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Harvey's Cruise News



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For the love of cruising

11 March 2011

"I'm the captain of the love boat", is probably the kind of line a lady would prefer not to hear, but for actor Gavin MacLeod it's simply a statement of fact. Gavin's character, Captain Merrill Stubing, was at the helm of the popular fictional cruise ship *Love Boat* from 1977 to 1986.



You may not have seen him since then but Gavin has remained a Princess Cruises' spokesperson, and so on March 2, for his 80th birthday, he celebrated aboard *Golden Princess* in California - complete with a *Love Boat* replica cake, of course!

Crewmembers, friends and family sang a rousing "Happy Birthday" and presented the fictional Captain with a 5-foot-long, 3D cake depicting the original *Love Boat*, *Pacific Princess*.

Gavin has played the part of numerous characters in popular films and television series over the last 53 years, but his Captain Stubing character is the longest - *Love Boat*, which ran for ten seasons, is one of the longest running television shows in history.

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