

NOTAM

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PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM | FORD ISLAND, HAWAII



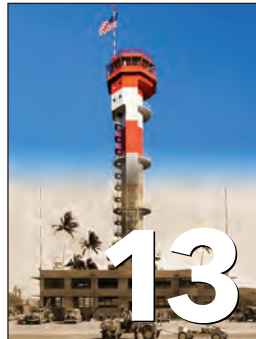
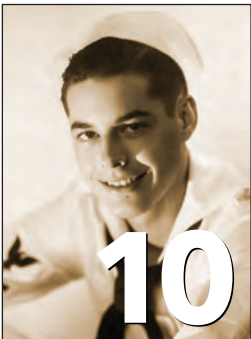
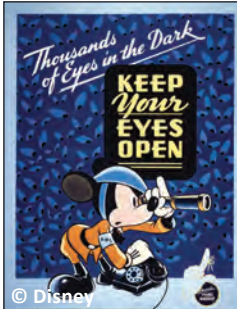
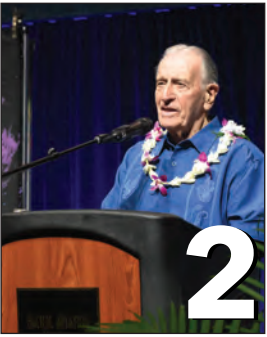
LTJG JAMES HEBARD CASE, USN

*Congressman Ed Case Honors
His Father's WWII Legacy*

NOTAM

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ON THE COVER (LEFT):

Hawaii Congressman Ed Case tells us about his father James Hebard Case's experiences while serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II.



FAREWELL AND FORWARD: EMBRACING A FUTURE OF PROMISE

By Elissa Lines, Executive Director

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start from where you are and change the ending.



The opening of *The Walt Disney Studios and World War II* exhibition provides a very personal glimpse into history through the eyes of Walt Disney himself and those who worked with him, the Disney family. At Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum (PHAM), our use of the word “PHAM-ily” is meaningful. Like Disney, the years of growth experienced by our Museum have been characterized by the

hard work and dedication of many, staff and volunteers alike. It is no coincidence that Greg Waskul, a member of our PHAM-ily since 2006, found this amazing quote from Walt Disney, part of a collection of meaningful “Disneyisms” we plan to share throughout the run of the exhibit:

“Of all the things I’ve done, the most vital is coordinating those who work with me and aiming their efforts at a certain goal.”

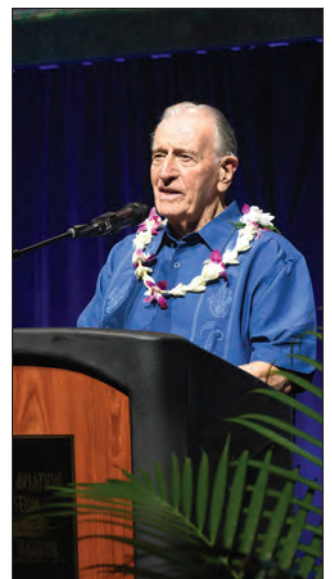
Nothing could be more on point. As I wrap up nearly 11 years of work here at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, this statement really covers it all. I am grateful to have this final opportunity to share some parting thoughts.

Taking the position with Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum in 2013 was meant to have been a short-term bend in my career, a chance to have impact, to make a difference, and to help restore a national historic site that represents a pivotal point in national and world history. Standing on the Museum grounds was indeed a very personal and visceral experience for me. I could not believe that the site of the attack on Pearl Harbor was in such need of restoration. It was a challenge I felt I must support.

MY FATHER'S WORLD WAR II STORY

I have previously shared my own story – it was not until I accepted the position with Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum that I became aware of my own father’s WWII story. A Marine whose service included the battles of Midway and Guadalcanal, he never shared his experiences with his daughters. Somehow, his influence surely led me to this position.

My first office was in the unrestored Ford Island Control Tower – no overhead lights, no restroom, unfinished walls and floors, no air conditioning. I loved it! Coming to work each day was inspiring - more than anything else, I felt drawn to the story of this battlefield. Yes, the aircraft were cool, but the key for me and visitors alike was to stand on the actual battlefield and, to better understand the impact and response to the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. It was as clear to me then as it is now – people visit Pearl Harbor to learn, to experience, to remember, to understand, and most importantly, to consider the future. In so many ways,



Magic Moments at the Museum Gala! Left: ADM R.J. "Zap" Zlatoper rides motorcycle. Center: Linda Hope, Bob Hope's daughter and Chair/CEO of the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation, stands beside portrait of her dad. Right: Treasured friend and Museum Supporter Si Robin speaks.



Left: Joe and Sylvia Shoen of U-Haul and others attend Tower blessing. **Center:** For Love of Country 2017 Gala chairs Rick and Teresa Price with Capt. Sully Sullenberger. **Right:** Legendary WWII triple ace and Museum champion, Brig Gen Bud Anderson, with his Old Crow P-51.

the spirit, culture, resilience, patriotism and attitude of America – our character and values – emerged from this pivotal event.

“Caitlin Clark or LeBron James” of history. Imagine the impact if our children aspire to follow in the footsteps of scholars.

SALUTING OUR VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

From its very beginning, our Museum has benefitted from volunteer leadership. Volunteers and staff alike have joined in this metamorphosis, expanding the story and impact, very diligently and deliberately over nearly two decades, securing the aircraft, restoring the buildings, activating the elevator, collecting the stories, and building out the exhibits that take the visitor experience to a new level. And we are not done! The plans for the future are amazing, filled with the emotion and human stories that make history believable, meaningful, poignant and powerful. Maya Angelou so beautifully penned this sentiment – “History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage need not be lived again.” If we are to have impact, we must find a way to use the stories of the past as a means to educate and empower our future.

