



USS *Kentucky* (SSBN-737) Commemorative Bourbon Bottle, 1990

This commemorative bottle from the August 11, 1990 christening of the USS *Kentucky* (SSBN-737) ballistic missile submarine contains bourbon, not the traditional champagne. Then Representative Larry Hopkins and his wife Carolyn, the ship's sponsor, successfully argued that the christening be conducted with bourbon in honor of Kentucky's famous industry. The side of the label lists the eight Kentucky bourbons blended for the christening: Ancient Age, Heaven Hill, Jim Beam, Old Charter, Old Forester, Very Old Barton, Wild Turkey, and Kentucky Tavern.

Donated by Carolyn Pennebaker Hopkins, 2009.15.2

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."