



**FTCS(SS) Thomas Walter Lawson**  
**DOB: 24 November 1941**  
**Eternal Patrol 19 March 2026**



**Thomas Walter Lawson**  
**November 24, 1941 – March 19, 2026**

Thomas “Tom” W. Lawson 84 of Ladson, SC passed away unexpectedly after a long illness.

He was born on November 24, 1941, in Port Huron, MI. He grew up with a love of outdoors and was an avid fisherman. His love of fishing stayed with him all his life. He was very involved in the Men-Riv sports complex, specifically coaching girls’ softball for over ten years.

Thomas proudly served and retired from the US Navy Submarine Service; he also retired from the US Postal Service as a letter carrier. He volunteered at the VA Hospital; he was a volunteer for the Caromi Rural Vol. Fire Dept. Company 1 and on the board of directors for the past 14 years and was a Life member of SUBVETS USSVI National and Charleston Base.

Above all, he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who found his greatest joy in family.

He is survived by his loving wife Suzanne; his sons, Thomas and Jackie Lawson, William Lawson and Will Johnson, Doug and Nancy Gardner, and Tres Gardner; Daughter, Tracey Lawson; grandchildren, Mary Frances Lawson, Rivers Ann Gardner and Ridge Gardner; and many dear friends. He was predeceased by his parents Thomas and Margaret; his first wife, Jeanette; and his sisters Patricia, Sharon, and Margaret.

My father demonstrated kindness, wisdom, resourcefulness, and quick wit, possessing a remarkable ability to repair almost anything. He was among the most intelligent individuals I have encountered and instilled in us the importance of diligence and perseverance.

Dad, you were our rock. We love you always.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00am, on Friday, March 27, 2026, at St George Episcopal Church, 9110 Dorchester Rd, Summerville, SC 29485.

A Committal Service and Military Honors will be held at 12:00 noon, on Monday, March 30, 2026, at Beaufort National Cemetery, 1601 Boundary St, Beaufort, SC 29902

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Admiral James B Osborn Memorial Scholarship or the Caromi Rural Vol. Fire Dept. Company 1.

IN THE CARE OF [Carolina Funeral Home & Gardens](https://www.carolinafuneralhome.com)

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries?keyword=thomas+lawson&location=9887Eternal>



# Thomas Lawson , FTCS(SS)



USSVI Life Member



Holland Club



Submarine Qualified  
50 years ago

## Personal Information

Nickname	Tom
Spouse / Partner Next of Kin	Suzanne
Address	Contact Information available only to USSVI MEMBERS (Log in Member / Crew menu)
Doing Now	Retired and traveling
Status	Changed on: 1/21/2025 Updated by Dennis C. Nardone ()

## US Navy Service Information

Years Served	Joined in 1959 left in 1982
Highest Rank - Rate	E8 - FTCS(SS)
Service Number	535-21-08
USN Retired	Yes in 1982
Naval Service Highlights	
Ships Served On	DD-535, AS-32, AS-31, SSBN-645, SSBN-655, AS-34

## Membership in the USSVI

Member Info	Joined USSVI on: 11/19/2009
Primary Base	Charleston
Member Type	Holland Club Life Member since 11/26/2010
Title or Office	
Comments	
SS Qualified	in 1975 on the USS James K Polk (SSBN/SSN-645)

## Membership in Charleston Base Information

Base Info	Joined Base on: 11/12/2009
USSVI Info	Joined USSVI on: 11/19/2009 Holland Club Life Member since 11/26/2010
Title or Office	Vice CommanderVA Rep
Comments	
SS Qualified	in 1975 on the USS James K Polk (SSBN/SSN-645)
Other Assn's	AL-POST SC0166, FRA-BRANCH 269, SSBN-655, USSVI, USSVI-CHARLESTON

Hull#	Ship's Name	Rate/Rank	Years	Special Duties
<a href="#">DD-535</a>	Miller	SA	1959-60	
<a href="#">AS-32</a>	Holland	FTB2	1963-66	W-2
<a href="#">AS-31</a>	Hunley	FTB1	1970-72	
<a href="#">SSBN/SSN-645</a>	James K Polk	FTBC(SS)	1975-76	
<a href="#">SSBN-655</a>	Henry L Stimson	FTCS(SS)	1980-81	COB
<a href="#">AS-34</a>	Canopus	FTCS(SS)	1981-82	

Name	Location	Rate/Rank	Years
Guided Missile School	Dam Neck, VA	FTB1	1967-69
FBMSTC	Charleston, SC	FTCS(SS)	1978-80

Nickname	Association Name	Joined	TR
AL-POST SC0166	American Legion - Post 166	2003	
FRA-BRANCH 269	Fleet Reserve Association - Branch 269	2000	
SSBN-655	USS Henry L Stimson SSBN655 Association		
USSVI-CHARLESTON	USSVI Base - Charleston	2009	Vice Commander VA Rep

Hull#	Ship's Name	Rate/Rank	Years	Special Duties
<a href="#">DD-535</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Miller</a>	SA	1959-60	
<a href="#">AS-32</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Holland</a>	FTB2	1963-66	W-2
<a href="#">AS-31</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Hunley</a>	FTB1	1970-72	
<a href="#">SSBN/SSN-645</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">James K Polk</a>	FTBC(SS)	1975-76	
<a href="#">SSBN-655</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Henry L Stimson</a>	FTCS(SS)	1980-81	COB
<a href="#">AS-34</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Canopus</a>	FTCS(SS)	1981-82	

