

Albert Milton Limehouse

Born: November 16, 1921
Hometown: Birmingham, AL
Class: 1944
Service: Merchant Marine
Position / Rank: Basic School Cadet
Date / Place of death: January 5, 1943 / New Orleans, LA
Date / Place of burial: January 9, 1943 / Elmwood Cemetery, Birmingham, AL
Age: 21



Cadet-Midshipman Albert Limehouse was taking part in a training cruise aboard the TV Robert Waterman from the Pass Christian Basic School in December 1942. On December 19, 1942 he was admitted to the U.S. Public Health Service's Marine Hospital in New Orleans, apparently suffering from nephrosis, a disease of the kidneys. Despite the efforts of the hospital staff he suffered a loss of blood supply to his lungs and kidneys on January 1, 1943. He died on the evening of January 5, just a few weeks after his 21st birthday. His remains were returned to his parents in Birmingham, Alabama the next day.

Albert Limehouse was the second of Benjamin P. Limehouse and Virginia Stott Limehouse' three sons. According to a 1942 Birmingham City Directory, Benjamin, Sr. owned a grocery store in which his wife and youngest son Donald worked as clerks. The same directory indicates that Albert Limehouse was employed as a payroll clerk by the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, a major employer in the Birmingham area. According to U.S. Navy records Albert Limehouse enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve on January 30, 1939. He served on active duty twice for two weeks each in 1939 and 1940 aboard the World War I-era destroyers USS Dickerson (DD 157) and USS Swasey (DD 273). He attained the rate of Seaman Second Class before being discharged on June 13, 1941.

Albert's older brother Benjamin, Jr. was a Naval Aviator. He was declared missing in action in the Pacific, likely near Okinawa, on March 1, 1945. At that time he had already been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.