Do You Know Anyone Who Served Aboard The USS Intrepid?

August 16, 2018 will mark the 75th anniversary of the commissioning of the USS *Intrepid* (CVS-11), the World War II-era Essex class aircraft carrier that is now home to the <u>Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum</u> in New York City. To mark the occasion, the Intrepid Museum is putting out a coast-to-coast "all call" for former *Intrepid* crew members to be reunited in a special 75th Commissioning Anniversary Celebration Weekend from Thursday, August 16 to Sunday, August 19, 2018 on board *Intrepid*.

The Museum is also accepting donations of personal artifacts and memorabilia from former crew members and their families. Each item added to the Museum's collection helps express and interpret *Intrepid*'s stories of service, and serves to educate and inspire more than one million visitors each year.

To learn more about this weekend and for registration information, former crew members and their family members can visit www.intrepidmuseum.org/75 or email fcm@intrepidmuseum.org.

The homecoming weekend will feature a special ceremony marking the 75th anniversary of *Intrepid*'s commissioning on Thursday, August 16, honoring *Intrepid* former crew members who will reunite and share stories of their tours of duty. Throughout the weekend, the Museum will offer guided tours of the ship and behind-the-scenes curator-led tours of the Museum's collection storage facility, and a special former crew member dinner event with the United States Secretary of the Navy, Richard V. Spencer. For some former crew members, this will be the first time they have been aboard their beloved ship since the completion of their service.

Intrepid's 75th Commissioning Anniversary Celebration Weekend is open to the public, and will feature programs and events specifically tailored for former crew members and their families, as well as opportunities for members of the public to interact with our visiting former crew members. Over 280 former crew members are currently confirmed to attend with their family members.

Now a Museum and national historic landmark, the aircraft carrier *Intrepid* (CVS-11) was one of the most successful and stalwart ships in US history. Nicknamed "The Fighting I" by its crew, *Intrepid* served in the Pacific during World War II, surviving five kamikaze attacks and one torpedo strike. *Intrepid* later conducted submarine surveillance in the North Atlantic during the Cold War and served three tours of duty off Vietnam. It was also one of the primary recovery vessels for NASA during the Mercury and Gemini missions, and

retrieved astronauts Scott Carpenter, Gus Grissom and John Young after their respective orbits and splashdowns in the Pacific.

About the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum

The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum is a non-profit, educational institution featuring the legendary aircraft carrier *Intrepid*, the space shuttle *Enterprise*, the world's fastest jets and a guided missile submarine. Through exhibitions, educational programming and the foremost collection of technologically groundbreaking aircraft and vessels, visitors of all ages and abilities are taken on an interactive journey through history to learn about American innovation and bravery.

The Intrepid Museum fulfills its mission to honor our heroes, educate the public and inspire our youth by connecting them to history through hands-on exploration while bridging the future by inspiring innovation.

Connect with us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>, and tour the Museum virtually on <u>Google Arts & Culture</u>.