



Gerald Wayne Smith

Born17 Nov 1947, Chicago, IL
Parents Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Smith
Siblings Robert, Gary, Janet & Kelly
Education Oak Lawn High School
Enlisted Chicago, IL
Boot Camp NTC Great Lakes
Rating Boiler Tender FA

“Smitty” joined the Navy 1 Feb 1967, and reported for recruit training the same day, mid-winter, Great Lakes. After graduation he was received for duty on board USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD 754) 2 May 1967, and was assigned to the “Black Gang” the fire room. Becoming ill, he was hospitalized 17 August 1967, the same day the ship left Long Beach on her 15th deployment. He was released and transferred to Naval Station Long Beach, remaining there until 23 Dec 1967, when EVANS was in port at Sasebo, Japan. BTFA Smith was on watch in the Forward Fire Room with three other men when the collision occurred; there were no survivors.