

**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, June 1, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A) May 4, 2016**
- 4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**
- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A) Chief Petty Officer Buck McTee Retirement Ceremony – Mr. Tony Young**
 - B) Vero Beach Air Show – Colonel Martin Zickert**
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A) Recap of Zero Dark Thirty Tribute – Mr. Bruce Cady**
 - B) Recap of Memorial Day May 30, 2016 – Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director**
 - C) Keen Cenotaph Order – Mr. Don Dexter, Public Works Manager**
- 7. CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS**
 - A) Island Color Nursery Thank You**
 - B) Zero Dark Thirty Veterans Highlight**
- 8. MEMBER’S MATTERS**
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE**
 - A) Next Meeting Date – July 6, 2016**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

This is a Public Meeting. Should any interested party seek to appeal any decision made by the Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator at 978-4920 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, May 4, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

PRESENT: Chairman, Anthony Young, Vice Chairman, Alma Lee Loy; Members: John Matthews, Joel Herman, and Alternate Member Curtis Paulisin **Also Present:** Public Works Manager, Don Dexter; Recreation Director, Rob Slezak, and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

Excused Absence: Barbara Fallon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Today's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Committee members and the audience joined together in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) April 6, 2016

Mr. Herman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2016 Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Loy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A) USMC Sanctuary Visitor, Sandy – Mr. Tony Young

Mr. Young stated that he met a United States Marine Corp Veteran on Veterans Memorial Island. He apologized for not catching his last name, but his first name was Sandy and he was visiting from Connecticut. He said that Sandy has a second home in Indian River County and loves to go to the Island. Sandy shared some accounts of his time in Korea as a Marine and that he had two (2) grandchildren who lost their lives while serving in the military.

B) Zero Dark Thirty Tribute – Mr. Bruce Cady & Mr. Doy Demsick

Mr. Bruce Cady said that he and Mr. Jimmy Moran organized the Hump for Our Vets event in February. They really enjoyed hosting the event and they had such a wonderful response from the community that they decided try another one. Their next event is called Zero Dark Thirty and it will raise funds for a local veteran's charity. It will be a 12-hour event that will start at 7:00 p.m. on the Saturday night of Memorial Day weekend. The participants will be engaged in a workout every hour on the hour during the event. Each workout is a tribute in honor of a veteran from this community who lost their life in service and is remembered on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. There will

be teams of five (5) individuals who will compete for points. One way to earn points is for the teams to identify veterans within their families and post their pictures and stories on the event facebook page. There will also be other fun patriotic ways for the teams to earn points. The event will take place on Saturday, May 28th and is being hosted by Orchid Island Cross Fit, which is located at 3101 Aviation Boulevard. All of the proceeds will go to benefit the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

Mr. Doy Demsick, Program Manager of the Veterans Council of Indian River County, stated that he had the privilege of working with Mr. Cady on the Hump for Our Vets event. He is not only very impressed with Mr. Cady on how engaged he is with the Veterans Council, but also with the next generation of veterans. The Veterans Council started the first Iraqi, Afghanistan, Desert Storm, and Desert Shield Veterans focus group in Florida for the next generation veterans. Mr. Cady not only serves as an active participant, but also as an advisor to the next generation leadership. He is also very impressed with Orchid Island Cross Fit, because they have a heart for those who have served and they are standing up and helping the community. He explained that another way the teams can earn points is by interviewing members of the Veterans Council. This is educational and it gives the teams an insight to the organization they are supporting. The next generation veterans were so impressed by all this that they are putting a team together for the Zero Dark Thirty event. These events not only positively engage and connect the veterans with the community, but they educate the community on what these veterans have done.

Mr. Cady said they can find information at the Zero Dark Thirty group facebook page, or they can contact him directly at (772) 559-7774.

Mr. Paulisin asked if the Zero Dark Thirty event is posted on the Veterans Council website page.

Mr. Demsick replied that they have connected with their facebook page a couple of times, but he will make sure that the information is updated.

Mr. Young asked if they reached out for sponsors for any of the activities.

Mr. Cady explained that they do have a corporate sponsorship program. There is a suggested donation of \$20 per each participant and there are also \$200 corporate sponsorships. The corporate sponsors will be recognized at one of the hourly workouts as well as on their promotional advertising.

A) Keen Cenotaph Funding Request – Mr. Tony Young

Mr. Young reported that the Keen cenotaph funding request was included as part of the City Council consent agenda items at yesterday's meeting. It was approved, so the Veteran Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee can spend up to \$250 to purchase the cenotaph marker for Joel Preston Keen.

B) Recap of Victims' Rights Coalition Ceremony April 14, 2016

Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director, reported that the Victim's Rights Coalition event went well.

C) Recap of Jay Sample Memorial April 16, 2016

Mr. Slezak stated that he left a couple of messages for the Jay Sample Memorial group, but he did not hear back from them. He assumes there were no issues or problems.

