SHE SERVED

MAGAZINE

Celebrating Women Veterans



17 MILITARY WOMEN VETERANS SHARE THEIR UNIQUE STORIES

Inside Issue 5:

TWO LIVING LEGENDS - WASP PILOT JERRIE BADGER & NAVY WAVE AUDREY GABLE

LIVING LEGEND PRESENTATION BY MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL



VA Resources for Women

DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY TO CALL AND ASK FOR HELP.



Women Veterans Call Center:
855-VA-WOMEN

Veteran Crisis Hotline:
988 (press 1)

Caregiver Support Line:
855-260-3274

VA Benefits Hotline:
1-800-827-1000

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* Photo credit: https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/waves.htm

* Color poster by Steele Savage, 1944. 44-PA-820.* National Archives Identifier: 514315

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HOST A VETERAN PHOTO SHOOT

To host a **She Served** event visit the website: www.sheservedinitiative.org.



General criteria: The space needs to be indoors, and approximately 20x20' in size, with at least an 8' ceiling height (preferably 10') with electrical outlets.

Photoshoot Details: Photoshoots are reserved for female veterans only. Each Veteran will get a 30-minute professional photoshoot. They can bring props or mementos to be used during the session.

As the host you should be aware that each Veteran that wants to participate will need to fill out an intake form of basic information, provide a short biography of their military career and post military life, and provide a clear photo of themselves in uniform (their official service photo is best, but other photos of them in uniform are acceptable if it is clear and in focus so that their face is recognizable). I can comfortably accommodate approximately 10 women a day if the timeslots are scheduled in advance.

Expenses: I do not charge the Veteran or the host a photoshoot fee. However, as you can imagine I do have expenses. I ask the host to provide suitable lodging, air fare and/or reimbursement for gas, and my meals during the photoshoot. Visit **https://sheservedinitiative.org/host-she-served** for all the details then contact us to be a host!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



We started of this year with two very special women Veterans, **Audrey Gable and Jerrie Badger**, who both left a lasting mark during their service in World War II. These trailblazing women not only made history, but also paved the way for countless others to follow in their courageous footsteps.

Audrey Gable, a centenarian we had the privilege of celebrating the 100th birthday of, served in the Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). Her dedication and service to our nation during WWII demonstrates the strength and resilience of women in the armed forces. Audrey's story is a living testament to the significant contributions made by women during times of crisis.

Jerrie Badger, at the impressive age of 102, stands as one of only six surviving Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP). Her remarkable career exemplifies the pioneering spirit of women who defied conventions to serve their country. Badger's legacy is not only one of courage but also of breaking barriers in a male-dominated field, inspiring generations of women to pursue their dreams fearlessly.

Both Audrey Gable and Jerrie Badger were honored by the Military Women's Memorial (MWM) in Washington, D.C., with the prestigious Living Legend Award. The MWM Living Legend Program recognizes and celebrates military women whose stories of service serve as a source of inspiration and example for all. These awards are a fitting tribute to the enduring impact these women have had on the trajectory of women in the military.

It was a privilege to meet and celebrate these incredible role models who played a pivotal role in opening doors for women in the United States military. Their stories are not only a testament to their strength of character but also a reminder of the progress made in ensuring equality in military service.

Along Audrey and Jerrie, we are proud to feature 15 women veterans from the Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marines who undoubtedly benefited from the trailblazing efforts of these two pioneers.

As we honor Audrey Gable and Jerrie Badger, let us also celebrate the broader community of women Veterans who continue to shape the future of the United States military. Their stories remind us that the pursuit of equality knows no bounds, and the contributions of women in the military are an integral part of our shared history. As always, as you read the stories of these incredible women, we hope you'll find inspiration in their resilience, dedication, and enduring commitment to making as positive impact on the world.

Martina Schmidt



HELP US LOCATE AND PAY HOMMAGE TO MORE WOMEN VETERANS

We invite you to join us in honoring and paying tribute to the invaluable service of women veterans from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. Your support is crucial in recognizing their dedication and contributions to our nation's history. Together, let's express our gratitude for their sacrifices and celebrate their remarkable service.

If you, or someone you know, would like to be featured please email martina@sheservedinitiative.org

Helene

In 1974, **Helene Sovich** joined the United States Air Force's Nurse Corps where she served for six years. She worked as a registered nurse in the labor and delivery department at the following hospitals: Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, Incirlik Air Force Base, Turkey, and Homestead Air Force Base, Florida.

While in the Air Force, Helene also worked on the special notification team. This team was the first to notify a family regarding their loved ones' sacrifice, such as: killed in action, missing in action, or wounded while they were serving in the Vietnam War.

Helene loved being on active duty. She believes that her time in service matured her, expanded her love of life, taught her respect for all people, enhanced her education, provided her the ability to travel, and lastly, taught her that hard work and dedication are extremely satisfying.

Helene met her husband in the Air Force and they were married nearly 42 years. He retired from the Texas Air National Guard as a Lieutenant Colonel and from a career with American Airlines. They have two beautiful children and two grandchildren. In 2010, her family moved to Destin, Florida, to build their dream home on a bayou. Sadly, her husband passed away eight years later.

Helene continues to serve her community and her country. She is an active member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the American Legion. Notably, she served on the board of directors and has even been the Exalted Ruler of the Lodge. She is passionate about having fun, traveling and helping others. She has discovered that doing all three at the same time is possible and it "makes life the BEST!"

Helene would like the public to know that "Women Veterans are awesome! They have reached out to serve our country and entered an unknown life from which most were unfamiliar. If you have the honor to meet a woman veteran, you will meet a strong, self-assured woman with whom friendship is true blue."

Though she didn't have any problems adjusting to civilian life, she knows many Veterans do, especially those that served in conflict. She prompts her sister Veterans to please reach out to the many Veteran crisis centers for help. "God Bless."







WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Don't sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them happen."

WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Be the change you wish to see in others."

~ Ghandi



Dianne

Dianne Bowe served in the United States Air Force for 30 years. She started out as a supply technician, then re-trained into education and training, and finally served as a first sergeant and group superintendent.

Dianne supported Operations Desert Shield, Joint Guard, Enduring Freedom and Joint Task Force Safe Haven throughout her career.

Looking back at her military time, Dianne is most proud of how much she learned when she first started out in the military and with how much knowledge she gained along the way.

Dianne is now retired from the military and civil service. As she states it, "I am retired and living my best life with me, myself, and I." Despite being retired, she is still active in her community by supporting the "Rebuilding Warner Robins" project and "Genesis Joy House", a homeless shelter for female veterans.

In her free time Dianne's passion is rehabbing and refurbishing furniture. She enjoys building new things and making old things look new again. She also enjoys creating short videos, scrapbooking, and coin collecting.

