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June 14, 2018

Dear USS Yorktown (CG-48) Association:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of York County, Virginia, please accept our best wishes to all who gather in Knoxville, Tennessee, to celebrate the 2018 reunion of the USS Yorktown (CG-48) Association.

Upon its commissioning at the pier of the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown on July 4, 1984, the Board of Supervisors envisioned the USS Yorktown and its crew as our direct ambassadors for communicating the heritage of Yorktown, Virginia, as a beacon for freedom throughout the world. We placed in you our confidence for upholding the ideals of Jeffersonian liberties so valiantly secured at Yorktown in October, 1781. You never disappointed us! During your service, you exemplified the best of power projection in defense of our nation and in advocacy for freedom throughout the world.

As you reflect about your days together as the crew of the USS Yorktown, please know that the citizens of your namesake town and county are with you in spirit. We remember with great fondness the days when the ship would transit the York River to and from the pier of the Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. In our minds, we can still hear the beautiful rendition of *God Bless America*, sung by Miss Kate Smith as you saluted your ship's sponsor, our renowned Ms. Mary Mathews.

These memories for your service are now integral parts of our Yorktown history and heritage. For this and for your contributions to national defense, we will be eternally grateful. Best wishes and sincere gratitude to each of you as you celebrate your reunion, and may God bless those who continue to uphold the finest traditions of the United States Navy.

Sincerely,

Sheila S. Noll, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors