in the hangar, at 7:24 a.m. –



Today, we installed both wing tip floats, landing wires, finished fitting main float struts and wires, and fitted belly skins.















March 26, 2024 Vertical going on.



Getting some of the horizontal stabilizer and elevator installed, working on vertical and rudder.



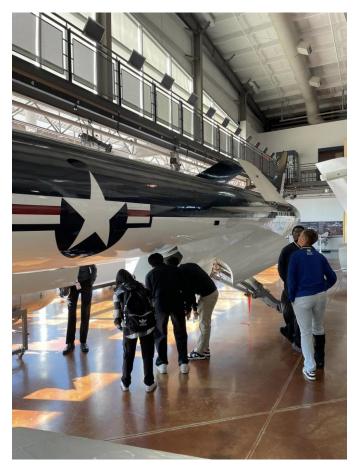
## March 28, 2024

We entertained 29 students from the Grand Prairie ISD at Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas, Texas, today.









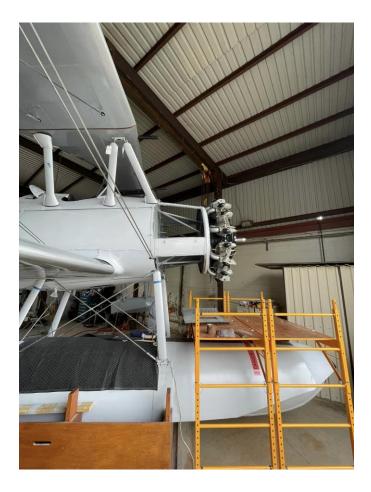
April 2, 2024

Engine going on this morning. 17 years of volunteer work to get to this point.







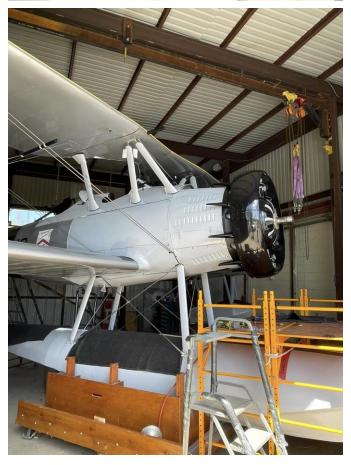


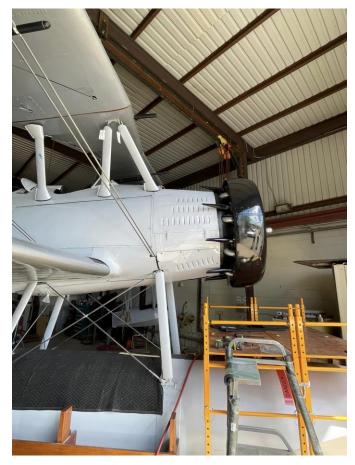
Finishing up installing tail fairings --



Late today, we got the engine cowlings, speed ring, and exhaust pipes all installed.







Rusty Branum working on rudder and elevator controls –



April 4, 2024 Added a little bit of jewelry today –



## April 7, 2024

O3U-3 in the hangar --



April 11, 2024 Stick a fork in it, the airplane is officially done !!!











Vought Employees Virtual Cemetery

Vought Retiree Club Newsletter Editor, Bob Bardo, has entered (so far) a total of 930 979 former Chance Vought and LTV Aerospace and Vought Aircraft employees into a virtual cemetery on the website *findagrave.com* --

https://www.findagrave.com/virtualcemetery/952963.

This is a "work in progress" and more of our deceased fellow employees will continue to be added.

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## *Graydon Bushart (Vought Restoration Volunteer), passed on September 2, 2023*

Graydon Bushart passed on Saturday, September 2, 2023. Graydon was one of the dedicated Vought retiree volunteers who work tirelessly on restoring Vought aircraft for display in museums throughout the U.S. Graydon served on the committee to raise funds for the restoration of the F4U Corsair, which is now on display in the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. He also worked under the Vought Heritage Foundation on reviewing the website of Vought history – <u>www.Vought.org</u>, and supported its data center.