She has three adult children and five grandchildren.

The one thing Dianne would like the public to know about women Veterans is that, "We can hold our own. Give us a chance to get after it, then stand back and be awed."

With her fellow women Veterans Dianne would like to share, "When things get tough, dig deep and push through. This too shall pass. Resilience makes you tougher, coping makes you stronger and experience makes you wiser."

You can find out more about the organizations Dianne supports by visit the following websites http://www.rebuildingtogetherwr.org/contact-us/ and https://genesisjoyhouse.com.





Tania

Tania Brown served as a United States Navy Machinist's Mate from 1988 to 1992, supporting Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. As a machinist's mate she worked in engineering on the USS Yellowstone and on the Resolute AFDM 10. The AFDM 10 is a fast attack submarine drydock.

Tania feels that the military taught her to be self-sufficient and that her experiences in the military helped her throughout her life. She now owns and operates a small horse farm where she rescues, rehabilitates, retrains, and rehomes horses. Horses have always been her passion. This passion was instilled in her by her late father who was also a military Veteran. She believes her father would have been thrilled to see her reach her dream of owning a horse farm.

Family has always been important to Tania. She is part of a large family that is very close to each other. Tania jokes, "Maybe sometimes too close!" Her pride and joy are her four kids, Abade 31, Arron 26, Zaida 25, and Georgina 22. The whole family pitches in at the farm from emotional support to repairing whatever needed to be fixed. As a reward, Tania cooks each of them their own special meal and prides herself on the fact that no food is ever left over.

Tania is active in the military Veteran community. She is a member of the Women Veteran Network (WoVeN). WoVeN provides a unique social network of women Veterans to foster connections and build relationships in local communities and across the nation. She is also a member of the Texas Veteran Brotherhood, a charitable organization that offers support to military Veterans.

Tania would like all women Veterans to know that, "No matter what obstacles are placed in your way, always know that this too, shall pass. Women Veterans are in a class of their own. We are strong. We are resilient. We are survivors."







WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Keep moving forward
it's all about growth."

WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"The future belongs to those who have a vision of their dreams."



Tina

Tina Dodd served for eight years as a U.S. Army Missile Maintenance Tech. She was stationed in Alabama, Germany, Louisiana, and Fort Hood Texas. Her duties included working on surface to air missiles and missile systems on tanks, often as the only female on her team. She participated in the Persian Gulf War in combat support operations.

During her time in the Army, Tina gained leadership skills, a strong work ethic, and an appreciation for teamwork, camaraderie and organization. She considers herself retired, but she owns her own business called Driver Alert Training Academy, LLC. She spends her time focusing on the growth of her business.

Tina has volunteered with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, in church roles as ministry of defense, and the women's prison ministry. She is most passionate about positive growth (spiritually, emotionally and physically), legacy building, and enjoying life to the fullest while exploring God's creations.

Tina would like for the public to be aware that women Veterans played and continue to play vital roles that help build the armed forces and the national security of this country while unselfishly dedicating their time. Oftentimes their work was mostly unseen, unappreciated, and unrecognized.

If you are a struggling sister Veteran, Tina wants you to know that you don't have to feel alone. The path has already been paved for you so you don't have to "Go it Alone." There are many support groups that are well established to assist with any situation you may face. This is something that wasn't in place for those who came before you, so take advantage of it, you deserve it!







PILOT, JERRIE BADGER

BREAKING BARRIERS:

The Courageous Legacy of WASP ~ Paving the Skies for Women in Aviation

BY MARTINA SCHMIDT

During World War II, the United States faced a shortage of pilots due to the demands of the war effort. To address this shortage, an innovative and groundbreaking program was established: the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). This program, created in 1942, recruited civilian female pilots to fly military aircraft, freeing up male pilots for combat duty.

The WASP program was the brainchild of pioneering aviator Jacqueline Cochran and Nancy Harkness Love, both accomplished pilots in their own right. Their vision was to tap into the pool of talented female aviators across the country and utilize their skills in non-combat flying roles, such as ferrying aircraft, conducting flight testing, and towing targets for anti-aircraft artillery practice.

Despite facing significant opposition and skepticism initially, the WASP quickly proved their worth through their dedication, professionalism, and exemplary flying abilities. Over 1,000 women from diverse backgrounds and experiences qualified for the program, undergoing rigorous training and testing to qualify as military pilots.

One of the key contributions of the WASP was ferrying aircraft from factories to military bases across the United States. These deliveries were vital for maintaining the supply chain of aircraft during the war. Additionally, WASP pilots performed various other essential tasks, including towing aerial targets for gunnery practice, transporting personnel and cargo, and conducting flight testing on new aircraft.

The WASP flew a wide range of military aircraft, from trainers and transports to bombers and pursuit planes. They demonstrated their versatility and skill in handling different types of aircraft under various conditions, earning the respect and admiration of their male counterparts.

Despite their invaluable contributions, the WASP faced numerous challenges and obstacles. They encountered prejudice and discrimination based on their gender, both within the military and society at large. They were often denied the recognition and benefits afforded to their male counterparts, and their status as civilian employees rather than military personnel meant they did not receive military honors or benefits.

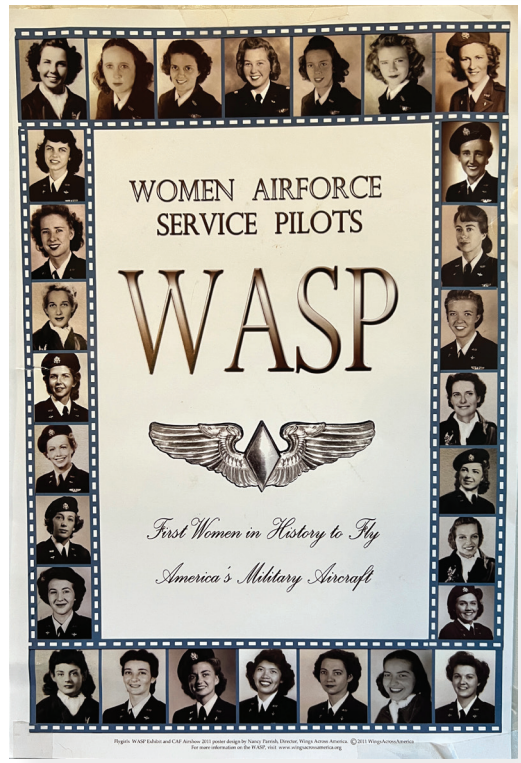
Tragically, 38 WASP pilots lost their lives during their service, highlighting the dangers they faced in their roles. Despite the risks, the WASP remained dedicated to their mission and continued to serve with courage and determination until the program was disbanded in December 1944.

