

## Press Release: USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Commemorative Monument Passes Final Approval Step

From: Kevin Galeaz, President, USS Thresher ANC Memorial Foundation

The [USS Thresher \(SSN-593\)](#) Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) Commemorative Monument Project passed the final approval process step with [US Commission of Fine Arts](#) (CFA) approval of the [monument design and placement](#) within ANC.

The [loss of Thresher](#) was the largest Submarine disaster ever experienced by our Nation and led to the inception of the [Submarine Safety \(SUBSAFE\) program](#) that has, and continues to, protect the men and women who serve on our Nations Submarines. In the 55 years since the inception of SUBSAFE, we have lost only one Submarine, USS Scorpion in what is believed to be due to a battery explosion. In the 46 years prior, we experienced a non-combat average loss rate of one Submarine every 3 years.

This National monument is designed to perpetuate the memories of the 129 men lost aboard USS Thresher and their SUBSAFE legacy, keeping the story of USS Thresher alive, and in doing so, helping to minimize the likelihood of another similar tragedy from occurring.

The monument will be placed in Section 2 along the Roosevelt Drive walkway mid-way between the ANC Welcome Center and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Memorial, near the USS F-4 Memorial and below the Arlington House (Custis-Lee Mansion). This location will provide the 1.5 million visitors who walk this path each year the opportunity to learn the story of the loss and legacy of USS Thresher.

A USS Thresher ANC Commemorative Monument Dedication Ceremony will be held on September 26, 2019 at the [ANC Memorial Amphitheater](#). A reception at the [Women in Military Service For America Memorial](#) will be held immediately after. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) will be the keynote speaker at the Dedication Ceremony in recognition of her continued advocacy for this project.

Fundraising is underway to cover the associated costs. Please see <https://threshermemorial.org> on how to contribute. All donations to the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Foundation are tax exempt.

An all-inclusive bus trip to ANC for the dedication ceremony and reception is being planned for project supporters that will start in Portsmouth, NH. Additional pick up stops will be made in Groton, CT and in NJ, just south of NYC. Contact [ThresherMemorial@gmail.com](mailto:ThresherMemorial@gmail.com) for more information.

Kevin Galeaz

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**APRIL 10 1963**

IN HONOR OF THE 129 MEN LOST  
ABOARD USS THRESHER (SSN-593)  
AND THEIR SUBSAFE LEGACY