Bush’s Legacy Includes Decisive Military Action  
*By Jim Garamone, Department of Defense Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- His background was a little different than most who join the military at the age of 18, but his warmth, love of country and drive to serve made him a leader respected up and down his chains of command.

Service members who worked with former President George H.W. Bush, first as Ronald Reagan’s vice president and, later, during his presidential term, spoke of the way he remembered their names and would ask about their families. They were loyal to him and he was loyal right back.

Bush himself said it best in his inaugural address on Jan. 20, 1989: “We are not the sum of our possessions. They are not the measure of our lives. In our hearts we know what matters. We cannot hope only to leave our children a bigger car, a bigger bank account. We must hope to give them a sense of what it means to be a loyal friend, a loving parent, a citizen who leaves his home, his neighborhood and town better than he found it.

“What do we want the men and women who work with us to say when we are no longer there? That we were more driven to succeed than anyone around us? Or that we stopped to ask if a sick child had gotten better, and stayed a moment there to trade a word of friendship?”

Bush, who died Nov. 30 at age 94, was born June 12, 1924, in Milton, Massachusetts. He graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, on his 18th birthday in 1942 and immediately joined the Navy. With World War II raging, Bush earned his wings in June 1943. He was the youngest pilot in the Navy at that time.

The future president flew torpedo bombers off USS San Jacinto in the Pacific. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for a mission over Chichi Jima in 1944. Even though his plane was hit by antiaircraft fire, he completed his bombing run before turning to the sea. Bush managed to bail out of the burning aircraft, but both of his crewmen died. The submarine USS Finback rescued him.

After the war, Bush attended Yale and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1948. He and his wife moved to Texas, where he entered the oil business. Bush served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1966 to 1970.


In 1980, Bush ran for the Republican presidential nomination. Ronald Reagan won the primaries and secured the nomination, and he selected Bush as his running mate. On Jan. 20, 1981, Bush was sworn in for the first of two terms as vice president.

The Republicans selected Bush as presidential nominee in 1988. His pledge at the national convention – “Read my lips: no new taxes” – probably got him elected, but may have worked to make him a one-term president. Bush became the 41st president of the United States and presided over the victory of the West. During his tenure, the Berlin Wall – a symbol of communist oppression since 1961 – fell before the appeal of freedom. The nations of Eastern Europe withdrew from the Warsaw Pact and freely elected democracies began taking hold.

Even more incredible was the dissolution of the Soviet Union itself. Kremlin hard-liners tried to seize power and enforce their will, but Boris Yeltsin rallied the army and citizens for freedom. Soon, nations long under Soviet domination peeled away and began new eras.

In 1989, Bush ordered the U.S. military in to Panama to overthrow the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega. Noriega had allowed Panama to become a haven for narcoterrorists, and he subsequently was convicted of drug offenses.

But Bush is best remembered for his swift and decisive efforts following Saddam Hussein’s invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2, 1990. The Iraqi dictator claimed that Kuwait historically was his country’s “19th province.” His troops pushed into Kuwait and threatened to move into Saudi Arabia.

Bush drew “a line in the sand” and promised to protect Saudi Arabia and liberate Kuwait. He put together a 30-nation coalition that liberated Kuwait in February 1991. Operation Desert Storm showed Americans and the world the devastating power of the U.S. military.

At the end of the war, Bush had historic approval ratings from the American people. But a recession – in part caused by Saddam’s invasion – and having to backtrack on his pledge not to raise taxes cost him the election in 1992. With third-party candidate Ross Perot pulling in 19 percent of the vote, Bill Clinton was elected president.

Bush lived to see his son – George W. Bush – elected president, and he worked with the man who defeated him in 2006 to raise money for millions of people affected by an Indian Ocean tsunami and for Hurricane Katrina relief.

In his inaugural address, the elder Bush spoke about America having a meaning “beyond what we see.” The idea of America and what it stands for is important in the world, he said.

