

# PACIFIC WAR MEMORIES

*The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor*

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# NAVY NEWS

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## Heroes remembered at 67th Pearl Harbor Anniversary Ceremony

Story and photo by  
MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy and the National Park Service hosted a joint memorial ceremony at Kilo Pier onboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

More than 2,000 people attended the event, including nearly 40 survivors of the bombing, which took the U.S. by surprise more than half a century ago. The solemn, two-hour ceremony began with a Hawaiian blessing performed by Kahu Kauila Clark, the presentation of the colors by a Joint Service Color Guard, and the playing of the National Anthem by the U.S. Pacific Fleet band.

To observe the start of the attack at 7:55 a.m., the Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) blew the ship's whistle, which commenced a moment of silence. Then, from the west, a formation of four F-15 Eagles from the Hawai'i Air National Guard 99th Fighter Squadron stationed at Hickam Air Force Base roared overhead and performed a missing-man flyover.

Shortly following the F-15's fly-by, Chung-Hoon passed abeam the Arizona Memorial as the ship's Sailors manned the rails and rendered honors to the USS Arizona Memorial and to the Pearl Harbor survivors at the ceremony. Ninety-one-year-old Pearl



Pearl Harbor survivors render honors for a joint service color guard during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The theme of this year's historic commemoration, "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor," emphasized the brave efforts of those who fought at sea, on land and in the air, to turn the tide in the Pacific. More than 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public joined service members, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends for the annual observance.

Harbor survivor Staff Sgt. (Ret.) Herb Weatherwax, an Army private assigned to the 298th Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks at the time of the attack, returned a hand salute to Chung-Hoon's Sailors on behalf of the survivors at the ceremony.

One survivor who attended the ceremony was 89-year old Chief Yeoman (Ret.) Edward Borucki of Southamptton, Mass. Borucki was stationed

onboard USS Helena (CL50) on Dec. 7, 1941. For him, each year attending the ceremony is a chance to experience a day he will never forget.

"I'm glad I've been able to come here again, especially because there are very few of us left," said Borucki, who was a yeoman third class at the time of the attack. "Over the years, I've brought my entire family to the ceremony and every year I come here, it's a

very sentimental journey for me."

The theme for the ceremony was "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor." In support of the theme, U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye spoke of the heroism of those Americans who stepped up to do their part following the attack.

"Sixty-seven years ago today was a day of death and destruction. Within a day,

America was immersed with a spirit of unity and strength. It was a time of selfless service," said Inouye. "Thousands spoke the pledge of allegiance to serve their country, while children looked for scrap metal that became bullets and bombs, and wives took their husbands' places in farms and factories. As we find ourselves in a global crisis, I hope that God will bless our leaders with the wisdom and dedication to

lead us through this crisis as they did during World War II." Hawai'i State Lt. Gov. James R. Aiona discussed how the 'day of infamy' at Pearl Harbor remains in the minds of many nearly seven decades later.

"The attack on Pearl Harbor changed our understanding and our way of life," said Aiona. "It is an event that has

See HEROES, A-8

## Arizona Sailor interred with shipmates

MC1 Cynthia Clark

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs Office

The Navy and National Park Service held an interment for USS Arizona (BB-39) survivor Charles William "Bill" Guerin on Dec. 7 at the USS Arizona Memorial.

Eleven family members, including Guerin's grand-nephew Air Force Senior Airman Richard Hodgdon stationed at Hickam Air Force Base, were at the memorial for the ceremony as Guerin's remains were interred in gun turret four, Guerin's battle station on board Arizona.

"This is Charles' wish, to return to his crew," said Daniel Martinez, historian for the National Park Service at the USS Arizona Memorial. "It is fitting that we have all gathered here for the purpose of interring Charles in his beloved ship."

Guerin served as a gunner's mate on USS Arizona while she was still in an overhaul period in



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh  
Margaret Guerin, the widow of Seaman 1st Class Charles Guerin Jr., receives a folded American flag during his interment ceremony aboard the USS Arizona Memorial.

Bremerton, Wash. Following the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, Guerin was assigned to the destroyer USS MacDonough (DD 351). He then transferred to the U.S. Air Force in 1947 and retired as a master sergeant in 1962.

His son, Michael Guerin, spoke at the ceremony prior

to presenting his father's urn to National Park Service divers, who placed Guerin's urn in the gun turret of the sunken battleship. Guerin reminded all in attendance of his father's courage, honesty and discipline, especially in

See GUERIN, A-13

## Five-year-old meets Pearl Harbor hero



A five-year-old greets Pearl Harbor survivor John Eriksson, whom she called a "hero" prior to the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor held aboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7. Eriksson, now 87, returned to Pearl Harbor for the first time since World War II to attend the ceremony. He served as a platoon sergeant in the Marine Barracks in 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Angela Edwards



Pearl Harbor survivors make boy's wish come true See page A-4



Pearl Harbor survivors give reminder to keep alert See page A-10



Establishment of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument See page A-3



Heroes of the 'Greatest Generation' See page B-1

# Hospital Point residents honor USS Nevada survivor

Story and photo by  
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Hospital Point residents on Naval Station Pearl Harbor hosted a reception honoring Pearl Harbor survivor Woody Derby on Dec. 5.

The reception was held at the USS Nevada Memorial near Hospital Point. At the reception, Derby gave a historic account from his memories of Dec. 7, 1941 to Navy residents and Sailors from the USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Lake Erie (CG 70).