THE WISDOM OF WALT DISNEY

In his wisdom, Walt Disney already knew that. Bringing history to life in many ways parallels his very belief that, “Until a character becomes a personality it cannot be believed. Without personality, the character may do funny things, but unless people are able to identify themselves with the character, its actions will seem unreal. And without personality, a story cannot ring true to the audience.”

STANDING ON THIS WWII AVIATION BATTLEFIELD

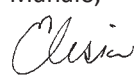
The first weekend in June, we welcomed thousands of people to the Museum – families and children from our local community along with visitors traveling great distances to stand on this American WWII aviation battlefield. This weekend of fun included STEM activities for keiki, open cockpits, opportunities for children to fly RC aircraft, and more. And, we opened *The Walt Disney Studios and World War II* exhibit. Over the two-day event, two children aged 10 and 12 approached me. They recognized my picture from this very publication. One even asked for my autograph as though I, in some way, held celebrity status for her. When asked, these young museum visitors responded that the best part of the weekend for them was the “history.” What an opportunity for our Museum to showcase talented and accomplished authors and NOTAM contributors, young and old alike, whom we might cast as role models, the

ELEVATING INCREDIBLE PERSONAL STORIES

History is filled with amazing “characters,” heroes who stepped up in courageous, and often unnoticed ways. It is our job—a responsibility we all share equally—to elevate these incredible personal stories so that they are given personality, identities, believability that can “ring true” for all who come in contact with them. This is how we inspire and use the power of all museums to their fullest potential.

Mahalo for helping to bring special meaning to my journey here at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. In stepping down as the Executive Director, I will pick up a new role. Yes, I plan to stay involved. Working with staff and board leadership, I will help fulfill our vision in two important ways: completing the restoration and interpretation of our American WWII aviation battlefield and advancing our Aviation Pathways initiative.

I ask each of you to consider helping us truly “Remember Pearl Harbor,” honoring the legacy of our Greatest Generation.

Mahalo,

Elissa Lines

GENERATIONAL IMPACT: THE P-38 LIGHTNING AND THE 475TH FIGHTER GROUP HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

By David Madison, 475th Fighter Group Historical Foundation Board of Directors

Throughout my childhood, I was fortunate enough to spend a great deal of time with my grandfather, Pete Madison. We spent many summers together traveling in his beloved motor home where he would occasionally share some of his experiences flying P-38 *Lightnings* in the South Pacific during WWII. What I didn't realize at the time was just how young my grandfather was when he went off to war. At eighteen, he enlisted and joined the 475th Fighter Group.

Most of our summer road trips would revolve around the 475th annual reunions. This is where I got to hear the real stories, including the time he and his outfit were strafing a Japanese cargo ship, and he hit the mast, turning the aircraft upside down and losing power in one engine. Fortunately, he was able to right the aircraft with the help of his wingman, Hal Grey, who reminded him to jettison the external fuel tanks that were dragging him down. Bleeding from his injuries, he flew 300 miles back to an allied landing strip where he made a crash landing, escaping the wreckage as it was engulfed in flames.

SACRIFICING THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT OUR NATION

Fast forward to when I was 18 years old and heading to college at UC Santa Barbara. My grandfather was there that exciting day when I moved into the dorms. It was at this moment that I realized my grandfather never got to have this experience. He didn't get to enjoy the freedom of those college years. He and thousands of other courageous, young men were sacrificing their lives to protect our nation - to give me and future generations the chance to go to college and enjoy our young adult years. When I look back on that time, there is a sense of guilt and embarrassment for what I was doing at the same age.

As the years passed, I decided to channel those emotions into getting involved with the 475th Fighter Group Historical Foundation, an organization that was founded by my grandfather and his squadron partner, Col. Perry J. Dahl.



P-38 pilot Pete Madison experienced hitting the mast of a Japanese ship on a strafing run.

Based in New Guinea, the 475th Fighter Group exclusively flew the P-38 *Lightning*, the first attack aircraft of its kind. These aircraft were the first to have electrical magneto engines that provided speed and maneuverability unseen before. The 475th Fighter Group Historical Foundation was established to keep the memories and values of these veterans alive and to keep the history of the unit and its squadrons intact to educate future generations. Strategic partnerships were established at both Seattle and Chino air museums to showcase artifacts, and memorabilia and to tell the story of the 475th. The turning point for the foundation came in 2014 when a partnership with Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum was established. This partnership has since provided a fantastic opportunity to further expand our message.

The 475th Fighter Group Historical Foundation is committed to telling the story of the P-38 *Lightning*, providing a \$100,000 matching gift for the Museum's recent appeal to create a compelling new P-38 *Lightning* exhibit: a tribute to the heroic pilots and crews of the legendary aircraft. For me, this exhibit would be the ultimate honor to my grandfather and all of the brave members of the 475th Fighter Group. If you would like to support the creation of this exhibit, please scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/p38exhibit.



