



Burial at Sea



A family recently requested a burial at sea from the Coast Guard. Robert Hillerich was a previous flotilla commander with the Dunedin Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11-10 and also a retired Navy captain. The family requested that his ashes be dispersed at sea as was his final wish. A number of obstacles occurred that needed to be ironed out for this to take place. The final plan resolved with Harvey Prior taking the family out on his facility from the Seminole Boat ramp to transfer to a Coast Guard boat. Both boats then proceeded to go 3 miles out for the service. Upon returning towards land, the Coast Guard boat then transferred the family back on to Harvey's boat to doc back at the Seminole Ramp. The transfer was necessary as the Coast Guard boat was too big to dock at the Seminole ramp and road to the Sand Key station was blocked due to a run/walk event. The weather was overcast and wind was a bit brisk, but held up well enough. The proceedings were successful with the family pleased at all of our efforts.



Harv's facility welcoming the family



Jon Nicholls, Harvey Prior (coxswain), Rob Bonnem, Kristi Mackey



Transfer family from Harvey's facility to the Coast Guard boat.



Coast Guard boat underway



Service



Spreading rose petals



Spreading of ashes.