In 1977, over three decades after the end of World War II, the contributions of the WASP were finally recognized when they were granted veteran status by the U.S. Congress. This long-overdue acknowledgment honored the bravery and sacrifice of these trailblazing women aviators.

Today, the legacy of the WASP lives on as a testament to the courage, resilience, and pioneering spirit of women in aviation. Their trailblazing efforts paved the way for future generations of female pilots, who continue to make their mark in aviation and aerospace fields. The She Served Initiative was privileged to meet Jerrie Badger, a remarkable woman who trained in the final class of the WASPs. As one of the six remaining WASPs, Jerrie Badger stands as a living testament to the historic contributions and challenges faced by this trailblazing group of women aviators.







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All photographs are from Jerrie Badger's personal albums.

Nancy

Nancy Rice served in the South Carolina Army National Guard for more than 20 years. She began her military career as a culinary specialist (92G), later transitioning to telecommunications operator(25Q). Nancy was attached to a specialized unit that provided voice, data, video, and radio accessibility between local, state and federal agencies during emergency situations such as natural disasters or national security concerns.

Nancy was a member of an Expeditionary Signal Brigade during Operation Enduring Freedom. She served as a satellite communications operator/information technology specialist setting up and installing voice/data communications for Marines, soldiers, and airmen in the combat zone.

Her most significant takeaway was to adapt and overcome - to always live under the assumption that things may change. And, when they do, be present and ready to course correct and move forward with the next thing. She currently works as a public relations specialist, supporting her company's social media, events, and community outreach efforts.

Nancy loves technology and considers herself a forever student, finding joy in learning about the latest trends in the market. Much of her time lately is being spent in the blockchain space. She also enjoys taking pictures and short videos, as well as spending time with her family. Last but not least, she loves supporting her (Univ. of South Carolina) Gamecocks!

She volunteers with the Goodwill of the Upstate/Midlands as a board member, the Junior League of Greenville, and the Prisma Community Council.

Nancy would like the public to be aware that just because we are not talking about our service that we didn't value our time. It's not always easy to talk about.

To my sister Veterans, "I understand that we all go through different types of struggles. Don't think that your problem isn't significant or that no one cares, REACH OUT to your support system. Let someone that you trust know that you're struggling and need help. If you don't have a support system, create one. It will require getting out of your comfort zone, but it will be worth it. Find your people!"





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
“It's when things seem worst, you must not quit."

~ Edgar A. Guest



WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"We are more connected to one another than disconnected."



Celeste

Celeste Purdie served four years as a United States Air Force Communication Security Analyst. During the course of her service, she participated in many joint exercises with NATO alliances. She was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and Sembach, Germany. She loved working with her team to ensure that Americans were not disclosing confidential information to our enemies, thereby keeping America safe.

After the military, she spent 25 years in corporate America in human resources, and today is a full time entrepreneur with several businesses. She and her husband Ken run her franchise business "Foot Solutions" in Greenville, as well as many other businesses. They have a daughter and a son who also share their hard work ethics.

As the CEO/owner of Foot Solutions, Celeste's role is to scale up the business and she has purchased the rights to three locations. She is fortunate to be a part of the 2023 Greenville, South Carolina, Chamber's Minority Business Accelerator program. Her plans include opening locations in Charleston and Columbia. She also finds time to work as a full time realtor and team leader. She feels blessed to be able to help people buy and sell residential real estate. You can learn more about her at www.purdieinc.com.

Celeste dedicates time to chair a non-profit called My Neighbor's Voice, and do work with Upstate Warrior Solutions, Upstate Veteran Business Network, Upstate South Carolina Women Veterans, and Homes for Heroes, just to name a few. She declares a love of genealogy and loves to travel. She would one day love to live abroad for six months every few years. She has been blessed with being able to travel to over 30 countries already.

Celeste would like the public to know: Women serve in all areas of the military alongside men. Many of us will never forget things that we have seen and witnessed. Yet, if asked to serve all over again, we would.

Celeste would like for her fellow women Veterans to find a group of sister Veterans and connect with them. By doing this, you can have a special bond. You can encourage one another, lift each other up, celebrate wins, and walk through life with one another. It can be a very rewarding experience to continue serving with other women Veterans.





Kelli

Kelli Thomas served in the United States Air Force from 1988 to 2008. She worked as a nurse for 10 years in all areas of healthcare and was selected for a fellowship in plans and operations, allowing her to work as an operations officer for the last 10 years of her enlistment. Kelli was the chief medical planner for Air Combat Command and the on-call officer for 9/11. In this role, she was responsible for all medical assets requested for the initial response to the U.S. Forces Plan. She also participated in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Kelli attributes her time in the military to making her a leader and teaching her how to make good decisions. She has a lot of pride regarding her service and is very aware of those that made the ultimate sacrifice. She graduated from University of Oklahoma in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), and in 1996 with a Masters in Human Resources Management.

Kelli comes from a military family. Her dad served in both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, and she is proud to have followed in her fathers footsteps by serving her country. Sadly, her dad passed away young, due to a service-related illness. Kelli was married for 24 years and raised three children.

Since retiring from the military, Kelli has worked for Teleflex Medical and is currently the Director of Clinical Education for Anesthesia, Trauma, and Emergency Medicine. In this position, she educates healthcare professionals throughout North America.

Kelli also serves as a mentor for MedTechVets. MedTechVets Academy is a comprehensive career transition and mentorship program for veterans who are within six months of separation from the military or honorably discharged. She also belongs to a Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG) through her employer.

Kelli is a runner, triathlete, snow skier, and water skier. She describes herself as an avid outdoors person and feels her greatest accomplishment was completing an Ironman in 2011.

Kelli thinks that the public needs to know that women Veterans "are strong, brave, proud and have beautiful souls. We would do it all over again if given the chance."

After 21 years of being told how to dress, fix her hair, and what jewelry she could wear, she found deciding what to wear to work was the hardest first decision she made after retiring from the Air Force. Once you are out in the civilian world, many decisions are solely yours; not only in your attire, but in your life. She wants her fellow Veterans to know that it's ok to be scared. "Just don't forget to show your confidence and know that it is inside of you!"





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"She believed she could,
so she did."

~ R.S. Grey



Living Legends

SALUTING EXCELLENCE: THE MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL LIVING LEGEND PROGRAM



Jerrie Philips Badger



Audrey Elaine Lanoux Gable

The Military Women's Memorial (MWM) Living Legend Program recognizes military women whose stories of service provide inspiration and example for all to appreciate. These stories serve to increase the public awareness of women's contribution to America's national defense and deserve special recognition. The Living Legend Proclamation is awarded to women veterans for any of the following reasons:

- Women Veterans who reached their 100th birthday,
- Women whose story of service are particularly inspiring – not necessarily because she achieved a rank or accomplished a "first," but because of their commitment to serve and how that service guided/inspired their life even after discharge,
- Retirements from a career of notable service.