SCAN ME

THE WALT DISNEY STUDIOS AND WORLD WAR II EXHIBITION

By Kent Ramsey, Curator for The Walt Disney Studios and World War II Exhibition

It is my pleasure to introduce *The Walt Disney Studios and World War II* exhibition to the Hawaiian Islands! The exhibition is a retrospective of The Walt Disney Studios' extensive contributions to the Allies' World War II effort. This original exhibition illustrates how The Walt Disney Studios devoted over 90 percent of its wartime output to creating educational, entertainment, training, and propaganda films as well as insignia designs and extensive home front print media. In addition, the exhibition covers how Walt Disney and a small team of artists, animators and writers traveled to Latin America on a goodwill tour designed to offset Axis influence in the region.

HOW IT STARTED

I started collecting ideas and objects for this exhibition over twenty years ago, and it was my good fortune to team up with The Walt Disney Family Museum to present this exhibition. The Walt Disney Company resources were naturally essential for telling this little-known story about Walt Disney's massive patriotic contributions. Private collectors are also responsible for much of the content of the exhibition.

A PASSION FOR DISNEY & WWII

The exhibition represents a perfect intersection of my two passions, Disney and World War II. I grew up watching Walt Disney's *Wonderful World of Color* every Sunday night, and the *Davy Crockett* miniseries was one of my favorite programs. Ironically, I became a *Davy Crockett* keelboat skipper at Walt Disney World during my college years, and I have remained closely interested in all things Disney since then. It is also important to point out that Walt and Roy Disney's corporate attorney hosted me in Florida during my employment there, and he was a valuable Disney history resource.

My keen interest in World War II stems from being surrounded by The Greatest Generation as a child. I was captivated by their interesting war stories, and read everything I could about the war. My father served in a Sherman tank during the Battle of the Bulge, and my uncle was a P-38 pilot in the Pacific Theater of Operations and European Theater of Operations before being killed in action a month before Germany surrendered.



Marina Vilar Delgado, Director of Exhibitions and Collections at The Walt Disney Family Museum, Kahu Kordell Kekoa, and Kent Ramsey (left to right) joined us for the special preview and blessing of The Walt Disney Studios and World War II exhibit on May 31, 2024.

I personally organized reunions for my uncle's old squadron for over 10 years, and also participated in many World War II reunions at The Museum of Flight (MOF) in Seattle.

A UNIQUE CONNECTION

In addition to my interest in WWII and Disney, a special connection to Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum helped make this exhibition possible. Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's Executive Director, Elissa Lines, was head of operations at The Museum of Flight (MOF) from 1999 to 2003, and she is responsible for recruiting me to become a MOF volunteer. I am now lucky enough to be the MOF Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors. Interestingly, the Museum's F4F-3 Wildcat also spent a few years on display at the MOF before MOF trustee John Dimmer donated it to Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum.

With Elissa's support, and the support of the Museum staff, we were able to bring *The Walt Disney Studios and World War II* exhibition to Pearl Harbor where visitors can learn how Disney illustrators helped win the war. We invite you to visit the new exhibition which is open now through December 31, 2024.

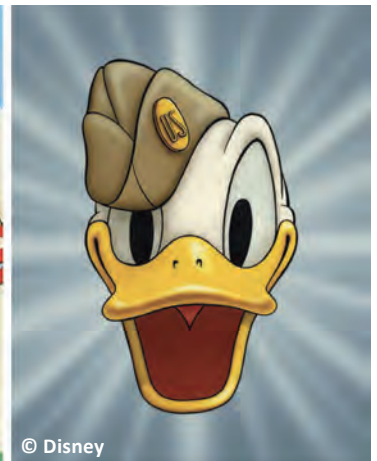
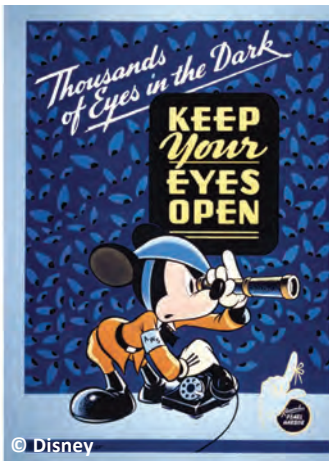
FROM HOPE TO DONALD: TRANSFORMING THE RAYTHEON PAVILION

By Amanda Sheley, Collections Manager/Registrar

It goes without saying, but exhibitions are not built in one day. Creating a show that resonates with audiences, is professionally presented, and carefully considers various factors that can determine its success, often requires many months, and at times, even years. Thanks to our well-trained team, support from The Walt Disney Family Museum, and unending encouragement from our leadership, we were armed with the tools to tackle the challenges brought forth by such a show.

OVERCOMING HUNDREDS OF HURDLES

By the time the first guest entered the space, the teams at both Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum and the Walt Disney Family Museum had overcome hundreds of hurdles. The Raytheon Pavilion is a semi-permanent, fully insulated fabric structure which was built in 2016 to house exhibitions. To fit the needs of a high-profile art show, there was a lot to consider and adjust within this 50'x82' space. One major hurdle we had to work through, and continue to analyze, is environmental factors. Given that the Hawaiian Islands have a mild tropical climate, high



humidity and year-round warm temperatures, the condition of each collection remains an ever-present concern. To properly house this collection, we had to create a consistently safe environment well below our climate's average temperature and humidity. This involved installing multiple industrial grade dehumidifiers spread throughout the space, an air conditioning system that runs 24/7, monitors that alert of major environmental changes, and thermal detectors to find "hot spots" to minimize fluctuations.