“We know what works: freedom works. We know what’s right: Freedom is right. We know how to secure a more just and prosperous life for man on Earth: through free markets, free speech, free elections and the exercise of free will unhampered by the state,” he said.

“We must act on what we know,” he said later in the speech. “I take as my guide the hope of a saint: in crucial things, unity; in important things, diversity; in all things, generosity.” It was the mark of the man.
A kickoff to the Holiday Season: The annual tree lighting ceremony at NAS Whiting Field took place Friday, November 30th. The ceremony began with a toast to good cheer followed by NASWF’s Chaplain Lt.j.g. Frank Tillotson’s “History of the Christmas Tree” and blessing, and concluded with a few words from the Commanding Officer, Capt. Paul Bowdich. The Blue Angel Belles gave a special performance for service members, civilian employees and their families in attendance.

(Photos by Lt.j.g. Terryl Daguison, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Office)
MILTON, Fla. - Naval Air Station Whiting Field’s Fire Department conducts quarterly fire drill inspections with each of their crash crews at each Navy Outlying Field (NOLF) to maintain proficiency and operational readiness. NAS Whiting Field is responsible for having a crash crew standing by at both North and South Field, as well as NOLFs Harold, Pace, Santa Rosa, Site 8, Spencer, Barin, Brewton, Choctaw, Evergreen, and Summerdale.

Senior enlisted members in the department assess each crew on their performance during a training evolution, in which they respond to a simulated emergency at their respective field. They are evaluated on criteria such as the speed of their response, how safely they operate as a team, and the proper performance of their procedures.

“The most difficult part is that things are always changing,” said crewmember and fire captain, Aviation Boatswains Mate Handling (ABH) 2nd Class Lewis Mashburn. “No two [fires] are the same, so it’s hard to train for a specific situation.”

Mashburn, along with his crew, ABH 2nd Class Brian Perkins and ABH 2nd class Cheng Fang, conducted their fire drill at NOLF Pace and were inspected by ABH 1st class Anthony Kirby and ABH Chief Shane Ammons.

“Each quarter, we’ll go out to each of the fields and do a fire drill,” said Ammons, the divisional leading chief petty officer. “Whichever crew performs the best will be recognized as Field of the Quarter.”

Due to the department’s manning rotation, some crash crews may have a chance to work at multiple outlying fields, therefore every crewmember must be trained to respond to emergencies on the TH-57B, TH-57C, and the T-6B. This can make fighting emergencies difficult, since firefighting procedures vary between aircraft.

But the crash crews receive extensive training to ensure they are prepared and ready to respond to any type of incident or emergency. The Whiting Field fire department also provides assistance to local community emergencies on an as-needed basis, which also hones skills.

While the job can sometimes be demanding, crewmembers are able to enjoy many parts about the job. While stationed at NAS Whiting Field, Mashburn was able to put time in as a volunteer firefighter while Perkins was able to take on extra school work.

“It’s nice to have another crew switch out with us and have sort of an A and B schedule going,” said Mashburn. “We will get in at 0630 and leave a little before 1900, and by then, anything you need on base might be closed, so it’s nice to have some time off.”

Although they hope their training will never have to be used, NAS Whiting Field’s fire department and crash crews take pride in their operational readiness. Their job is to be prepared for any emergency and they continue to be a vital part of training the Navy’s future aviators.

**Exercises commence at NOLF Pace:** ABH2 Lewis Mashburn and ABH2 Cheng Fang simulate responding to an aircraft emergency at NOLF Pace.

(Photos by Lt.j.g. Terryll Daguison, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Office)
MILTON, Fla. - A lot goes on behind the scenes at NAS Whiting Field, and none of it would be possible without the civilian employees who work to support and advance the mission on base. Of the more than 250 employees that work for the command, two were selected for the distinction of Senior Civilian of the year and Junior Civilian of the year.

