

Monday Maritime Matters

Description

Related Reading: [Frey Frey's Maritime Monday 98](#) and [Eagle's Sunday Ship History: Special Monday President's Day Edition.](#)

BT

He wasn't on the battlefield, in his utilities doing construction under fire. He was on TWA Flight 847 on June 14th, 1985, enroute the States from Nea Makri, Greece. He, for no other reason than he had chosen to serve his nation, was picked out to be murdered.



SW2(DV) Robert Dean Stethem, USN, Underwater Construction Battalion ONE
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He was born in 1961. His father and brothers were SEALs. I'd say salt water ran in his veins. A tribute to Robert is posted [here](#). A shipmate has his remarks posted there, about the day Robbie died. More detailed info is found at [Black Five's site about the circumstances aboard 847](#). The killer? [His justice came a few days ago](#), but not in time to have saved the lives of many others in the years in between. SW2 Stethem is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



A ship, full of fight and the sensors and weapons to back it up, sails the oceans bearing the name [“STETHEM”](#) in steel letters on the transom. Commissioned Oct 21st, 1995, the USS STETHEM (DDG-63) is an [ARLEIGH BURKE Class Guided Missile Destroyer](#). Assigned to the Pacific Fleet, STETHEM has been an intergral part in the GWoT. A fairly detailed account of the STETHEM’s operations, from commissioning to 2003 are listed on her [Wikipedia](#) page.

“Steadfast and Courageous” a fitting motto for a vessel.

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