

# BLACK SANDS PUBLICATION

## IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

VOLUME 14    ISSUE 1  
Spring 2023

# BLACK SANDS INDEX

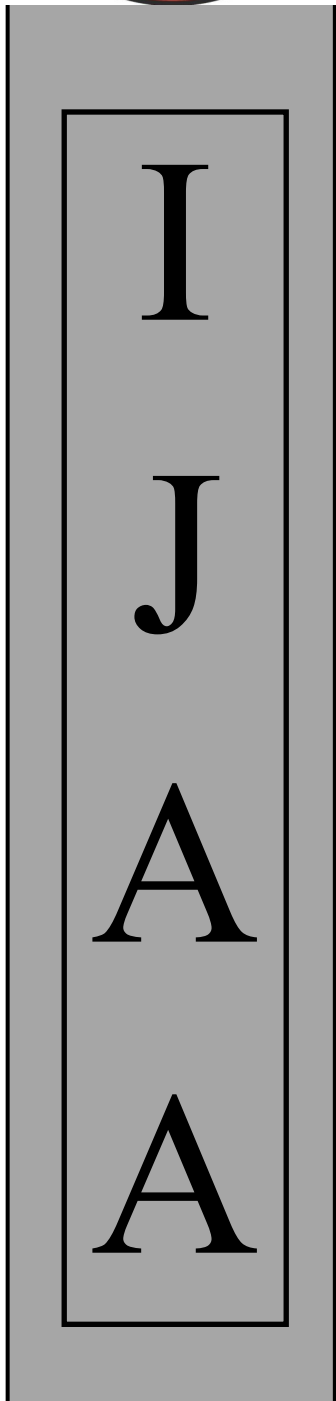
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### Formation of IJAA

MajGen Fred Haynes, USMC and other veterans of the Iwo Jima battle formed the Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima Association to honor and commemorate the legacy of the Americans who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima. The association reorganized into the Iwo Jima Association of America with additional focus on educating the public about the battle. IJAA partnered with the Iwo To (Jima) Association of Japan and the Government of Japan to foster reconciliation and to honor the sacrifices of all who participated in the battle and to pay tribute to the bereaved families of both nations. IJAA participates in the annual Joint US-Japan Reunion of Honor on Iwo Jima each year.



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# **Chairman of the Board's Message**

## **Iwo Jima Association of America**

### ***LtGen Noman Smith, USMC (Ret)***



"Iwo Jima Veterans, IJAA Members and Loyal Supporters,

After several years lay-off due to the global health problems, the annual Reunion of Honor (ROH) on Iwo Jima amassed quite a contingent from Japan and the US on 25 March. The reverence of the memorial was quite telling as participants from both Japan and the US gazed across the sacred grounds and heard the spoken words of US and Japanese speakers extol the virtues of the fighting men who met on this island to do their Nation's bidding. Music from the combined 3d Marine Division Band and a Japanese band set the scene of warrior virtue and dedication. Everyone in the attendance easily recognized why the ceremony was so vital to honor those who fought and died on Iwo and how, 78 years later, the memorial revitalizes the bond of friendship and respect between Japan and the US. IJAA was proud to represent all of the Armed Forces on this occasion and was equally proud of the remarks by the US Ambassador to Japan and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Following the ROH your Chairman had the honor of presenting a Japanese good luck flag to our dear friend, Representative Shindo of the Japanese Diet. This flag was given to IJAA by a US family who wished the flag to be returned to the original owners. As usual, Dan King identified workplace of the veteran and appropriate family and locale in Japan where the flag is to be returned. Representative Shindo will get this accomplished.

The five days in Guam prior to the ROH was packed with rich adventures which abound on the island. Tours, meals and fellowship were enjoyed by all and the weather cooperated. I want to personally thank all the persons involved in making the Guam visit and the ROH a memory which will never be forgotten. The Marines and Sailors of III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa were ever attentive to most of the needs of the participants and I thank them for their efforts.

I want to mention the first scholarship awarded to a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Midshipman in the name of Major General Fred Haynes, USMC, a veteran of the Iwo Jima battle. This award for outstanding leadership was organized and championed by Gene Colabatistto USMC and awarded to a student at George Washington University. This financial aid, generously supplied by Leonardo Helicopters and IJAA, hopefully will continue to award our Nation's students dedicated to serve.

In mid February the IJAA Reunion and Seminar in Arlington, VA, was well attended and offered wonderful opportunities for the participants to exchange war stories, honor the Iwo veterans and visit some appropriate sites in the Washington area. The Commandant of the Marine Corps attended the banquet and oversaw the awarding of outstanding service awards to the Marine Corps. These awards went to Doctor Jenifer Buss, Chairman of the Board of the Potomac Institute and to the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Alfred Gray, USMC (Ret). I encourage all of our membership to continue to support the expanding efforts of IJAA in honoring our veterans and our Nation while keeping the iconic battle on Iwo Jima in the Nation's spotlight.

Until next time, Semper Fi and keep safe.

Norman H. Smith  
LtGen USMC (Ret)

**IJAA President's Message**  
**Iwo Jima Association of America**  
***MajGen David Bice USMC (Ret)***  
**MajGen David Bice USMC (Ret)**



Greetings.

These past few months have seen a whirl wind of activities in IJAA. With the 2023 Reunion-Symposium in February and the US-Japan Joint Reunion of Honor Ceremony on Iwo To (Iwo Jima) island in March, it has been non-stop action. Both events are chronicled in this edition of *The Black Sands*. The volunteers who stepped forward to help in both events were incredible and are simply too many to name individually. As with any charitable organization, we simply could not fulfill our mission without the support and assistance of volunteers. I am eternally grateful for the splendid work of our volunteers—Thank You!

The 2023 Reunion-Symposium was a fantastic event. The numerous Iwo and Pacific War Veterans attending were a hit at every activity during the three-day event. For the first time, we went to the National Museum of the US Army at Ft Belvoir, which is an incredibly modern display of the Army's involvement in every war and battle since the founding of our nation. Most memorable was the dozens of high schoolers gathered around the Veterans at the Campaign Wall to have their photos taken with these extraordinary men. That is a scene I'll never forget. The Symposium was highlighted by a presentation on the historic lessons learned of the WWII Pacific Campaign and their relevance to today's challenge by China, presented by Colonel Yusuke Kawachi, Army Attaché at the Japanese Embassy in Washington, DC. The Banquet was remarkable in that US Marine Corps Commandant General David Berger gave a passionate talk about the achievements of the WWII Pacific War Veterans and their impact on the world since. We were also honored to present the IJAA Woody Williams Spirit Award to former Commandant and current Chairman of the Board for The Potomac Institute, General Alford Gray. This was one of the best Reunion-Symposiums I have attended.

The US-Japan Joint Reunion of Honor on Iwo To (Iwo Jima) island was equally heartwarming. The gathering of US and Japanese bereaved families, Veterans, dignitaries, legacy families, and others to honor the sacrifice of those who participated in that battle 78 years ago was historic. The addresses by the dignitaries of both nations reminded, us not only of the courage and commitment of those who fought, but the reconciliation of our two nations and the strong bond we share in ensuring peace and stability in the Pacific region. It was a hot day, which impacted many. As military support to these events have changed in recent years, we will look to arrange support from other sources in future ceremonies. Nonetheless, standing on the ground above the landing beaches, one cannot escape the historical significance of the impact that actions on that small island has made our Nation and the world, both in 1945 and today.

With warmest best wishes.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David A. Bice". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

MajGen David F. Bice USMC (Ret)

# Executive Director Message

Iwo Jima Association of America

**LtCol Raul (Art) Sifuentes USMC (Ret)**



Greetings,

“No rest for the weary” as our small, but intrepid staff continue at a high pace of activity...last few years.

A brief report on the March 2023 Guam/Iwo Jima trip. As all events many positive remarks and a few lessons learned.as we start our planning for 2024 trip.

The 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tour was graced with over 400 attendees, including eight Iwo Jima veterans. The hotel, formerly called the Outrigger Resort Hotel, was physically the same but with a new name, the Dusit Thani Beach Hotel but with the wonderful

hospitality. .

The Guam tour schedule remained basically the same as in the past with visits to Big Navy, the Memorials, the Museum and lunch at Jeff’s Pirates Cove

Our Guest of Honor was RDML Benjamin Nicholson, Commander of Joint Region Marianas at the educational symposium and evening banquet.

