

Hosea Wood Gallimore

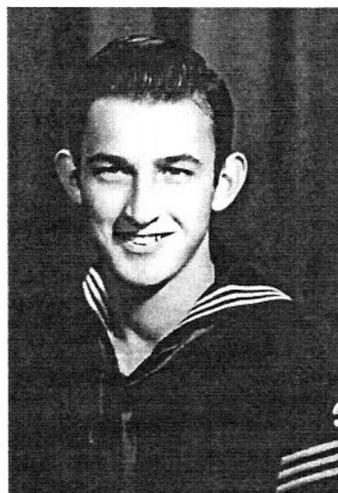


Hosea Wood Gallimore, was the sixth child of Seaph and Alice Snider Gallimore. Hosea was born the 26 August 1931 in Thomasville. Since he was born on the same day as his uncle, Hosea Lee Snider, therefore, his first name became Hosea. His middle name was after his father's middle name.

When Hosea was around one year old the family moved back to Crousetown Road near Denton. The farm was situated close to Randolph County and was close to several of the Gallimore and Snider relatives.

Hosea attended school in Denton and graduated from Denton High School in 1950. While in high school he became a member of the Naval Reserve.

Upon his graduation, Hosea was called to active duty with the Navy in August, 1951. He was sent to Bainbridge, Maryland for his basic training. Hosea served upon the USS Hickox DD673, which had been commissioned in 1943 and had seen action during World War II. The USS Hickox was placed Out of Commission on 16 October 1946 but was recommissioned and joined the active fleet on Armed Forces Day, 19 May 1951. In October, 1951, the USS Hickox arrived at its homeport of Newport, Rhode Island and departed shortly thereafter to participate in the fleet exercise, Lant Flex 52. It underwent a three-month shipyard overhaul at Portsmouth, Virginia. Refresher training was conducted aboard ship at Guantanamo, Cuba. Type training was held off Newport.



On 6 September 1952, with Hosea aboard, the USS Hickox left its homeport of Newport, Rhode Island. He and 2500 other men began an around the world voyage that would cover 55,000 miles. Hosea was not only serving his country, he was given an opportunity only a few have had—eight months at sea, passing thru the Panama Canal and the Suez Canal and ports of call which included Balboa, Panama; San Diego, California; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Yokosuka, Japan; Korea (Wonsan-China coast); Sasebo, Japan; West cost of Korea; Atami, Japan; Buckner Bay, Okinawa; Sasebo, Japan; East coast of Korea; Subic Bay, Phillippines; Sinapore, British Malaya; Calcutta, India; Colombo, Ceylon; Aden, Saudi Arabia; Suez, Egypt; Port Said, Egypt; Naples, Italy; Villefranche, France; and Gibraltar.

Hosea made many friends and recorded many memories from his career in the Navy. In an effort to renew old acquaintances and re-live the memories, he has attended two reunions of the USS Hickox that were held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the other in Newport, Rhode Island. He plans to attend his third reunion in September 2000 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Upon his discharge from the service in 1953, Hosea moved to Michigan where he attended RTS School and learned how to repair televisions and radios. After living in Michigan where he also worked selling parts for mobile homes, Hosea moved to Texas and lived for two months with his brother, James.

In the summer of 1958, James Gallimore and his family on leave from the Air Force, visited his parents at Ocean Drive Beach, South Carolina. The visit prompted a family reunion and soon the beach house was filled with around 30 relatives. Due to the over flow of people, Doak slept on a cot in the kitchen. When Alice got up to start breakfast she woke Doak. Hosea remembers Doak saying if he couldn't sleep neither would anyone else. So Doak woke up the rest of the household!

Hosea moved back to Michigan and lived there for several more years. Then, in 1958, he had a chance to be transferred from the cold climate of Michigan to Sarasota. Hosea married Marcia Burgess on 1 April 1960. Marcia was the daughter of Nelson Burrows Burgess and Beulah Clark Burgess. They had one daughter, Lorie Lee, born 16 January 1961.

In the early 1970's Hosea became employed with the Sunshine Biscuit Company where he worked until 1981.

Hosea moved back to Denton, North Carolina in 1981 and worked at Rich Fork Baptist Church, Council Furniture and at Lexington Furniture before his retirement in 1996.

Since his retirement Hosea has taken classes in woodcarving. He enjoys spending time in New Hampshire with his oldest daughter, Lorie, and her three children, Ariana, Amy and Allison. He also enjoys the companionship of his special friend Magdalene Small.