Michelle Manfredi, Hospital Point resident and reception coordinator, said part of the responsibility of being a part of the military community is to honor veterans, such as Derby, and remember the many sacrifices they made for our nation's freedom.

"For us, living at Pearl Harbor is not just a duty station or a tour, this is hallowed ground," she said. "These men gave their lives right here. They saved lives right here. Being able to meet with them, hear their stories, and see the tears in their eyes makes it so real," she added.

During the time of the attacks, Woody Derby was a 23-year-old storekeeper second class aboard USS Nevada (BB 36). Derby said he was enjoying the Sunday paper when the first round of attacks happened. After a torpedo hit the ship, Derby said it only took 15 minutes



Pearl Harbor survivor Woody Derby speaks to Hospital Point residents and Sailors from the USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Lake Erie (CG 70) during a Dec. 5 reception at the USS Nevada Memorial, near Hospital Point. Derby was a 23-year-old storekeeper second class aboard USS Nevada (BB 36) at the time of the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks. He visits the Nevada Memorial every year during Pearl Harbor week to pay his respects to the ship and his shipmates.

before he was waist-deep in water. The Nevada sustained a torpedo hit and several bombs before beaching itself along the shoreline at Hospital Point.

"I remember around 16:30, I finally went outside [the ship] and looked down the harbor and saw the Arizona in flames," he recalled.

"Then I remember saying, 'somebody is gonna catch hell for this' and they did!" he added.

Derby said of all the ships that suffered catastrophic damage on that fateful day, the USS Nevada holds a special place in his heart.

"I always tell people if you are going to say anything about [Pearl

Harbor], you have to [include] the Nevada," he said. "That was my home for seven years and two months of my life. So every time I return to the memorial, I first think of my shipmates and then I think of the Nevada," he continued.

Enlisting into the Navy on Dec. 7, 1938, Derby also shared his 70th

Navy enlistment anniversary with the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks.

During the reception, Derby advised junior enlisted Sailors in attendance to "hang in there and keep doing good."

"I always like to tell the junior Sailors that if they do 10 years, don't even think of retiring," he said. "Do 10 more years and then retire because [the Navy retirement] is something you will have the rest of your life," he continued.

Senior Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) B.J. Lemieur from USS Lake Erie said he appreciated the opportunity to meet Derby or any other Pearl Harbor survivor from the "greatest generation."

"When you get in touch with someone like Woody, it puts that day and what the Navy stands for all in [perspective]," he said. "It also reminds us why we [as Sailors] have the many Navy honors, traditions and customs that we have today. Hopefully, some of these junior guys can see people like this, who were close to their age when [Pearl Harbor] happened, and be inspired," he added.

Derby, who is 90 years old, currently lives in San Diego and credits his good health to exercising and never smoking.

"I ran 21 marathons after I was 58 years old which I think helped me survive so long," he added. "I may be 90, but I am still here and doing alright," he joked.

# Hawaii Navy News Editorial

## Establishment of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument

### A proclamation by the President of the United States of America

Beginning at Pearl Harbor with the day of infamy that saw the sinking of the USS Arizona and ending on the deck of the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, many of the key battles of World War II were waged on and near American shores and throughout the Pacific. We must always remember the debt we owe to the members of the Greatest Generation for our liberty. Their gift is an enduring peace that transformed enemies into steadfast allies in the cause of democracy and freedom around the globe. Americans will never forget the harrowing sacrifices made in the Pacific by Soldiers and civilians that began at dawn on Dec. 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu. The surprise attack killed more than 2,000 American military personnel and dozens of civilians and thrust the United States fully into World War II.

America responded and mobilized our forces to fight side-by-side with our allies in the European, Atlantic and Pacific theaters. The United States Navy engaged in epic sea battles, such as Midway, and our armed forces fought extraordinary land battles for the possession of occupied islands. These battles led to significant loss of life for both sides, as well as for the island's



native peoples. Battlefields such as Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, the Philippines, Iwo Jima and Okinawa are remembered for the heroic sacrifices and valor displayed there.

The conflict raged as far north as the Alaskan territory. The United States ultimately won the encounter in the Aleutian Island chain, but not without protracted and costly battles. There were also sacrifices on the home front. Tens of millions of Americans rallied to support the war effort, often at great personal cost. Men and women of all backgrounds were called upon as industrial workers, volunteers and civil servants. Many Americans valiantly supported the war effort even as they struggled for their own civil rights.

In commemoration of this pivotal period in our nation's history, the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument adds nine historic sites to our national heritage of monuments and memorials representing various aspects of the war in the Pacific.

Five of those sites are in the Pearl Harbor area, which is the home of both the USS Arizona and the USS Missouri - milestones of the Pacific campaign that mark the beginning and the end of the war. The sites in this area include: the USS Arizona Memorial and Visitor Center, the USS Utah Memorial, the USS Oklahoma Memorial, the six chief petty officer bungalows on Ford Island, and mooring quays F6, F7 and F8, which constituted part of Battleship Row.

The USS Arizona and USS Utah vessels will not be designated as part of the national monument, but instead will be retained by the Department of Defense (through the Department of the Navy) as the final resting place for those entombed there.

Three sites are located in Alaska's Aleutian Islands. The first is the crash site of a Consolidated B-24D Liberator bomber - an aircraft of a type that played a highly significant role in World War II - located on Atka Island.

The second is the site of Imperial Japan's occupation of Kiska Island, beginning in June 1942, which marks the northern limit of Imperial Japan's expansion in the Pacific. The Kiska site includes historic relics such as

Imperial Japanese coastal and anti-aircraft defenses, camps, roads, an airfield, a submarine base, a seaplane base and other installations, as well as the remains of allied defenses, including runway facilities and gun batteries.

The third Aleutian designation is on Attu Island, the site of the only land battle fought in North America during World War II. It still retains the scars of the battle: thousands of shell and bomb craters in the tundra; Japanese trenches, foxholes and gun encampments; American ammunition magazines and dumps; and spent cartridges, shrapnel and shells located at the scenes of heavy fighting. Attu later served as a base for bombing missions against Japanese holdings.

The last of the nine designations will bring increased understanding of the high price paid by some Americans on the home front. The Tule Lake Segregation Center National Historic Landmark and nearby Camp Tule Lake in California were both used to house Japanese-Americans relocated from the west coast of the United States. They encompass the original segregation center's stockade, the War Relocation Authority Motor Pool, the post engineer's yard and motor pool, a small part of the military police compound, several historic structures used by internees and prisoners of war at Camp Tule

Lake, and the sprawling landscape that forms the historic setting.

Whereas much of the federal property within the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument is easily accessible to visitors from around the world;

Whereas the Secretary of the Interior should be authorized and directed to interpret the broader story of World War II in the Pacific in partnership with the Department of Defense, the states of Hawaii, Alaska and California, and other governmental and non-profit organizations;

Whereas the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument will promote understanding of related resources, encourage continuing research, present interpretive opportunities and programs for visitors to better understand and honor the sacrifices borne by the Greatest Generation, and tell the story from Pearl Harbor to peace;

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush  
(To read the entire proclamation, link to: [Proclamation Establishing the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.](#))



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Tiffini M. Jones

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead, with his wife, Ellen, deliver a holiday greeting to the fleet from their home in Washington D.C. CNO reminded Sailors to be safe while celebrating at home and Mrs. Roughead thanked them for their service.

## CNO, Mrs. Roughead release holiday greeting

MC2 (SW) Rebekah Blowers

Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Adm. Gary Roughead, and his wife, Ellen, released a holiday greeting to the fleet Dec. 6.

CNO and Mrs. Roughead wished Sailors and their families serving at home and abroad a safe and happy holiday season.

"While we all celebrate the holiday at home with friends

and family, let's keep in mind our shipmates who are serving forward. Because of them, we can enjoy this special time," Roughead said.

"Wherever you are spending the holidays this year, please know that we appreciate your service. What you do preserves our way of life and makes a difference in our Navy and our nation," Mrs. Roughead said.

They also reminded Sailors and their families to use good judgment and to be responsible while celebrating.

## Dark minutes in nation's history

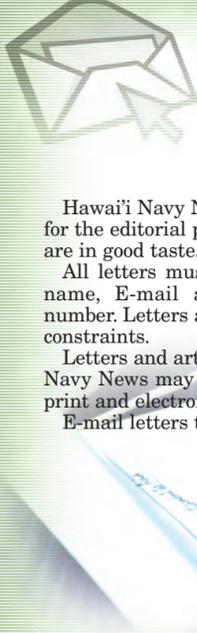


Official U.S. Navy photograph

Photographic montage prepared for the 30th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack which was held on Dec. 7, 1971. It is accompanied by a poem by JO3 Jim Deken, USN:

*"In the darkest of moments a nation is wounded, rights herself and pushes on. Her wounds give her strength and urge her on to victory. Time passes, the wound heals but leaves a mark. The mark is her reminder of what has been and could be again. She does not forget."*

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy Art Center, donation of Dr. Robert L. Scheina, 1970



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E-mail letters to: [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com).

## Hawaii Navy News

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# Pearl Harbor survivors make boy's wish come true

Story and photo by  
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

For many Americans, Pearl Harbor day is a solemn remembrance of the many sacrifices made by our nation's finest. But for cancer patient Jeremiah Hackler, a survivor in his own right, the day was a wish come true.

Thanks to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the 16-year-old Arkansas native was granted his wish of being invited to the Dec. 7 ceremonies at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and seated with Pearl Harbor survivors.

Hackler, who is currently in remission for a rare throat cancer, said his wish to see Pearl Harbor Day festivities stemmed from his love of history and admiration for veterans.

"At my church we have a lot of World War II veterans and the stories they tell me are just amazing," he said. "When I think of what happened at Pearl Harbor [on Dec. 7], I think of an old country song that goes, 'all gave some and some gave all.' To me, those [Pearl Harbor] survivors were the men who gave it all for their country," he added.

According to Hackler's father, Chris, Jeremiah has more in common with the survivors than one would suspect.

When Jeremiah was 18 months old, the family suffered a devastating loss when his older brother, Josiah, a three-year-old at the time, died of complications from cerebral palsy.

More than a decade later, 14-year-old Jeremiah was diagnosed with stage three nasopharyngeal carcinoma. At St. Jude's Hospital,



Make-A-Wish participant Jeremiah Hackler greets Pearl Harbor survivor Houston James during the Dec. 7 ceremonies, honoring the 67th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks. The Make-A-Wish Foundation granted Hackler's wish of being present at the Dec. 7 ceremonies at Pearl Harbor and visiting with Pearl Harbor survivors. Sixteen-year-old Hackler is currently in remission of stage three nasopharyngeal carcinoma, a rare throat cancer.

Hackler underwent six months of intense chemotherapy and radiation treatments, with some of the treatments overlapping. The intense amount of medication caused the teenager's thyroid to "dry up" as well as suppressed his appetite.

"Jeremiah went 72 days without eating and went from 198 pounds to 142 pounds in a matter of weeks," said his father.

"Luckily, they haven't found any tumors right now so we are all hopeful."

During Jeremiah's hospital visit, the family learned of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and their mission to grant wishes to children sustaining life-threatening diseases. Inspired by the veterans in his hometown, Jeremiah submitted his wish to see Pearl Harbor soon after his August

birthday in 2008.

"I think [the veterans] were really touched by his decision," said his father. "They are just happy to see a young teenager care about something like [Pearl Harbor]. I think their perception of younger people is they don't always care [about the contributions from older veterans] so they were very excited to hear this news," he added.

During the ceremony, Jeremiah met Pearl Harbor survivors Al Rodrigues from USS Maryland (BB-46) and Houston James from motor Torpedo Squadron ONE Boat Squadron, based on Ford Island during the time of the attacks.

"This was such a great experience to meet these people," he said during the ceremony. "My favorite part was seeing the survivors presenting their wreaths for the different ships and saluting them."

After the ceremony, Jeremiah was also treated to personal tours of the Pacific Aviation Museum and Battleship Missouri Memorial on Ford Island as well as a helicopter ride over Oahu.

According to Jeremiah's mother, Patty, the family trip to Pearl Harbor proved to be a trip of a lifetime.

"I am so proud of Jeremiah's choice because he chose such a meaningful, mature wish," she said. "He could've asked for so many other things, but he chose to pay tribute to people who died or were injured serving his country. That's where his heart is and I couldn't be more proud of him," she added.

Jeremiah, who has even entertained the idea of enlisting in the military if he is cancer-free for five years, said the trip proved a moment to reflect upon his own life.

"For me, my motto has always been to live life to the fullest," he said. "I never started really living until I started dying. So, [my advice] is to never look back and to not live with regret. At least, I know that has definitely been something that has helped me in my life," he added.

For more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation, visit [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org).

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67TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECEMBER 7 ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR

# PACIFIC WAR MEMORIES

*The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor*



A Sailor from the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band plays Taps during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7. The theme of this year's historic commemoration, "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor," emphasized the brave efforts of those who fought at sea, on land, and in the air, to turn the tide in the Pacific. More than 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public joined service members, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends for the annual observance.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

Members of the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation participate in a Prayer for Peace ceremony aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. The prayer ceremony followed a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron



Sailors aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) man the rails as the ship readies for a pass in review during the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Jeremy S. Brandt



A child of a Navy resident presents Pearl Harbor survivor Woody Derby with a homemade card thanking him for his service. Derby was honored at a Dec. 5 reception at the USS Nevada Memorial, near Hospital Point. He was a 23-year-old storekeeper second class aboard USS Nevada (BB 36) during the time of the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks.

U.S. Navy photo by Blair Martin

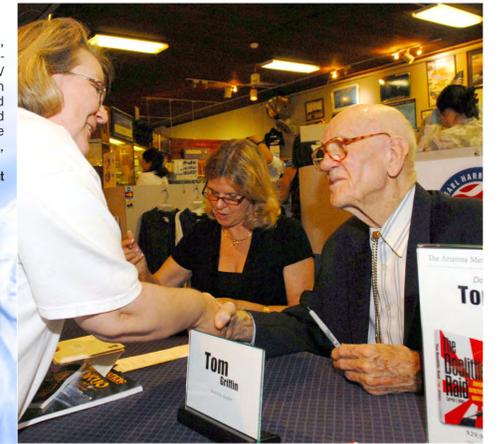
Members of the Navy Region Hawai'i Ceremonial Guard march in formation at the conclusion of a ceremony in honor of Pearl Harbor survivor Lt. Wayne Maxwell at the USS Utah Memorial on historic Ford Island on Dec. 7. Maxwell, a 30-year Navy veteran and former crew member of the Farragut-class destroyer USS Aylwin (DD 355) during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. He was 93.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Patrick C. Murray



U.S. Army Air Forces Maj. (Ret.) Thomas C. Griffin, greets USS Arizona Memorial visitor Martha Otwell, from Lewisville, Texas, during a book signing at the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center Pearl Harbor on Dec. 5. Griffin served as a navigator for a group of B-52 bombers who, in April 1942, launched a sneak attack off the aircraft carrier USS Hornet (CV 8) against mainland Japan. Led by Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, the Doolittle Raid was America's first strike against Japan following the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor and was credited with changing the course of World War II and served as a huge moral boost for America. In commemoration of the Pearl Harbor attack, Griffin was the featured speaker for the 67th anniversary of the fateful day, with the theme of the event being "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor" that reflected on brave efforts of those like the Doolittle Raiders who fought at sea, on land, and in the air, to turn the tide in the Pacific.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI Michael Hight



National Park Service divers hold the remains of Seaman 1st Class Charles Guerin Jr. during an interment ceremony aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. Guerin was a former Sailor stationed aboard USS Arizona (BB-39) during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh



Woody Derby, a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, salutes the names of the deceased at the USS Arizona Memorial during a prayer for peace ceremony sponsored by the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation. The prayer ceremony followed a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh

Woody Derby, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, salutes during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron



Daniel Martinez, historian for the National Park Service at the USS Arizona Memorial, and Dr. Hiroya Sugano pour holy water into the well of the USS Arizona Memorial during the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation Prayer for Peace ceremony. The prayer ceremony followed a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron



Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, greets Pearl Harbor survivor Allen Bodenlos during a dinner social Dec. 6 at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. Bodenlos, a San Diego native, visited Hawai'i to participate in the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI Michael Hight



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh

Herb Weatherwax, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, salutes during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor accompanied by Lt. Benjamin Abney, of Naval Station, Pearl Harbor. The theme of this year's historic commemoration, "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor," emphasized the brave efforts of those who fought at sea, on land and in the air, to turn the tide in the Pacific. More than 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public joined service members, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends for the annual observance.



Sailors aboard the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) render honors as the ship performs a pass in review during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush



# Heroes

## Continued from A-1

united us in a common memory and touched the lives of many across the world. Sixty-seven years later, we continue to gather with great conviction to honor those 2,480 brave men and women who lost their lives.”

Featured speaker Adm. Robert F. Willard, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, directed his words to the Pearl Harbor survivors and thanked them for their brave efforts throughout the war.

“We memorialize you here today for so many reasons,” said Willard. “At this place, inspiring acts of courage took place as you sacrificed for one another in the midst of an unexpected nightmare. Also, it was people like you who rallied an entire nation and represent a generation of Americans who denied your attackers by resurrecting the fleet they destroyed and taking the Pacific back from them.”

Keynote speaker U.S. Army Air Forces Maj. (Ret.) Thomas C. Griffin, a member of the April 18, 1942 Doolittle Raid on Japan, talked about his experience leading up to the raid and the bombing of Japan itself.

“One day, Col. Jimmy Doolittle came and asked for volunteers for what was going to be a mission with extreme elements of danger,” said Griffin. “We figured we were in a war and would have some dangerous episodes ahead and the whole group stood and volunteered.”

Griffin also discussed the Doolittle Raid’s importance in turning the tide of the War in the Pacific.

“We took off 250 miles further out because we went through two Japanese picket ships. We still took Japan by surprise because they didn’t realize we had long range bombers aboard. We hit all of our targets, no planes were shot down and all reached the China coast,” said Griffin. “The Doolittle Tokyo Raid was a success because it caused the Japanese to change their plans. From that time on, America was on the offensive and the Japanese was on the defensive.”

Following Griffin’s remarks, 16 wreaths were presented in honor of the service members who perished on the nine ships bombed during the attack, the five branches of the U.S. military, the state of Hawai’i and the National Park Service.

“It was a great honor to be part of the ceremony,” said Machinist’s Mate (Weapons) 3rd Class Glen McNelly, assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor. “These men stood and fought under overwhelming odds and this is my little way to honor and have people remember them.”

To conclude the ceremony, the U.S. Marine Corps Rifle Team from Camp H.M. Smith, Hawai’i executed a 21-gun salute, the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band performed Taps, and tug boats assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor delivered a water tribute to those who served in Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7.

Throughout the day around Pearl Harbor, other events were held in conjunction with the early morning ceremony to further honor those who defended the harbor during the attack.

After the ceremony, a distinguished group led by Willard and Pearl Harbor survivors participated in a floral tribute and wreath observation onboard the USS Arizona Memorial where more than 40 donated wreaths were on display.

At the same time of the wreath-laying, a burial-at-sea was held for Pearl Harbor Survivor Lt. Wayne Maxwell at the USS Utah Memorial. Maxwell’s family was presented with an American flag for the service he provided to his country.

To end the day’s events, the USS Arizona Reunion Association held a ceremony at the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, followed by an interment of Arizona Sailor Seaman 1st Class Charles Guerin on the USS Arizona Memorial.

## Bush establishes Pacific Theater Monument, honors Pearl Harbor anniversary

**Samantha L. Quigley**

*American Forces Press Service*

President George W. Bush signed proclamations on Dec. 5 establishing a World War II monument to those who fought in the Pacific theater and commemorating the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawai’i.

The World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument will serve as a reminder of the sacrifices “The Greatest Generation” made to protect the country, Bush said before signing the proclamation.

“But there’s a broader purpose, as well,” he said. “And that is to remind generations of Americans about the transformative effect of freedom.

“One of the great stories during World War II was that people fought bitterly to defend our country and way of life, and then worked to help our enemies develop democracies according to their own cultures and their own history,” Bush continued. “Today, I am so pleased to report that Japan is a strong ally of the United States.”

More than 2,000 service

members and many civilians were killed when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The attack marked the United States’ official entrance into World War II, and those serving in uniform sent a clear message to America’s enemies, Bush said in a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day proclamation: “If you attack this country and harm our people, there is no

corner of the earth remote enough to protect you from the reach of our nation’s armed forces.

“On this anniversary, we honor the heroes who risked and lost their lives for our security and freedom,” Bush said in the proclamation. “Their selfless dedication exemplifies the great character of America and continues to inspire our nation.”

## Pearl Harbor veteran laid to rest at USS Utah Memorial

MC1 Sarah Murphy

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The ashes of a Pearl Harbor veteran were scattered Dec. 7 during a burial-at-sea ceremony held at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Family members scattered the ashes of retired Lt. Wayne P. Maxwell, a 30-year Navy veteran and former crew member of USS Aylwin (DD 355) in 1941.

Maxwell died Oct. 3 at the age of 93.

"On the morning of the attack, USS Aylwin was located right here on this side of Ford Island and unfortunately, Wayne witnessed the tragic events that morning ... all the while, keeping covered from the bullets landing on the ship," said retired Navy Master Chief Yeoman Jim Taylor, liaison for the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

"(Wayne) couldn't believe what he saw. As he watched, two bombs dropped right behind where you are sitting. He saw fires billowing from the aircraft that were hit and one of the bombs barely missed USS Raleigh," Taylor added.

Two of Maxwell's sons and many of his grandchildren



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Patrick C. Murray

Brothers Michael and Larry Maxwell prepare to scatter the ashes of their father, Pearl Harbor survivor Lt. Wayne Maxwell during a ceremony aboard the USS Utah Memorial on Dec. 7. Maxwell, a 30-year Navy veteran was a former crew member of the Farragut-class destroyer USS Aylwin (DD 355) during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. He was 93.

flew to Hawai'i from Oregon and Ohio to participate in the ceremony.

"My father was a quiet man who expressed his desire to not have anything special done, but I knew that the right thing was to lay him to rest here," said retired Air Force Lt. Col. Michael

Maxwell, one of Maxwell's two sons. "It was the impression I had that if there be any place he be laid to rest ... it would be among friends.

"The Navy was truly a major part of his life and probably some of the greatest memories he ever had. He spoke many times about those

he served with and those who died," added Maxwell.

Sailors rendered honors with a rifle volley and a flag-folding detail and Fred Ballard from the Fleet Reserve Association conducted a two-bell ceremony.

"This is a way to honor our departed shipmates and remember those who have served our country so well," said Ballard.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Michael Maxwell spoke of the wisdom his father bestowed and his distinguished service to the United States.

"My father taught me a lot of things about honor," said Michael. "He was constantly reminding me of the necessity of doing things and doing things right. After 30 years of service, my father was truly a man of great honor and a man of great respect. ... (He) served his country well."

The interment ceremony was one of many events held Dec. 7, marking the 67th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The theme of this year's commemoration, "Pacific War Memories: The Heroic Response to Pearl Harbor," reflected on the service of those like Lt. Wayne Maxwell who fought at sea, on land and in the air to turn the tide in the Pacific.

## Ceremony honors Marines and legacy of Ewa Airfield

Story and photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

The U.S. Navy, National Park Service and Barbers Point Navy League (BPNL) hosted a special ceremony on Dec. 6 to honor the U.S. Marines who were killed and wounded in action at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Ewa on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941.

The observance started at the Barbers Point Golf Course Club House and ended with a special floral tribute at the location of the former MCAS Ewa airfield, where the attack took place.

Highlights included a 21-gun salute by members of the U.S. Marine Corps Rifle Team and remarks by honored guests, who talked about the history of the airfield and recalled the surprise attack.

Al Highshoe, past president of the BPNL, noted that while the assault on the old airfield, which was known as Ewa Mooring Mast Field, may not receive the same fanfare as Pearl Harbor, it was still a part of the day of infamy and shouldn't be forgotten.

"It's for the unknown people that are never talked about that sacrificed," said Highshoe. "Without them, where would we be?"

Highshoe wasn't the only person in attendance who shared the same sentiments about the hallowed airfield and the men who stood tall to defend our country.

Capt. Bret Muilenburg, commanding officer, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i, maintained that each event that took place on Dec. 7, 1941 shouldn't be looked upon as separate incidents, but is all part of a collective whole that shares lessons about valor, courage and the American spirit.

"It's terribly important for all of us to remember these events," stated Muilenburg. "There are a lot of lessons that we can learn about those who went before us and exercised their duty with such bravery and commitment. It gives us inspiration today, in our own battles and challenges, as we serve to defend all of us."

Only minutes before the attack on



U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz

A U.S. Marine Corps color guard stands at attention in front of the Marine Corps Air Station Ewa (MCAS Ewa) Memorial during an observance ceremony at Barbers Point Golf Course Club House Dec. 6. The special ceremony was held to honor the Marines who were killed and wounded in action at MCAS Ewa on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941.

Pearl Harbor began, Japanese zeros ripped through the Marine Corps Air Station Ewa (MCAS Ewa), raining gunfire upon military aircraft and personnel.

In its wake, the devastation left 33 of the 49 planes at Ewa destroyed, with the remaining 16 seriously damaged. A total of 13 brave Marines were wounded and four surrendered their lives.

U.S. Marine Corps Maj. (Ret.) John Hughes was among the honored guests at the commemorative ceremony in Ewa.

At the time of the attack, Hughes was a 22-year-old U.S. Marine Corps sergeant and one of many gallant heroes who faced the waves of Japanese zeroes that riddled the airfield with round after round.

He recalled that he was standing on the street waiting for a newspaper when he saw a plane, loaded with a "big torpedo" and a red ball painted on its body, fly across in front of him.

Without hesitation, Hughes said that

he grabbed some ammunition from the guardhouse, went back to the barracks, and told everyone to get out their guns.

Amazingly, Hughes affirmed that every man moved to the stations like clockwork and dug in to ward off the tide.

