American Heroes
by: Iwona Contreras
Pfau Library
Exhibit/Lecture Coordinator
SK3 Ericka M. Saucedo
USCG 1998-2003

CGC Jarvis Kodiak Alaska

CGC Jarvis Change of Command Honolulu Hawaii 1999

CGC Jarvis (WHEC 725) Honolulu Hawaii

A School Graduation Petaluma California 2000
My dad enlisted in the US Air force in 1965, he completed two tours in Vietnam returning home in 1971. He returned back to the Air force in 1978 for an additional two years of service. In 1980 my dad was honorably discharged from active duty and immediately joined the reserves so he could further his career with the department of corrections. He remained in corrections until 1985 when he died.
Ranger Arnold Davis was in the 1st Ranger Battalion. According to his daughter, Pamela Abell, Ranger Davis was at Anzio and one of six rangers to return after the attack of "Cisterna di Littoria" on Jan 31, 1944. Her father told her that while they were sitting under a bridge that day, the six remaining men all signed their names on a dollar bill and a small card.

The card (which he still has) was signed on the Anzio beachhead by the following Rangers:

- Davis, Arnold E
- Smith, Richard G
- Sitarchyk, Joseph A
- Mosier, Ben F
- Fergen, Thomas B
- Holbrooks, James J Eger
- and either
- Facer, Charles, or Ellis, Thurman

When Pamela was younger, she recalls watching the movie, "Darby's Rangers" with her father. She remembers her father saying that the part in the movie that was the most accurate, was when the Rangers rolled under the treads of the German tanks, as the tanks went up over a rise in the road. He told her that he was one of those Rangers and that it was the only way they could cross the road without the German’s seeing them.

Ranger Davis die on 2003 and is buried at Riverside Veteran’s Cemetery.

Love You Dad,
Pamela Abell, PhD
Employer Relations Counselor
Career Development Center UH 329/CSUSB
Leopold C. Amendt, Captain

Actively served in Air Force from March 7, 1942 to March 14, 1946
Bombardier/Radar Observer
Decorations & Citations: Victory Medal

My Grandpa! by: Kim Hunsaker
He was a great cartoonist and designed the cover of the Bombardier Class Annual for the graduating class ‘42-’45.

Leo flew a B-26 Bomber. He was a Pilot, Bombardier and Radar Observer.

He was an accomplished trumpet player and entertained at the Officers Club at Victorville Air Force Base.
Enlisted in the USAF in 1947 and retired in 1967. John was trained as an aircraft mechanic and serviced planes at Strategic Air Command bases all over the world. In addition he was part of a squadron that refueled B52 Bombers in the air during battle over Korean airspace. John died earlier this year at the age of 79. His daughter is Beth A. Flynn the MBA Program Director.
My cousin is my hero.

LCP Victor Gonzalez, born 12/21/1984, killed in action on 10/13/2004 in Fallujah, al Anbar Province, Iraq. Victor always made us laugh with his mischievous smile and love of pranks. Ever since he watched G.I. Joe as a child, he knew he wanted to be in the military. He decided to enlist in the USMC, as part of the infantry, because “being a cook just didn’t seem like too much fun,” he told me before deploying. Victor was always the first to volunteer and loved to help others. The final mission was one that he volunteered for, and his commanding officer stated that the USMC “needed more like him.” His dream was to use his military skills and combat experience to serve his fellow Californians as an officer for the Highway Patrol or Sheriff. Victor loved to play soccer and enjoyed summers in Zacatecas, Mexico where he would get his boots muddy from having adventures in the canyons and mountains. He is very missed and our hearts still ache as we hit the 5 year anniversary of his passing.

Respectfully,

Karina Quintanilla
Admissions & Retention Counselor
Theodore V. Alejandre
1953-1955 – United States Army
Wars fought – Korean Way

If you’re doing actual sentences:
“In 1953, he was inducted into the United States Army where he served for two years. He continued his military service in the United States Air Force Reserves, both as a civilian and as an Air Force Reservist until his retirement in 1994 as Chief Master Sergeant.
Staff sergeant Bernardo (Bernie) G. Moyeda


Bernie was drafted in 1963 and served the required two years. He returned home only to re-enlist in 1967 and chose Korea as his destination, where he served guarding the DMZ for one year. He visited the orphaned children in Korea on a regular basis and delivered Christmas gifts to them.

After completing his required draft service and his second tour of service, Bernie then volunteered (not drafted) to serve in the Vietnam War, which to anyone else would seem foolish. But if one knows Bernie’s commitment to his country and his passion to protect what and whom he loves, one would understand his choice.

Bernie was a combat infantryman who trudged the jungles of Vietnam, saving those comrades he could, struggling to hold on to his life. Into the 10th month of his tour of duty, Bernie was injured in action when he stepped in a landmine, nearly losing his left leg.

After multiple surgeries and long-term recovery, he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army. He was able to return to the work force two years later, performing tasks that demanded agile physical abilities, an amazing feat for someone who nearly lost a limb.

Bernie retired from Cal State San Bernardino’s Facilities Services in 2005 after 25 years of dedicated service. At age 67, today Bernie continues to work on a part-time basis at the Joselyn Senior Center in Redlands, and is a passionate and competitive racquetball player.