There were many other challenges which required substantial consideration to ensure the exhibition went off without a hitch. From meticulously coordinating the shipment of the artwork to Hawaii (a feat achieved with the invaluable support from our

friends at Pacific Air Cargo), to crafting a captivating floor plan and planning the visitor experience, every detail of this exhibit necessitated careful consideration. Lighting, for instance, may not seem like a primary concern but is taken quite seriously in the exhibition realm. The goal was to limit light exposure while highlighting the artwork. To make this possible, a track light system was installed along with spotlights on each wall and filters over the bulbs to reduce the "foot-candles."

Another notable challenge took many months of skilled carpentry: transforming the existing walls into those worthy of fine art. The previous exhibition housed in the Raytheon Pavilion, *Bob Hope: An American Treasure*, had many 3-D objects. We had to remove all display cases and replace them with smooth white walls to accommodate over 100 pieces of artwork. Luckily, our exhibits and restoration departments have a diversely skilled team that jumped right in, allowing this transformation to happen in a smooth manner. The final result has exceeded all expectations.

These are just some of the many factors which are taken into consideration when planning and building an exhibition for the public. It may seem daunting and overwhelming, but our dedicated staff took their time working through each step, and many others offered their support and expertise to help make this exhibit a reality.

DISNEY EXHIBITION CLOSES ON DECEMBER 31

We are honored to showcase this educational and beautifully presented account of *The Walt Disney Studios'* historically important contribution to WWII. If you've not yet had the opportunity to explore *The Walt Disney Studios and World War II* exhibition, we highly recommend you pop in soon, as the last day to see it will be December 31st. We hope to see you soon!

MY FATHER'S WAR

By U.S. Representative Ed Case (Hawaii - First District)

My father, James "Jim" Hebard Case, served in the United States Navy from 1942 to 1946.

Jim Case went on to live a full life as one of Hawaii's leading lawyers. He recounted his journey in *Hawaii Lawyer: Lessons in Law and Life from A Six Decade Career* (2017). He died in 2022, age 102.

PUBLISHING HIS WAR STORIES

After completing *Hawaii Lawyer*, Jim returned to his wartime years, publishing *From Hawaii to The Carolines: One Sailor's War* in 2019. He gave copies of his book to our Pearl Harbor Historic Sites including Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, as well as to the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project.

Jim begins: "I was born on Grove Farm Sugar Plantation, Lihue, Kauai, in 1920." His grandparents had moved to Hawaii in 1896. He graduated from Punahou School in Honolulu in 1937, and then attended Williams College in Massachusetts. He was deeply influenced by a renowned professor who taught that America would inevitably be caught up in a worldwide conflict. Upon graduating in 1941, he turned down admission to Yale Law School and sought a Navy commission, but was rejected for his not-quite-perfect eyesight.

Jim returned home to work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the defense of Oahu, building airstrips around the island (including one hidden in plain sight at Ala Wai Golf Course). On the morning of December 7th, Jim was in Waikiki when what he thought was the Sunday Diamond Head battery practice went off. He turned on the radio to Web Edwards' famous words: "Attention. This is no exercise. The Japanese are attacking

Pearl Harbor!... All Army, Navy and Marine personnel to report to duty."

One of the Corps' most difficult assignments after the attack was the rescue effort and salvage of the capsized USS *Oklahoma*. He only talked about it later in life, when he would cry describing the banging on the hull by trapped sailors. In mid-1942, Jim was ordered to the Navy's Officers Training School in Arizona. He spent 1943 assigned to the Fleet Training Base, San Clemente Island off Los Angeles. 1944 was devoted to advanced training in Florida, including a new technology called radar.

In early 1945, LTJG Case reported to Brooklyn to join the nucleus crew for a new destroyer escort, USS *Heyliger*. At 306 feet long and with 14 officers and 208 enlisted, *Heyliger's* specialty was convoys, especially anti-submarine warfare. After fitting out and sea trials, *Heyliger* arrived at Pearl Harbor in June 1945 heading for the Western Pacific.

OFFICIALLY AT WAR

"Germany had surrendered, but Japan had not. The United States would probably have to attack Japan itself." *Heyliger* undertook intensive combat training again before the atomic bombs dropped and the Emperor surrendered. "Did we receive a change of orders? No. The Navy didn't know exactly what this meant and we were ordered to sail ... for Guam. We were still officially at war."

As Jim was heading west, his brother, Dan, an Olympic caliber swimmer who would also have a long career as a Hawaii lawyer, was leading an Underwater Demolition Team off the Japan coast. "[Dan's] team preceded General MacArthur by several

days. They went into Tokyo Bay and made sure there were no mines.... That was hazardous duty!!!"

The war was over, but the Japanese were dispersed throughout the vast Pacific at heavily fortified outposts. *Heyliger* was ordered to sweep these islands to take the surrender and supervise the removal of Japanese.

AN EXPLODING GRENADE

First up was Rota, just north of Guam, and a tragic incident. "I was in charge of one of several platoons which inspected the island. I had explained very carefully that every person should be very careful not to pick up rifles or other weapons. One of the men picked up a hand grenade. It exploded. He was severely injured. We got him back to the ship as quickly as we could and raced to Guam. He died in the hospital."

Next was Truk (Chuuk), Japan's main naval base in the Pacific. It was a beautiful atoll with a large lagoon. "[Japan] mined the entire lagoon except for clear channels without mines They had maps which showed the clear channels. ..." The Japanese came out with the charts. Jim, now 25 years old, was the navigator and ran the channels by dead reckoning off the charts. To make matters worse, the Commanding Officer decided to come in at speed to demonstrate control. They reached their anchorage without incident.

