



USS Parker (DD-604)



USS Tarbell (DD-142)

Peter Anthony Sharkey
Yeoman 2/C U.S. Navy
24 October 1942 – 26 September 1945

Peter was born on 13 July 1919 in New York City, New York, where he attended Holy Redeemer Grade School and graduated from New York High School of Commerce in 1938. Peter then worked at Eagle Pencil Company in New York City as a Payroll Clerk until entering the Navy. He enlisted in the Navy as a Seaman Recruit on 24 October 1942 in New York City. After recruit training at Newport, Rhode Island, from 24 October 1942 to 25 January 1943, he was transferred to Victoria Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts, to attend Yeoman School at Bryant and Stratton College. In March 1943, he left Yeoman School for assignment at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Arlington, Virginia, until November 1943, during which time he was promoted to Yeoman 2/C and he went on leave to marry **Carole Ann Kolczycki** (born 27 April 1922) on 6 June 1943 in Bound Brook, New Jersey. Peter reported aboard Destroyer *USS Parker (DD-604)* at Casco Bay, Maine, in December 1943, and was assigned as Yeoman to Commander, Destroyer Squadron 16. Peter served aboard *USS Parker* until November 1944. After Peter boarded *USS Parker*, the Squadron was assigned to escort convoys to Africa and Italy, and performed U-Boat hunter/killer operations along convoy routes at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River and in the vicinity of the Azores Islands. In addition to convoy duty, while Peter was aboard *USS Parker* she was part of a flotilla that supported the Allied invasion with shore bombardment at Anzio Beach in Italy and at the invasion of Southern France from 15 August to 14 September 1944. After Southern France and performing additional convoy duty in the Mediterranean, *USS Parker* returned to New York, where Peter left her to report for duty as a Yeoman aboard Destroyer *USS Tarbell (DD-142)* at Norfolk, Virginia. While Peter was aboard *USS Tarbell*, she escorted aircraft carriers during training operations and served in rescuing downed Navy pilots at sea. Peter left *USS Tarbell* in July 1945. At that time, his Navy Yeoman Rate was frozen, and he returned to the States to serve in the Merchant Marine–Arms Guard Center in Flatbush, Brooklyn, New York, until his discharge as a Yeoman 2/C at Lido Beach on Long Island, New York, on 25 September 1945. Peter was awarded the European-Africa Middle Eastern Campaign, American Campaign, and World War II Victory Medals. He and Carole lived in Middlesex, New Jersey, for 27 years following his return home. After his discharge from the Navy, Peter attended night school over a period of nine years at Rutgers College in New Jersey, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing in 1955. During that time, he worked for National Department Store in Trenton, New Jersey, as Advertising Manager. In 1955, he went to work as Advertising Manager for *The Monitor* newspaper in Trenton until 1973, when he retired. He and Carole then moved to Florida, living first in Pompano Beach until 1993 then in Boynton Beach until 2000, when they moved to Toms River, New Jersey. In 2003 they moved to Lower Macungie Township, where they settled. Peter and Carole had three sons: **Richard**, **Robert**, and **Ronald**. Peter's parents were **John Sharkey** (1891 – 1941) and **Anna Antonyshyn** (1895 – 1966), both of whom were born in and emigrated from Austria. Peter's brother, **William John**, also served in the Navy Seabees in the Pacific during World War II.