

Motor Machinist's Mate 2nd Class

David E. McCusker

United States Navy

USS LSM(R)-190

World War II

May 4, 1945

Allegheny County

Silver Star

Awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action as a member of the crew of a close-in fire support ship on May 4, 1945, in operations against the enemy near Okinawa. After three enemy suicide planes crashed into his ship, McCusker, demonstrating exceptional courage and fortitude, and while suffering from painful wounds and burns, remained in the smoke filled engine room until the last. On entering the water, after the order to abandon ship was given, he exhibited outstanding skill and valor in rescuing a wounded shipmate who had been swept into the water from the life raft. His courage and deep devotion to duty under conditions of extreme personal danger, proved to be an inspiration to all. His courage and conduct throughout were in keeping with the best traditions of naval service.