





Francis Joseph Garcia

Francis and four siblings were raised by their father after their mother died prematurely. He grew up in the San Francisco area so the Navy was no stranger to him. He enlisted on 6 Oct 1967. After completing recruit training and leave he was assigned to USS GRIDLEY (DLG 21) on 16 Mar 1968. GRIDLEY was Ensign John Kerry's first ship. Francis served with him and then was transferred to USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD 754) on 23 Sep 1968. He was assigned to 1st Division and continued to strike for Boatswain Mate. SN Garcia was on watch in the Pilot House as Helmsman when the collision occurred.