On the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup>, we flew to Iwo Jima on three chartered United Airlines 737s to be met by Marine representatives who later joined our Iwo Jima Marine veterans, Buel Faughn, Archie Holt, Louis Bourgalt, Nils Mockler, Ed Cavallini and Navy veterans Edgar Buffman and Courtland Pelton, Juan Montano. Commandant of the Marine Corps General David Berger, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Troy Black, US Ambassador to Japan, the Honorable Rahm Emmanuel, plus other US and Japanese dignitaries and bereaved families were there for the traditional and reverent Joint Reunion of Honor (ROH).

We continue to stay close to our Japanese friends at the Embassy in Washington, D.C. and recently celebrated with them the the Cherry Blossom Festival at the Ambassador’s Residence.

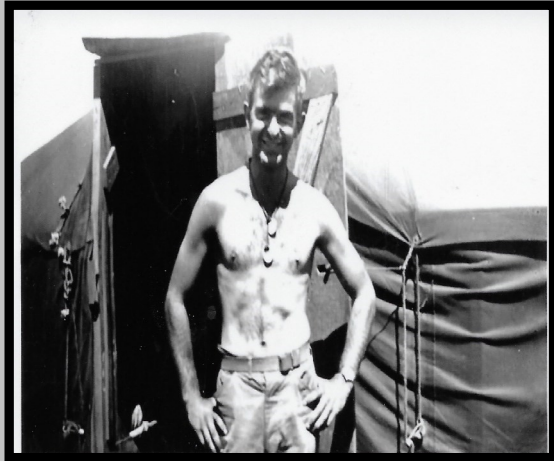
And we are very proud to announce the MajGen Fred E. Haynes Scholarship. See article in this Black Sands.

We have begun planning for our future 79<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> Reunion/Symposia for 2024 and 2025. Contracts are in place for the Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, now re-named, the HILTON ARLINGTON NATIONAL LANDING AT REAGAN AIPORT. So, mark your calendars...15-18 Feb for the 79<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Reunion in 2024 and 20-23 Feb 2025 for the 80<sup>th</sup> .

Please note the recently new CONSTANT CONTACT, which will send IJAA information to your personal email address. Many thanks to Dave Babel who has picked up a big load of the social media and IT efforts. Visit the website [www.iwojimaassociation.org](http://www.iwojimaassociation.org) for some great photographs of Guam/Iwo Jima 2023. Semper fidelis,

Raul A. Sifuentes

IJAA Executive Director



## First Lieutenant JACK E. HANTHORN, USMC

A Daughter's Tribute and Appreciation  
by  
Mary Ellen Stan

Mary Ellen Stan writes:

In 2010, in honor of what would have been my dad's 90th birthday, it became my mission to learn about and document my father's 30 year Marine Corps career. At that time I had no idea what I would learn. Most of my memories were of Daddy's legal career at JAG and not of his "gun-totin" years, as I call them.

I dove into my research referring to family scrapbook articles, photos, military books, copies of his personnel file from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, and military history television shows and DVDs. What I learned shocked me and moved me to tears----"My daddy lived through that!" But none of his service affected me more than what he and his fellow Marines experienced at Iwo Jima.

Long before he became "Colonel Daddy," he was First Lieutenant Jack E. Hanthorn, Mortar Platoon Leader. It was September 1943, and he had only two things left to do before heading for practice maneuvers in southern California and then off to the Pacific Theater. He obtained permission to go on leave to say good-bye to his parents in Birmingham and then to St. Louis to propose to his childhood sweetheart, Audrey. She said "yes."

In November, 1944, following some "practice battles" at Roi, Saipan, and Tinian, he participated in Amphibious exercises aboard the USS HENDRY in the vicinity of Maalaea Bay, Maui, Hawaii. In January, 1945 he participated in additional landing exercises aboard the USS NEWBERRY in Pearl Harbor, Oahu and Maalaea Bay, Maui.

01- 27-1945, he set sail from Pearl Harbor, to Saipan Marianas Islands.

02-15-1945 aboard LST-642 he sailed from Saipan arriving at Iwo Jima on 02-19-1945.

(Note: LST-642 was laid down on June 5, 1944 at Semeca, Illinois, by the Chicago Bridge & Iron Co .and launched on 09-08-1944 and commissioned on 09-28-1944.

February and March 1945 on the LST-642, he was assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific theater and participated in the assault and occupation of Iwo Jima and earned one Battle Star for World War II service. Daddy did mention that there were some nauseous moments on LST-642. He participated in the initial beach landing on Beach Yellow 1.

04 -04-1945 He then had a ride to Kahului, Maui on the USS Kingsbury.

Like so many other Marines, he never talked about the specific details and events. He did mention the difficulty in trudging up the beach in that "damnable black volcanic sand". But in his estimation, his service was no more special or heroic than those of his fellow Marines. There was one story he told which had to have affected him greatly

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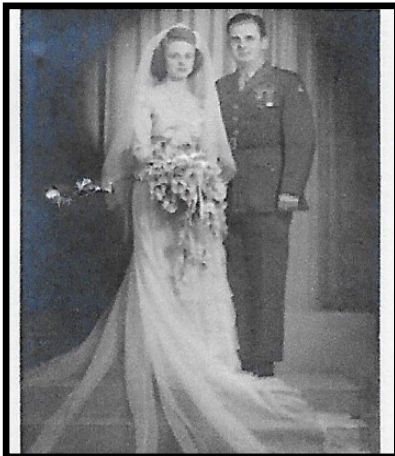
During the battle, he and two of his men were positioned in a fox hole. A mighty blast occurred next to them, killing the one man on his right and blowing off the arm of the man on his left. Dad was untouched except for the grief he must have felt in his heart.

While we may not know all of other details from him, we can read from his commendations what his participation was.

02-19-1945 on Iwo Jima, he was in command of his unit, landed with an assault platoon to a position in close proximity. Although the beaches provided little cover from devastating mortar and artillery fire, he led his platoon to a position in close proximity to the front lines, placed his mortars in action and delivered accurate fire on enemy personnel and emplacements. His efforts were highly instrumental in assisting the continued advance of the battalion. He then received "Commendation Certificate from MajGen C.B. Cates, for his specific actions on Iwo Jima.

10 -25- 1945 he embarked aboard the USS RUDY-ERD BAY and sailed for San Diego, CA. When the "4th" came home, they sailed into San Diego in Style .

11-28-1945 he sent a telegram saying he was coming home!



01-12-1946

**JACK  
AND  
AUDREY**

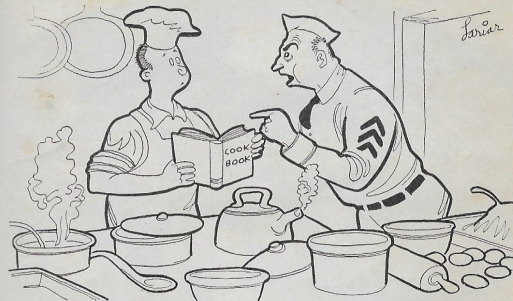
## USS NEWBERRY



# LAUGHTER CORNER



Just call me lefty!

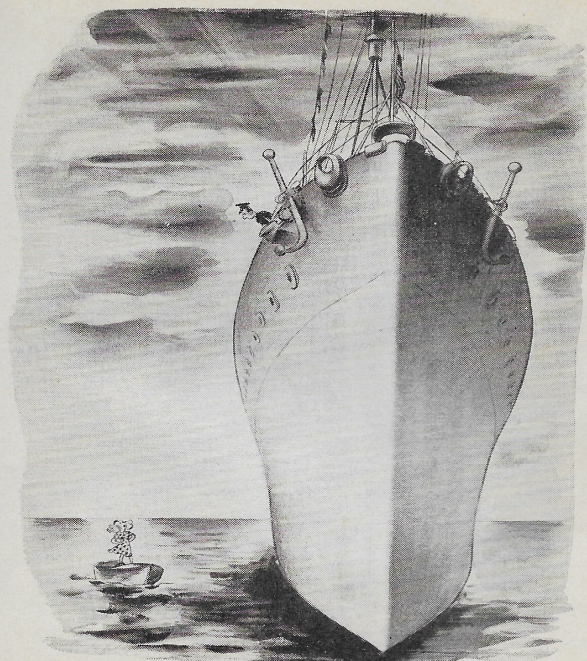


Beef Stew! Beef Stew! Don't you ever turn the page?

Laughter is the shortest distance between two



Hey, Pop, will you show me that big gorilla you said you have to take orders from?



"What dah heck do you mean, he's not in!"



# **VIEW FROM MY FOXHOLE**

**A Marine Private's first hand World War II Combat Experience  
from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima.**

**The of story of Bill Swanson submitted by John Waters**

He was a California kid, 18 years old and inspired by stories of American boys hitting the beach on Guadalcanal. Considering his options for military service, Swanson preferred the Marine Corps because of its reputation for being the first to fight and its celebrated esprit de corps.. Thoughts of excitement and high adventure were foremost on his mind.

This is the only answer Swanson comes up with thinking back on all the friends and enemies he saw killed. Unsurprisingly, luck is a topic left off the training curriculum for junior Marines. They're conditioned to think only of what can be done and how to do it. Medal of Honor winner David Bellevia., "We are simply too fragile to think about things that could render us powerless on the battlefield, that dwelling on luck could stir fear or confusion when the moment calls for decisive action.

---

**CHANCE. IT SEEMS.  
LUCK IS ALL.**

---

---

**WHY DID I LIVE  
WHEN SO MANY  
OTHERS DIED?**

---

And so 19 year old Private Swanson checks and rechecks his weapon and makes ready his gear. He pauses a moment to notice the beautiful island morning off the coast of Bougainville, sun rising over clear turquoise water. He has not the faintest clue what misery and death actually await his platoon, which has the honor of landing on the beach in the first wave. The sounds of explosions jar his calm. "What in the Goddamned hell are we doing?" But it is too late for thinking and so he jumps out of his boat. The 75-to-100 pounds of gear he is carrying causes him to sink beneath the surface of the water, making sure he begins the invasion soaked from head to toe, hacking away at the dense wall of jungle under incredible physical strain.

Fear seems to dominate everything and never knowing what the next step will bring is a special kind of terror. When night finally comes, the men experience a gut-retching fear, waiting for the Japanese to infiltrate their lines. Some sob in their foxholes, others refuse to move. "What in the Goddamned hell keeps us going," Swanson wonders. After a run of good fortune on Bougainville, he comes to the conclusion that it's nothing more than momentum driving him forward, a feeling that he must go on for as long as possible no matter the circumstances. Also, he realizes he's left his helmet's chinstrap unfastened for several days and decides this must be helping, so he continues to leave the straps unfastened. Call it superstition but Swanson relies on this helps to keep himself in the path of God's grace.

Others are not so fortunate. Swanson writes of a chance encounter with a distant cousin during a lull in the fighting on Guadalcanal. Though the men share a pleasant conversation, Swanson notices his cousin has lost that tiny spark of hope, that the man can somehow see the odds catching up to him. This troubles Swanson and leads him to wonder whether there is a premonition one receives before death, a sort of signal that lets a person know his time is coming. Months later, he learns his cousin is killed in the battle for Guam. Any illusion of excitement or adventure has disappeared.

Fox Hole Cont.

Finally injured on Iwo Jima, Swanson discovers that leaving his fellow Marines is not the easy thing he imagined it would be. Nevertheless, he follows the order of his

“The line between fear and duty is a fine line and sometimes a blurry one,” Swanson writes.

NCO and finds himself, after 27 months, overseas, sailing back to Pearl Harbor and on to California. His war is over but the



terror, the suddenness and unpredictability of combat, stayed with him for some time afterward. Worst of all was Swanson’s feeling he should not have survived. The merciless war killed friends and relatives, leaving no time to grieve their losses.

Survivors guilt may have been part of his motivation to write the memoir, to explain first to family and now the world what it felt like for so many young men to face impossible fear and still carry out their duty. The line between fear and duty is a fine and sometimes blurry one.

“Our feelings for each other and the ‘damned Corps’, are probably beyond understanding.”

Medal of Honor winner, David Bellavia, says, “we are simply too fragile to think about things that could render us powerless on the battlefield, that dwelling on luck could stir fear or confusion when the moment calls for decisive action”.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby make application for membership in the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. If applying for full membership, I certify by my signature that I am either a veteran of the battle or a direct descendant of a veteran of the battle.

- Full Membership—Iwo Jima Veteran \$15.00
- Full Membership—Legacy Member \$25.00
- Associate Membership \$25.00
- New Member       Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

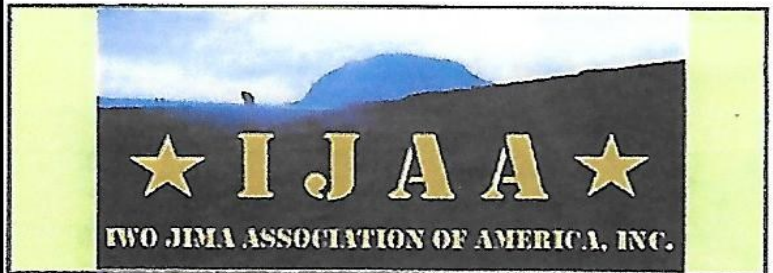
Unit served with on Iwo Jima & Dates \_\_\_\_\_

- Method of Payment:
- Check
  - Visa
  - Master Card
  - American Express
  - Discovery

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

All personal & contact information is maintained in strict confidence.



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e-mail: Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org  
website: www.IwoJimaAssociation.org  
A 501(c) (3) veterans organization

# 78th IJAA REUNION - 2023

Thank you To Our Reunion Sponsors



**The Leahey-Johnson Foundation**



ASTABILUS COMPANY

Gene Colabatistto, President and CEO

Day 1: Guest begin to arrive and looking forward to the days ahead, to see old friends and gain new friends. We especially welcome our Iwo Jima Veterans. The hospitality room is where you can share your story, listen and enjoy friendships. Mission BBQ provided the dinner and we can say, no one went away hungry. Thank you Mission BBQ for your generosity. This restaurant is recognized for their commitment to veterans.



# IJAA REUNION - 2023

Thank you To Our Reunion Sponsors.

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home**

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**Tiger Country Realty**

**TC**

Ray Etter, President

**Day 2: Exciting day ahead. First on the agenda was to go to the National Museum of the United States Army at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, via an honorary Police Motorcycle Escort. As we arrived, the museum broadcast that a very important group had just arrived - Iwo Jima Veterans. A number of students were present and they flocked to shake hands with our veterans and say thanks. It was an emotional experience to see our youth of today express appreciation to our veterans. The museum tour was an impressive and wonderful experience.**



# IJAA REUNION - 2023

In Appreciation To Our Reunion Sponsors

**MILITARY™**  
**HISTORICAL TOURS, INC.**

**Battle Field Toyota**

Wonderful photo opportunities for the Army Museum Visitors, including the “Campaign Wall” depicting all the battles in which the US Army participated in.



Many of the escorting police officers, former veterans themselves, enjoyed time with our veterans.



One of many high school students who took the opportunity to shake hands with the veterans.

# National Museum of the United States Army



Left: High school girls thrilled to meet a hero.



Right: A little boy asked to meet Juan Montano and touch him.



# IJAA REUNION - 2023

To Our Reunion Sponsors, We Say Thank You.



Day 2 Continued: Following our time at the museum, we were off to the WWII and Iwo Jima Monuments, to lay a wreath at each site. Fred Lash gave a short presentation at each monument. Side note: It was a bit chilly that day, but everyone appreciated the privilege to honor those who served so valiantly.

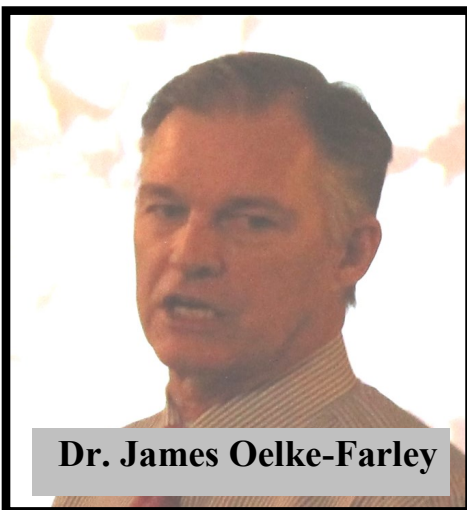


# IJAA REUNION - 2023

Capital Group

PROTEUS

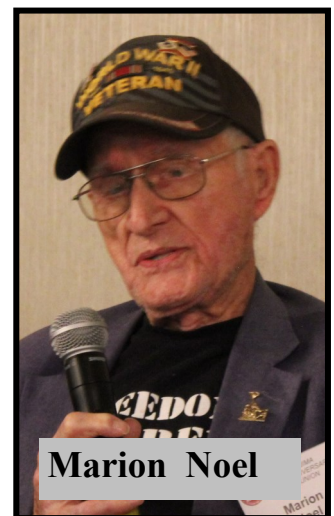
Day 3: Busy day ahead. 0830 Educational Symposium begins with historians : James Oelke-Farley and Shayne Jarosz and Additionally, LtCol Yusuke Kawachi, the Defense Attaché' from the Japanese Embassy provided an in-depth and fascinating presentation on the Japanese preparations on Iwo Jima in preparation on Iwo Jima for that historic battle.



**Dr. James Oelke-Farley**



**LtCol Yusuke Kawachi**



**Marion Noel**



David Fields, interviewed the Iwo Jima veterans who offered interesting details of their experience on the battle field- details you will not find in the history books.

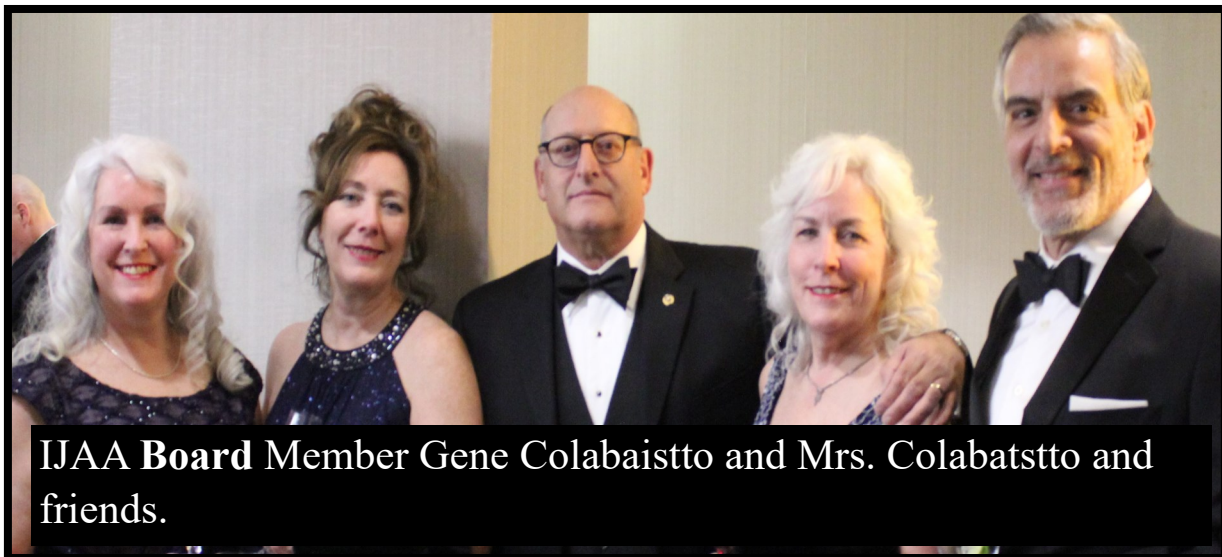


# IJAA REUNION - 2023

Day 3: 1800 Reception and dinner. There was an air of excitement as guest arrived: veterans and family members, supporters of IJAA, Gold Star family members, law enforcement officers and wives, retired military, civilian dignitaries and reunion sponsors. And all were looking forward to witnessing the second year of awarding the Herschel (Woody) Williams Spirt Award to General Al Gray and the CEO of the Potomac Institute.

We were once again treated to the entertainment by Rick and Robing Philips and the Radio King Orchestra, which brought the dancers. It was an enjoyable evening.

## RECEPTION



The Reception continues with an aura of friendship and patriotism.



Quilt

Two of the many raffle items.



Wooden Plague

# IJAA REUNION - 2023

Juan Montano USN and General Berger, USMC  
Commandant of the Marine Corps



Saturday, February 18, 2023 IJAA 78th Anniversary Reunion Banquet.

In General David H. Berger USMC comments. he stated “take every opportunity to listen to them, to learn from them, and to thank them, because they put their lives on the line 78 years ago. We don’t call them the Greatest Generation for nothing----they earned it. They inspired generations of Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, and Airmen. They helped forge the spirit of a nation today, and I think they embody the American spirit. And I think it’s time we recognize that these men are not just defined by their heroism, but by the example they set for the rest of us...and we will make it our mission to make sure that their legacy doesn’t stop here.”

**The Young Marines Color Guard.**



**IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
2023 HERSHEL “WOODY” WILLIAMS SPIRT AWARD**

Iwo Jima Association of America honored the Woody Williams Spirit Award to the Potomac Institute of Policy Studies. The Institute develop meaningful science and technology policy options through discussions and forums and their implantation between business and government.

Accepting the award tonight is the Potomac Institute, Chairman of the Board, General Alfred Gray, USMC (Ret), 4 star general who served as the 29th. Commandant of the Marine Corps from 1 July 1987 until his retirement 30 June 1991 after 41 years of service. And to Dr. Jennifer Buss CEO of Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. She is the authority in her scientific field with national recognition in her area of expertise.



L - R

Bonnie Haynes, IJAA  
Senior Vice-President,  
LtGen Norman Smith,  
USMC (Ret)  
IJAA Chairman of the  
Board  
General Gray, USMC  
(Ret)  
Recipient of the  
Hershel Williams Spirit  
Award



L-R

LtGen Norman, Smith  
USMC (Ret)  
Chairman of the Board  
Dr. Jennifer Buss  
CEO Potomac Institute  
of Policy Studies  
MajGen David Bice,  
USMC (Ret)  
President of IJAA

We closed the evening as we said our goodbyes to our Iwo Jima veterans and all our friends who joined us.

And as we wished all a good night and how grateful IJAA is for your dedication to Iwo Jima Association of America.



We honor ALL the Navy, Marine Corps Iwo Jima and Pacific Island Veterans who were present at the reunion: Buel (Dale) Faughn, Juan Montano, Louis Bourgalt, Roy Earle, Ivan Hammond, Matthias Guttman, Marion Noel.

In appreciation to all our donors, businesses and individuals, who make it possible for our Iwo Jima and Pacific Veterans to attend.

- |                         |                      |                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Austin, Phillip, Austin | Leckinger, James     | AFCO               |
| Backenstose, Timothy    | Lermuel, Rich        | Constellis         |
| Bice, Maj Gen David     | Loy, Jerome          | General Aerospace  |
| Bruce, Clark            | Mehrer, Wayne        | Johnson Foundation |
| Bucklad, Donna          | Northcott, John      | Military HX Tours  |
| Conley, Jeffery         | Pandolfi, Peter      | Mission BBQ        |
| Connelly, Thomas        | Roll, MGy Sgt Roger  | Potomac Institute  |
| Downs, BGen Michael     | Schwartz, Myrna      | Proteus            |
| Fields, David           | Scott, David         | Sheetz             |
| Finn, Jerome            | Showker, Joe         | Shewel Furniture   |
| Floretti, Gene          | Smith, LtGen Norman  | Terra Concepts     |
| Gearhard, Glenn         | Taylor, MajGen Larry |                    |
| Kunz, Barbara           | Taylor, SSgt Karl    |                    |
| Lash, Fred              | Zarzilli, Karen      |                    |



# DUCK DUCK DUCK

## THE MARINE WHO WAS A DUCK

On November 20, 1943, 18,000 Marines were met with withering fire, poured out by elite troops of the Imperial Navy's Special Naval Landing Force. The attack on Betio, the largest and on the southernmost island in Tarawa atoll, required a direct assault on the beach heads by U.S. Marines.

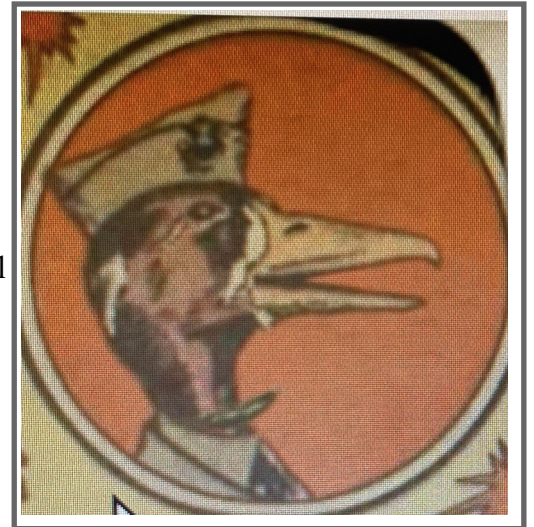
On that day alongside those Marines clutching the beachhead amid a lethal hailstorm of mortars, machine gun and rifle fire, was a DUCK!

Won in a raffle at a New Zealand pub by Sgt. Francis "Pappy" Fagan, the duck was given the rank of Sergeant and named Siwash after Sgt. Jack "Siwash" Cornelius of Skagit County, Washington. According to the Marine Corps Chevron, Cornelius acquired the nickname due to it sounding similar to his home county's name.

Becoming the 2nd Marine Division's unofficial mascot, Siwash followed Fagan everywhere he went, developing a penchant for guzzling beer, just like her owner. "Siwash just can't pass up a free drink." Fagan told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in 1944. "A long one and a short one is her limit, but she doesn't know it. She won't touch draft beer! And it's got to be warm beer, the way it was in New Zealand."

While the "Devil Duck" was beloved by her men, it was her actions on Tarawa on the second day of invasion that cemented her place in Marine Corps lore. By the end of the first day, the Marines had a tenuous hold on all three landing zones. Designated Red 1 and Red 3. From this precarious position, General Julian Smith radioed General Holland Smith midafternoon, stating "Successful landings on Beaches Red 2 and Red 3. Toehold on Red 1, situation is in doubt."

Corralled onto the narrow beaches, no units had penetrated more than 70 yards inshore by nightfall. Being driven back into the sea was a legitimate threat. Protected by coral reefs, the flat, small island was one of the most heavily fortified in the Pacific, and because of the island's geography, the nearly 5000 Marines would have no immediate room to maneuver. For Siwash, however, the situation was never in doubt, Channeling Col. David Shoup report -



## THE LUCKY WINNER OF A RAFFLE

we are winning." Siwash reportedly locked eyes with a Japanese rooster and took the enemy encounter into her own webbed feet. "The rooster didn't have a chance." Fagan later related to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch"

Swish whipped him and chased him 30 feet up the beach. While there was initial talk among Marines of rewarding Siwash with a Purple Heart. **She** was eventually cited for bravery. (The Marines initially believed **she** was a **he** until **she** began to lay eggs.)

From there, Siwash served during the Battle of Saipan, this time from the safety of a destroyer (battle of Tinian. But the Marines couldn't keep a good duck down, and at Tinian Siwash "hit the beach on D-Day and personally captured a tiny Japanese duck, TIME news reported in 1944.

Continued next page

## DUCK DUCK DUCK

### **THE ROASTER DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE**

After Tinian however, Siwash's war was over. Upon returning home, the Devil Duck was given a hero's welcome before parting with Fagan to live out the rest of her days at the Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo.

There she stayed until the hard drinking girl passed away from liver disease in 1954. Her body was later "stuffed", and presented to the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia - so the story is told!

Submitted by John Butler. ("Never heard this story despite my 3.6 for the 1st class year term paper on the battle of Tarawa, reading every book on the battle and being a member of the 2nd Mar Div. as well as knowing the history of the 2nd Mar Div.")

It is still a great story, true or not.



### The UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS ACCOMENTATION AWARD ***SGT JACK SIWASH THE DUCK***

*For courageous action and wounds received on Tarawa, in the Gilbert Islands, November 1943, with utter disregard for her own personal safety, Siwash, upon reaching the beach, without hesitation engaged the enemy in fierce combat, namely one rooster of Japanese ancestry, and though wounded on the head by repeated pecks, She soon routed the opposition.  
She refused medical aid  
until all wounded members of her section had been taken care of.*



**IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, NAVAL RESERVE OFFICIAL TRAINING CORPS  
ANNOUNCE THE  
MAJGEN FRED E. HAYNES, USMC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD  
SPONSORED BY LEONARDO HELICOPTERS**

February 16, 2023, the IJAA Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Major General Fred E. Haynes Academic Scholarship Award. The scholarship will become part of the IJAA mission to educate the public about preserving, commemorating and perpetuating the history and legacy of the Battles for Iwo Jima and Pacific Islands, and the veterans who fought there. IJAA has entered an initial partnership with Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) program at George Washington University, along with Leonardo Helicopters UA, Major General Haynes (1921-2010), and a graduate of George Washington University.

Second Class Marine Option Midshipman Evelyn Hoyer in the NROTC unit at George Washington University will receive the first scholarship of **\$5000.00**. She will be attending Officer Candidates School this coming summer. Born and raised in Reading, Pennsylvania, she attended a small high school. Her grandfather is a Marine who served in Vietnam and his son, her uncle, served prior to Operation Desert Storm. These gentlemen, along with her father imbued her with a love of the outdoors - fishing and hunting is a treasured tradition that they do often. She also played as many sports as she could, namely, softball and field hockey.

Five years ago, a recruiter pulled her from class to ask her why she would want to be a Marine. The recruiter laid out various benefit tags and asked her to choose one. She immediately chose pride and belonging, and she can confidently say that reason has not changed.

On April 28, 2023, she was presented with a \$5000.00 scholarship and a statue replicating the Iwo Jima Memorial.



Evelyn Hoyer & Gene Colabatistto, guided establishing the scholarship fund.



Evelyn Hoyer and Bonnie Haynes.

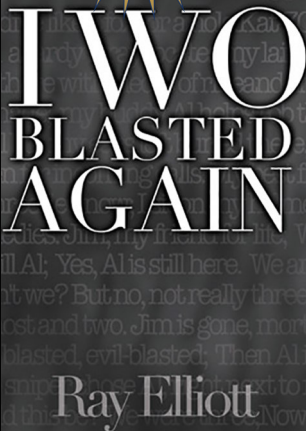


L-R: Ray Coleman, Leonardo Helicopters , IJAA Representatives, David Babel, Art Sufentes, MajGen Bice, Bonnie Hayes (widow of General Haynes) and Second Class MIDN Evelyn Hoyer.

**AUTHOR, RAY ELLIOTT DONATING BOOK SALES TO BENEFIT IJAA.**

Tales Press, a small independent publisher of several military-related works of memoir and fiction, has announced that the proceeds of all book sales to members of the Iwo Jima Association of America will be donated back to the organization.

IJAA Advisory Board member, past Black Sands editor and Marine veteran, Ray Elliott, started Tales Press working with, advocating for and writing about World War II veterans for many years. The comfortable and trusted bonds of friendship that have formed as a result have given Elliott deep insights about the true cost of freedom that lasts over lifetimes for those who served and their families.



In particular, one of his own books, “Iwo Blasted Again,” is a fictional, yet realistically raw work inspired and informed by numerous, in-depth interviews with Iwo Jima veterans and multiple trips to the island for the annual Reunion of Honor ceremony through Military Historical Tours. The title of the book is from a poem of the same name written by the late Bill Madden, E/2/27, Elliott’s friend who corresponded and consulted with him throughout the writing of the book.

Elliott’s novella uses the fictional composite character of an Iwo Jima Marine veteran to tell the story of a man who has carried the horror of combat and the loss of his young wife and his buddies with him for many decades. Now, in the last 36 hours of his life in a hospital intensive care unit, he revisits those aspects of his life and grapples with his long-suffering questions about fate and self-doubt through a psychological phenomenon known as sundown syndrome.

To benefit the organization, IJAA members need to make their purchases of “Iwo Blasted Again” and any other Tales Press books online at [www.talespress.com](http://www.talespress.com). Membership will be verified through IJAA after the sale.

# REUNION OF HONOR - IWO JIMA



In Recognition Of Our Veterans Family Members  
attending the Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor.

## **Patty and Janice Alexander**



Daughters of 4th Marine Division,  
Cpl Delmont George Alexander.  
Served in the battles of Iwo Jima,  
Saipan, Tinian.

## **Kevin and Diane Kohler**



Attended in respect and honor of his  
father, Warren Kohler USMC, who  
served on Iwo Jima. Evacuated on  
D14.

Kevin proudly keeps his father's  
military history records.

Kevin and Diane Kohler were walk-  
ing down to the ceremony site from  
the hanger. A white van slowed  
down and Kevin noticed it was  
transporting smiling Japanese. He preceded to put his open  
hand on the drivers window and the driver also placed his  
hand there, and they held for a short time. The back win-  
dows opened and the occupants all extended their arms and  
held his hand. Hands in friendship. Kevin and Diane knew  
that was a moment they will never forget.

# REUNION OF HONOR - IWO JIMA

In Recognition Of Our Veterans Family Members attending the Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor.

We must never forget.

Gary and Archie Holte



Archie served 1943-45 on the USS252 Gabilan. Gary proudly joined his dad on trip.