Based in Washington D.C., the Military Women's Memorial is the only national memorial and education center dedicated to honoring the invaluable contributions of women in the service of our nation. At the core of the MWM is a unique interactive database that meticulously records and preserves the names, service details, photographs, and memorable experiences of each registered servicewoman.

The MWM's register stands as a comprehensive archive, safeguarding the history of formidable women who have defended our country, both in the past and the present. It serves as a living legacy that pays homage to the resilience and commitment of women in the military.

If you are (or know) a woman still serving or a woman veteran, you can register her story and ensure that she joins the hundreds of thousands of individual stories that make up the register.

To learn more about the impactful work of the Military Women's Memorial and explore the stories of women veterans, visit the Women's Memorial Website at https://womensmemorial.org/. Discover the wonderful initiatives and tributes this organization offers to honor and celebrate the remarkable service of military women who are making, or have made enduring contributions to the defense of our nation.

Both of these women take great pride in their role in breaking down barriers for the women who serve in the military today. Read their stories next!







JERRIE BADGER AND AUDREY GABLE RECOGNIZED BY THE MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL LIVING LEGEND PROGRAM.







WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"The best way for us to cultivate fearlessness in our daughters and other young women is by example."

~ Gloria Steinem



Jerrie

When **Jerrie Badger** was 18, she attended a fair in Stanford, Texas, where a pilot was taking people up and circling the town over the 4th of July holiday festivities. Jerrie went up and when the pilot asked her if she would like to hold the controls she said "yes," and she was hooked on flying. After graduating high school, she moved to San Antonio where she attended St. Mary's University and worked as a runner at the San Antonio Express News. She paid for private flying lessons on a student's wages. She was close to earning her pilot's license when she ran out of money, but she was determined to finish and secured a loan to pay for the remaining lessons.

After gaining her pilot's license, she earned her first wings with the Texas Wing of Women Pilots (also in San Antonio). At this time, she heard about the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program and headed for Avenger Field in Sweetwater, Texas to apply.

Jerrie was one of 1,074 women (out of 25,000 applicants) that successfully completed the WASP program, and graduated on December 7, 1944, (the last WASP class) receiving her silver WASP wings. Jerrie was assigned to Aloe Army Air Field, just west of Victoria, Texas, where she flew AT-6s until the day the WASPs were disbanded.

In 2009, Jerrie and the other surviving WASP pilots were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in a ceremony in Washington, D.C. On January 15, 2024, Jerrie was also awarded the Living Legend proclamation presented by the Military Women's Memorial.

After the WASPs disbanded Jerry returned to San Antonio and worked at a flight school where she continued to fly however/whenever possible. She recalls that she once flew a plane for a guy from Dallas, Texas, to Cheyenne, Wyoming, for $100, but then had to find her own way back home.

Eventually Jerrie chose to hang up her wings and raise a family. She had four daughters and plenty to keep her busy. During this time, she also worked for the United States Postal Service and retired after 20 years as a Postmaster. Jerrie is now 102 years old and lives in Suwanee, Georgia, where she looks forward to visits from her daughters, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jerrie loved flying and being a trailblazer for women in the military. She says, "The WASPs were breaking barriers and proving wrong the people that doubted that women pilots were as good as the men." She still exudes the pride she felt for herself and her WASP comrades.

Jerrie is part of the greatest generation this country has ever known, and when asked what advice she would give to women Veterans today she said, "Shake the bushes and say: Here I am. Don't ignore me."





GENERATIONS OF EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN:

Jerrie's timeless words shine through a letter to her daughters

JERRIE'S DAUGHTER, LAURA, HELPED HER WITH THE QUESTIONNAIRE USED TO CREATE HER 'SHE SERVED' BIOGRAPHY. AS LAURA AND HER MOTHER SEARCHED FOR JUST THE RIGHT QUOTE, LAURA REMEMBERED A LETTER JERRIE HAD WRITTEN TO HER, AND HER SISTERS, 20 YEARS AGO. IT SUMS UP WHO JERRIE IS AND EXEMPLIFIES HER WISDOM.

THE KNOWLEDGE SHE IMPARTED TO HER DAUGHTERS, EXTENDS BEYOND FAMILIAL BONDS, OFFERING INVALUABLE INSIGHTS THAT RESONATE UNIVERSALLY WITH ALL WOMEN.

Her words in part ...

I was thinking over the past days of work, happenings, when this light bulb moment happened. I had a glimpse of my family - with "mother glasses" off. I was a bit startled. I saw four women who had the same qualities that I have. (uniqueness) I once said to some person that "I am an exceptional person," not braggadocious but stating a fact. I saw this in each of you. You have that tenacity and self confidence that I seem to have. No one hesitates or questions "can I do this? I have never done this before." None of you have a "can I?" attitude, rather each have an "I can" attitude.



Each of you are so blessed! I have never given much thought to myself as I just live my life by my standards, not the rules of the norm. This is nothing I said or did to try to influence you four, I never intentionally tried to influence anyone, rather, I was there for support and protection as you developed your own values. I am so blessed to see and participate in your lives. Such a wonderful experience! We have all grown from our ups and downs as life is molding us into the individuals we are today. We are exceptional women.

All my love, Mom

Audrey

Audrey Elaine Lanoux Gable served in the United States Navy Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) for two years during World War II. WAVES was the United States Naval Reserve's women's branch established to replace men stationed ashore in order to make available more sea duty for sailors and officers. She was assigned to the Naval Intelligence Group in Charleston, South Carolina, performing administrative duties in a highly confidential environment. While serving during WWII Audrey received the American Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal. At the age of 100 she was recognized by the Military Women's Memorial as a Living Legend for her service in the United States Navy.

Reflecting on her time in the Navy, Audrey's most significant memory was how it opened her eyes to world events, and how important our freedom is. She says she was proud to serve her country during such a critical time, and it changed her life, and her life's perspective forever.

Audrey also treasures the lifelong friendships she made during her military service. She says "memories created during World War II are never forgotten, and neither are the friendships and the experience." She has kept in touch throughout her life with several WAVES and officer friends from her time in Charleston.

Another benefit of Audrey's Navy service was having the opportunity to attend college at Louisiana State University on the GI Bill. It was there that she met her husband, William, who also served in the Army during the war. Together they had three children while living in Georgia and Michigan. Additionally, they enjoyed living in Taiwan and Arizona, before settling back in Georgia. One of the greatest gifts they gave their children was introducing them to many countries and cultures as they traveled around the world.

