



## David Edwin Lewis

April 28, 1931 - October 16, 2021

COLEBROOK – David Edwin “Eddie” Lewis, 90, of Colebrook, passed away at his home on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021, after a long period of declining health.

Ed was born in Colebrook on April 28, 1931, a son to the late Charles J. and Sophia R. (Slowick) Lewis, Sr. He was raised and educated in Colebrook, was a graduate of the Class of 1949 from Colebrook Academy, and later attended the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating in 1954. He later attended the post-graduate studies at the Naval College in Monterey, Calif., obtaining a degree in communications engineering.

Eddie’s naval career spanned more than 25 years, and he retired in 1979 at the rank of Commander. His career took him all over the world, and he was wounded aboard the U.S.S. Liberty in the Mediterranean Sea when the nation of Israel attacked the ship, claiming a mistaken identification of the ship. For the rest of his life, Eddie bore the scars of that day, and he was deeply involved with the group of survivors, proving that the state of Israel and the Johnson administration deliberately staged the attack to try and draw the U.S. into the Israeli-Egyptian Six-Day War in 1967. In 2018, he was a central figure and collaborator in the book “Blood In the Water” which chronicles this dark episode of American military history.

Eddie also was a proud member of the Free & Accepted Masons and was a

50+-year member and Past Master of Evening Star Lodge #37 in Colebrook. He also held many other positions and memberships in many other appendant Masonic bodies, both locally and nationally. Eddie was also a life-long and faithful member of the Monadnock Congregational Church.

He leaves behind his wife, Dolores (LaCasse) Lewis of Colebrook; two sons, Michael C. Lewis and wife Paula of Chesapeake, Va., and Christopher J. Lewis and wife Wanda of Minneapolis, Minn.; a brother, Palmer Lewis and wife Ruth of Colebrook; a sister, Lynda Biron and husband James of Colebrook; six grandchildren, Keith, Benjamin, Johnny, Seth, Peter and Abby; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Eddie is predeceased by three brothers, Harold S. Lewis, Darwin "Buddy" Lewis and Charles J. Lewis, Jr., and a sister, Patricia Ann Lewis.

Calling hours will be on Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook. A Masonic Lodge of Sorrow will immediately precede the visitation at the funeral home at 5:45. A funeral service will be held the next morning, Friday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m. at the Monadnock Congregational Church in Colebrook. Interment will be private in the Colebrook Village Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Cdr. Lewis may be made to MasoniCare, Evergreen Place, 813 Beech St., Manchester, NH 03104.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to [www.jenkinsnewman.com](http://www.jenkinsnewman.com).

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the care of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home.



# Cemetery Details

## Colebrook Village Cemetery

North Main Street, U.S. Route 3  
Colebrook, NH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **21**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home  
103 Main Street  
Colebrook, NH 03576  
(603) 237-4311  
[info@jenkinsnewman.com](mailto:info@jenkinsnewman.com)

## Funeral Service

OCT **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Monadnock Congregational Church  
Main Street  
Colebrook, NH

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ I knew CDR David Lewis while I lived in Hawaii with my family. We were stationed at what was then called Naval Communications Station – Honolulu (NAVCOMMSTA-Hono). The base was actually located a bit north of Wahiawa in the middle of the island of Oahu.

I attended high school with his eldest son, Michael Lewis. Michael and I were both in Demolay, a male youth fraternity. David, who was a mason, sometimes brought us both to Demolay meetings. I can remember his outstanding home made pizzas he'd bake for the entire troop.

I sometimes rode to school with Michael in his souped-up Dodge Challenger with an 8-track player. We'd listen to the rock tunes of the early 1970s on the way to school.

I think I remember that Michael received an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. I hope he made it through to become a Navy officer like his father, David. I served in the Navy but did not go the officer route, retiring as a 1st Class Petty Officer in 1994.

Beyond that I did not know David that well, but after having read of his injuries and events surrounding the USS Liberty travesty, I wish I'd known him better. He went through an awful lot, serving his country. I'm proud to have known him and hope to see him again on the other side.

May God bless you Eddie, an keep you in His eternal grace and comfort.

Jim Boyes, USN Ret.  
jim@ceanet.net

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James Boyes - October 18, 2024 at 03:13 PM

ER

“ Sincere condolences on the loss of Eddie.

*I always enjoyed our chats as he was such an outgoing and friendly person.*

*I admired him not only for attaining his high rank of Commander but even more for his dedication to speaking up about what happened to the U.S.S. Liberty - that was true respect for the people who served with him and shows a moral compass locked on True North. Few people demonstrate that kind of integrity. Let us remember him and emulate him.*

*E. H. Roy*

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**E. H. Roy** - October 27, 2021 at 12:15 PM

DJ

“ Our condolences to the family. I'm glad I had the chance to meet Eddie and chat about our family geology and about the book he consulted on. Rest in peace. David C. Lewis Jr.

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**David C Lewis Jr** - October 22, 2021 at 07:11 AM



“ Offering prayers and condolences to Dolores and family .....