D) Update on Memorial Day May 30, 2016

Mr. Slezak reported that he met with the Memorial Day event representatives. The rehearsal will take place on May 26th and the actual event will be on May 30th at 9:00 a.m. on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Mr. Young stated that this was the first Victim's Rights Ceremony that he has attended. It was extremely thoughtful and presented well.

Ms. Loy said that they had great coverage in the newspaper.

Mr. Matthews passed out draft copies of the Memorial Day program (on file in the City Clerk's office). He briefly went through the program and commented that there might be a couple of changes made as they go through the last minute details.

Mr. Young thanked Mr. Jim O'Connor, City Manager, for the amazing City staff that maintains the tributes for the Veterans. Mr. O'Connor replied that they take great pride in caring for the Island.

Mr. Young stated that the City of Sebastian schedules their Memorial Day Ceremony later in the day to allow people time to get there after the Vero Beach event.

Mr. Matthews commented that the event starts at 9:00 a.m., but a big part of the event is the community coming together, the massing of the colors, and the music played by the high school band. If people don't arrive early they miss a nice part of it.

Mr. Young announced that the Veterans Administration recently gave Indian River County access to a new van to be used to help support the veterans.

6. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

A) Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Veteran Highlight: Ronald Scott Owens

Mr. Young stated that he handed out the narrative on Ronald Scott Owens and Joel Preston Keen. Mr. Owens was honored on the Bob Soos show in April (on file in the City Clerk's office). Mr. Herman read the paragraph on Mr. Owens and Mr. Young read the accounts of Mr. Keen.

7. MEMBER'S MATTERS

Mr. Matthews mentioned that the Vero Beach Magazine did a great article on Veterans Memorial Island. They had some great pictures of the Island and they did a good job at covering the Island and some of the markers. He mentioned that while he was in New York city he had the opportunity to visit the Freedom Tower and there is a fantastic view from the 100th floor of the tower.

Mr. Paulisin announced that the Veterans Outreach Golf Tournament will be held on June 18th at Sandridge Golf Course starting at 7:00 a.m. and it is filling up quickly. The cost is \$60 per person, which includes lunch and they have a lot of beautiful items to raffle off that were donated by local businesses.

Mr. Young asked if they still need sponsors.

Mr. Paulisin replied that they still have sponsorships available and anyone who is interested can call Pat Dyer at (772) 205-1995. All the proceeds will go to the Veterans Outreach Program.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

A) Next Meeting Date – June 1, 2016

The next meeting of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 1, 2016.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

/rh

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

7. B)

Friday, May 13, 2016

The men listed below have all served their nation in the military. Every one of them made the ultimate sacrifice. They gave their lives in defense of our nation. These men from all branches of service reflect the dangers that must be met in the sea, air, and land. Most of them were cut down in the prime of life. You will find enlisted and officers. Some flew mighty bombers or were on board the powerful ships. The grunts had their piece of earth. They fought for every inch of terrain they seized and secured whether in Vietnam, Germany, Korea, or the Pacific Islands. Over the past 18 months these heroes were highlighted on WTTB Radio. The research began in 2012. Their stories are now on official record at Vero Beach City Hall. But the recognition needs to continue. The lives of these local men form the foundation of our freedom. Their accounts should shape the character of generations to come. They must be told and shared with the valor of today's armed forces. Without those willing to protect and defend our liberty, this nation will lose its place as the champion of democracy. And we will suffer from the threat that still knocks at our door. "Lest We Forget," freedom is not free. Visit their memorial markers at the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. Consider those that have not returned. Have compassion for the families that bear the burden of lost or serving members. Thank you for paying tribute to them and those you know and love.

Sincerely,

Colonel Tony Young
US Army (Retired)
President, Veterans Council of IRC
Chair, Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Committee

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

NAME	BRANCH	DATE OF DEATH	AGE	CONFLICT
1LT Mark Jackson	US Army	Oct 28, 1969	21	Vietnam War
CPL Dale Kridlo	US Army	Nov 7, 2010	33	Afghanistan – (OEF)
Seaman Felix Poppell	USCG	Sep 26, 1918	19	WWI - Atlantic
CPT Troy Moody, Jr.	US Army	Aug 11, 1950	25	Korean War
John Mixon	US Navy	May 27, 1942	19	WWII – Caribbean Sea
PVT John Morris	US Army	Dec 12, 1918	24	WWI
CPT Albert Helseth	US Army	Aug 19, 1945	26	WWII
PVT Robert Hurst	US Army	Jul 27, 1942	21	WWII, Philippines; POW
2LT Gordon Henry	USAF	Jan 6, 1945	23	WWII, Europe
EW2 Ronald Owens	USN	Oct 12, 2000	24	Yemen – (GWOT)
SSG David Brooks	USMC	Jul 28, 1968	25	Vietnam
T-SGT Charles Futch	USAF	May 29, 1943	20	WWII, Europe

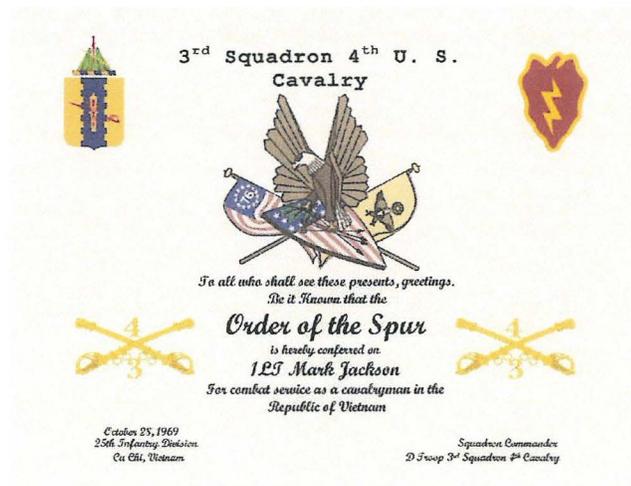
ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

MARK JACKSON
FIRST LIEUTENANT US ARMY
KILLED IN ACTION OCT 28, 1969
VIETNAM WAR



Mark at Officer Candidate School Graduation

Mark was born June 4, 1948. He graduated from Vero Beach High School and attended University of Florida. Following the legacy of his father, William Jackson, who was one of the original US Naval aviators, he enlisted in the Army to attend Officer Candidate School and flight school. After receiving his commission, he was sent to Vietnam. Mark was assigned to Troop D, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. While on a reconnaissance flight in the Tay Ninh Province of South Vietnam, his helicopter was shot down and he was killed. Mark was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, 13 Air Medals in addition to the Purple Heart.



ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*DALE J KRIDLO
CORPORAL US ARMY
DIED OF WOUNDS NOV 7, 2010
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM
AFGHANISTAN*



Corporal Dale J. Kridlo

Dale Justin Kridlo was born March 27, 1977 in Scranton, PA. His mother, Michelle Dale, lives in Vero Beach. Dale Kridlo grew up in Duryea, PA and graduated from Pittston Area High School. He worked construction prior to enlisting in the Army in December, 2008. After initial training, he deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom as a member of the Eighteenth Airborne Corps. He was assigned to the 161st Engineer Company, 27th Engineer Battalion, 20th Engineer Brigade. On November 7, 2010, while operating in the Kunar Province, insurgents ambushed his platoon. Dale fought to defend his fellow soldiers. He and SGT Aaron Cruttendon died of wounds from that battle. Corporal Kridlo served proudly and laid down his life in service of others. He left twin daughters, Madelyne and Zoe. CPL Kridlo was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart posthumously. His grandfather, Aloysius Kridlo, served bravely in World War II and received the Silver Star. His stepfather, Ken Dale, served fourteen years in the Army. CPL Kridlo is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE



Kridlo in Armored Personnel Carrier

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*FELIX GEORGE POPPELL
SEAMAN US COAST GUARD
LOST AT SEA SEP 26, 1918
WORLD WAR I*



USS TAMPA CREW circa 1918

Seaman Felix Poppell is one of the Sanctuary's most storied World War I veterans. He grew up in Winter Beach which at the time was called Quay. Vero and Indian River County had yet to be incorporated. He was born on January 6, 1899 in Perry County, Florida. On April 6, 1917 the US declared war with Germany. He enlisted 11 days later at the Fort Pierce Recruiting Station. He joined the Coast Guard cutter, Tampa, on July 15, 1917. It sailed for European waters that September. In the course of the next year, the crew escorted 18 convoys through submarine infested waters between Gibraltar and Britain. Then in the evening of September 26, 1918 U-Boat 53 sunk the ship on a convoy to Milford Haven, Wales. There were no survivors. A total of 131 on board were lost. Seaman Poppell was 19 years old. The ship and crew is memorialized on the USCG Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. The names are also preserved in the Memorial Window at the American Legion Post in Tampa. Felix's body was lost at sea. The St Lucie County WWI Memorial bears his name also. His memory is preserved with an obelisk in the Winter Beach Cemetery. The Poppell Family gave land to the formation of the cemetery. On November 10, 1999 the men of the crew were finally awarded the Purple Heart Medal. A copy of the citation and his photo is displayed at the American Legion Felix Poppell Post in Vero Beach. His cenotaph is found on Column C Row 1 of Memorial Island.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*TROY E. MOODY, JR.
FIRST LIEUTENANT US ARMY
KILLED IN ACTION AUGUST 11, 1950
KOREAN WAR*

