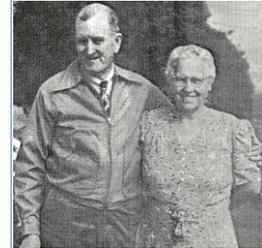


U.S.S. Marblehead (CL-12)



Marblehead Biography Guy Loren Doty

Guy Loren Doty was born 6 Jan 1911 in Aurora, Lawrence County, Missouri, a small mining town in the southwest corner of the state. His parents were homemaker Armedia Mae 'Medie' Johnson (1889-1965) and Isaac Arthur Doty (1881-1970), a house painter around the time of Guy's birth, and later, after the family moved to Idaho, an employee in a sugar beet processing factory. Both parents were Missouri-born. Guy had four sisters: Irene Bes (1909-1995), Mable Grace (1913-2000), Ona Belle (1919-2003) and Maxine Clea (1925-1985).



Isaac and Armedia Doty
Source: Ancestry.com

The details of Guy's schooling were not available, but he enlisted in the Navy in 1932 at the age of 21, probably driven by job scarcity during the Great Depression. Muster rolls are not available for his early career, but he probably enlisted in Denver, CO and did his basic training on the West Coast.

He married Lucille Pedro Moniz (1905-1979) on 18 Aug 1933 in her hometown, Alameda, CA, on the eastern shore of San Francisco Bay. This suggests that his first duty assignment was in the San Francisco area or on a ship homeported there. Lucille was an inspector of some kind at the time, and the daughter of Leonard M. and Emily R. Moniz of 2810 Maple Street in nearby Berkeley, CA. Their daughter, Beverly Jane (1937-1954) was born on 3 Sep 1937 in Oakland, Alameda County, CA, probably at the Naval Hospital there.

Guy's first appearance in Navy muster rolls, which are (available for 1938-1946 only) placed him at the Naval Receiving station in San Francisco on 12 Oct 39. At the time, he was a Gunners Mate 2c (GM2c) which meant that he had progressed through four previous rates (Apprentice Seaman, Seaman 2nd Class, Seaman 1st Class, and Gunners Mate 3rd Class) to get to GM2c. This muster roll indicates that he his being transferred to a shore or ship duty station in the Asiatic Station (i.e., the Asiatic Fleet) in either Manila, Philippines or Shanghai, China, depending on the season of the year.

This muster roll and other subsequent ones indicate also indicate the likely progression of subsequent transfers that will get him to Asia, i.e., to the battleships *USS West Virginia (BB-48)* and *USS California (BB-44)*, then the oiler *USS Trinity (AO-13)*, and finally the veteran transport ship, *USS Henderson (AP-1)*. Via this chain of ships, three months and seven days later, on 18 Jan 1940, in Shanghai, China, GM2c Doty stepped aboard the light cruiser, *USS Marblehead (CL-12)*, or *Marby* as she was referred to affectionately by her crew.

Guy would remain with *Marby* for at least two and a half years, and while the ship was part of the Asiatic Fleet, she would winter in the Philippines operating out of Manila and summer in China operating out of Shanghai. At the time, Shanghai was one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, a trade, financial and artistic powerhouse. But it was also a center of opium smuggling, gambling, and prostitution, and most unfortunately, China in general was the focus of Japan's ongoing strategy to control Asia. The Japanese had taken China's industrial heartland, Manchuria, in early 1932, and in 1937 it had commenced the Second Sino-Japanese war, which would later become the part of the Pacific theater of WWII. By the time of Guy's arrival in Shanghai, the Japanese controlled all the ports of China except for Hong Kong, and their occupation was slowly eroding the productive, seductive world of pre-WWII Shanghai.

In addition to Shanghai, during 1940 Guy would visit Hong, Amoy, and Tsingtao, but when *Marby* sailed from Tsingtao in early September 1940, it would be here final parting with China. The prospect of armed conflict between the U.S. and Japan seemed increasingly likely, and American naval forces were being repositioned to waters farther south. Except for one cruise to Guam, *Marby* spent the remainder of 1940 and most of 1941 in Philippine waters.