## Graydon Bushart (December 14, 1926 -

September 2, 2023)



Graydon Bushart was born on Tuesday, December 14, 1926, in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and died on Saturday, September 2, 2023, in Arlington, Texas, from complications of pneumonia. He was 96 years old.

He grew up in Fort Smith, graduating from high school in 1944. He attended junior college before enlisting in the Navy in December of that same year, training in Great Lakes, Illinois, as an electronics technician, before being assigned to the Navy Air Corps at graduation. Upon discharge in 1946, he entered the University of Arkansas, pledging the Kappa Sigma fraternity, earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1950.

While at the university, he met and began dating JoAnn Brown of El Dorado, Arkansas. The couple wed in 1950, and moved to Arlington, Texas, where Graydon began his career with Chance Vought Aircraft, which became LTV Aerospace and Defense. He earned his Master's degree at Southern Methodist University -- while working on aircraft and missile programs including the Regulus I and II, Scout, ASTA, Airtrans, Lance and ATACMS. He retired from Vought Engineering after 42 years, returning briefly as a contract engineer before officially retiring from its successor company, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control, in 1997. Graydon was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church of Arlington, an active member of Arkansas Alumni Association, the Vought Aircraft Industries Retiree Club, and the Vought Heritage Foundation, serving on the committee to raise funds for restoration of the F4U Corsair fighter aircraft.

He and JoAnn raised three children in Arlington. He was preceded in death by his parents Graydon J. Bushart, Sr. and Othella Browne Bushart, sister Dorothy Frances Woods, and wife of 71 years, JoAnn.

He is survived by their three children daughter Gwendolyn Scott, sons David Brown (wife Patricia), and Thomas Kent Bushart, and faithful friend of over 70 years, John Skidmore. Visitation Friday, September 15, 2023, 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Wade Family Funeral Home, 4140 W. Pioneer Parkway, Arlington, Texas. Celebration of life on Saturday, September 16, 2023, 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Arlington, 313 N. Center Street, Arlington, Texas. - based on obituary published by the *Star-Telegram* on September 10, 2023.

1950 Chance Vought Engineering Trainee Class



Robert L Wylie	G
Joseph C Behne	Ha
Raymur B Bennett	Ro
George E. Rodriguez	w

iraydon J. Bushart Ri ans J. Petermann W obert S. Anderson W /illiam F. Roberts Ha

Richard H. Myers William C. McMillin William F. Cramer Harold E. **Brougham** 



Graydon Bushart, Sam Lynne, and Alexander Mills, at the Vought Survivors Club meeting, July 16, 2014

## Carolyn Guthrie, wife of Dick Guthrie (Vought Restoration Volunteer), passed on March 26, 2024

Carolyn Guthrie passed on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. Carolyn was a sweet lady, and it was always great to see her with Dick at the Vought Retiree Club Annual Meeting and BBQ. Carolyn was the wife of Dick Guthrie, one of the dedicated Vought retiree volunteers who work tirelessly on restoring Vought aircraft for display in museums throughout the U.S. Dick was the Project Manager over the 2004-2012 restoration of the V-173 Flying Pancake; it was delivered to the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas, Texas, on March 27, 2012. Dick also contributed to the website of Vought history – <u>www.Vought.org</u>. Our deepest sympathies and condolences to Dick Guthrie and their family.

## Carolyn Leigh Wadsworth Guthrie

(September 10, 1936 - March 26, 2024)



Carolyn Leigh Wadsworth was born on Thursday, September 10, 1936 to Fancher Leigh Wadsworth,

Jr. and Elizabeth W. *Minter* Wadsworth. She passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at the age of 87.

Memorial Service: 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2024, in the Chapel of the Wade Family Funeral Home, 4140 West Pioneer Parkway, Arlington, Texas 76013.

Carolyn married Richard O. "Dick" Guthrie on Wednesday, November 28, 1956, and they enjoyed a 67-year-long marriage, four children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Dick and Carolyn celebrated with family their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in November 2006, and their 60<sup>th</sup> in November 2016.

She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and Religion as well as a Master's degree in Education, both from TCU.

All while parenting, **Carolyn served as President** of the LTV Aero Wives Club, the Astro Wives

**Club**, and the Dallas TCU Women's Club. She grew up in the Methodist and Disciples of Christ denominations, active in churches in Ennis, Dallas, and Arlington. She taught Bible Credit courses for eleven years in the Dallas ISD, through Central Christian Church in Highland Park. She was very proud that her students won a trophy for the best class average in New Testament in 1972. She was an elementary school teacher teaching in the Dallas and Arlington ISDs, fiercely loving her students, parents, and fellow teachers. She was awarded an Honorary PTA Life Membership when she retired from teaching.

Carolyn loved to shop, read, play all kinds of games, and was very competitive in her game playing. She enjoyed big holiday celebrations and decorating her home for every season. Carolyn had a green thumb, filling her home and patios with thriving plants and flowers.

She and Dick traveled all over the world after retirement. She loved buying mementos and ornaments from their travels, and even wrote on each one where they had been.

Carolyn was a wonderful Grandy and Great-Grandy/GG to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She gave hundreds of "sussies" over the years, delighting in giving those small, personal gifts to everyone she loved.

She is survived by her husband, Dick Guthrie of Arlington, Texas; her sister, Ann Gerace of Thousand Oaks, California; and niece, Ashley Walburn of Chico, California. Her children are Richard O. Guthrie Jr. of Arlington, Texas, Cindy Ryan (Robin Ryan) of Franklin, Texas, Russell Guthrie (Albert Banta) of Norfolk, Connecticut, and Cathy Hilliard of Arlington, Texas. Her grandchildren are Daryl Dagley of College Station, Texas, Reed Ryan of Aubrey, Texas, Sarah Robinson of Euless, Texas, Graham Ryan of Lawton, Oklahoma, and Chelsea Hilliard of Bennington, Oklahoma. Her great-grandchildren are Pace and Keller Dagley, Rylan and Tucker Robinson, and River and Tatum Ryan. Memorial gifts can be given to Mission Arlington, 2210 W. South Street, Arlington, Texas 76010, or donate online at www.missionarlington.org. Mission Arlington provides resources of all kinds for those in need in the Arlington area -- including food, clothing, health care and school supplies. Carolyn was a volunteer at Mission Arlington, and admired their community work.

Arrangements by Wade Family Funeral Home, Arlington Texas.

- based on obituary posted on the website of the Wade Family Funeral Home.

Carolyn Guthrie  $(4^{th} from right, seated)$  at White Rock Lake in Dallas Texas in 1952 –



From the collections of the Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division, Dallas Public Library

From **D** Magazine, article written by Jason Heid, published on August 15, 2012 (photo from the article is included above in this memorial) --A Woodrow Wilson High School alum was curious about what became of the girls photographed cooling off in the White Rock Lake spillway 60 years ago.

Thanks to help from the Woodrow alumni

association, I was able to speak to two of the women yesterday. They were apparently part of a close-knit group of high school friends whose lives have dispersed them across the country, with one in California, one in Georgia, one in a Connecticut. At least one is deceased. They all graduated from Woodrow in 1954.

Carolyn (Wadsworth) Guthrie is 75, lives in Arlington, and told me she spent more than 20 years working as a school teacher. She'd attended school with some of the other girls since their time at Robert E. Lee Elementary. The day of the photograph was the only time in her life she'd ever sat in the water of the spillway.

"I can't remember the exact circumstances, but I believe it was the last day of school, and we picked up our report cards and decided to do that as a treat," Guthrie said.

Article in the *Colleyville Courier*, November 2006:

#### Friday, November 24, 2006 7A The Courier The Secrets of a Good Marriage

**REAL LIFE** 

In four days my parents will celebrate their Golden Wed-ding Anniversary. Earlier this month our extended family celebrated the eventand my dad said he felt a little funny about

"What if we end up not being able to stay married these next three weeks?"

49

these

he quipped. Personally, I don't mind celebrating years and 49 weeks of marriage ... it's quite

an accomplishment days.

