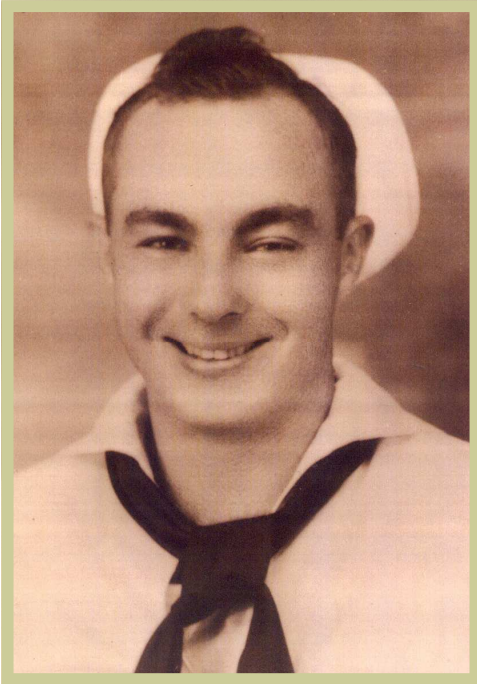


# Reuben A. Durbin

U.S. Navy  
Army Transport, USS Harris



**Reuben Augusta Durbin**  
U.S. Navy WWII  
Army Transport, USS Harris

Reuben Augusta Durbin, born 15 April 1922 in Taylorville, Illinois, the son of Bela and Mary Durbin. He joined the U.S. Navy on October 27, 1942 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was sent to Great Lakes Naval Station in Missouri and then transferred to Norfolk, Virginia. There, he was assigned to the Army Transport, USS Harris, and sent to the Panama Canal Zone where he served 22 months at FARFAN Radio Station. With this transfer, Reuben received both an Army and a Navy dog tag. He held the rank of Seaman First Class V6.

Next, he was assigned to a small ship YP 209 with Sub Ron 3 out of Panama testing American submarines that conducted tests for sound control. After 10 months, Reuben was shipped back to San Francisco and then to Oceanside where he joined the 294th Joint Assault Signal Corp and sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. After 10 months in Hawaii,

the war ended when the bombs were dropped on Japan. Reuben was sent home and mustered out of the Navy on January 3, 1946. He received the American Area Victory Ribbon, the Asiatic Pacific Medal, the Good Conduct Medal and was discharged on points.

After the war, Reuben married Cora Irene Franklin on March, 1946. They had two daughters, Cora Elizabeth in 1946 and Mary Lou in 1949. They settled in Springfield, Illinois where Reuben worked for Sears Roebuck, the Pana Palladium News Paper, and Bauman Oster Grain Co. In March 2004, Reuben had a stroke and resided at the Illinois Veterans Home at Quincy and then lived at Heritage Manor in Springfield until his death. He is proud to be part of the World War II Illinois Veterans Memorial that honors all those who served their country in World War II.

Reuben Durbin  
Taylorville, IL  
Springfield, IL

Note: Reuben Durbin, age 90, died on Wednesday July 11, 2012 at Springfield, IL.