"Everybody seemed to know what to do," he acknowledged. "I didn't notice any great panic. It was more excitement."

Hughes, who spent 27 years in the military, arrived in the islands with members of his family and got his first view of the airfield since he last saw it in 1941.

He said that even though 67 years had passed since that fateful day, it wasn't hard to visualize what the airfield had looked like back then - blending history with the past.

If there is a message that Hughes has for today's generation, he said, "Maintain a strong defense and above all, keep your eyes and ears open."

# Pearl Harbor survivors give reminder to keep alert

Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

The message of being prepared and ready is the same today as it was on Dec. 7, 1941, according to the brave survivors from the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor.

At the 67th Pearl Harbor Anniversary Ceremony, men like Pearl Harbor survivor U.S. Navy Chief (Ret.) Gordon Taylor gave heed to keep alert in times of war and peace.

"The story behind Pearl Harbor is, don't forget," said Taylor, who now resides in Phoenix, Ariz. "Always remember what happened and don't get caught again."

During the strike from Japanese aircraft, Taylor was an 18-year-old seaman who had recently arrived at Pearl Harbor from Illinois.

Taylor said he was on Ford Island when he heard the humming of enemy planes. Knowing that the USS Enterprise (CV-6) was expected at Pearl Harbor anytime, Taylor claimed that he thought that the roar of engines was from aircraft that flew in off the carrier and, at first, didn't think that anything was wrong.

"I wasn't concerned until the first bombs hit," he recalled. "After that, it was total confusion. I saw the planes with the big red dot on them, but I didn't know what the Japanese insignia was."

Once he realized what was going on, Taylor said he remembers running out to his hanger, where they started bringing out guns and ammunition.

Meanwhile Ray Emory, who for more than 50 years has worked tirelessly to help identify unknown Pearl Harbor casual-



Photo illustration

ties buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), had a different point of view from his battle station aboard the USS Honolulu (CL-48).

Facing away from battleship row, Emory noted that once general quarters were sounded, everyone on the ship fell into position rather quickly and braced themselves for the attack.

"We had a young ensign by the name of Barnett," recollected Emory, who was 20 years old in 1941. "As the torpedo planes started coming down the channel behind our stern, he immediately recognized what it was, so we

got to general quarters pretty fast.

"It was organized confusion. Everybody knew where their battle station was and did what they were supposed to do."

U.S. Army Capt. (Ret.) Robert Kinzler was a 19-year-old private in the Army and was attached to the 27th Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks.

He pointed out that although Pearl Harbor was the main point of attack, things were just as nerve-racking out in Wahiawa.

"We weren't the target that day, but it was just as scary because they were bombing Wheeler Air Field which was less

than a mile away," attested Kinzler. "I remember seeing a Japanese plane about 30 feet away, but I didn't recognize it because we didn't have no Japanese identification instructions. It was flying low and slow enough that I could see that the pilot was wearing a brown leather helmet with a fringe."

Like Taylor, Kinzler also declared that there is no substitute for being prepared to spring into action at any time.

"History has a tendency to repeat itself," he said. "It happened once and it could happen again."

Back out at Pearl Harbor, 18-

year-old Seaman Everett Hyland was part of the antenna repair squad on the USS Pennsylvania (BB-38).

While on topside at his battle station, a bomb ripped through the ship near his position at approximately six minutes after 9 a.m. The blast left him severely wounded and he was nearly left for dead.

"People don't know that we were fighting in shorts and T-shirts and had no dog tags," said Hyland, who spent nine months recovering in two hospitals. "I got caught in a fireball when the bomb went off. Taking care of my burns was the big thing and everything else secondary, when they got a hold of me."

"I had my right ankle shot open, chipped a bone out of my right leg, shot through the right thigh, my right hand was ripped open, I had five pieces of shrapnel in my left leg. I had a piece blown out of my left thigh and I lost part of my left elbow and bicep. And the Navy listed this as superficial wounds," he explained.

Since 1995, Hyland, who lives in Makiki with his wife, has volunteered with the National Park Service as a guide at the USS Arizona Memorial.

By helping to keep the memories of Dec. 7, 1941 alive, Hyland said he hopes the motto of staying alert is never forgotten. However, if it should ever happen again, he stated he is certain that the nation's current military will stand tall once more.

"Nothing could have been done more than what we did," he assessed. "But today's kids are pretty rugged. I'll kid you not. They are a great bunch of boys and gals."

# CNO selects Fleet Master Chief West to serve as 12th MCPON

**MC2 (SW) Rebekah Blowers**

*Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs*

The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Adm. Gary Roughead, announced his selection of Fleet Master Chief (FLTCM) (SS/SW) Rick D. West as the 12th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) in NAVADMIN 349, dated Dec. 5.

West is currently serving as fleet master chief, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and previously served as fleet master chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. He brings to this assignment 27 years of fleet experience, including six tours at sea highlighted by leadership positions

aboard submarines and surface ships. In addition to his experience as fleet master chief in the Pacific and Atlantic, he served as chief of the boat of USS Portsmouth (SSN 707), command master chief of USS Preble (DDG 88) and Submarine Squadron 11, and force master chief, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet.

FLTCM(SS/SW) R.D. West

“From my earliest days in the Navy and throughout my career, chief petty officers have shaped and influenced me. Master Chief West has the



experience, insight and confidence to continue to provide me that which I need to hear, not want to hear. He will have that degree of access and trust. I look forward to working closely with him in all that is ahead,” Roughead said.

