



www.history.navy.mil

USS THOMAS HUDNER (DDG 116)

Honoring A U.S. Navy Legend

Thomas J. Hudner Jr.'s Distinguished History

- Thomas Jerome Hudner Jr. was born August 31, 1924 in Fall River, Massachusetts.
- He was accepted into the Naval Academy in 1943, commissioned as an officer in 1946 and became an aviation officer in 1949.
- On December 4, 1950, during the battle of the Chosin Reservoir in the Korean War, Hudner's wingman, Ens. Jesse L. Brown, was struck down and forced to make an emergency landing. In an attempt to save Brown, Hudner crash-landed near Brown's downed plane. When he attempted to pull Brown from the wreckage it was revealed Brown's right leg was crushed. Later in the evening, Brown passed away from fatal injuries.
- Thomas J. Hudner Jr. received the Medal of Honor on April 13, 1951 for his heroic actions in attempting to save Brown.
- He served 27 years in the Navy and was extremely active in the veteran's community serving as the commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services from 1991 to 1999.



DDG 116 Quick Facts:

Name: USS Thomas Hudner (DDG 116)

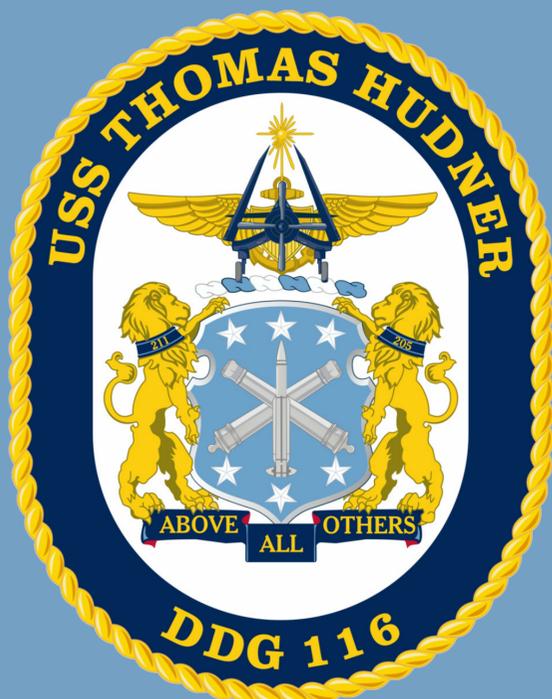
Class: Arleigh Burke-class

Length: 509.5 feet

Speed: 30+ knots

Crew: 329 total

Mission: The guided-missile destroyer is a surface combatant capable of conducting Anti-Air Warfare (AAW), Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), and Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW). The destroyer's armament has greatly expanded the role of the ship in strike warfare utilizing the MK-41 Vertical Launching System (VLS) of the DDG 51 class.



"Above All Others"



*"Hudner's exceptionally valiant action and selfless devotion to a shipmate sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service."
- Hudner's Medal of Honor citation*