

# Some Most Memorable Encounters

## Preston Stevens' Memorable Encounter

Marian and I signed up for this, our first cruise. The Four Freshmen were our attraction. I had first heard them in 1957 and reunited with them at Winthrop College in South Carolina circa 1992. This was back when Bob had a bushy head of hair!

We boarded the Holland America ship in New York never thinking that this would be a cruise we would never forget!

As we left the harbor, we ascended to the top deck for the view which included the beautiful World Trade Center gleaming in the western sun. Attached is one of the photos that I took. Later, I had the ship's photo lab make a dozen copies for new friends we had met. The excursions were wonderful. Marian, a tennis star, loved the World Tennis Center in Newport.

At about eight o'clock Tuesday morning I was walking the deck with my Sony Walkman broadcasting trivia when a startling announcement came concerning a plane hitting one of the Towers. I rushed back to our room and we saw the second tragic crash. At this moment the world knew that this was a terrorist attack. The ship announced that the theater would be showing the scenes. We stayed there watching for several hours. Many viewers were in tears.

Our next stop was Halifax, Nova Scotia. Oh my! What a welcome. The folks were so sympathetic and hospitable. Our ship was clearly out of USA jurisdiction when the crashes happened so we could not be called back. The Four Freshmen added heroic performances that we were so grateful for and will never forget.

