Edmund Earl Wunder, United States Navy, WW II

USS Laffey (DD 459) lost in the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal body not recovered

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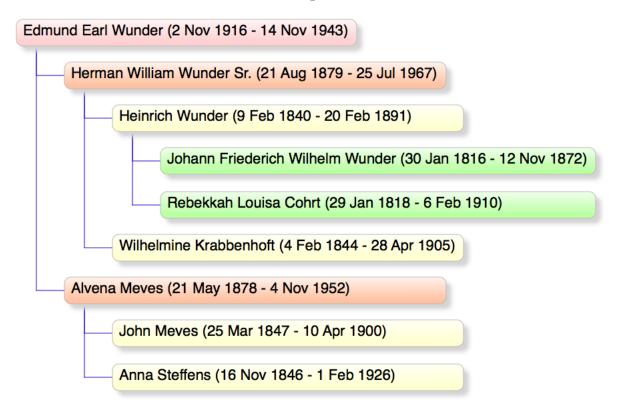
Edmund E Wunder grew up on farms in Shelby County northwest and northeast of Avoca. During the 1930s, the family settled in Harlan, Iowa.

Edmund E. Wunder joined the navy in September 1941 and was a Boilermaker First Class on the *USS Laffey* when the Laffey engaged the Japanese battleship *Hiei* during the first stage of the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal. The *Laffey* subsequently sank in Ironbound Sound north of Guadalcanal and southeast of Savo Island. Fifty-nine crew members, including Edmund Wunder, died.

The crippled battleship *Hiei* sank late on the 14^{*}, the first Japanese battleship lost during World War II. To memorialize the *Laffey*, a new destroyer, DD-724, was also named *Laffey*. Laffey #2 was almost lost by kamikaze attacks during the battle of Okinawa in 1945. Laffey #2 is now preserved at Patriots Point in Charleston, South Carolina.

Edmund E. Wunder was the brother of Victor O. Wunder, long-time Avoca businessman and the second cousin of Frank Grant Wunder of Minden, who also died in the Southwest Pacific during World War II.

Known ancestors of Edmund E. Wunder (updated 13 Jul'18):



The parents and siblings of Edmund E. Wunder:

Herman William Wunder Sr. (21 Aug 1879 - 25 Jul 1967) & Alvena Meves (21 May 1878 - 4 Nov 1952) m. 27 Feb 1907, Shelby Co., IA

Anna Wilhelmine Wunder (2 Dec 1907 - 8 Jun 2005)

Albert Byron Wunder (27 Apr 1909 - 5 May 1990)

Arnold Herman Wunder Sr. (30 Aug 1912 - 8 Aug 2006)

Herman William Wunder Jr. (1914 - 4 Jun 1932)

Edmund Earl Wunder (2 Nov 1916 - 14 Nov 1943)

Victor Orval Wunder (2 Feb 1919 - 28 Feb 2009) & Mildred Sorine Jensen (10 Mar 1921 - 6 Jun 2007) m. 21 Nov 1943, Lutheran Church, Harlan, Shelby Co., IA

Leo Arthur Wunder (14 Jan 1922 - 3 Jul 2012)