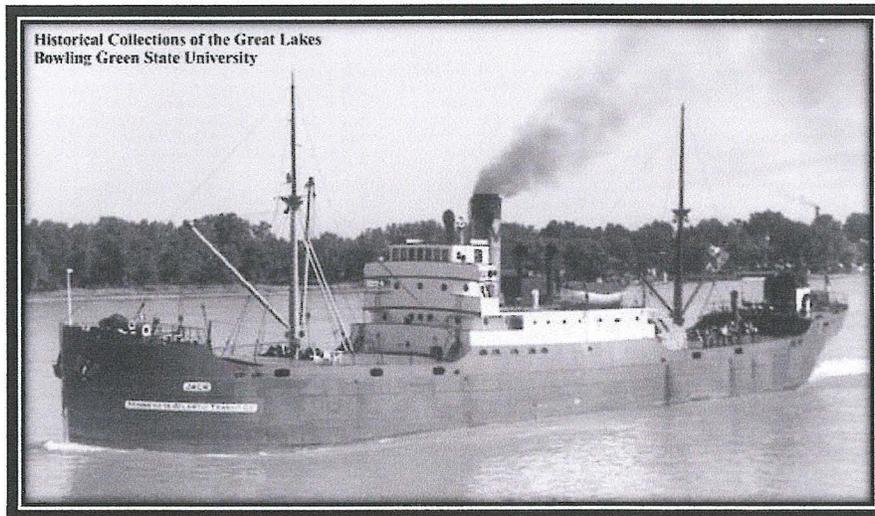


Troy E. Moody, Jr.

1LT Troy E. Moody, Jr. was a prior service soldier. Troy served in the US Navy during World War II. LT Moody, US Army, Serial Number 02204023, was assigned to F Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. He was killed while defending the Naktong River Crossing at the Namji Bridge. This action was part of the Battle of the Pusan Perimeter (the last bastion held by the South Korean Army and US Forces.) On January 31, 1951, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. Troy was born February 9, 1925. He was a casualty at the age of 25. The actions of these men “snatched victory out of the jaws of defeat.” As Major General Floyd Parks described it. Troy was the son of Troy Moody, Sr. and Margaret Louise Poppell. He was the Vero Beach High School Junior and Senior Class President. And, he was selected the Most Popular Student in 1943. He married Emma C. Moody. Their son was born after Troy’s death. LT Moody is honored with the park located in the McAnsh Park neighborhood named in his honor. He is buried in Crestlawn Cemetery. And, his cenotaph may be found in Column D Row 10 of Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*JOHN MARION MIXON
SEAMAN SECOND CLASS US NAVY
LOST AT SEA MAY 27, 1942
WORLD WAR II*



American Army Transport Ship "Jack"

Seaman Second Class John Marion Mixon, (Cenotaph Column C Row 10), U.S. Navy, Service Number 02697523, was born July 26, 1922. The 1930, 1935, and 1940 Federal and State Censuses reflect the Mixon family living in Vero Beach. Willie and Eugena were his parents. John's father worked for the City of Vero Beach. John, the eldest son, had three sisters and two younger brothers. In 1941, he graduated from Vero Beach High School. The following year, he enlisted in the Navy. He completed basic training in Norfolk, VA and the Armed Guard School. He was attached to the US Army Transport Ship "Jack." The 2,662-ton vessel was requisitioned by the US War Shipping Administration and used by the US Army Transport Service. On May 27, 1942 it was attacked and sunk by German Submarine U-558 100 miles southwest of Port Salut, Haiti. It was on a route unescorted from Puerto Rico to New Orleans. On June 5, his father received a Western Union Telegram informing him that his son was missing. Seaman Second Class Mixon was a sight-setter for a gunner. Lieutenant Junior Grade Albert Lind would report on Jun 6 that out of 63 on board a possible 29 survivors were aboard a life raft or floating debris. Lind was the officer in charge of the gun crew. 16 men would be picked up by the American Submarine, USS Grunion, on May 31. 7 others would spend 32 days adrift before being rescued. Unfortunately, John and four others were lost, as was the ship's master. The Lieutenant stated the Jack was attacked at 4:48 AM while running full speed and maneuvering

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

to avoid being hit. He noted the conduct of the gun crew, consisting of four Army and eight Navy men, was of the highest order. They fought tenaciously with their three machine guns and the four-inch gun to repel the U-boat. This was their third encounter with enemy subs. Previous fire had driven off the German attacks. LT Lind recommended that all the personnel be commended for their courage, loyalty and unswerving devotion to duty. At 19, after 5 months of service, John Mixon gave his life protecting the nation. Like Gene Guy Evans he was killed in action by a German submarine. The 1943 and 1944 Vero Beach High School Yearbook, the "Arrowhead," would honor him in memoriam. The East Coast Memorial in New York City would also recognize his sacrifice. The US Army Transport Ship Jack sank four minutes after being torpedoed. Thirty-seven aboard were killed. John Marion Mixon was among them claimed by the sea. He is a legacy for all to emulate.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