Name	Location	Rate/Rank	Years
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Guided Missile School</a>	Dam Neck, VA	FTB1	1967-69
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">FBMSTC</a>	Charleston, SC	FTCS(SS)	1978-80

Change status: Updated by Dennis C. Nardone () on 1/21/2025

Last Name	Lawson <input type="text"/> example: Smith - Jones, III - Public, Jr.
First & Middle Name	Thomas <input type="text"/> example: Timothy A. -or- John Q.
Nickname	Tom <input type="text"/> what their friends call them
Primary Address	Class <input type="text" value="Normal Delivery"/> Address <input type="text" value="116 Columbia Dr"/> City <input type="text" value="Ladson"/> State <input type="text" value="South Carolina"/> Zip <input type="text" value="29456-3202"/> Country <input type="text"/> <b>If USA, leave blank</b>
Phones	Home <input type="text" value="843-797-3582"/> Cell <input type="text" value="843-327-3282"/> Work <input type="text"/> Fax <input type="text"/>
Second Address	Street <input type="text"/> Phone <input type="text"/> City <input type="text"/> State <input type="text" value="?"/> Zip <input type="text"/> <b>Winter: [ <input type="text"/> ] (STATE: Mon-Mon: Ex: FL:NOV-APR)</b>
Spouse / Partner Next of Kin Emergency Contact	* <input type="text" value="Suzanne"/> Relationship <input type="text" value="Spouse"/> * <b>If spouse's last name is the same, enter only first name</b> + Street <input type="text"/> Phone <input type="text"/> City <input type="text"/> State <input type="text" value="?"/> Zip <input type="text"/> + <b>If address is the same as Primary address, leave blank</b>
E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="hogan29456@aol.com"/>
Work E-mail	<input type="text"/>
Homepage	<input type="text"/>

**Primary Base Information**

Base Status	Base # <input type="text"/> Joined Base <input type="text" value="11/12/2009"/> Status <input type="text"/> Longevity <input type="text" value="17"/> yrs
National Status	National # <input type="text" value="21993"/> Joined USSVI <input type="text" value="11/19/2009"/> Status <input type="text" value="L-9558"/> Loyalty Pin Awarded <input type="text"/> Unbroken Longevity <input type="text" value="17"/>
SS Qualified	Year <input type="text" value="1975"/> Qualified <input type="text" value="51"/> for years Hull# <input type="text" value="SSBN/SSN-645"/> USS <input type="text" value="James K Polk"/> Lookup Boat <input type="text"/> enter hull number, then click  Search to find boat
Member Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Associate USSVI Sponsor <input type="text"/> Type <input type="text" value="Reg-HC-Life"/>
Member Class	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Life Member <input type="checkbox"/> SVWWII <input type="checkbox"/> Charter Member <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Member
Associate Detail	Veteran Connected? <input type="text" value="No"/> Is the Associate member a U.S. Military Veteran, or the spouse, etc., or child, grandchild, great-grandchild of a current U.S. Mil
DOB	DOB: <input type="text" value="11/24/1941"/> Age <input type="text" value="84"/> years
Dues Status	<input type="button" value="Add"/> a transaction <input type="button" value="List"/> <input type="button" value="Edit"/> base status Transactions Base dues <input type="text" value="LIFE"/> National dues <input type="text" value="LIFE"/>
USSVI Life	Date <input type="text" value="11/26/2010"/> Life #: <input type="text" value="L-9558"/> Installment <input type="text"/>
Titles	<input type="text" value="Vice CommanderVA Rep"/>
Other Bases	<input type="text"/>
Deceased?	On Eternal Patrol? <input type="text" value="No"/> Date Died <input type="text"/>
<b>Note: if YES, member is moved to Eternal Patrol page when update is accepted by the National Office</b>	
Changes last update: <b>None</b>	Auto delete <input type="text"/> pick one of these reasons and this member will be dropped from your roster after Current <input type="text"/> History <input type="text" value="4/16/10: Phone"/> <input type="text" value="11/24/09: New member"/>

US Navy Service Information		Save to refresh insignias	
<input type="checkbox"/> Highest Rate / Rank	FTCS(SS) ( E8 - Senior Chief Petty Officer ) <small>Use standard Navy Rate abbreviations (<a href="#">click here for examples</a>)</small>		 
<input type="checkbox"/> If Enlisted rate a Gold Crow?	Yes (12 years good conduct)		
<input type="checkbox"/> If Officer pick shoulder board insignia	Warrant Officer <input type="text"/> Staff Officer <input type="text"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> USN Retired?	Yes in 1982 (year: yyyy - only if you answered "Yes")		
<input type="checkbox"/> Total Military Years Served (active & reserve)	Year Joined 1959 Year Left 1982 years served 23 <small>YYYY YYYY</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Military Service	Highest Rank in that branch <input type="text"/> Branch of Other Service ? <input type="text"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Served During a War	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only click if Qual Year (1975) or years of service are between: WWII (1941-46), Korea (1950-55), Viet Nam (1964-75) or Iraq (1990-Now)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Service #	535-21-08 (examples: Enlisted: 000-00-00 or X000000, Officer: 000000)		

Nickname	Association Name	Joined	
<a href="#">AL-POST SC0166</a> 	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">American Legion - Post 166</a>	2003	
<a href="#">FRA-BRANCH 269</a> 	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Fleet Reserve Association - Branch 269</a>	2000	
<a href="#">SSBN-655</a> 	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">USS Henry L Stimson SSBN655 Association</a>		
<a href="#">USSVI-CHARLESTON</a> 	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">USSVI Base - Charleston</a>	2009	Vice CommanderVA Rep