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On 25 Nov 1941, sensing that hostilities were imminent, Admiral Thomas Hart, Commander of the Asiatic Fleet, ordered his ships to disperse without fanfare to the southwest and into the Netherlands East Indies (NEI; today's Indonesia). On the night of the 29th, the *Marby* dropped anchor off Tarakan Island, East Borneo, NEI to await further orders. Ten days later, at 0328 hours on 8 Dec 1941, *Marby's* radio crackled with news of the attack on Pearl Harbor and conveyed the order: "Hostilities have commenced. Govern yourselves accordingly." *Marby's* General Quarters alarm blared moments later, and the crew's response foretold the training, discipline and spirit that would later save the ship, i.e., roused from deep sleep, the entire 700+ crew was standing at attention at their battle stations within eight minutes.

The *Marblehead's* bombing in the Battle of Makassar Strait on 4 Feb 1942 and her subsequent escape to New York are described in [Marby's own biography](#) and in the 1944 book [Where Away – a Modern Odyssey](#). Though Japan wasted little time in proclaiming to the international press that it had sunk the *Marblehead*, her improbable 90-day, 20,589-mile voyage home, much of it in crippled condition, was kept secret until 4 May when *Marby* arrived in New York. The secrecy had meant that loved ones back home thought their sailors were either dead or in enemy captivity until phone calls home began flooding across the nation on 5 May. Furloughs for the crew followed, and Guy may have visited his family at that time.

Shortly after its arrival in New York, *USS Marblehead* commenced a six-month overhaul that would repair the damage sustained during its bombing and modernize the old ship where possible. During this time, on 25 Jun 1942, Guy Loren Doty was promoted to Warrant Officer, Gunner, thus beginning the process of becoming a commissioned officer. This initial promotion was temporary in nature, but it was made permanent on 15 Aug 1942.

Guy appears to have been commissioned as an Ensign on 15 Dec 1942.

Because officers do not normally appear in the muster rolls of ships, this promotion marked Guy's final such appearance. While most of his subsequent promotions were recorded in Navy registers of officers and cruise books, these normally do not cite the ships and other duty stations that he subsequently served at. Therefore, it is unclear whether Guy remained aboard *Marby* when, on 15 Oct 1942 she returned to the fight, this time operating out of Recife, Brazil in search of Nazi submarines and blockade runners. On 15-17 Aug 1944, she also provided offshore fire support in Operation Dragoon which was the highly successful invasion of southern France.



Operation Dragoon Invasion force, 15-17 Aug 1944
Source: National Archives

Guy was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade (Lt. JG) on 1 Apr 1945 and to the rank of Lieutenant on 1 Jan 1949.

Lucille and daughter Beverly Jane remained in Berkeley through WWII, and they were still there in the 1950 Census, by which time Beverly Jane was fourteen. Guy, however, did not in that census entry suggesting that he was still at sea or stationed abroad, perhaps in or offshore of, Korea. However, later in 1950, the family was reunited at a new residence in San Diego, which indicated a transfer for Guy.

Guy served as a gunnery officer in the Korean War in the early 1950s.

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“Sweet Chubbins”
Beverly Jane Doty
Source: Ancestry.com

Guy attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) on 7 Jan 1954 but later that year, tragedy struck the family when Beverly Jane died prematurely at age 17 in Orange County, CA on 5 May 1954. On her headstone, parents referred to her as their “Sweet Chubbins.”

Guy retired as a Lieutenant Commander in November 1956. In 1960, he and Lucille moved to Watsonville, CA a small city in Santa Cruz County, in the Monterey Bay area of the Central Coast of California. In retirement, Guy enjoyed cabinet making and repairing antique furniture. He was also a member of the Monterey branches of the Retired Officers and the Fleet Reserve association.

Lucille passed away at the age of 74 on 27 Nov 1979 and Guy died at the age of 90 on 3 Feb 2001. Both died in Watsonville. At the time of his death, Guy and Lucille were survived by his sister, Ona Belle Scott; by a second daughter, Dorothy; and by two grandchildren and a great-grand-son, twelve nieces and nephews, and thirty-five grandnieces and grandnephews.

Guy was buried in All Souls Cemetery in Long Beach, CA alongside “Sweet Chubbins.”

Guy Loren Doty is listed on page 238 of the 1944 book [Where Away – A Modern Odyssey](#).

Don’t forget to read [Marby’s own biography](#).

Biography by Steve Wade, son of Frank V. Wade, BM2c, USS Marblehead 1939-1945, with contributions from Ancestry.com, Newspapers.com, and other Internet records.

Corrections, additions, and photos are welcomed by email to spwade@gmail.com.