Following her military service, Audrey worked as a secretary and executive assistant, and taught English to foreign students at the University of Michigan. She says her happiest and proudest moments though were spent raising her children.

Today, Audrey lives a comfortable life in her home in Decatur, Georgia, just outside of Atlanta. She still maintains her membership in Optimist International (an international community service organization) and spends time enjoying family and friends.

Audrey would like the public to realize that in every environment, women bring a unique perspective to the situation. She recalls that serving during WWII there were women of all ranks, which was very inspiring. "My officer was a top notch woman who inspired me to always achieve my best."





*All photographs are from Audrey's personal album.


WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"The best things in life are the people we love, the places we have been, and the memories we have made along the way."

A timeless journey through the lens of women in service



AUDREY ELAINE LANOUX (SECOND FROM RIGHT)



AUDREY ELAINE LANOUX (FAR RIGHT) WITH HER COLLEAGUES

WAVES

IN REPLY ADDRESS NOT THE SIGNER OF THIS LETTER, BUT DIRECTOR OF NAVAL OFFICER PROCUREMENT, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

OFFICE OF NAVAL OFFICER PROCUREMENT
(NEW ORLEANS)
217-227 CAMP ST.
NEW ORLEANS, 12, LA.

ONOP NOLA
QR/Pl4-4/MM
(ARB:og)

11 April 1944

Audrey Elaine LANOUX, A.S., USNR
No. 54
Slidell, Louisiana

Dear Seaman Lanoux:

By now you have received your orders to report to the Naval Training School, Hunter College, New York.

The most important period of your life so far is about to begin. You belong to one of the greatest fighting teams in the world; the United States Navy. That's an exciting thought, but it's more, too. As a full-fledged member of the Navy, everything you have to offer your service in the way of patience, humor, strength, initiative, integrity, and an ardent will to win--all these together are not too much. If you are to take a man's place, you must do your job with a man's fighting spirit, yet keeping all the time the essentially feminine side of your nature and your woman's courage. The Navy wants each of us to remember that we were ladies long before we were bluejackets.

As conspicuous members of a service steeped in noble traditions, we of the Women's Reserve have much to live up to. We must remember that from now on wherever we go, whatever we do, we will reflect either favorably or unfavorably upon our service. We no longer have just ourselves to consider, or our families. Now we represent a large and well-known family, the Women's Reserve of the Navy.

See that you represent our service well. And let us know from time to time how you are progressing. Won't you let us share your problems and your honors? Here at home, we shall always be interested in you, don't forget.

And now as you take up your share of this great job of keeping the fleet fighting, best of luck! And best wishes from all of us in Recruiting to a WAVE we're betting on!

Sincerely,

Antonette R. Bracher
ANTONETTE R. BRACHER,
Lieutenant (jg) W-V(S), USNR
Asst. to the Director of
Naval Officer Procurement,
New Orleans, 12, Louisiana.

AUDREY ELAINE LANOUX.

To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry S. Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE

Anita

Anita Legro served in the United States Air Force for 10 years as a physical therapy technician. Throughout her career, she worked in hospitals and outpatient clinics around the world. Through independent duty in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Misawa Air Force Base, Japan, she provided clinical rehabilitation for patients recovering from a variety of injuries or surgery. Anita also volunteered to help manage the weight management program in Japan. Her time in the military gave her great job training, confidence in herself, and friends for a lifetime that often served as family while she was stationed far from home.

While stationed in Misawa, Anita met her husband and now has been married for 36 years. She says while they don't have any children, they do have a dog and two cats which are both rescue animals, plus lots of nieces and nephews.

Anita now works as a physical therapy assistant in an outpatient clinic, providing orthopedic rehabilitation-post op care for joint replacements and sports related injuries. When Anita isn't home, she says that you can usually find her enjoying the Gulf waters and beautiful beaches. She loves animals and gardening, and finds it amazing to grow her own food.

Anita feels that the public needs to know that women veterans are strong women who proudly served their country. "Our strength follows us through life's struggles, giving us the courage to face all challenges placed in front of us."

For her sisters struggling with the adjustment of moving into civilian life, Anita offers this: "The civilian sector is nothing like the military. If you are feeling out of sorts, it's okay. You should find someone to confide in because it's a different world from what you are used to, and adjusting takes time, patience, and acceptance to the change."





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Strong women don't have 'attitudes,' we have standards!"



WORDS TO LIVE BY:
“Hold the vision,
trust the process."

~ Unknown



Holly

Holly Cope served in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve from 1987 to 1995 as a tactical aircraft maintenance specialist. She was responsible for maintaining F-16 fighter jets and for ensuring that the aircraft in her care was ready to fly at a moment's notice so that the pilot could safely and effectively complete their mission.

She recalls, "I traveled wherever my jet traveled, and was privileged to experience great adventures in the United States and abroad." Holly says that one of her proudest moments was when she had her name and title transferred from "Assistant Crew Chief" on the front wheel well, to "Dedicated Crew Chief," which was painted under the cockpit on the side of the jet opposite the pilot's name. She says, "my name on my jet was a great reward for all of the hard work."

Holly's most significant takeaway from her military service is that "we are all more alike than we are different, and together we can accomplish anything."

While on active duty Holly met and married her husband, who is now also retired from the Air Force. They have two grown sons, and her youngest has also recently joined the Air Force. She also has two "girls with fur."

Holly now has a business where she helps others by educating and empowering them with the benefits of healthy nutrition and a clean-living lifestyle. She enjoys teaching online and in-person classes, hosting webinars, and offering personalized guidance. If you would like to explore in more detail you can find her at www.hollydcope.com.

Holly is currently an active member of her local Military Spouses Group supporting the local base and community. She is also involved in her church where she volunteers in several capacities, one of which is feeding and clothing those in need. She says she is passionate about helping others to be better than they believe they can be. "I teach what I have learned in order to lift others up to be stronger mentally, physically, emotionally, and financially."

Holly believes that women Veterans deserve the utmost respect for their contributions serving their country.

To her fellow Veterans Holly recommends to "lead by example and trust in yourself that you can handle all of life's adventures with poise and grace. You have already proven you can do hard things. Now is the time to create your legacy."





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Go, Fight, WIN!!"



Angelina

Angelina Senghor served in the United States Army and Army Reserves for 22 years. As a soldier, she worked as a 42A Human Resources Specialist and a 79V U.S. Army Reserve Career Counselor. Angelina was also a drill sergeant, master fitness trainer, and master resilience trainer. She even served under our current Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin, when he was the 10th Mountain Division (LI) Commanding General at Fort Drum, NY. In 2020, she earned the rank of Master Sergeant.

She was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom IV and Operation Enduring Freedom VII serving as command group administrator. Her most significant take away was that volunteering for tough duties set her apart from her peers, and served her well throughout both her military and civilian careers.

Angelina has been married for 10 years and has two teenage boys, and currently works for the Department of the Army as a civilian human resource professional.

Her free time is spent volunteering with the Spartanburg Gators Youth Football and Cheer Program. She has been a coach-cheer director for five years and is passionate about mentoring young girls and encouraging life-long health and wellness. She desires to be a positive influence in young women's lives.

Angelina would like for the public to know that women veterans are versatile. She warns others not to judge a veteran by how she looks. Angelina incidentally is 4'11"!

"Sisterhood is important! You are not alone. Discover and use your resources," is the advice that Angelina offers her beloved sister Veterans.





THE LEGACY OF WAVES

THE RESILIENT SPIRIT & NAVAL EXCELLENCE OF WOMEN



BY MARTINA SCHMIDT

Trailblazing Women in the United States Navy

During World War II, the United States witnessed the creation of two groundbreaking initiatives, the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) and the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES). Similar to WASP, WAVES played a pivotal role in reshaping the landscape of the U.S. Navy, releasing men for active sea duty and ushering in a new era of female involvement in shore establishments.

WAVES was formed in response to the escalating need for personnel to fill non-combat roles, and became the critical women's Naval Reserve component of the U.S. fleet during World War II. The program aimed to leverage the skills and talents of women across diverse professional fields, spanning clerical work, communications, science, and healthcare.

Establishment of the WAVES

The establishment of WAVES faced organizational challenges, with Congress and United States Navy leaders initially at odds over the role of women in the Naval Reserve. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox advocated for a women's branch, while Congress leaned towards a naval women's auxiliary, akin to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC). A women's advisory council, led by Barnard College Dean Virginia C. Gildersleeve, played a pivotal role in influencing the decision to create the Women's Reserve as a branch of the Naval Reserve, a move endorsed by the President on July 30, 1942.

Military Integration

WAVES became an integral part of the U.S. Navy, holding military status during their service. They received military benefits and were subject to military discipline, marking a significant step towards the integration of women into the armed forces. By the end of 1942, WAVES comprised 770 officers and 3,109 enlisted members. By 1945, these numbers had surged to 8,475 officers and 73,816 enlisted personnel.

Post War success:

Following the conclusion of World War II, the demobilization of many WAVES occurred. However, the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948, signed into law, allowed women to serve in the regular Navy. Despite the evolving landscape, the term "WAVES" continued in usage for Navy women until the 1970s.

Legacy

WAVES left an indelible mark on the history of women in the military, blazing a trail for future generations. Their contributions during World War II highlighted the importance of diversity and inclusion in the armed forces, setting a precedent for women's involvement in various branches of the military. The legacy of WAVES endures as a testament to the resilience, capability, and pioneering spirit of women who played a crucial role in reshaping the U.S. Navy during its most transformative years.

The journey of trailblazing women like Audrey Gables is a source of inspiration for those striving to make their mark in the military.



Of the 90,000 WAVES only 72 were African American women. Only when all other women recruits were exhausted would they recruit African American women. SOURCE: *Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives (80-G-333976).*



Women plot locations on a map. 30% of women in WAVES served at training facilities. SOURCE: *Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives (80-G-44795).*

Through her dedication and service, Audrey has contributed significantly to the progress of gender equality in the armed forces. **The Served Initiative is so very proud and thankful to have met Audrey.**



WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Manure happens, just don't get stuck in it."

Gwendolyn

Gwendolyn Coley served in the United States Army for 25 years. In her early years her occupation was a smoke generator, and later she served as a photojournalist and public affairs specialist. As a smoke generator, Gwendolyn trained to generate smoke to conceal military units during combat. As a photojournalist and public affairs specialist she covered a variety of events such as human-interest stories, accidents, and military operations, and also served as the speechwriter for the 2nd Army's Command Sergeant Major.

While Gwendolyn never served in combat, one of her jobs as a photojournalist was with a garrison support unit that readied soldiers for deployment. Part of her job was to help generate publicity for the units and to train the soldiers in conducting interviews with the media.

Gwendolyn recalls her favorite time in the military covering the Army Reserve soldier's role during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. While the media focused on the efforts of the active duty soldiers, Gwendolyn felt it was important to also document the role the Army Reserve soldiers filled.

Gwendolyn has two sons, both of whom are serving in the United States Army. She is also the proud grandma of numerous grandchildren. Gwendolyn jokes that she is a "grandmother many times over."

Gwendolyn is now a licensed clinical social worker who founded a nonprofit organization called The PEACH Pit. The PEACH Pit offers equine-assisted psychotherapy at an affordable cost and without the stigma of talk therapy. The therapy includes horses, with ground-based activities that help people work toward their goals, without focusing on their problems.

In 2017, Gwendolyn began hosting free weekend retreats for women veterans in Fort Valley, Georgia, called the Horsepower and Heroes Retreat. Unfortunately, Gwendolyn had to suspend the retreat due to Covid, but she is hopeful that it will resume in the future. To find out more about The PEACH Pit visit http://www.thepeachpitgeorgia.org.

Gwendolyn wants the public to realize that women veterans come in all hues, shapes and sizes. "We've been serving for generations. We deserve honor and recognition, even if we don't ask for it."

To her fellow Veteran sisters she has the following message: "There are so many of us out here. Join a social media group for women Veterans. Join a WoVeN group. Reach out. You're not alone."





Jennifer

Jennifer Shepard served in the United States Army for 12 years. She was a (25B) Information Systems Analyst, responsible for Information Systems as well as Information Security. She participated in Operation Enduring Freedom and was stationed in North Carolina, Virginia and Heidelberg, Germany. Her most significant take away from her service to our country was her ability to make an impact on subordinate soldiers. After serving 12 years, she opted to separate, take care of her three children and support her husband's 23 year Army career.

Jennifer has been married for 25 years and has three beautiful children. She is currently employed the United States government as a Civilian Information Security and OPSEC Specialist, which involves network account and server management.

She is a co-founder of Sigma Theta Alpha Military Sorority, Inc., and owner of Eccentric Cultures and Excel Whole Body Wellness.

In her spare-time she volunteers at the local elementary school, church and community through various non-profit organizations. She is also currently working to complete her certification as a mental health and youth life coach. She is very passionate about the field of mental health, especially as it relates to our youth and young adults.

Crafting, reading, swimming and family games are a few of her hobbies.

For her fellow women Veterans, Jennifer wants you all to never forget that "perseverance got us to where we are and it will carry us forward still."

Women Veterans are a strong, resilient, and highly adaptable force of women ... and that is something Jennifer would like the public to know!







WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Behind every strong
woman is a story that gave
her no other choice.."