Deputy Director of the Public Affairs Office for Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Jamie Link, was selected as the Senior Civilian of the year. “Jamie has worked in the Public Affairs Office for almost three years and during that time has brought an energy and motivation that moves the base and community relationships forward, positively impacting all departments on the installation. She truly is the best of the best,” said NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Officer, Julie Ziegenhorn.

Link stated that there wasn’t one single thing she loved about her job but many, and that “there are a lot of things, but the biggest one is that my duties and responsibilities differ every day. I get to support the aviation mission which is something I find really fun and incredibly interesting.” Link also expressed the love of working alongside active military personnel and as a member of the Air Force Reserve. It’s something she said she finds very fulfilling. Providing a bridge to the community and the events occurring on base, Link stated, “I love my job and I want to give it my all. I am fortunate to be in a career field that is always moving and changing.” Expressing that the command itself has such a strong team dynamic and solid work ethic that, “although it sounds cliché, I am part of something bigger. It’s a wonderful feeling.”

When finding out about her selection as Civilian of the year, Link’s reaction was one of genuine surprise, stating “It was an honor to be selected as Civilian of the Quarter, but it’s an even greater one to be recognized for the year. There are so many people here that give 100%, and that’s what makes this so special. It’s wonderful to be recognized for something so important.”

Receiving recognition as the NAS Whiting Field Junior Civilian of the Year is John Krantz, the assistant director of the Child Development Center (CDC) for the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Department on base.

Krantz performed as the acting child and youth program director while the director was off station for three months, simultaneously acting as the training and curriculum specialist until the position could be filled. According to command leadership, he kept things running at full speed during the director’s absence. Krantz’s action to rearrange classrooms to reduce the wait list allowed for seven additional children to receive child care, directly impacting the mission readiness at NAS Whiting Field.

Krantz humbly stated that, “I just do my job- I’m sure there are those out there who do more.” He said some of the highlights of working at the CDC are helping parents sort out their child care needs and explaining aspects of child development. He stated his priority is to ensure parents feel comfortable leaving their children in the care of the Child Development Center. He also said he enjoys helping the staff improve so they can advance in their careers- “watching the grownups grow,” he explained.

Krantz is recognized for his outstanding performance, actions, and dedication to the care of the children at the CDC. He was selected from a pool of several qualified junior civilians for the recognition. He said the key to success is to “never to accept good enough” and in the long term, “to do your job to the best of your ability-learn from your mistakes and get better because of them.”
Whiting Field News

Achieving your New Year’s Fitness Goals

By NAS Whiting Field MWR and Lt.j.g. Ashley Koenig, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

As the New Year approaches so do the resolutions. One of the more popular and, often times, least achieved goals is health and fitness. The first step in determining the likelihood of achieving your goals is to consider your level or readiness. Commitment and honesty to oneself are the building blocks to success. Before beginning an exercise program, consider mental and physical readiness, and tell your doctor what type of physical regimen you are starting. After being cleared physically, while there are many factors to consider for mental readiness, three are the most significant; have confidence in your exercise ability, be willing to receive encouragement and support from those closest to you, and finally participate in an enjoyable form of exercise.

Have a Plan- Before you start your exercise program, answer a few questions:

When will you exercise? Identify roughly three days and times that fit in your schedule and stick with those days so you are working out at the same time each week.

What type of exercise will you do? The best type of exercise is one you enjoy. Don’t worry about what everyone else is doing.

How much time will you spend exercising? Start with as little as 10 minutes per session and slowly build up to at least 30 minutes per workout. Remember, be honest and transparent with yourself. As you advance with fitness, advance your goals.

Bring a Friend- There may be many people trying to achieve the same fitness goals as you. Have a support system. Whether someone is just starting their fitness journey or well-experienced, having someone to hold you accountable and sharing in the experience will increase your chances for success. Remember, it is important to find a program you enjoy. This might be a challenge, but it’s worth it. Don’t be afraid to try a number of different locations, classes, or even instructors.