Next were about twenty small islands in the Carolines (today's Federal States of Micronesia), among the most isolated in the world. One of these islands, Satawal, was the home of Mau Pailug, who trained the first generations of Hokule'a voyagers in the ancient voyaging techniques.

Heyliger then transited north from Guam as an advanced weather station. Shortly before Christmas 1945, the ship was on its assigned course back and forth when a major typhoon hit. "The waves were 50 feet high. Our ship pitched terribly when headed into the wind. The main problem, however, was the turn we made at either end. The waves would turn us over 60 degrees."

"I had to strap myself to a stanchion on the open deck when I stood Officer of the Deck watches. I called the Captain: 'We are in great danger of sinking. I suggest that you call headquarters and get permission to get out of this typhoon.' He replied: 'I am a Naval Academy Graduate. I would be considered a coward if I suggested that. Stay the course.'"

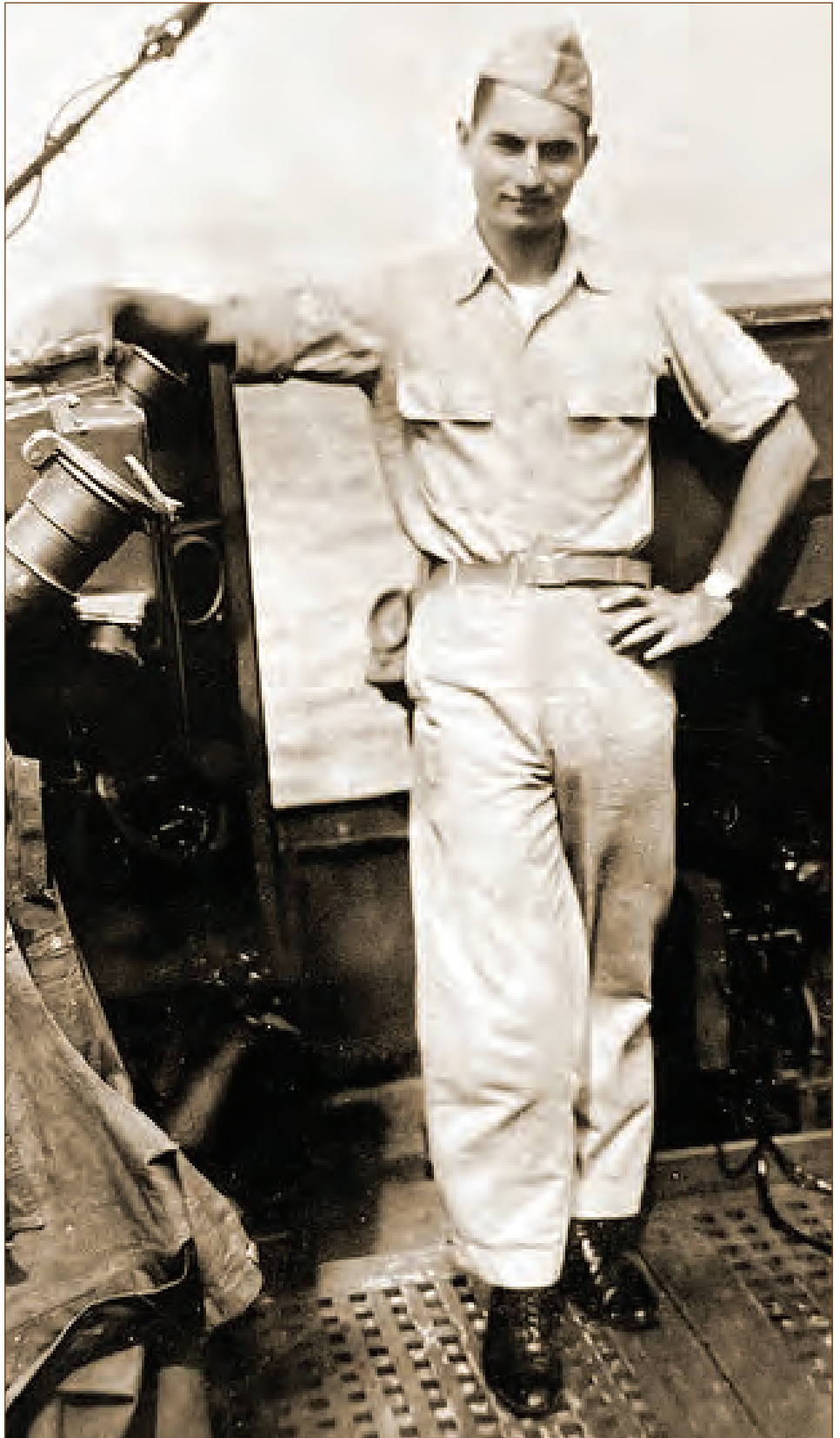
SHIPS SANK IN ROUGH SEAS

"I was right. There were other ships in the rough seas and three of them sank." This story was oft-discussed growing up as a moral dilemma; Jim felt his Commanding Officer needlessly endangered his men.

As 1945 closed, Jim was promoted to LTSG and Executive Officer of *Heyliger*, and they transited back to Boston. He left active service in the summer of 1946 and enrolled at Harvard Law School.

'ONE SAILOR'S WAR' DEDICATION

Eighteen million Americans served in our Armed Forces in World War II, each in their own way. In dedicating *One Sailor's War*, Jim Case wrote: "I hope that this book will help people understand what their parents, grandparents, and indeed, the entire American society of that time, did to give their descendants the opportunity to maintain... America."



James Hebard Case aboard the USS Heyliger in the Western Pacific in 1945.