*Ed Holbrook*

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**Ed Holbrook** - October 22, 2021 at 06:03 AM

MK

“ *Fair Winds and Following Seas Commander! May you Rest In Peace!*

*Mike Krieger (Paula's brother)*

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**Michael Krieger** - October 21, 2021 at 01:40 PM

TO

“ *Rest In Peace Commander. It was a gift to have known you.*

*Tom Bearor*

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**tommary** - October 21, 2021 at 08:47 AM

SB

“ *I shall miss our conversations each time he called or came to the office. Our sympathy to the family. Keith & Sheila Beauchemin*

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**Sheila Beauchemin** - October 20, 2021 at 12:47 PM

HH

“ *Our deepest condolences go out to the family on your loss.*

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**Haven & Peggy Haynes** - October 19, 2021 at 10:15 PM

DW

“ *Resolute, resourceful, brave but humble. A hero to his shipmates -- and a great many others; and patient with a pesky reporter.*

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**david walsh** - October 19, 2021 at 09:24 PM

GJ

“ *My thoughts and prayers to the Lewis family at this sad time.*

*Ginger Jannenga*

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**Ginger Jannenga** - October 19, 2021 at 02:43 PM

LB

“ *Lewis Family,  
Sorry to hear about David! Prayers and thoughts go out to you and  
your families.*

*Lisa, Michael, Katelyn & Nicholas Bouchard*

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**Lisa Bouchard** - October 19, 2021 at 02:39 PM

RK

“ *As the Chaplain for the USS Liberty Veterans Association I want to  
offer the deepest sympathy of the entire surviving crew. Dave was a  
great leader, and a fine man just to get to know. His uniform will be  
on exhibit at the Annex of the Hampton Roads Naval Museum for a  
very long time to come. He will not be forgotten.*

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**Ron Kukal** - October 19, 2021 at 01:14 PM

JF

“ *Thank you, Ed, for your service to our country, but also for speaking  
truth to power. I count myself to be among the blessed who heard it  
from him first hand. Thank you also for your service to the Towns of  
Lemington and Colebrook, and for being a valued community  
supporter of the former First Colebrook Bank.*

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**Jonathan Frizzell** - October 19, 2021 at 12:26 PM

“ I only knew Eddie Lewis for less than two months, from August 21, 2021 to the last time that I spoke with him on October 15, 2021, the day before this great man passed away. We became great friends, although we spoke on the phone maybe 7 times. I knew Eddie as "Dave Lewis" as he let me call him or "Commander Lewis." Up until the day he died, Eddie told me you can call me any day if you want to and he was graciously to answer any question I had about the USS Liberty. Eddie felt obligated to tell everyone the truth about the USS Liberty - which is that both President Lyndon Johnson and Israel conspired to sink that ship so they could blame it on Egypt. It was one of the most heinous crimes in American history and Eddie or "Dave" Lewis (as I knew him) felt obligated, on behalf of his courageous, fallen and wounded shipmates to tell the truth about that matter until his last living breath. Eddie Lewis told me that there will not be justice in this case until it is recognized that Lyndon Johnson personally was involved in the attempted sinking of the USS Liberty and the murder of everyone on board.

*I told Eddie on October 15, 2021, don't you worry, Ernie Gallo (of the USS Liberty) and everyone else will tell the truth about what happened that day. Eddie's work in Joan Mellen's book Blood in the Water will be remembered as historical truth forever. Eddie's interviews for the 2021 documentary "Sacrificing Liberty" will be remembered forever as historical truth.*

*Eddie Lewis had a crystal clear mind until the end of his life. He was funny and had a sense of humor and he was a sharp analyst in what actually happened with the USS Liberty. Eddie also told me he used to run a community garden for his town, when he was younger, on about an acre of land.*

*Eddie also told me he loved his grandchildren very much and was looking forward to seeing them one last time.*

*We have lost a great, honorable, decent man in David Edwin Lewis, but he will definitely be remembered.*

*Respectfully,*

*Robert Morrow of Austin, TX*

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**Robert Morrow** - October 19, 2021 at 10:40 AM

CF

“ *Palmer, Ruth and families - my deepest sympathies to you all for your loss. I enjoyed talking to Ed and hearing of his numerous unique adventures. He was a very interesting and accomplished individual and had a wonderful sense of humor. He will be missed.*

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**Carolyn Foss** - October 19, 2021 at 09:57 AM

LF

“ *Love, Miyo, Tami, Sophia and family purchased the Sacred Garden Spray for the family of David Edwin Lewis.*



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**Love, Miyo, Tami, Sophia and family** - October 19, 2021 at 08:46 AM

GI

“ *My deepest condolences to the Lewis family. David You are at peace now. My respect to all the crew of the USS LIBERTY, living and deceased.*



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**gina** - October 18, 2021 at 08:57 PM

BH

“ *My Sincere Condolences to the Lewis Family...*

*A fine man and friend. Was my XO on Guam circa '78 when I was WBDF Maint Chief and later Classic Wizard Maint Chief. Interesting note: When I reported aboard we immediately struck a connection. I think it was partly because of our Liberty and Georgetown connection (sister ships), me having visited for a briefing just prior to Liberty's May 2nd departure ('67); nevertheless, I asked him about the bandage on his hand, and he told me I should be very careful if I ever try to catch Coconut Crabs. Seems like he donated part of a finger coming to that conclusion. Until we meet again...*

*Fair Winds & Following Seas, Shipmate!*

*Bob Hanshaw, CWO3, USN (Ret)*

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**Bob Hanshaw** - October 18, 2021 at 06:21 PM

EB

“ *Eric Brungot lit a candle in memory of David Edwin Lewis*



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**Eric Brungot** - October 18, 2021 at 03:20 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to the Lewis family for the passing of Mr. Eddie Lewis. He was one of my shining lights growing up at the Congregational church in Colebrook. Any visits north if I'd see him at church he would give me the most joyful hello and brilliant Lewis smile. He will be missed.*

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**Heather Hulse** - October 18, 2021 at 02:21 PM