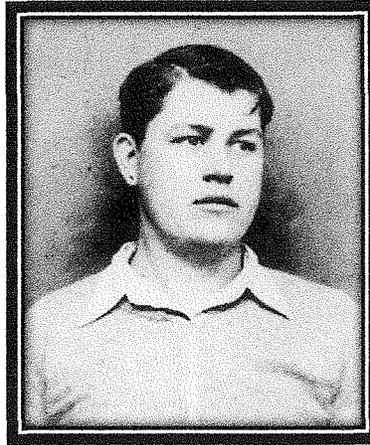
JOHN MORRIS
PRIVATE US ARMY
DIED OF DISEASE DEC 12, 1918
WORLD WAR I



Private John Morris is a black veteran that was a World War I casualty. His name is listed among the enlisted men that died of disease. Volume 1 of *"Soldiers of the Great War"* records the men from the States of Alabama through Maryland. It was printed in 1920 and compiled a record from the Official Bulletin provided from Washington D.C. records. Private Morris is listed among the men of Florida from Vero. (Vero was only incorporated in 1919.) The Morris Family resided in Talladega, Alabama in 1900. His father was Thomas and his mom Anna. The two children were Maggie, his younger sister, and him. He was born in 1894 in Alabama. He registered in Fort Pierce for the draft in June 1917. He was 23 and worked for Indian River Farms. John was assigned to the 366th Infantry Regiment, 92nd Division. The Regiment was an all-black unit. It served with distinction in three major WWI battles including the Meuse-Argonne. He is buried in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery located in Thiaucourt, France. Private Morris is honored as part of the World War I Honor Roll. His cenotaph is found in Column A, Row 11 on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*ROBERT LEE ANDERS HURST
PRIVATE, US ARMY
DIED OF DISEASE JULY 27, 1942
WORLD WAR II PRISONER OF WAR*

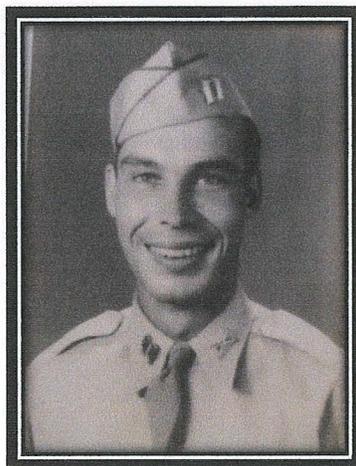


Robert LA Hurst age 18

Robert Hurst was a young man from Wabasso. He was born in 1921. His parents were John L. and Rosa Hurst. The 1930 Census documents a family with six children: four boys and two girls. Robert was the third of four boys. On June 3, 1938 he completed his studies at the Wabasso School. Then on June 18, 1941 he enlisted in the US Army in Jacksonville, Florida. On June 30, 1941, he would write a card to his sister, Louise, before shipping out from Angle Island California. He got to see a Gene Autry movie but did not like the cooler weather. Private Hurst was assigned to the 429th Signal Company in the Philippines. In April 1942, 60 to 80,000 American and Pilipino soldiers were taken prisoner and force-marched to camps inland. On July 27, 1942 he was initially listed as Missing in Action then later confirmed as having died of disease. A fellow prisoner of war, Abie Abraham, witnessed his death at the Cabanatuan POW Camp. Robert died of malaria. Both of these soldiers survived the Bataan Death March. After the war's end, Robert remains would be reinterred from the camp to Fort McKinley American Military Cemetery near Manila. His name is etched upon the Tablets of the Missing and upon the Cabanatuan Memorial Wall. The Hurst Family Plot is in the Winter Beach Cemetery. Robert was honored by a Presidential Certificate in memory of his selfless consecration to the service of our nation in the Armed Forces. The National Archives records his War Department Files reflecting Indian River County as his hometown. He died of deprivation at 21.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*ALBERT OSCAR HELSETH, JR.
CAPTAIN US ARMY
KILLED IN SERVICE AUG 19, 1945
WWII, GERMANY*



Albert O. Helseth, Jr. was born March 28, 1919. The Helseth Family is a pioneer family of Indian River County. They were instrumental in the Oslo community of southern Vero Beach at the start of the 20th Century. Albert was the eldest son. His dad, Albert, Senior was a World War I veteran. Albert, Sr. came from Oslo when he was just 2 years old. His mother was Ruth Rouse Helseth. She and Albert married in 1918. Albert grew up in Vero. He was valedictorian of Vero Beach High School and attended the University of Florida. He was part of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity. After college, he completed initial military training at Fort Benning, Georgia, "Home of the Infantry." Albert was commissioned and entered the Army in 1941. Captain Helseth was an artillery officer. He was assigned to the 935th Field Artillery Battalion which was located near Frankfurt, Germany at the end of World War II. He served with General Clark's Command that fought in Italian Campaign earlier in the war. CPT Helseth was killed in an ammunition storage sight explosion August 19, 1945. Phillip, his brother, was a soldier serving in England. He visited Albert just two weeks before his death. Phillip was called upon to confirm his brother as next of kin. Ruth was distraught at the loss of Albert. She immediately petitioned the Red Cross for Phillip to be reassigned to the States. He was sole surviving son. Albert was returned on Feb 3, 1949 to Arlington National Cemetery for burial. A stained glass window was dedicated in honor of him at the First Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach. Albert was killed shortly following the Victory in Europe at 26 years of age.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*GORDON F. HENRY
SECOND LIEUTENANT US AIR FORCE
KILLED IN ACTION JAN 6, 1945
WORLD WAR II EUROPE*



