



Seaman 2nd Class Deward W. Duncan Jr.

October 8, 1924 - January 12, 1944

DUNCAN– Seaman 2nd Class, Deward W. Duncan, Jr., age 19 of Monroe, GA, passed away on January 12, 1944. Graveside Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Rest Haven Cemetery, 200 N. Madison Avenue, Monroe, GA 30655 with military honors. Pastor Carol Renfroe will officiate. After 75 years, his remains will finally be home and laid to rest beside his parents. Seaman 2nd Class Duncan, who entered the U.S. Navy from Georgia, was stationed on Betio, following the capture of Tarawa Atoll. On January 12, 1944, S2 Duncan was killed during a Japanese air raid when a bomb was dropped near his tent over Betio. He was reportedly buried the same day in a cemetery on Betio, but his remains could not be identified from among the remains recovered from Betio after the war. In May of 2017, the independent investigative group History Flight, in partnership with DPAA, located a grave site on Betio and recovered human remains. DPAA analysts identified S2 Duncan from among these remains. He was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. Deward & Nellie Butler Duncan, Sr.; brothers, Dewey Day Duncan, Clifford Benson Duncan, Billy Hugh Duncan, Fletcher Duncan; sister, Myrtle Duncan Phillips; nephew, Clifford B. Duncan, Jr., and he is survived by Nieces: Darlene Phillips of Jackson, Jennie Duncan of McDonough, Julie Duncan Harris of Jackson; Nephew: Dwayne Duncan of Covington; Great-Nephew: Staff Sgt. Jeremy Duncan of Ft. Hood, TX, Jesse Duncan of South Dakota; Great-Niece: Jade Duncan Hollister of South Dakota and many other extended family members. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM - 8:00

PM on Friday, June 7, 2019 at Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 209 South Hammond Drive, Monroe, GA 30655. (770) 267-2594. You may sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com

Cemetery Details

Rest Haven Cemetery

200 N. Madison Avenue
Monroe, GA 30655

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 7. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Tim Stewart Funeral Home Monroe
209 South Hammond Drive
Monroe, GA 30655

Graveside

JUN 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Rest Haven Cemetery
Monroe, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Seaman 2nd Class Deward W. Duncan Jr.*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *Welcome Home Seaman Duncan !!
Words cannot express our gratitude for the sacrifice you made and
the great loss for your family- we are grateful to have you home !!!
The Harvey's - Monroe Ga*

David Harvey - June 07, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“His Lord said to him, Well done, you good and faithful servant...”
Matthew 25:21.

S2c Deward William Duncan, Jr., was a member of a Standard Landing Craft Unit on Tarawa after the battle. On 12 January 1944, S2c Duncan was killed by bomb fragments during a nighttime attack by Japanese aircraft. While at the Department of Defense (DoD) in 2011/2012, Chief Rick Stone prepared reports which noted that S2c Duncan was not a most likely match to any Tarawa casualties who were buried as “Unknowns” in the Punchbowl Cemetery in Hawaii. The Chief Rick Stone and Family Charitable Foundation researchers, using advanced law enforcement investigative techniques and sophisticated technologies not available at DoD or to the government contractors paid to recover remains, continued to research S2c Duncan’s case. In 2013, the Foundation determined that S2c Duncan remained buried on Tarawa in Cemetery 33, Plot 13, Row 2, Grave Number 17. S2c Duncan was recovered from the site indicated by Foundation research and his identification was officially announced on 27 September 2018. Welcome home Sailor! We share the joy of your family in your return! God Bless you and thanks to ALL who never forgot you and your service to our country!

Rose Stone - June 07, 2019 at 06:06 PM



“Darleen Woody lit a candle in memory of
Seaman 2nd Class Deward W. Duncan Jr.



Darleen Woody - June 06, 2019 at 10:08 PM



“WELCOME HOME ~ THANK YOU SIR!

Darleen Woody - June 06, 2019 at 10:07 PM

JP

“ *J. Prce lit a candle in memory of Seaman 2nd Class Deward W. Duncan Jr.*



J. Prce - June 06, 2019 at 02:11 PM

CC

“ *Thank you for your service and sacrifice sir and welcome home where you belong. Say hello to my Grandfather who was aboard the USS Monaghan Dec. 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor.*



Chris Chalupa - June 06, 2019 at 01:45 PM

DR

“ *I saw the motorcade come through this morning. So sad, but so glad that you are home now. Rest in eternal peace and thank you so much for your service.*



Doris Reach

Doris Barbara Reach - June 06, 2019 at 09:49 AM

CF

“ *Rest easy.... thank you for your service*

Cathy Felver - June 05, 2019 at 08:01 PM