

**PATRIOTS POINT
NAVAL & MARITIME
MUSEUM**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USS Laffey Association to Host Battle of Okinawa Memorial

Ceremony will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16 aboard the USS Laffey.

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C. – On Tuesday, April 16th at 11:30 a.m., veterans of the USS Laffey Association will host a memorial service to honor the 32 sailors killed during the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. The event will take place aboard the USS Laffey and include a reading of the names of the fallen, a moment of silence, and a ceremonial wreath toss.

April 16th marks the 79th anniversary of Japanese kamikaze attacks near Okinawa. In roughly 80 minutes, the USS Laffey was attacked by 22 kamikaze aircraft. Seven bomb-carrying kamikaze aircraft crashed into the vessel and was hit by four bombs. Against all odds, the valiant sailors of the USS Laffey never quit and heroically fought off the attack, shooting down 11 of the Japanese planes. It was the fiercest attack ever survived by a U.S. Navy vessel and for her valor, the ship was awarded the Presidential Citation and earned the sobriquet, “The Ship That Would Not Die.”

Museum admission will be waived for those attending the ceremony, starting at 10:30 a.m. Parking is \$5.

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About Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum

Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum, on the Charleston Harbor, is the #1 attraction in Mount Pleasant, S.C., and is home to a fleet of National Historic Landmark ships, and the only Vietnam Support Base Camp in the U.S. Patriots Point is also headquarters to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and the agency’s official Medal of Honor Museum. Visit www.patriotspoint.org for more details or find us on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

About the USS Yorktown Foundation

The USS Yorktown Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to raising funds to provide scholarships for educational programs at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum, as well as supporting new exhibits, symposiums, and special programs. The Foundation’s mission is “to cultivate a unique learning environment that connects generations by celebrating America’s history and its heroes, inspiring freedom, patriotism, leadership and service.” For more information, please visit www.USSYorktownFoundation.org or call 843.881.5925.

