

## Harry Quayle, Jr.

Born: May 2, 1922  
Hometown: Garfield, UT  
Class: 1944  
Service: Merchant Marine  
Position / Rank: Deck Cadet  
Date / Place of death: February 13, 1943 / Castel Benito Airfield, Libya  
Date / Place of burial: February 17, 1943 / Catholic Military Cemetery, Tripoli, Libya; Re-interred June 8, 1948 / Salt Lake City Cemetery, Salt Lake City, UT  
Age: 20



Harry Quayle, Jr. signed on as Deck Cadet aboard the *SS Daniel H. Lownsdale* on August 18, 1942 at Portland, OR upon completion of his studies at the San Mateo Basic School. After the ship completed loading the *Daniel H. Lownsdale* sailed for Wellington, New Zealand via San Francisco, CA. From Wellington the *Daniel H. Lownsdale* sailed for duty in the Mediterranean via Aden and the Suez Canal, arriving at Port Said, Egypt on November 18, 1942. The ship operated between various ports in the Mediterranean carrying cargo for British Army and Navy units. On February 10, 1943 the *Daniel H. Lownsdale* arrived in Tripoli, Libya to load more cargo.

On Saturday, February 13, 1943 Cadet-Midshipman Harry Quayle accompanied the *Daniel H. Lownsdale's* Armed Guard Officer ashore to the former Italian Air Force base at Castel Benito, perhaps to inspect some of the abandoned Italian aircraft there. During the visit Harry Quayle picked up or otherwise disturbed what was described in a Navy dispatch as a "hand grenade". The device exploded, fatally injuring him. He was buried on February 17, at the Catholic Military Cemetery in Tripoli. Armed Guard Sailors from the *SS Daniel H. Lownsdale* rendered military honors to Midshipman Harry Quayle, USNR at his burial. In 1949 his remains were returned to his parents and re-interred at Salt Lake City Cemetery, Salt Lake City, UT.

Cadet-Midshipman Harry Quayle, Jr. was posthumously awarded the Mariners Medal, Combat Bar, Atlantic War Zone Bar, Mediterranean-Middle East War Zone Bar, Pacific War Zone Bar, the Victory Medal, and the Presidential Testimonial Letter.

Harry Quayle was the oldest of Harry Quayle and Thelma Walker Quayle's four children. Harry had two younger brothers, Paul and Vernon and a sister Donna. According to the 1940 U.S. Census, Harry, Sr. worked as a stenographer in a copper mine while Harry, Jr. was working in the foundry of a copper mill. Harry initially attended the public schools in Salt Lake City. The family later moved to nearby Garfield. In 1939 Harry graduated from Cyprus High School in nearby Magna, UT. Harry was a member of the Cyprus High School football team. He was also a skilled photographer and operated his own darkroom.



**Cemetery Marker for Harry Quayle, Jr.**