The Boyer Brothers: Tim, Lynn, Matt, Larry. Their father served on Guam. How wonderful it was for them to honor their father!

James and John Scatchell



(Son and father)

John remembering his father JOSEPH SCATCHL who served on Iwo Jima, 55th Pioneers. He received 2 purple Hearts. James will continue to carry on the memory of his grandfather.



Monument (Guam) honoring the valient dogs who served and saved hundreds of lives.

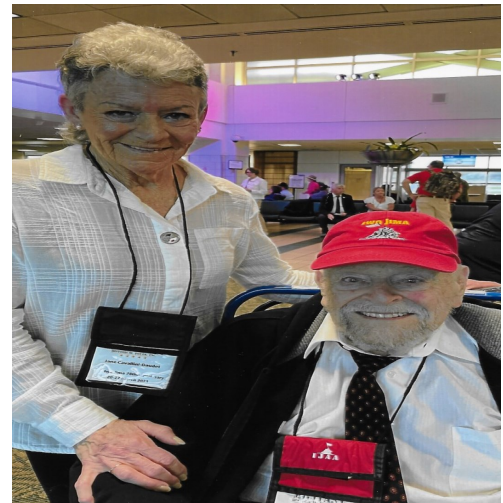
# REUNION OF HONOR - IWO JIMA

In Recognition Of Our Veterans Family Members  
attending the Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor.  
Where history is never forgotten.



**Louis Bourgault , Iwo Jima Veteran viewing the beaches of Guam.**

**Ed Cavallini and Jane Daudet (daughter)**



**Iwo Jima Veteran  
Daughter proud to accompany her dad, Iwo Jima veteran, her hero.**



**Louis Bourgault and daughter Karin Marzilli**

# REUNION OF HONOR - GUAM 2023



Upper left: Iwo Jima Monument, Iwo Jima - Laying of the Wreath Ceremony

Upper right: From Left: Honorable Rahm Emanuel, United States Ambassador to Japan, Gen David Berger, Commandant USMC. LtGen William Jurney, Commander Marine Forces Pacific.



Laying of the Wreath at the Iwo Jima Monument. The Iwo Jima veterans, and MajGen David Bice USMC (Ret), saluted and then turned to Japanese attendees and saluted.

# REUNION OF HONOR - IWO JIMA

In Recognition Of Our Veterans Family Members  
attending the Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor.  
Where history is never forgotten.



REUNION OF HONOR - IWO JIMA - MARCH 25, 2023

Japanese and American attendees



## MEANINGFUL MOMENTS ON TRIP TO GUAM AND IWO JIMA



Upper left: Upon arriving at the hotel in Guam, we were welcomed by beautiful music and dancing. What a wonderful start to a week of new experiences and friends

Middle: IJAA formed to honor the Iwo Jima Veterans. It continues that mission along with working diligently to continue our reconciliation with Japan, in unity, and recognizing both country's horrible losses. Today we come together peace and remembrance. Two color guards (United States and Japanese), stand together on Iwo Jima in preparation for the *Reunion of Honor Commemorating the 78th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima Ceremony*.

Upper right: An IJAA member found a "Friendship Flag", (upper right), on one of the online market sites, selling for \$200.00. This Japanese flag is given to a soldier departing for war. Friends and family sign if wishing good luck. The buyer knowing the significance of the flag knew it must be returned to Japan but he wanted to do it anonymously. He asked if IJAA could return it to Japan. After the ceremony on Iwo Jima, General Norman Smith presented it to Representative Shindo Yoshitaka. He was very moved by this gesture and will now pursue finding the owner's family.

IJAA encourages any Japanese war items be returned.

Janes Oelke and Shayne Jarosz



Both James and Shayne are highly regarded and respected as historians dedicated primarily to WWII.

Their presentations are captivating and detailed in events that occurred during the war.

Marie Norris and Sarah Wick (daughter)



Marie is a military historian. Her late husband retired from the Marine Corps. She has multiple family members who have served. Marie and Sarah travel extensively, around the world and have visited Guam numerous times.

Mark and Rhonda Nelson



This trip for them was to honor their fathers who both served our country:

Rhonda's Dad: Cap. Curtis Krogh, USMC, CH-46 pilot.

Mark's Dad: Carleton Nelson, Seaman 1st. Class.



# Japan - U.S. Iwo-To Reunion of Honor Ceremony Presentations

## Remarks by Mr. SHINDO Yoshitaka

Former Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications,  
Member of the House of Representatives  
Representative of Bereaved Families

March 25, 2023

I am extremely grateful that we are able to hold the Reunion of Honor this year, as we mark the 78th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima, the most ferocious battle that took place in the war.

Since the spread of COVID-19, we had to scale down the ceremony on the island, restricting the participants to a limited number of representatives. I am pleased to welcome our friends from the United States for the first time in four years to hold the joint memorial ceremony as we did before.

It fills me with immense pride and awe when I realize that Iwo-To is the only place in the world that former adversaries assemble and continue to hold memorial events. We will continue this sacred and special effort by the Iwo-To Associations of Japan and the United States.

78 years ago, the battle on this island, the height of its ferocity, resulted in a great number of deaths and casualties and made Iwo-To an island remembered in history.

Japanese soldiers suffered the heat of underground bunkers, where the temperature rose to over 50 degrees Celsius or 122 degrees Fahrenheit and fought desperately without food or drinking water. Despite being at an overwhelming military disadvantage and driven into a corner, they neither escaped nor lost heart and performed their duty until the end, for the sake of their families and loved ones at home.

In April, 2015, 70 years after the battle, Prime Minister ABE Shinzo gave a speech at the joint session of the U.S. Congress for the first time as a Japanese Prime Minister, where he introduced our efforts here as symbols of post-war reconciliation and trust between Japan and the U.S.

The crowd stood in thunderous applause, and retired Marine Lt. Gen. Snowden, who was in the audience, and I firmly shook hands with overwhelming emotion: he, the former commander on the U.S. side at the battle, and I, the grandson of Gen. KURIBAYASHI Tadamichi, commander of the Japanese garrison.

“The souls of the brave men, who fought on Iwo-To were validated.”

It is with extreme sorrow and regret that Prime Minister Abe, who honored us and was a good friend of ours, was shot to death last year. I once again offer with gratitude my prayers for his soul to rest in peace.

We must honor those who fought for their country and families, remind ourselves that the peace and prosperity we now enjoy were built upon their sacrifice, and pass on this reminder to future generations.

At the same time, we have recovered half of the remains of the former Japanese army that lie buried in the underground bunkers, meaning no more than 11,000 soldiers still rest on this island.

The Japanese Iwo-To Association will continue our activities until all their remains are returned home, while we remember and honor their spirits. We are determined to play our part so that Japan and the U.S., now strong allies, will uphold the peace and stability of the world based on their ties of trust and friendship.

On behalf of the bereaved families, I would like to conclude my remarks by expressing our sincere appreciation to the people of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense and the Japan Self-Defense Forces, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the U.S. Government officials and members of the U.S. Forces Japan for their exceptional assistance in organizing today's joint memorial ceremony.

## Remarks by General Berger Commandant of the Marine Corps

Good morning / Ohayo Gozaimasu.

Distinguished representatives of the Government of Japan and Self-Defense Forces, Ambassador and Mrs. Emanuel, fellow Marines and Sailors, family members, and guests, welcome and thank you for inviting Sergeant Major and me to join you here today. We are humbled and grateful to be here for this momentous occasion.

Before I get too far, I want to take a moment to thank all of the Marines, Sailors, and members of the Self-Defense Forces participating in the ceremony today. Thank you also to the Government of Japan, US Forces Japan, and III MEF for all the work behind the scenes to pull this off. This is *literally* a once in a lifetime event for many of us.

After 78 years, I don't know that there is much left unsaid about the Battle of Iwo Jima or the men who fought here. But what I *do* know is how Marines feel about it. I wish I had words to describe it, but something like this... I think it's better felt than described anyway. There isn't a Marine on this earth who doesn't know what happened on these shores.

And while yes, there is a deep sense of pride in the legacy our Pacific veterans paved and heavy sense of loss for those who never left these shores, it is met equally by a feeling of deep respect for those who defended it. When Marines today learn about the 70,000 who stormed these beaches, they also learn of the 18,000 who fought with inspiring determination from pillboxes and fortified positions across the island...holding on for 36 days. They learn lessons of courage, honor, discipline, and perseverance from both Marines, Sailors, and Japanese service members alike.