LT COLONEL WILLIAM J. HORVAT: A JOURNEY TO BECOME AN AVIATION HISTORIAN

Yvonne Murphy, Phil Horvat, Connie Venasky and Sandra Giles, Lt Colonel William Joseph Horvat's children

Our father, Lt Colonel William Joseph Horvat (USAF, Ret.) was born in Slovenia, Yugoslavia in 1919. He emigrated to the United States when he was four years old, landing at Ellis Island, NYC. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1939 and rose to the rank of Sergeant by 1941. He earned a wartime commission, went to officer candidate school and then was assigned to the Army Air Corp. His WWII assignments included Air Sea Rescue in England and with Rolls Royce, supporting the development of U.S. Air Fighter engines.



Lt. Colonel William Joseph Horvat

Our father met and married our mother, Renee C. Wilkinson, in England during WWII. Shortly after the wedding, she boarded the Queen Mary bound for the United States to join him. After WWII, he was assigned to Edwards Air Force Base, where he helped develop jet fighter aircraft in the 50s and 60s. He also worked at Space Systems Development at Vandenberg Air Force Base and Los Angeles Air Force Station developing jet and space craft. All four of us were born at air force bases in the United States and overseas.

ASSIGNED TO HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE

In 1963, Dad was assigned to Hickam Air Force Base on Oahu, Hawaii, where he was the chronicler of island aviation history as well as a member of the Aerospace Year Steering committee that spearheaded the 'Aerospace Year.' Some of his fellow esteemed members of the Aerospace committee were Governor Burns, Navigator Emory Brontë, Navy Pilot B.J. Connell and Stanley C. Kennedy; Founder of Inter-Island Airways (predecessor to Hawaiian Airlines).

Dad was an avid supporter of a proposed 'Isle Air Museum' in 1965 to celebrate Hawaii being the Gateway to the Pacific for civilians and military air traffic.

He had a passion for the people of the Hawaiian Islands and their rich aviation history, which inspired him to write one of the most detailed research books of aviation in the area, called *Above The Pacific*. Arthur Godfrey wrote the foreword, and

it was published by Aero Publishers in 1966. Dad was named Editor in Chief of *The Journal of American Aviation Historical Publication Magazine* in 1968. Shortly after retirement and publication of his book, our father, at only 49 years of age, was killed in a tragic car accident in 1969. He never lived to see the success of his book. He would have been so proud of being published in the State of Hawaii.

Fast forward to 2024, our sister Sandra was at the Honolulu airport in 2007 when a family member stumbled upon a display of research books celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Honolulu Airport. One of those books just happened to be

our father's book, *Above the Pacific*. We immediately contacted Ben Schlapak, Oahu District Manager of the Honolulu Airport. Ben said that they had been looking for the author's family in order to get copyright permission to put the content of our father's book on the State of Hawaii's website.

WILLIAM HORVAT'S AMERICAN DREAM

Our father's American dream included moving from a war-ravaged country, Yugoslavia. He had a military career, got his University degrees while serving, and became a published author, as well as a historian of Pacific aviation.

We are so proud of his accomplishments and even though his life was cut short, his legacy lives on through his book, *Above the Pacific*. His work now serves to enrich, educate and honor the history of aviation in the Pacific.

Our hope, as his four children, would be that our father's contribution to Pacific aviation be acknowledged formally. We plan on submitting a hard copy of his book to Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum for inclusion into the library, making it accessible to researchers and aviation enthusiasts from around the world. We look forward to working with Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum to hold a ceremony recognizing his accomplishments and passing on his legacy to his grandchildren and great grandchildren whom he never met in his short life.

FINAL SALUTE TO LOU CONTER: LAST SURVIVOR OF THE USS ARIZONA

By Daniel A. Martinez, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Historian

With his immediate family present, Louis “Lou” Anthony Conter passed away on April 1, 2024, at his home in Grass Valley, California. Lou was the last remaining USS *Arizona* survivor. With the news of his passing traveling throughout the nation, a tangible link to Pearl Harbor history now remains forever closed.

Born September 13, 1921, in Ojibwa, Wisconsin, Lou’s formative years were noticeably marked by the Great Depression. Due to economic pressure, his family was compelled to move around in order to seek work. When a fellow classmate returned home

on leave from the U.S. Navy, Lou was informed of the advantages of training and pay provided by the Navy. For Lou, this was the opportunity he was looking for, and he enlisted for four years. He hopped on a train at the Denver station and made his way to San Diego, California to report for duty at the Naval Training Station on November 15, 1939.

By the year 1941, Lou was stationed on the USS *Arizona*, his rate as a sailor was Quarter Master 3rd Class. On that fateful morning of December 7, 1941, Lou lost 1,177 of his crewmates when Imperial Japanese Navy airmen struck the *Arizona* with four armor-piercing bombs.

Having survived this harrowing ordeal, Lou would go on to become a naval aviator. Upon earning his wings, Lou would fly over 200 missions across the South Pacific in Consolidated PBY “Black Cats” as part of VP-11. Amid his myriad of achievements during this period, including being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Lou would miraculously survive being shot down twice. After the conclusion of hostilities with the Empire of Japan on September 2, 1945, Lou would continue to have a long career in the Navy, serving until 1967.

As a member of the USS *Arizona* Reunion Association and the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Lou attended December 7th ceremonies held at the USS *Arizona* Memorial including the interment of a fellow *Arizona* crew member. When asked about the possibility of his own interment, Lou replied that his desire was to be buried with his beloved wife, Valerie.

