



U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION

Director Samuel J Cox
Naval History and Heritage Command
805 Kidder Breese Street SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

USS Wainwright Crew Member

Director Cox

I am writing to you on behalf of the Wainwright family and the over four thousand Navy Veterans who proudly served our country as a U.S.S. Wainwright sailor since World War One.

The USS Wainwright Veterans Association is a 501-C3 non-profit military organization that is dedicated to educating the public and promoting the role that the US Navy has played in the defense of the United States, and to maintain awareness of the three USS Wainwright ships DD-62, DD-419, DLG/CG-28 and to assist in Naval recruitment efforts and to maintain the traditions, institutions, and ideals of the United States of America.

I understand that the U.S. Navy is in the process of naming the new Arleigh Burke DDG Class Destroyers in honor of Naval Heroes. I also understand that you as the Director for the NHHC are responsible for providing the names to the Secretary the Navy for consideration of naming of these vessels. I respectfully request that you consider placing the Wainwright name on this list to the Secretary the Navy and ask that he designate one of these new ships as a new U.S.S. Wainwright DDG.

Being the Director of the NHHC and a retired Naval Officer I am sure you are aware of the rich history of both the Wainwright name and the ships that have served our country. But I would like to remind you of some the highlights. To date there have been three ships that have been named for the Wainwright family. The first U.S.S. Wainwright DD 62 served in the Navy during World War I from 1916 - 1922. This ship was named for Commander Richard Wainwright (Naval Service 1831-1862). Commander Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright (Naval Service 1837-1863), and his son Master Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright (Naval Service 1867- 1870).

The second U.S.S. Wainwright DD 419 served in the Navy from 1940 - 1946. During this time DD-419 won seven Battle Stars and was instrumental in the capturing the crew and ultimately sinking of the German Submarine U-593. There is a model of DD 419 in the Naval Museum at the Navy Yard in Washington DC. This ship was named in honor of the three Wainwright's mentioned above, as well as Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright (Naval Service 1864-1911).

The last U.S.S. Wainwright DLG/CG 28 served in our Navy from 1966 - 1993. DLG/CG 28 served in both the Viet Nam War and Operation Praying Mantis. This

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ship was named in honor of the four Wainwright's mentioned above, as well as Commander Richard Wainwright Jr. (Naval Service 1903-1921) Commander Richard Wainwright Jr received the Congressional Medal of Honor for engagements of Vera Cruz Mexico April 21 and 22 1914

As you can see there has been a U.S.S. Wainwright or Wainwright family member serving in our Navy since before the Civil War and up through November 10, 1993 when the USS Wainwright CG-28 was decommissioned. We believe Wainwright is a name that honors the traditions of leadership that instills pride in the crews that have served under that name since 1916.

The Wainwright family and the Sailors who so proudly served our country on the U.S.S. Wainwrights would be honored if you would work with us to preserve the legacy of the three USS Wainwright ships and the honorees for whom they were deservedly named by supporting this request to have the Secretary of the Navy to name an Arleigh Burke DDG Class ship named as a new U.S.S. Wainwright.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Wainwright Sailor -