And while this island may have divided us in 1945, I like to think that in some way it helps unite us today. Holding this reunion each year is a tangible reminder of the importance of peace. It reminds us that conflict must be avoided at all costs... and that aggression is something to deter, not demonstrate.

But while this island reminds us of these things, our joint presence here *tells* the world so much more. Today, we face an increasingly complex security environment. But by standing here together, shoulder-to-shoulder, we show the world that we can overcome the darkest days in our history in pursuit of a better future. As formidable as both forces were some 78 years ago, we are more formidable together today.

We gather here to pay tribute to the American servicemen that came from the sea that February day, and to the Japanese soldiers who defended their homeland with everything they had. As the actions of those who fought and died on Iwo Jima recede into history, we keep these men alive with our traditions — where they continue to serve their countries by shaping the values, the character, and the very soul of a new generation of warriors.

Thank you again and Semper Fidelis.

**Remarks by the Honorable Rahm Emanuel,  
Ambassador of the United States**

**Friends of the United States and Japan  
Distinguished guests  
Veterans and loved ones of veterans.  
Today, we stand shoulder to shoulder at a sacred site.**

**We gather with great reverence and grave remembrance  
of the history of these hallowed grounds.**

**The Battle of Iwo Jima on Iwo-to, was one of the  
deadliest fought during World War II.**

**The purpose of our presence at this solemn ceremony is to ensure that the legacy of lives  
lost, what President Lincoln called “the last full measure of devotion”, is never lost on the  
living.**

**To ensure the souls of the sacrificed are eternally honored  
To reaffirm and renew a commitment to peace, prosperity, and possibility between our two  
peoples.**

**The tens of thousands on each side, American and Japanese, who suffered and sacrificed for  
their homelands, inch by inch and hill by hill, would have likely found it impossible to  
imagine 78 years ago what the U.S. and Japan relationship would become today:  
The envy of the world.**

**The idea that American and Japanese forces would one day train together, serve together  
and sacrifice together would have once been prohibitive. We chose to make it possible.  
We come together to both remember the cruelty of war and to realize the courage to make  
peace.**

**The most powerful reflection of reconciliation is the friendship and the future that America  
and Japan forge together.**

**May God ensure that the fallen are not forgotten.  
That the heroes are rightfully honored.**

**That we together lift the mantle of leadership higher.**

# Relics of a man killed on Iwo Jima during the Pacific War returned to his family

A small wooden tablet that belonged to a Japanese soldier killed during the Battle of Iwo Jima was returned to his family in December thanks to the efforts of a Texas-based researcher.



Noriko Kawarai, 68, of Kanuma city near Nikko, took possession of the tablet, a shipping tag that bears a handwritten list of items that belonged to her uncle, Morihiro Murota, during a ceremony at Kanuma City Hall on Dec. 20, she told Stars and Stripes by phone Monday.

Murota was just 24 when he died defending the Japanese island stronghold during the last year of World War II.

The 7-inch by 3-inch tablet was retrieved from the island by U.S. Navy sailor Raymond Sexton and later donated to the Minnesota Military Museum, according to a Jan. 5 statement from Kanuma city. It was returned at the suggestion of war researcher and Iwo Jima Association of America volunteer, Daniel King, of Rockwall, Texas.

“I was really surprised,” Kawarai said. “I had seen on TV that those kinds of things happen, but I never thought that it would happen to me.”

The Battle of Iwo Jima began with a Marine amphibious assault on Feb. 19, 1945, following months of aerial and naval bombardment. Seventy-thousand Marines took part in the 36-day battle, with more than 6,800 killed and 19,000 wounded. On the Japanese side, about 18,000 were killed. Only 216 Japanese were captured alive.

The well-preserved piece of wood is addressed to Apprentice Officer Morihiro Murota from his father, Toshiichi Murota, and includes a list of items like books, medicine and pencils that were included in the original package, according to the statement. Murota, was assigned to the 311th Independent Infantry Battalion at the time of his death.

Sexton, then a 21-year-old Seabee with the 106th Construction Battalion, was building integral infrastructure on the island when he collected the tag as a wartime souvenir, the statement said. He brought it home, where it remained for more than 75 years.

Continued on page 38



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**



Allard, Christopher  
 Bathe, Ryan  
 Bathe, William  
 Beach, Dana  
 Beaty, David  
 Benton, Betty  
 Bernier, Ronald  
 Benton, Betty  
 Bernier, Ronald  
 Berrien, Laura  
 Bibee, Steven  
 Bibee, Luanne  
 Boulos, Joseph  
 Boyd, Cindy  
 Brass, Clayton  
 Breazeal, Maria  
 Breazeale, Robert  
 Bucklad-Moro, Donna  
 Calhoun, Garrett  
 Campbell, Alla  
 Campbell, Charles  
 Campbell, Karen  
 Carrie, Iain  
 Carroll, Edward  
 Casey, Bryan  
 Casio, Antonio  
 Casio, Timothy  
 Chain, Raymond  
 Cisek, Scott  
 Clark, Bruce  
 Cleveland, Darlene  
 Clippard, James  
 Conners, Thomas  
 Conti, Donna J  
 Contreas, Ivania  
 Cooke, Alfredo

Coons, Jared  
 Currie, Iain  
 Dean, Diane  
 Dengate, Theresa  
 Dickey, Charles & Sheila  
 Driscoll, Joseph  
 Duffy, Marjorie  
 Dunkelberger Hungerford,  
 Phillip  
 Fetterman, Phillip  
 Flood, Frank  
 Forbush, Eric  
 Franke, Deborah  
 Frankel, MoLee  
 Frankel, Stuart  
 Fuertsch, Christopher  
 Gallagher, John  
 Garman, James  
 Giglio, Dominick  
 Gleason, Chris  
 Gradman, Wayne  
 Gray, Timothy  
 Harrigan, Robert  
 Harris, Paul  
 Harris, Terry  
 Hartnack, Richard  
 Hawthorne, Handall  
 Holte, Gary  
 Holte, Archie  
 Hornsey, James & Connie  
 Huffhines, Tom  
 Hungerford Johnson, Cody  
 Edward  
 Jink, Donald  
 Johnson, Scott  
 Johnson, Steven  
 Johnson, Susan

Johnson, Tara  
 Jones, Andrew  
 Jones, Simon  
 Kalohi, Kathleen  
 Kelley, Karen  
 Kelly Lyndell  
 Kerr, Michael  
 Khalsa, Adarsh  
 Kohler, Diane  
 Kohler, Kevin  
 Konopasek, Dean  
 Kowalsky, Lynn  
 Kowalsky, Thomas  
 Kunz, Barbara  
 Lange, Col Lee  
 Lauck, Joseph  
 Leshner, Robert  
 Lieber, Norm  
 Losch, Terry  
 Lyndell, Kelly  
 MacKellar, Michael  
 Maher, John  
 Maleckar, Spring  
 Mann, Kent  
 Mann, Rebecca  
 Massey, Janet  
 Massey, Janet  
 McCain, Debbie  
 McCorkle, LtGen  
 Frederick  
 MCL Det.1084  
 Melko Jr., Michael  
 Michel, James Melko Jr  
 Minnich, Janette  
 Mockler Nils  
 Molinaro, Robert  
 Morris, Shawn & Amanda

Moss, Joel  
 Munguia, Ivania  
 Nimrod, Clark  
 Noel, Marion  
 Padgug, Louis  
 Paluzzi, John  
 Pearson, Scott  
 Phillips, Tracy  
 Pohl, Paul  
 Ponte, Claudio  
 Price, Gregory  
 Prugh, Benjamin  
 Purdy, Steven  
 Redmond, Benjamin  
 Regopoulos, Ken  
 Rinehart, Daniel  
 Rinehart, Ruth  
 Rogers, Elizabeth  
 Ryan, Stephen  
 Schlau, Glenn  
 Scruggs, Wesley  
 Stewart, Wallace  
 Swenson, Lee  
 Templin, Chris  
 Topping Richard  
 Topping, Teresa  
 Tremblay, Henry  
 Warner, Walter  
 Wechsler, James  
 Wezensky, Michael  
 White, Robert  
 Wiley, Edwin  
 Yellin, Michael  
 Zenger, Jacob

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF IJAA**

# THANK YOU

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Finn, Jerome	Scott, David
Floretti, Gene	Showker, Joe
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Kunz, Barbara	Taylor, MajGen Larry
	Taylor, SSgt Karl
	Zarzilli, Karen

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Sexton's son donated the tablet to the museum after his father was hospitalized due to "old age," the statement said. Raymond Sexton is now age 98.