On April 23, 2024, hundreds of people gathered in Grass Valley, California to witness Lou’s funeral service. Mass was held for him at St. Patrick Catholic Church upon which the burial service took place at St. Patrick Catholic Cemetery.

Along the route of the procession, groups of schoolchildren and high schoolers stood with flags waving as the procession went by. Military honors were rendered that day by the Navy, Marines and Air Force to the last survivor of the *Arizona*.



Newly enlisted sailor Lou Conter in 1939.

Saying goodbye to Lou was a difficult moment for me. I was proud to be there and see how he was honored. I went back to the cemetery the following day when no one was there to say my final goodbye. For me, my connection with him both on a personal and professional level while I served with the National Park Service, extended over 30 years. I will miss his smile and his voice that over the years brought new knowledge of his service and that fateful day on December 7, 1941.

As an institution that seeks to preserve the memory of those who so valiantly served and protected our country, the passing of Lou Conter remains a tremendous loss. Pearl Harbor Aviation

Museum is indebted to Lou’s long service to his country both in and out of uniform. We are thankful for his dedication to preserving the memory of the attack on Pearl Harbor so that all generations, young and old, may learn from this consequential event. We wish his loved ones well in this time of mourning.

Fair winds and following seas, Lou.

NOTES

1 The Lou Conter Story, 2021 Louis Conter, Annette C. Hull, Warren Hull. Published by Wheatmark

2 IBID

3 Funeral Mass Card, St. Patrick Catholic Church, Luann Conter

2024 AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

By Woo Ri Kim, Sr. Director of Philanthropic Strategies and Programs



Twenty three individuals from throughout the nation were selected to receive Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum scholarships in 2024.

Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is proud to provide multiple scholarships, generously funded by our donors, with the aim of educating and inspiring future generations to achieve their aviation goals. We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our 2024 aviation scholarships. Twenty-three individuals have been selected from a pool of impressive candidates – each with remarkable achievements, unwavering dedication, and passion for aviation.

ALIGNING WITH OUR MISSION

Our commitment to the award of scholarships aligns with our mission – as an organization, we not only seek to honor those who have defended our freedom, but we also hope to educate and inspire future generations. Scholarships support the dreams of aspiring aviators and pass on the lessons of our Greatest Generation to the leaders of tomorrow.

At this year's Scholarship Award Ceremony, a common theme, expressed in the heartfelt thanks of our recipients, emerged – a sentiment of gratitude and a commitment to give back. It was this overwhelming emergence of spirit and unity amongst our recipients – a cohort of awardees powerfully impacted by the

giving of others pledging their personal support to give back. This prompted the philanthropic heart of Rick and Teresa Price, moving their family to donate another \$150,000 to our scholarship initiative—\$100,000 to continue the growth and impact of our For Love of Country Scholarship Endowment, and \$50,000 to be distributed as part of our 2025 Scholarship Awards.

The Price family is a shining example of philanthropic leadership. They believe in giving back and creating a ripple effect of positive change. This commitment extends beyond their family – their companies, CarWash808 and Pau Hana Express (led by son, Christopher Price), and their employees are actively involved in supporting our Museum and other programs, both in our community and beyond.

THE CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

From taking swift action following the Maui wild fires to deliver critical humanitarian aid, to sponsoring community days at our Museum and providing valuable time, leadership and expertise on our Board and committees, the Price Family embodies the culture of philanthropy. They understand the importance of addressing both immediate and long-term

needs, dedicating their time and financial resources to make a lasting difference and encouraging others to do so.

ALIGNING WITH OUR MISSION

Remember, every contribution from our Museum PHAM-ily, regardless of the amount, makes a difference! Your support, alongside Rick and Teresa's, helps expand the impact of the many scholarships awarded by our Museum. To donate, visit us at bit.ly/phamscholarships.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the 2024 scholarship recipients, wishing them success in their educational and professional endeavors. Our hope is that they not only fulfill their own aspirations but also become ambassadors for the aviation industry, inspiring others to join their ranks.

To read more about the Museum's scholarships and this year's incredible recipients, scan the QR code or visit our blog at bit.ly/2024phamscholarships.



SCAN ME

PHOTOS OF 2024 AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY SCHOLARSHIPS



Cherry Kan
\$10,000
Ann Arbor, MI



Justin Scott
\$8,000
Pearland, TX



Ethan Foy
\$8,000
Minot, ND



Tracy Atobatele
\$6,000
Arlington, TX



Nai'a Balancio
\$5,000
Kealahou, HI



Jackson Wilson
\$5,000
Ada, OK



Richard Allred
\$5,000
Meridian, OH



Sofia Garcia
\$5,000
Kailua, HI



Caleb Mendenhall
\$5,000
DuPont, WA



Matthew Coffman
\$5,000
Centennial, CO



Sofia Goodwin
\$5,000
Grass Valley, CA



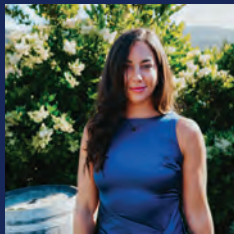
Alexander Yount
\$5,000
Traverse City, MI

FRANK DER YUEN AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

COLONEL ROBERT P. MOORE SCHOLARSHIPS

ADMIRAL RONALD J. HAYS SCHOLARSHIP

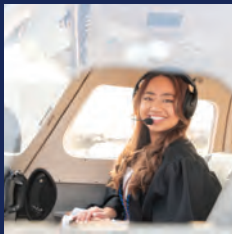
BRIG GEN ROBERT B. & JUDITH MAGUIRE SCHOLARSHIP