B-17 Bomber Formation over Germany Apr 1945

Second Lieutenant Gordon F. Henry, O-723244, was killed in action at the age of 23 on January 6, 1945 while part of a B-17 bomber crew in the combat over occupied Nazi Territory. His body was recovered. LT Henry was in the Army Air Force serving with the 410th Bomber Squadron 94th Bomber Group. The group flew 324 combat missions and was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations, 17 August 1943: Operations over Regensburg, and 11 January 1944 over Brunswick. LT Henry was buried in the Cambridge American Cemetery, Cambridge England, on January 8, 1945 and is memorialized on the WW II Memorial web site. He was a B-17, Flying Fortress navigator. His bomber group was based in England at Rougham Field RAF Bury St. Edmunds . He died from wounds received while flying over "Nazi occupied territory..." according to a letter from a crewmate received by his parents and published partially in the Press Journal on January 19, 1945. The letter also stated that they attended his funeral and "the whole crew respected his position and knowledge that brought us home countless times." Gordon was born in 1922, the son of Tallmadge and Charlotte Henry. Records show that he had resided in Wabasso. He was a 1938 Vero Beach High School graduate. He was the senior class outstanding boy. Gordon went to the University of Florida at Gainesville and lacked only three months from graduating when he was called into service in early 1943. Gordon was the youngest of four children. Reba, Madge, and Geneva were the girls. Geneva died first of the siblings. She has a son and daughter living in NC. Reba died in 2011. Madge was the sole surviving sibling at 93 in 2013. Henry came from Arcadia Florida when he had finished 8th grade. Madge also attended Vero Beach High School. She went to Florida State University and then taught in Vero from 1945 through 1948. She married and became Madge H. Longaker. LT Henry was awarded the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster for meritorious achievement during bombing runs on Nazi military and industrial targets. Record of the Henry Family is

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

documented in the 1930 U.S. Census in Desoto County and in the 1935 Florida Census in Wabasso.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

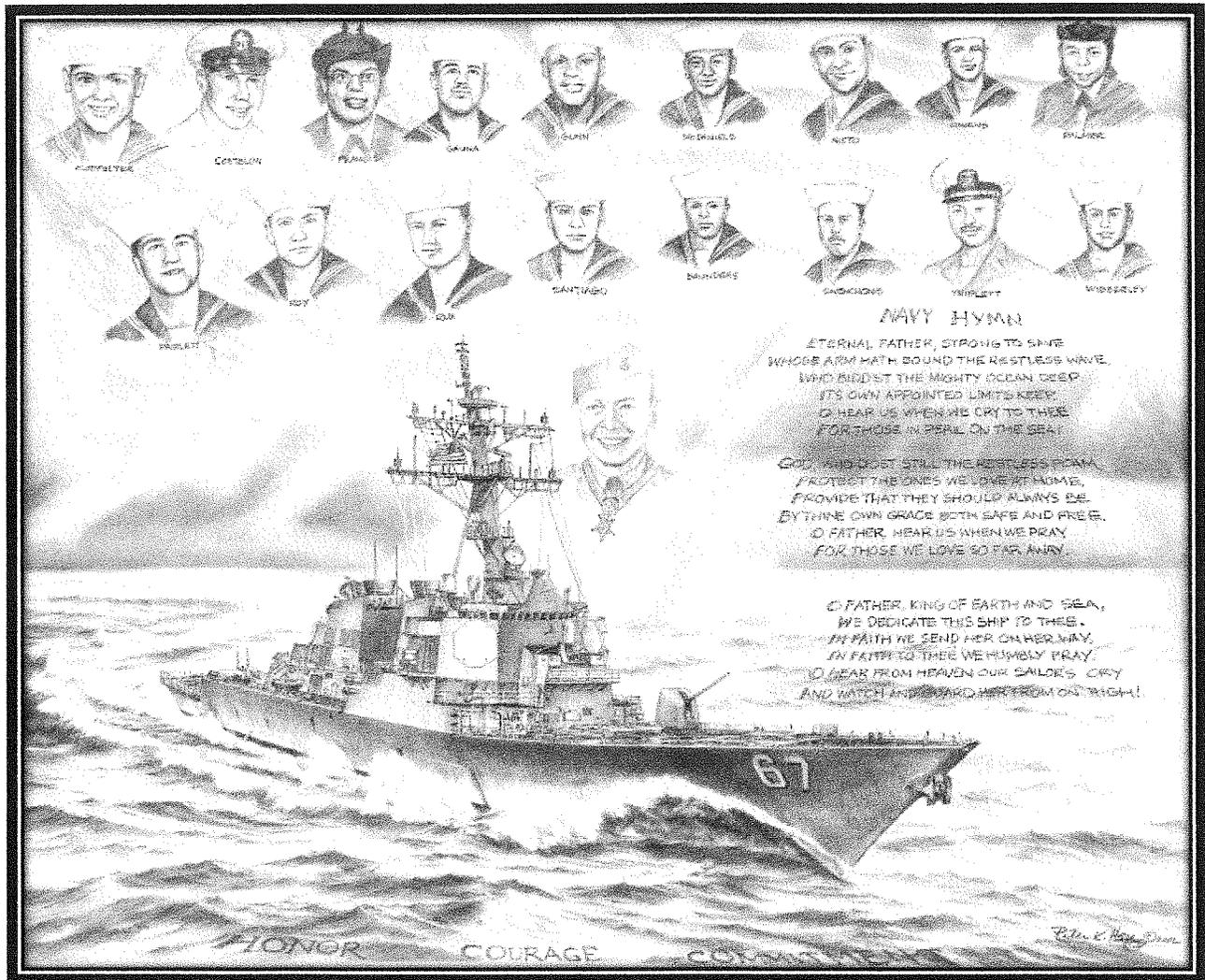
*RONALD SCOTT OWENS
PETTY OFFICER SECOND CLASS US NAVY
KILLED IN SERVICE OCT 12, 2000
WAR ON TERROR*



Damaged USS Cole (DDG-67) with USNS Catawba

Ronald Scott Owen was born October 31, 1975 in Vero Beach. He attended Vero Beach High School and graduated in 1994. In 1995, he married Jaime Scott and enlisted in the US Navy in 1998. Ronald was an electronic warfare technician. In 2000 while serving on board the USS Cole, (DDG 67), the ship was attacked in the Port of Aden, Yemen. The terrorist craft came alongside the ship and exploded killing 17 sailors and wounding 37. Petty Officer Scott was among those killed in action. He was interred on June 22, 2001 in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. His marker is found in the columbarium located in Section 5-M1, Row 2, Column 2, Court Number 5. He was 24 years old. Ronald and Jamie have one child, a daughter, Isabella. Petty Officer Owens hoped to train for a commission upon his return from his first deployment. His cenotaph in Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary is located in Column A, Row 12.

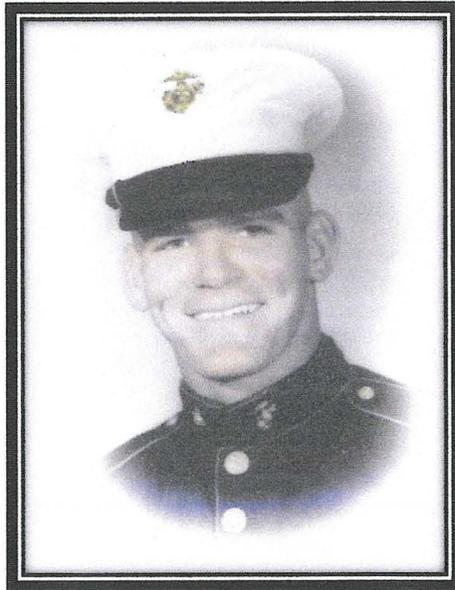
ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE



Peter Hsu sketch in memory of the lost crewmembers and Sergeant Cole.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*DAVID LEROY BROOKS
STAFF SERGEANT USMC
KILLED IN ACTION JUL 28, 1968
VIETNAM WAR*



SSG David Brooks, USMC photo

Staff Sergeant David Lee Brooks was a Marine with six years of service. As a senior non-commissioned officer (NCO) he was making the USMC a career. David was the son of Oscar C. Brooks and Dorothy M. Brooks. He was born on May 22, 1943 and married Marilyn Woods of Vero Beach in December 1962. He was killed in action while serving in the Quang Nam Province of South Vietnam on July 28, 1968. At the time, his family was awaiting his return to Naples, Italy where they had quarters. His obituary states Marilyn and his sons: David Lee and Daniel Lee were of Vero Beach. Dan said he was only three when his dad was killed. His father is buried in the Brooks Family plot in Oxford, FL at the Pinewood Cemetery. Marilyn said Dan has many of his father's mannerisms and outlook. Both were mechanically inclined, of athletic build and good-natured. Plus, they were calm under pressure. That day in 1968, SSG Brook's unit was ambushed. Kilo Company 3rd Battalion 7th Marines 1st Marine Division lost 20 men. In the pitch battle the Marines fought with distinction. The Medal of Honor and two Silver Stars were awarded in evidence. In the book, "Growing Up in Vietnam" by a fellow Marine of David's unit, Thomas Vogel wrote, "Dan, it was a privilege to serve with your father during his last days. I wish you could have known of his greatness." SSG Brooks was on his last mission before

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

returning home. He was shot by an enemy soldier from a spider hole. His commander wrote, "David had been with the Battalion a long time. His professionalism, devotion to duty, leadership, and willingness to serve won for him the respect of all who knew him." David was 25. His cenotaph is located in Column C, Row 3.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE

*CHARLES L. FUTCH
TECHNICAL SERGEANT
US ARMY AIR FORCES
KILLED IN ACTION MAY 29, 1943*



Tech-Sgt Charles L. Futch

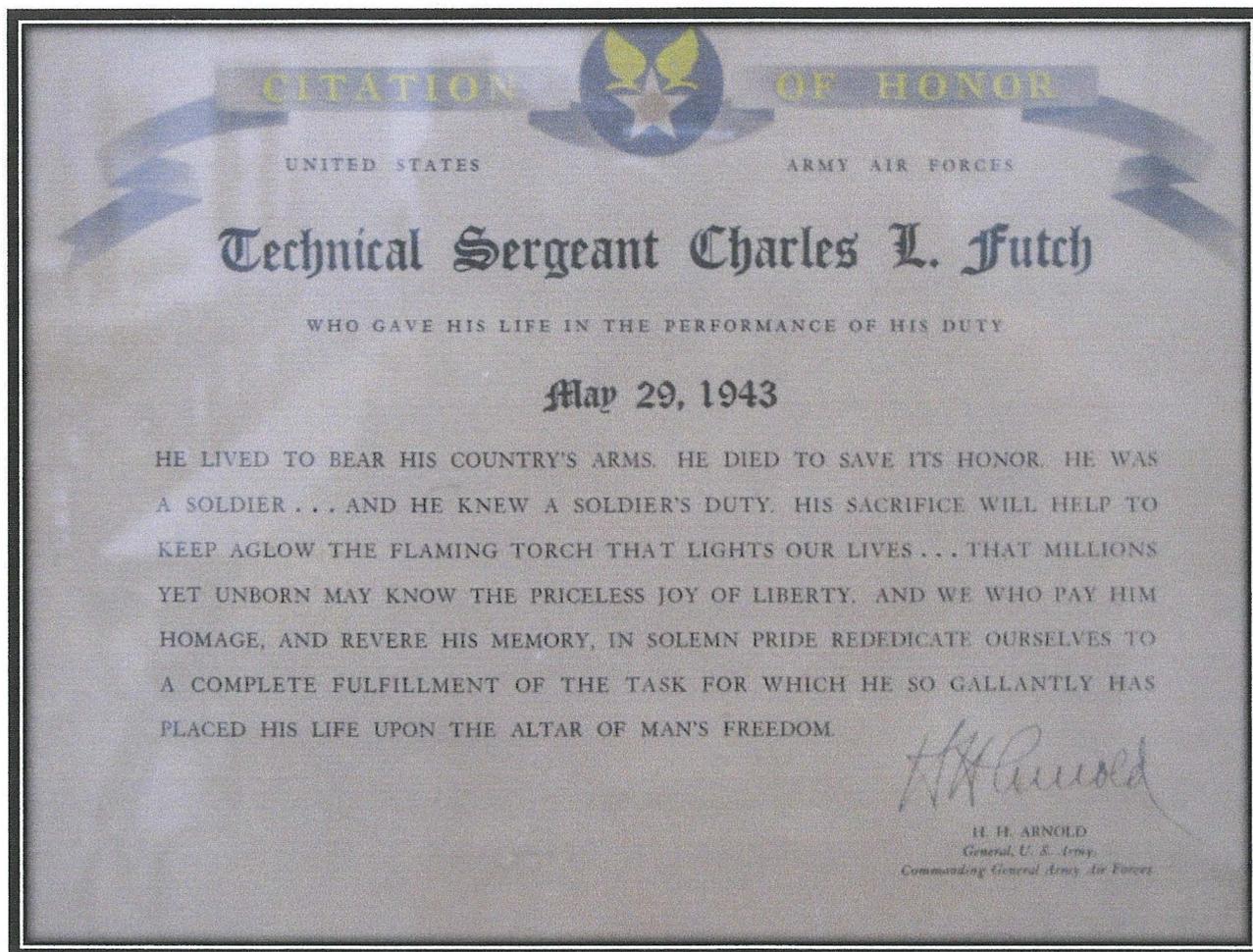
Charles L. Futch was born in 1923, the son of Edmund L. and Margaret H. Futch. The Futch Family came from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1938. They lived in Sebastian. He attended school there and graduated from Vero Beach High School. Charles enlisted on January 8, 1942. After training as a flight engineer and gunner he was assigned to a B17 "Flying Fortress" bomber. His aircraft, "Barrel House Bessie," flew over Sebastian on its way to Homestead Air Base before departing for England and the war. The crew was assigned to the 366th Bomb Squadron, 305th Bomb Group. The bomber was shot down on Technical Sergeant Futch's eleventh mission. It was on a mission to strike the German submarine pens located near St Naraire, France. The entire crew was lost. His body was recovered and he was buried in the Brittany American Cemetery in St James (Manche) France. Manche is northeast of Rennes. The American Legion Post 189 in Sebastian is named in his honor. Sergeant Futch's awards include the Purple Heart and the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster. His cenotaph is found in Column F Row 4 on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. His Certificate of Honor, signed by General Hap Arnold, states that "His sacrifice will help keep aglow the flaming torch that lights our lives." His parents are buried in the Sebastian Cemetery. His dad died in 1953. Charles was part of the 1944 Press Journal Honor Roll.

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE



Tech-Sgt Futch and bomber crew

ZERO DARK THIRTY MILITARY TRIBUTE



Futch's Citation of Honor