We had a lovely meal, marveled over their wedding of a good, long marriage. Each pictures from 1956 and enjoyed toasts throughout the celebration. Even the youngest of us, an eight-year-old managed a toast, "To all those great times at the beach!" My father is a retired Aero-

space Engineer, or as my husband puts it, a "real rocket sci-entist." My mother is a retired Elementary School Teacher. Our family, like all families I

know, has had its share of up and downs, family dynamics and assorted issues. I marvel at the fact that my parents managed to raise four very different children to responsible and productive adulthood and that they still continue to meet each of us where we are and relate to us in positive ways in our very different worlds. They grandparents to five grandchildren ages 6 to 18. In my opinion, they are even better at grandparenting than they were at parenting. In retirement, my parents have enjoyed hobbies, volunteer work, making new friends, traveling, entertaining and playing lots of Super Nin-

tendo (I'm not kidding). As we finished our evening of celebrating their long and successful marriage, we asked them to comment on the secrets of my parents stood and made a speech. Each of them said wonderful things about their kids, grandkids and one another; each artfully dodging the question. Again, we posed the question . and again, they each avoided answering it.

In the end, I think these are their secrets:



Richard and Carolyn Guthrie, married Nov. 28, 1956. enio

Take life as it comes with all its ups, downs and surprises. Make lots of friends along the way.

Play as much as you can along the way.

And never, ever admit that you actually know what you are doing or have any secret tips.

Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote, "Love is the only gold." This little nugget, when you think about it, might just be the key Find someone you love and Maybe it's not a secret after all.



#### Fort Worth Star-Telegram Sunday, November 26, 2006 **9G**



Richard O. "Dick" and Carolyn Wadsworth Guthrie celebrated 50 years of marriage with a family dinner party hosted by their

dinner party hosted by their children at Cacharel in Arlington. They also celebrated with a Thanksgiving trip to Lake Tahoe, Nev.

Dick is a retired aerospace engineer from Chance-Vought. Carolyn is a retired teacher from the Arlington ISD.

Their children are Richard Guthrie Jr., Dr. Cindy Guthrie Ryan, Russell Guthrie and Cathy Guthrie Hilliard. They have five grandchildren, Daryl, Reed and Graham Ryan of Grapevine and Sarah and Chelsea Hilliard of Keller. Fort Worth Star-Telegram Sun, Nov 27, 2016 · Page D5

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**



#### Guthrie - 60th

Dick and Carolyn Guthrie will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on November 28, 2016 with their children, Richard Guthrie Jr., Cindy Ryan, Russell Guthrie and Cathy Hilliard. The Guthries have five grandchildren, Dary Dagley, Reed Ryan, Graham Ryan, Sarah Robinson and Chelsea Hilliard, and a new great-David grandson. Keller Dagley.

The Guthries reside in Arlington and have enjoyed their jobs, family and traveling. They are members of Trinity United Methodist Church.

## Regulus on USS Growler (SSG-577)



USS Growler (SSG-577), second of the Regulus I guided missile submarines, was built by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

At her launching on 5 April 1958, she was sponsored by Mrs. Robert K. Byerts, widow of Comdr. Thomas B. Oakley, Jr., who commanded the third USS Growler (SSG-577) on her 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and fatal 11<sup>th</sup> war patrols. Growler commissioned at Portsmouth on 30 August 1958, Lt. Comdr. Charles Priest, Jr., in command.



After training exercises off the East Coast, the USS Growler (SSG-577) sailed south for her shakedown cruise, arriving at the Naval Air Station, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, on 19 February 1959. After a brief run back to Portsmouth, she returned to the Caribbean in March to train in launching Regulus I and II guided missiles. USS Growler (SSG-577) returned to Portsmouth on 19 April 1959 via Fort Lauderdale and New London.

USS Growler (SSG-577) then proceeded to the Pacific via Norfolk, Key West, and the Panama Canal, putting in at Pearl Harbor on 7 September to serve as flagship of Submarine Division 12. At Pearl Harbor the guided missile sub participated in a variety of battle and torpedo exercises as well as missile practice before beginning her first Regulus Deterrent Mission. On this mission, which lasted from 12 March to 17 May 1960, the USS Growler (SSG-577) departed Hawaii with a full store of Regulus II sea-to-surface missiles, armed with nuclear warheads, and patrolled under a strict cloak of secrecy.