An active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6476 in Colton, Bernie has served as commander for several terms and continues to assist veterans in need. He lives in Redlands with his wife Carmen, has two grown children, David and Lisa, and three granddaughters, Olivia, Eileen and Trina.

Bernie has been dedicated to serving and protecting his country; he is a true patriot and defender of the United States flag. Best way to describe Bernie: “He has a heart of gold and would help anyone in distress.”

Love, Carmen Murillo-Moyeda
Staff sergeant Bernardo (Bernie) G. Moyeda

Purple Heart
Bronze Star
Combat Infantry Badge
Gary P. Robers  

Gary went into the service November 24, 1964. He was sent to Vietnam in 1967 as worked as a medic on Helicopters sent to retrieve the wounded soldiers. He suffered a wound to his lower right leg by sniper fire as he carried a wounded soldier to the helicopter. He was later transferred to Germany to work as a aide to a General.

Gary came out of Vietnam with more wounds than he would ever reveal, but with the pride of a soldier. He took his love of the soldier with him in his final years as he served as Commander of a local VFW post, volunteered in over 400 military funerals at Riverside National Cemetery folding flags and presenting them to family members at the funeral of their loved one. He often said he always did so with tears in his eyes and was ashamed that he could not control his emotions.

Gary passed August 19, 2009 and was honored by the very Military Honor Team that he had volunteered with for over 6 years. There were several members of various teams in uniform at the service showing him the honor they felt he deserved. After the service the captain of the team gave me a notebook of notes sent to him by the families of those who had been buried by his team. In every note they mention the man with the tears in his eyes and how they felt a connection to his devotion to their loved one as a veteran.

His mother kept every letter he sent from his years in the Military, there are over 150 pages of memories. I met my husband three years after his service in Vietnam, but I discovered a young man I wish I had know longer.

Marsha Robers
**Biography for Major, Sarah Huml.** David and Sheila Torres are the proud parents of this soldier. Sheila works in the College of Extended Learning, CSUSB.

**Duty Stations:**
Fort Sam Houston, Texas - Officer Basic Course 1999
Fort Bliss, Texas, William Beaumont Army medical Center - 2000-2005
*Medical Surgical Nurse
*Preoperative Nursing Course
*Preoperative Nurse

**Bahgdad, Iraq, Ibn Sina Hospital, 31st Combat Support Hospital Dec 2003 - Dec 2004**
Fort Sam Houston Texas, Brooke Army Medical Center 2005 - 2008
For Sam Houston, Texas, Army Medical Department Center and School, Army Baylor Master's in Health Care Administration July 2008- July 2009
Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI
*Residency for Army Baylor Master's in Health Care Administration

**Military Education:**
Officer Basic Course
Preoperative Nursing Course
Captain's Career Course
Combined Humanitarian Reaction and Assistance Training Course (CHART)

**Badges:**
Paratrooper
Combat Action Badge - 31st Combat Support Hospital 2004

**Family:**
Husband - Lawrence Edward Huml
Son - Ryan David Huml (6 yrs)
Olivia Nicole Huml (3 yrs)

I am so proud of my 10 years of service in the United States Army Nurse Corps and looking forward to the challenges ahead.
Thomas Joseph McDonnell

My American Hero is my 85 year old father, Thomas Joseph McDonnell, a WWII Iwo Jima Survivor.

My father was a Pharmacist Mate, 3rd Class with the 26th Marines, 5th Marine Division, Company I, 3rd Battalion.

He fought as a Marine Corpsman in WWII, and was sent to fight on Iwo Jima. My dad was there when the infamous flag was raised, he saved a lot of lives on that island, saw a lot of death too and after 25 long days fighting on Iwo Jima, he was shot in the leg and taken to a hospital in Guam.

My parents have been married 64 years now. My mother has kept their love letters from the days when my dad was off fighting the war. She has his Marine Uniform, hat, pins, dog tags, bible and of course, his medals which are proudly displayed in a shadow box in their home.

Growing up, my dad never spoke of the war and it wasn't till the movie "Flags of Our Fathers" came out in 2006 that he began talking about the war and it gave me a glimpse of what he had gone through.

I Annemarie Hopkins, am one very proud daughter!!
Major John A. Oliver Jr.

- Major John A. Oliver Jr, my nephew, grew up in Fontana, had applied for a nomination to West Point when he was in high school. When he did not receive the nomination he enlisted in the U.S. Army upon graduation from high school and was assigned to a tank command. After some time the Army realized what they had and sent him to West Point for school. He graduated with a degree in Environmental Science.

- Since then he has been on a United Nations assignment in Macedonia, U.S. Army assignments in Germany, Afghanistan and Iraq. He returned from his second assignment in Iraq, after he was wounded (December 2008) when his unit was attacked by their Iraqi Guide. He is currently stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

- His grandfather (my dad) served in the Army in Europe in WWII and came home with two Purple Hearts, he was the reason John chose the Army. His father (my brother) served in the U.S. Marines in the Vietnam War. His sister was a Navy Seabee who was assigned to Guantanamo Bay until she was injured and retired by her disability.
Thank you!!!

For serving our Country...