Build up- Consider the resolution a lifetime commitment to better health. Although, there may be other people exercising at a very high intensity, build up to that- start with low-to-moderate intensity workouts. Although you may know others who train five days a week, it’s okay to start with two.

Be Realistic- The biggest problem with New Year’s resolutions is they can be extremely impractical. Setting goals is great, but make sure they are achievable and realistic. For example, a goal to complete a 5K run by April such as the MWR’s annual 5k Color Run is realistic and a great way to start. However, a goal to complete a marathon by that date is somewhat unrealistic and potentially unsafe for beginner runners. Start slow in the case of running, or run/walk an event. Develop a solid foundation of fitness and then build upon that foundation as your fitness improves.

The MWR Whiting Field fitness center team is here and ready to help with New Year’s Resolution goals. It is a full service fitness center and gym featuring PRT certified cardio equipment, free weights, TRX pull-up bars, a basketball court complete with volleyball setup, glassed-in racquetball courts and steam rooms/saunas. In addition, the gym offers group classes, runs, sports, fitness challenges and clubs. To learn more information or to meet with a certified Fitness Specialist, call (850) 623-7412.

New Years Resolution
Saturday
12 January 2019

10K

Starts promptly at 9:00 am

Start / Finish
at Mulligan’s Grill

Open to all authorized MWR Patrons

Register: “https://myfrf.navysims.com”
call: 850-623-7412

www.navymwwhitingfield.com
Winter Wonderland 2018 NASWF MWR event: Many children greeted Santa with smiles and hugs to tell him what they wanted for Christmas. Special thanks to Balfour Beatty Communities for providing toys and goodies for all the children. (Photo by Jamie Link, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs Office)
VA Medical Benefit Adviser Representative, Mr. James Badini has OPEN APPOINTMENTS, Friday Dec. 28th. If you are within six months of your separation/retirement date, then you are in the window to see him. Please do not make the mistake of assuming that you are ineligible for any VA medical benefits. If you would like an appointment with Mr. Badini, or have questions about this program, please call (850) 623-7177 to get further instructions.

**News & Notes**

**December 2018**

**This Day in Naval History**

**December 27, 1990**
Lt. Cdr Darlene Iskra, the first female commanding officer of a U.S. Navy warship reports for duty on board the USS Opportune (ARS 41) then at Naples, Italy.

**January 1, 1962**
The Navy SEAL Teams One and Two were established with personnel from Underwater Demolition Teams.

**January 12, 1953**
Aircraft landings begin operational tests, day and night onboard the USS Antietam (CVA-36) the first angled flight deck carrier.

**January 20, 1914**
The aviation unit from Annapolis, MD under Lt. John H. Towers, as Officer in Charge, arrived in Pensacola, FL to set up a flying school.

**January 26, 1913**
The body of John Paul Jones is laid in its final resting place in the Chapel of the Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD

**January 30, 1862**
The first U.S. Navy ironclad warship, USS Monitor, is launched. Commissioned a month later, she soon engages battle against CSS Virginia, the first battle between ironclad warships.
Congratulations to TRAWING-5 Wingers


BOTTOM ROW: Cmdr. Jessica R. Parker, USN, CO HT-8; Lt.j.g. Ahmed Fahad Afraini, RSNF, HT-8; Lt.j.g. Robert D. Warley, USN, HT-8; 1st Lt. Preston E. Green, USMC, HT-8; Ens. Adam C. Brawer, USN, HT-8; 1st Lt. Joshua D. Moore, USMC, HT-8; Lt.j.g. Curtis L. Noel, USN, HT-28

(December 14)


BOTTOM ROW: Cmdr. Jessica R. Parker, USN, CO HT-8; Lt.j.g. Cody S. Veach, USN, HT-18; Lt.j.g. Ross C. Holcomb, USN, HT-18; Lt.j.g. Colton R. Schiefer, USN, HT-18; Lt.j.g. Vincent P. Lewandowski, USCG, HT-8

(November 30)