

Wolfman Jack

—Thomas Michael McDade

Might have been
the seventy-five Med Cruise
or the one the year after that
Wolfman Jack courtesy
of Armed Forces Radio
boomed through the Miller
FF1091 and seemed as much
a part of the crew as Linda
Ronstadt who sang
plenty of “Desperado”
and Glen Campbell
whose “Rhinstone Cowboy”
aired a lot more than many
thought necessary
especially some black sailors
I served with in Supply
who longed for soul.
That was a long time ago
but when I hear those
tunes today on oldies radio
I do momentarily think
of cowpokes
before recalling
my fast frigate days
and shipmates
still in my life and ones

I'll never see again.
And in some kind casket
locker of my mind, long dead
Wolfman Jack deejays on
and sometimes I obey
my direct order to crank
up the volume
to provide some
daydream peace
and quiet.