This wooden tablet and black sand from Iwo Jima were gifted to Noriko Kawarai, niece of fallen Japanese soldier Morihiro Murota, at the city hall in Kanuma, Japan, Dec. 20, 2022. (City of Kanuma)



***WE WANT YOU—  
Veterans, and Families  
IWO JIMA  
AND  
OTHER BATTLES IN  
THE PACIFIC WAR***

***Can we feature your story?  
Your story is one to be told and shared***

Where you grew up.

Family... growing up and now.

When did you enter the military—volunteered or drafted?

Boot camp (traveled by bus, train, car)? Your experience in boot camp.

Military schools. Awards/ribbons. Rank on discharge?

Where did you serve?

Memorable experiences—events that can never be forgotten....?

What did you do after service? Hobbies, etc.?

And what you would just like to share?

If you have difficulty writing your story, do your best or call and we will chat with you and write it for you...and Pictures are welcomed.

***YOUR STORY IS IMPORTANT***

***Black Sands Editor  
IJAA  
P.O. Box 680,  
Quantico, VA 22134***



# FINAL CALL



**JULIAN, Anthony**  
 1922-2022  
 USN - Corpsman - 4th  
 MarDiv, Pacific Theater  
 Scanton, IN

**COOPER, Elburn**  
 1924-2022  
 USMC  
 LaGrande, OR

**CRUM, Richard**  
 1925 - 2022  
 USMC  
 Iwo Jima  
 Michigan Town, IN

**KRODEL, James**  
 1926 - 2023  
 USMC  
 Iwo Jima  
 Quitland, TX

**PARISI, Larry**  
 1924-2022  
 US Navy  
 Pacific  
 Yarmourth, UT

**ST JOHN, Sgt Ernest**  
 1927-2022  
 USMC  
 Pacific Theater, Iwo  
 Jima, Korean War

**WELDON JR., Frank**  
 1925-2022  
 USMC  
 Iwo Jima  
 Champagne, IL

**PEURIFOY, Rev.**  
 Robert 1951-2022  
 Sugar Grove, NC

**WOOD, Marvin**  
 1928 - 2022  
 US Army, Air Force  
 Taylor, TX



*Don't grieve for me for now I'm free. I'm following the path  
 God has laid you see. I took His hand when I heard him call. I  
 turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to play. Tasks left  
 undone must stay that way. I found that peace at the close of  
 day.*

*If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy. I  
 shared a laugh, a kiss. Oh yes, these things I will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow. I wish you the sunshine  
 of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much.*

*My family, the Corps, good friends, good times, a loved one's  
 touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief. Don't lengthen it  
 now with undue grief.*

*Lift up your hearts and peace to thee. God wanted me now.*



**IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA) MERCHANDISE**



**PATRIOTIC FLASKS**



**VIETNAM POCKET WATCH**



**IWO JIMA POCKET WATCH**



**PEWTER STATUE**



**LAPEL PIN**



**GIFT BOX  
W/ BLACK SAND**



**IWO JIMA KNIFE**

**IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA) MERCHANDISE**



**IJAA  
Polo Shirt  
Men's /  
Women's  
P/S/M/L/XL  
Colors:  
White/Red/  
Green/Blue**



**IJAA  
Long Sleeved  
Men's / Women's  
S/M/L/XL/XXY  
Colors:  
Blue**



Green, Gray, Red., White

**CAPS**



**75TH  
Anniversary  
Polo Shirt  
Men's Sizes:  
S/M/L/XL/XXL  
Women's Sizes  
P/S/M/L/XL  
Color: Gray**



**IJAA BRACELET  
w/Black Sand**



STICKERS



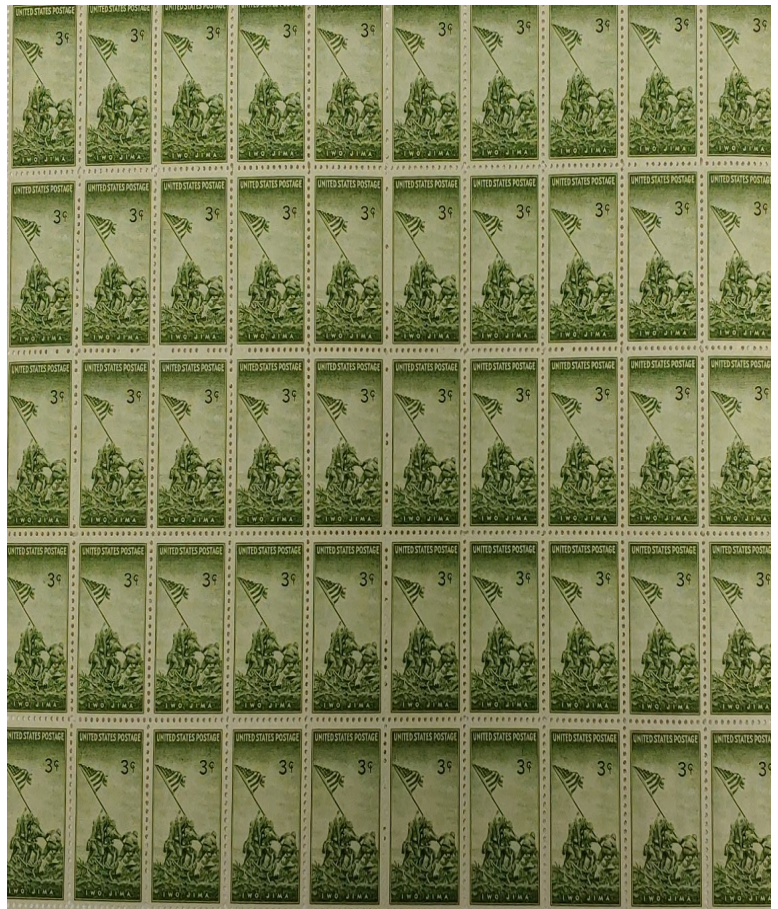
CHALLENGE COIN



Patch



CHALLENGE COIN  
Two Sided



Left: 4 Stamps  
\$25.00

Right: Full Sheet of  
Stamps  
\$100.00

### ORDER FORM

Please complete order form (if using check attach to order form payable to: **IJAA.**

Mail to:  
**Iwo Jima Association of America,**  
**P.O. Box 680**  
**Quantico, VA 22134**

**SUB TOTAL from page 44**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\$15.00 For Shipping** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### CREDIT CARD -

Please complete in full if paying by credit card.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ SC Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

IJAA is a Non Profit with IRS #80-025508., All proceeds go to funding Iwo and Pacific Vets return to Iwo Jima & to events..

## MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>OPTIONS</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
<b>IWO JIMA BRACELET</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
<b>75th ANNIVERSARY POLO SHIRT- Long Sleeves</b>		X \$50.00 = _____
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____	X \$50.00 = _____
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____	X \$50.00 = _____
Color: Grey		
<b>IWO JIMA BLUE SHIRT</b>		
w/Long Sleeves		
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$45.00 = _____
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$45.00 = _____
<b>IJAA POLO SHIRT</b>		
Colors: White/Red/Green/Blue		
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
	Size: _____ Color: _____	
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
	Size: _____ Color: _____	
<b>CHALLENGE COIN</b>		
75TH Anniversary Coin	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
Iwo Jima	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
<b>Iwo Jima Bracelet</b>	Quantity: _____	
<b>IJAA STICKER</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$3.00 = _____
<b>IJAA PATCH</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$3.00 = _____
<b>IJAA CAPS</b>		
White-Blue-Green-Rd-Gray-75th	Quantity: _____ Color _____	X 15.00 = _____
<b>IJAA PATRIOTIC FLASKS</b>		
IJAA	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00 = _____
US/JAPAN	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00 = _____
USMC	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00 = _____
US/USMC	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00 = _____
<b>POCKET WATCH</b>		
WWII-IWO JIMA	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00 = _____
Vietnam	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00 = _____
<b>PEWTER Madalion w/black sand</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
<b>LABEL PINS</b>		
Iwo Jima	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
US/Japan	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
<b>IWO JIMA KNIFE</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00 = _____
<b>GIFT BOX w/Black Sand</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$25.00 = _____
<b>STAMPS - 4 STAMPS</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$25.00 = _____
<b>STAMPS - FULL SHEET</b>	Quantity: _____	X \$100.00 = _____
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$ _____