

Metlakatla family will attend special Memorial Day ceremony in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Relatives of Norman Franklin Ridley, an Alaskan whose name is to be added to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, are to attend a special Memorial day ceremony on May 26 in Washington, D.C., according to Senator Frank Murkowski.

Ridley, a Metlakatla resident, was killed on January 8, 1969, while serving on board the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea.

Murkowski said Norman's mother, Jesse Ridley, his brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Novene, and Norman's sister, Norma Jean Dunn, are to attend the Memorial Day ceremony.

Murkowski, chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, said the names of Ridley and 107 other servicemen were not previous-

ly included on the memorial because 95 did not die in the official war zone, and 13 others died of wounds received in Vietnam after leaving the war zone.

"It's unfortunate the names of these servicemen were originally left off the memorial due to technicalities," Murkowski said, "but it's heartening that this situation has been corrected and Norman Ridley along with the other 107 dedicated servicemen will receive the honor they deserve."

Murkowski noted that because of the national significance of the Memorial Day ceremony, Alaska Airlines and American Airlines will provide roundtrip transportation from Alaska to Washington, D.C. for the Ridley family.