~ Nakeia Homer



WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"There is reward in resilence and power in perseversance."

~ Unknown

Keisha

Keisha Renee Dennis served in the United States Marine Corps for 14 years. She served 10 years on active duty and four years in the Reserves. She served as a mail clerk, legal clerk and eventually an administrative chief. She was stationed at six Marine Corps Bases, one Marine Corps Detachment and one Marine Corps Reserve Unit during her career. Each tour of duty came with its own unique set of challenges and rewards. She served with Brigade Headquarters Group-Afghanistan S-1 and Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan S-1 at Camp Leatherneck Afghanistan from August 2013 to October 2014. She provided personnel administration support and manpower management support for 8,000 Marines, Sailors and Coalition forces. In 2014, after her redeployment from Camp Leatherneck Afghanistan, Keisha Renee decided to transition into the reserves. She drilled with Combat Logistics Regiment 45 in Marietta, Georgia until 2017 when she was activated to serve with 7th Marine Regiment in 29 Palms, California.

Keisha Renee's most significant take away from her time in the military stems from the Marine Corps motto Semper Fidelis, which means always faithful. While she was in the Marines, her and her fellow Marines quickly picked up on the second motto, "Semper Gumby" which means always flexible. Everything is always changing. Sometimes we can prepare for the changes, and other times an immediate response is required. Either way, remaining flexible in whatever was thrown her way, kept her motivated throughout her career.

Keisha Renee has been interested in art all her life, but it wasn't until 2016 that she and her kids discovered painting as a way to connect with the community. They invited kids from the neighborhood to paint with them and they haven't stopped painting since! Keisha Renee worked in the Sip and Paint Industry for two years and then decided to explore her own creativity. She started to create abstract art and paint commissioned portraits. She is now the owner of K. Dennis Art Studio, Home of G & J Arts N Crafts. As a visual artist, she leads arts and crafts classes for young children and teens. She participates in community projects where she hosts summer art clubs, and offers art and crafts classes and paint parties in downtown Fort Valley, Georgia. You can discover more of Keisha Renee's art on her website at www.kdennisartstudio.com.

Keisha Renee wants the public to know that veteran women are hidden in plain sight. We embody courage and resilience, and we are a formidable force.

"Find or create your support network. That may start out as one or two accountability partners, but the more willing you are to step outside your comfort zone, share your story, and connect with others, the more you will recognize that you are not alone. We are here to support you, and to support each other. The women Veterans I have met since 2018 have changed my life."





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"They will know my name because of GOOD SUCCESS."



Marvette

Marvette Mitchell served four years in the United States Marine Corps. She worked in supply chain management in charge of ordering, processing, tracking and distributing gear and equipment to Marines. Additionally she worked in financial management where she was involved in the accounting and budgeting of appropriated funds for the Global War on Terrorism. Her most significant takeaway was self discipline and endurance. After earning the title Marine, she knows that she can do anything!

Marvette is married to her husband Cairo, and they have three children: Yasmine, Rhyonna and CJ. She is also an entrepreneur and co-owns a few businesses: Mitchell Logistics - a expedited freight carrier service, Try My Smoke - a food truck and catering service and Mitchell Farms - a small local farm.

She and her family engage in their communities by using their overflow to support community efforts however needed. Recently they have spoken to the youth, volunteered at community events, and donated meals to the needy.

Marvette is very passionate about her family. She laughingly reports that they also seem to be her main hobby. She also enjoys watching basketball, reading, and group games.

Marvette wants the public to be aware that female veterans are cool as heck. We are an elite force of humans with unique skills and qualities, and a dope story to tell!

For her sister vets, Marvette wishes you to stay positive, learn who you are and how to live in your truth. She says that this is your opportunity to cultivate a lifestyle that can change your life's trajectory, and to take advantage of that. Struggle doesn't mean defeat, so don't give up.





WORDS TO LIVE BY:
"Remember to think good thoughts, say good words and do good things!"



Toya

Toya Moore served for 23 years in the United States Air Force. She served six years in personnel and 17 years as a mental health technician. During her time in the service, she participated in Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Though she did not deploy to a combat location, Toya's role as a mental health technician and an enlisted drug and alcohol counselor directly supported the men and women who did serve in combat/war zones. Her position consisted of a combination of outreach, education, and short-term solution-focused mental health coaching and support. Toya credits her military service for teaching her how to build and maintain a community as well as how to be intentional about the work that she accomplished. These skills allowed her to have more of an impact on the greater community that she now serves.

Toya now owns Nprogress Consulting, LLC, located in the Upstate region of South Carolina. Nprogress Consulting manages the youth development programs at Upstate Circle of Friends and provides community outreach and case management for Bloom Upstate. They provide coaching to veterans at no cost, both virtually and in person. Toya is passionate about wellness, social and emotional development. She has two children, aged 22 and 18, and is anticipating the new experience she's facing as an empty nester. Her hobbies include gardening, and doing crossword and word search puzzles.

To her fellow veteran sisters who are struggling, Toya wants you to know: "There is no wrong way for you to exist, and there is no wrong way for you to BE YOU! Reach out to your local veteran service organization or find a community program to lean on if you are going through challenges. There are so many resources available for us to feel supported and connected."

Toya would like the public to know that women Veterans are not a monolith.





AUTHOR HIGHLIGHT:



SARAH BYRN RICKMAN

Sarah Byrn Rickman is an author and historian who has spent 30 years researching and chronicling the lives and stories of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). She has authored 13 books and numerous articles that range from individual biographies to the history and legacy of the WASP program. We met Sarah Rickman in Atlanta while visiting her son and invited her to visit Jerrie Badger with us.

It was a privilege to introduce Sarah to Jerrie, and witness the shared joy as they leafed through Jerrie's photo album, a visual chronicle of her time as a WASP. These personal connections and firsthand accounts are invaluable in preserving the legacy of these extraordinary women. The more we learn about their journeys, the more we come to appreciate the sacrifices they made and the barriers they shattered. Let us continue to honor and remember the indomitable spirit of the WASP and WAVES – they truly laid the foundation for us to serve.

We've only scratched the surface in capturing the essence of the remarkable Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) and the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES). We wholeheartedly urge you to delve deeper into the lives of these trailblazing women whose courage and contributions paved the way for generations to come. Their stories are an integral part of our shared history and should never fade into obscurity.

Books about the WASPs by Sarah Byrn Rickman

Cornelia Fort WAFS Pilot: Her Life for Her Country
The story of Cornelia Clark Fort soars. Cornelia herself soared every time she stepped into the cockpit of the aircraft she was flying that day, from takeoff to landing – including her last flight. While doing her sworn duty to the best of her ability, she gave her life for her country when it was at war fighting for democracy and the right to live free. Principles she fervently believed in.