Kelsie Hancock
\$2,000
Honolulu, HI



Caitlin Thomas
\$2,000
Ewa Beach, HI



Angela Joven
\$5,000
Ewa Beach, HI



Jasmine Huant
\$1,500
Braintree, MA



Hyman Gaea
\$1,200
Kapolei, HI



Anais Rodriguez
\$1,000
Honolulu, HI

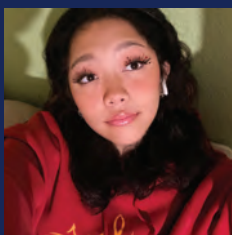
COLONEL ROBERT F. SZUL SCHOLARSHIPS



Kara T.
7th Grade, Moanalua Middle School



Adalynn M.
7th Grade, Aliamanu Middle School



Harmony E.
8th Grade - Waianae Intermediate School



Skyla C.
Hawaii Baptist Academy



Cartier K.
Niu Valley Middle School

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM: THIS PLACE MATTERS

By Bill Miller, Director of Operations

For those of us who work at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, and indeed, at any of the other museums located within the Pearl Harbor historic site, we are reminded daily of the significance.

Coming to work, especially for those with personal and family connections to WWII, can be a very emotional experience, a reminder each day that our efforts help to sustain an important part of our local, national and international history. Our Director of Visitor Services, himself a retired Army helicopter pilot, shares this impact below – it is indeed an emotional reminder of the cost of freedom.

AN INFAMOUS DAY, A GRASSY KNOLL, A TOWER COMING DOWN

Bracketing young to old, these events burn into the collective consciousness of those witnessing the creation of history in real time. While living in the moment, these episodes are not yet history. They're happening now, still impacting emotionally and changing the trajectory of our world and our lives. The overwhelming sense of uncertainty surrounds and permeates everything as everyone looks around to figure out what is going on and what the hell is coming next. Shaken awake we're reminded of the fragility of the human condition.

Time marches and life interrupts. The uncertainty subsides, direction is found, and slowly a normalcy continues. Now revisiting the once surreal events, we find a sanitized version. Subdued by the absence of the uncertainty of the moment, we feel old when we realize they're now historical events.

BULL RUN, FORD'S THEATER, BLACK THURSDAY

We witness these older events through our own eyes, by reading a textbook or seeing a video. The content was written and finalized with a comfortable degree of resolved certainty. Absorbing the human condition in this manner requires concerted effort, removing us from the explosiveness of the event and leaving only the historical residue. And while relatively intriguing, we're not fully invested. Dismissing it as quickly as the book is closed, we're on to the next thing.

Go to the Gettysburg battlefield, see Lincoln's bloody pillow across from Ford's Theater, visit the Museum of Modern Art and take in "The Migrant Mother." Hallowed grounds, visceral exhibits encapsulating a moment, and powerful photos that emotionally

transcend generations bring these events screaming to the front and center of our consciousness. Tapping into the uncertainty of a significant historical event is what museums do and why they matter.

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM

Our hangars witnessed the creation of the day in infamy that christened these hallowed grounds; our gallery houses the burnt, oil-stained bulkhead of the USS *Arizona*, whose last crew member has just passed away - further relegating the *Arizona* into history. Our Maui, and Disney exhibits are narrated by dedicated docents bringing the faces and stories to life.

We remember Pearl Harbor and the absolute uncertainty the event birthed, so we don't forget our human condition in the face of future events, waiting to become history.



The Museum's iconic Control Tower in the 1940s and today.

Please join us

FOR LOVE OF
COUNTRY
ANNUAL GALA

Hawaii's premier patriotic gala, For Love of Country, returns on **Saturday, December 7th, 2024**. Co-chaired and presented by **Dr. Thomas and Mi Kosasa**, this event offers a heartfelt tribute to those who serve our nation, past and present. Held within an awe-inspiring World War II hangar, the date itself holds profound significance. The evening will be a poignant commemoration of the sacrifices made to secure the freedoms we enjoy today.

Your support and participation will ensure that the indomitable spirit of our service men and women continues to inspire us all. To reserve your sponsorship or purchase individual tickets, visit ForLoveOfCountry.org or reach us at Gala@PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org.

Together, let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and pave the way for a brighter future.



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Dr. Thomas and Mi Kosasa

GRAND EDUCATION SPONSOR

Rick and Teresa Price

VINTNER SPONSOR

Baldacci
FAMILY VINEYARDS
NAPA VALLEY

CULINARY ARTIST

CHEF
Chai

LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS



Halekulani
On the Beach at Waikiki



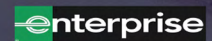
Halepuna
WAIKIKI
by Halekulani

HOTEL PARTNER



ALA MOANA HOTEL
by mantra-

CAR RENTAL PARTNER



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
ForLoveofCountry.org



PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM



PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM

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YOUR ONE AND ONLY CHANCE TO PLAY PICKLEBALL ON THE HALLOWED GROUNDS OF AMERICA'S WWII AVIATION BATTLEFIELD

DIVISIONS:

- Mixed Doubles
- Women's Doubles
- Men's Doubles
- Women's Singles
- Men's Singles
- Youth 16 & Under

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM



Questions - Please contact
Pickleball@PearlHarborAviationMuseum.com



Fri Dec 13 - Sun Dec 15
HISTORIC HANGAR 79 - PEARL HARBOR

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
REGISTRATION OPENING SOON