From May 1960 through December 1963, the USS Growler (SSG-577) had made nine such deterrent mission patrols, one of which, the fourth, terminated at Yokosuka, Japan, on 24 April 1962, as the Navy proudly displayed one of its newest and most effective weapons. Returning to Mare Island, California, in May 1964, the USS Growler (SSG-577) was decommissioned on May 25, 1964, and was placed in reserve.

Currently, the USS Growler is berthed across the pier from the USS Intrepid in the Hudson River in New York City.

## VOUGHT RETIREE CLUB 28th ANNUAL MEETING AND BBQ WEDNESDAY, 6/12/2024 AT THE RUTHE JACKSON CENTER

You are cordially invited to attend our 28th Annual Meeting and BBQ on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at the Ruthe Jackson Center in Grand Prairie. The Ruthe Jackson Center is located at 3113 South Carrier Parkway in Grand Prairie, Texas. It is on the southeast corner of Carrier and Warrior Trail.

#### This is a MEMBERS ONLY event.

Doors will open at 9:00 a.m.

The Annual Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. The barbecue lunch will be served starting at about 11:30 a.m.

Door prizes will be awarded after lunch.

#### PLEASE RSVP BY TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024!!

Cost is \$5.00 per member. Mail your check and completed registration form to:

Vought Retiree Club

#### 5840 W. Interstate 20, Suite 280

#### Arlington, TX 76017

If you are not a current member, you are invited to renew your membership by sending an extra \$5.00 per person for annual dues (or \$50.00 for a lifetime membership),

even if you cannot attend the meeting.

QUESTIONS? Call Vynita Hutson at 817-478-1885 at the Vought Retiree Club office, or email <u>retireeclub@vought.org</u>. Please complete the registration form below and send it in with your check,

so we are sure we have your current data.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

<u>Please check all that apply</u>: Are you a Vought Retiree Club Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Chance Vought Survivors Club Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Restoration Volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name:	Spouse Name:				
DOB member:	DOB spouse:				
Address (Street, City, Sta	te, ZIP):				
Home phone:	Cell phone:				
Email address:					
Amount enclosed:	Meeting		Dues	TOTAL	
	Ś	\$		Ś	



# **Events Calendar 2024**



Vought Retiree Club

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

12 – 2024 Annual Meeting / BBQ Ruthe Jackson Center 3113 South Carrier Pkwy. Grand Prairie, TX (Wednesday) JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

All Dates subject to change, Events without date are TO BE DETERMINED \*Information about specific times and costs will follow in flyers in future Newsletters



## December 15, 2022 -- Vought Heritage Foundation Restoration Volunteers



Vought Retiree Club 5840 W I-20, Suite #280 Arlington, TX 76017-1098 First Class US Postage Paid Arlington, TX Permit No. 295

#### **Officers:**

President – Larry Skinner 1st Vice President – Karen Sauls 2nd Vice President – Gaye Kortegast Treasurer – Madie Vernon Secretary – Vynita Hutson Sergeant-at-Arms – Wat Watkins

#### Call the Club at (817) 478-1885

Email: <u>retireeclub@vought.org</u> membershiprc@vought.org

#### Directors:

Activities – Pat Patterson Annual Meeting – Karen Sauls Support Assistant – Sue Nutt Mailing – Bob Snegon Newsletter and Publicity – Bob Bardo Newsletter Editor Emeritus – Connie Singleton Veterans' Advocate – Gene Cates Volunteer Programs – Johnnie Johnson Technical Support and Website\* – Roger Stites V.P. - Membership Assistant – Ann Christmas President, Vought Heritage Foundation – Cathie Barrington

\*Vought Heritage Website: <u>www.vought.org</u>

For questions on retiree benefits: Triumph/Vought Retirees, call the "Benefits Center" toll free 844-368-1917 Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control Retirees call 866-562-2363, M-F, 8 am-8 pm ET

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