The Originals: The Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron of World War II
Rickman's book explores the history of the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), a precursor to the WASP detailing the formation, challenges and accomplishments of this early group of women aviators.

Nancy Love and the WASP Ferry Pilots of World War II
Focused on the leadership of Nancy Love within the WASP, this book highlights the contributions of women pilots in ferrying aircraft and the pioneering efforts of Love in advocating for their inclusion in the war effort.

WASP of the Ferry Command: Women Pilots, Uncommon Deeds
Focused specifically on the WASP, this book explores the crucial role of women pilots in ferrying military aircraft during World War II. It highlights their achievements, struggles, and the impact they had on the aviation landscape.

To view all of Sarah Byrn Rickman's books about the WASPs visit her website https://sarahbyrnrickman.com/books/



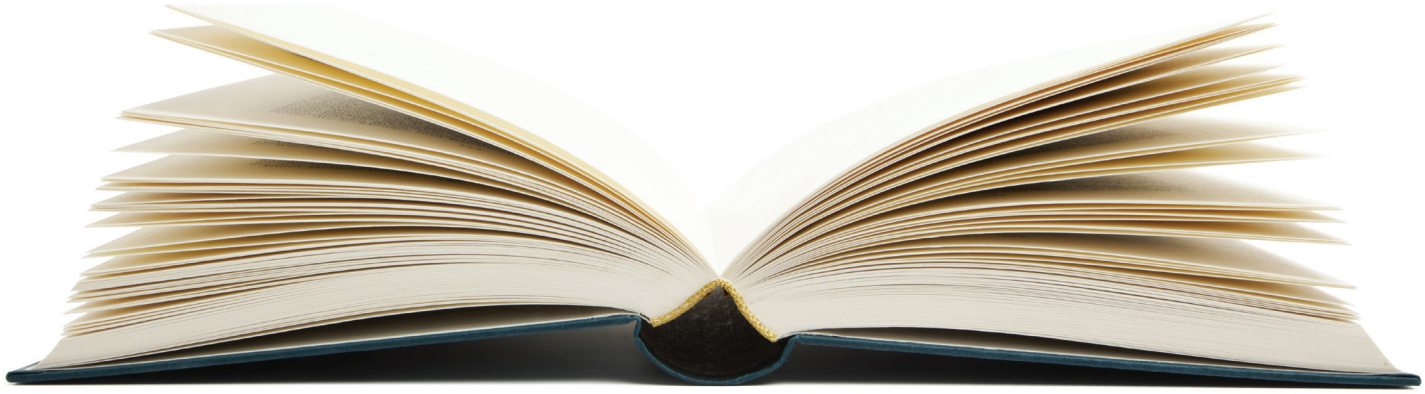
Pictured above, Jerrie Philips Badger (left) and Author Sarah Byrn Rickman reading the WASP News. Sarah was the editor of the official WASP of World War II newsletter.



Jerrie and Sarah discussing a map in Jerrie's photo album.

Recommended reading

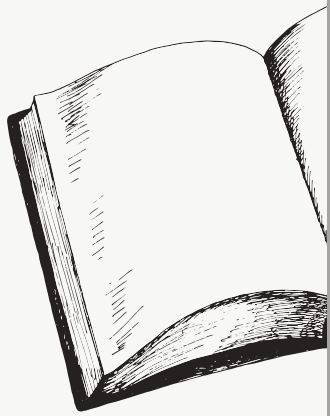
WAVES: EXTRAORDINARY NARRATIVES OF WOMEN IN THE MILITARY



1

WAVES: The Women's Reserve of the United States Navy" by the Naval History & Heritage Command

This publication by the Naval History & Heritage Command offers an in-depth historical perspective on WAVES, providing detailed information about their formation, roles and impact on the United States Navy.



2

The Women's Reserve: The Story of a Proud Past" by Wynell Burroughs Schamel

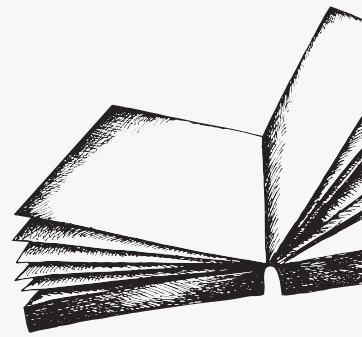
This publication provides an in-depth historical overview of WAVES, exploring their formation, roles and the challenges they faced. It is an authoritative source from the Naval History & Heritage Command.



3

WAVES: A Woman's Life as an Officer in the United States Navy during World War II" by Norma Engle Hower

Norma Engle Hower shares her personal experiences as a WAVES officer, providing first-hand insights into the challenges and triumphs of women serving in the United States Navy during World War II.



WOMEN VETERANS BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Supporting women veteran-owned businesses is a crucial step towards fostering equality and empowerment. Women who have served in the military bring unique skills and experiences to the entrepreneurial world, and by supporting their ventures, we not only acknowledge their sacrifices but also harness their potential as valuable contributors to our economy.

Striking Effects
vickip@strikingeffects.com

Wildflower Massage
https://linktr.ee/wildflower_massage

CJ Forward
www.straightforwardhomesales.com

Hope for Veterans
www.Hope4veterans.org

Villages for Veterans
https://www.villagersforveterans.org

WOMEN VETERANS BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Humble Warrior
WELLNESS & YOGA

humblewarrior.org/

Garden Believer
& Aquascaping

https://www.facebook.com/GardenBeliever/

Georgia Military Women

https://www.facebook.com/georgiamilitarywomen/

Shon Barnwell EVENTS

https://www.barnwellevents.com/

HOPE
CENTER FOR VETERANS

https://hopecenterforveterans.org/

design conciege @Home
Powered by Dream Designs & Innovations

https://designconciergeathome.com

Heaven On Earth Catering

http://heavenonearthevents.com/

The PEACH Pit
HORSES helping heal your heart and mind

https://thepeachpitgeorgia.org

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*Did you know **women** are the **fastest-growing** segment of the military and Veteran populations? That's just one of the reasons we bring you ...* ***She Served.***

*Every individual featured in this magazine is **unique**, yet they share **similar** experiences from active duty service to what happened in the days, months and years after She Served.*

*We hope the Veterans we featured in the debut issue of this magazine **inspired you** with examples of their leadership, resourcefulness, knowledge and sacrifice.*

Your generosity enables us to continue the She Served Initiative. Donations help us continue to tell the **amazing stories of our women Veterans.** Additionally, it furthers our mission to raise awareness that women served in the United States Military **and** are Veterans too.

You can make a donation on the website, **https://sheservedinitiative.org/donate** or scan the QR code above.

She Served is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization registered in the State of Georgia.