In the NAVADMIN, Roughead also praised MCPON (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr., who took the helm in July 2006, citing numerous milestones Campa achieved in

his time serving as the senior enlisted member of the Navy.

“MCPON Campa can take great pride in his many contributions during his watch. His extraordinary leadership, keen insight and sound judgment enhanced the role of the chief petty officer. He authored the chief petty officer’s mission, vision, guiding principles, revitalized the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy’s leadership mess, and empowered

fleet, force and command master chiefs. Most importantly, he re-established the deckplate leadership that is the essence of a U.S. Navy chief petty officer. His efforts significantly increased the impact of Navy senior enlisted leaders and, in doing so, improved the readiness of the Navy,” Roughead said.

The master chief petty officer of the Navy serves as an advisor to the chief of naval

operations and to the chief of naval personnel in matters of importance to enlisted personnel and their families. The MCPON is also an advisor to the many boards focused on enlisted personnel issues, is the enlisted representative of the Department of the Navy at special events, may be called upon to testify on enlisted personnel issues before Congress, and maintains a liaison with enlisted spouse organizations.

# Hawai'i Sailor becomes U.S. citizen

Story and photo by  
MCI Sarah Murphy

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public  
Affairs

A Navy officer and Taiwan native assigned to the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet staff described his journey to American citizenship on Dec. 3 when he spoke at a naturalization ceremony at the U.S. District Court in Honolulu.

Lt. Edward Lin shared his feelings about America before becoming a naturalized citizen and spoke about his life since that day nine years ago.

"I always dreamt about coming to America, the 'promised land,'" he said.

"I grew up believing that all the roads in America to Disneyland."

Upon arriving to the promised land, he quickly found out that it was not about where the roads lead, but where his future in America would take him.

The motivation for someone to go through the naturalization process is unique for everyone.

"Whether it is economical, political, social or religious reasons," Lin said. "I do know that by becoming a citizen of the United States of America, you did it to better your life and the life of your family."

Lin was 14 years old when he and his family left Taiwan. They had to travel half-way around the world, stopping in different countries along the way where they had to quickly adapt to new cultures and to find inventive ways to communicate while learning new languages.

Just as military families transfer to overseas duty



US Navy Photo by MCI Sarah Murphy

Lt. Edward Lin, native to Taiwan, shares his personal stories about his journey to American citizenship to a group of 80 newly naturalized citizens Dec. 3 at a naturalization ceremony in Honolulu. Lin told personal stories about how he was given an American name and how he was able to communicate before he knew English. He also spoke specifically to the 10 military members participating in the ceremony, thanking them for serving the nation even when they were not yet citizens.

stations and their lives are turned upside down, immigrants traveling to America go through the same motions. They have to find a home, employment and schools for their children. Lin needed to start school and his American education, but registering for school was not easy.

A translator had to help him register for school, including filling out the required paperwork. Lin's Chinese name had 20 letters in it and the woman at the school's front desk was unable to pronounce it. She asked him for his American name.

"I was barely able to spell 'ABC.' The only name that I knew back then as an American name was Eddy," Lin said. "Eddy was the name of my mother's dog ... I was very fortunate that my mother did not name

her dog 'Fluffy.'"

Lin shared many anecdotes such as this as well as words of encouragement to the 80 newly-nationalized American citizens. Also, he specifically addressed the nine military members participating in the ceremony, thanking them for going the extra mile to safeguard your new nation, "her people and the Constitution, which guarantees our way of life."

"You have recognized that not only do citizens have rights, but citizens also have responsibilities. ... the responsibility you are performing even now as non-U.S. citizen," he said. "Extraordinary events made this nation and our military - people like you men and women who stepped forward when their nation needed them accomplished these extraordinary

events. I thank you for your decision to serve."

For one petty officer, the ceremony marked a major milestone in her life, much like that described by Lin.

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Ailyn Peralta described the event as "a great end to a long journey." She was happy she accomplished something of significance.

"I did it," the Philippine native said at the end of her six-month endeavor.

"I hope that they realize that many, many doors have been opened up for them," Lin said. "Being able to vote is one of the major things they can do to change your community; they can direct the course of this nation."

"I hope they will build upon this moment and live a better life and I hope their children will understand the struggle their family had to go through to get to this point. I hope they will identify with me, sharing this arduous journey and make something of themselves," said Lin.

Gina Doane, the chief deputy clerk and a coordinator for the event, was moved by Lin's remarks and the stories he conveyed.

"I think they enjoyed Eddy Lin's speech because he took a personal spin to something that I'm sure they are feeling themselves," said Doane. "I hope they walk away feeling pride and a new love of their country."

Doane said she tries to invite someone with a military background to speak at the monthly events. She also hopes that next year they would be able to nationalize military personnel aboard a Hawai'i-based ship.

# Guerin: Returns to shipmates at sea

Continued from A-1

the face of the events which occurred on that fateful morning 67 years ago.

"We are placing my father here today, reuniting him with those familiar faces who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country and humanity," said Guerin. "Let us never forget our warriors who have fallen."

Hodgdon aided the Navy Region Hawai'i ceremonial guard with folding the American flag presented to Guerin's widow, Margaret.

"This is more than an honor for me," said Hodgdon. "Our family has such a strong military tradition. It's good to be back here where my uncle started. It's almost as if life's come full circle."

## STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

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