

Carl Edward Creamer

United States Navy Retired

3 Sep. 1940 - 01 Jul. 1960



Carl Edward Creamer

- Born 26 January, 1921.
- Parents, Lola and Forrest Creamer. Portis, Kansas (Forrest Creamer, US Army, EX-POW Germany WW-1)
- Completed education to grade 8 in Kansas, Moved to Idaho in 1935 and completed 4 years of High School.
- 03 September, 1940, joined the US Navy in Twin Falls Idaho. AFEES in Salt Lake City, Utah. Boot Camp and Ordnance "A" School in San Diego, California.- Seaman Apprentice, S 2/c, S1/c
- 03 March 1941, Ordered to VP-41 Seattle Washington – PBY4 Beaching "Boot" crew and short deployment to Sitka, Alaska - AOM3
- June 1941, Deployed with VP 41 Kodiak, Alaska. On Kodiak Island December 7th, 1941. - AOM3
- 24 May 1942, VP 41 receives PBY5A aircraft and moved to Dutch Harbor, Alaska.
- 02 June 1942, Assigned to a VP 41 flight crew.
- 03 June 1942, VP 41 PBY5A On patrol, shot down by Japanese fighters. One of three survivors of a nine man crew continued to stay afloat in the Bering Sea for four hours. Picked up by the Japanese cruiser *Takao*, and taken as prisoner of war, to Ofuna, Japan. (Note: Petty Officer Creamer's father, Forrest Creamer had been a Prisoner of War of the Germans in WW I) - AOM3
- 09 September 1945, US Naval Hospital, Seattle Washington. For rehabilitation. - AOM3
- 10/1944, Presidential Appointment to Chief Petty Officer. - AOC
- 03/1946, Transferred to NAS Sand Point, Seattle Washington as Asst. Base MAA and Ordnance Chief in Charge of Pistol, Rifle, Machine Gun, Skeet Ranges and Magazines. Also Chief of Transportation, Vehicles and Driver testing. - AOC
- 10/1948, Fleet Composite Squadron Five. Transferred to NAS Moffett Field California as Special Weapons Chief in charge of all ABC, including crew training, records and ABC handling equipment. Also ABC Defense Chief. - AOC
- 02/1951, Heavy Attack Training Unit One, Norfolk, VA. Chief of Ordnance records in Special Weapons and ABC Handling Equipment, including Inventory, maintenance and repair. - AOC
- 01/1952, Fleet Aircraft Service Squadron 51, NAAS Sanford, Florida. - AOC
- 03/1953, Temporary Presidential Appointment to Gunner, Warrant Officer Pay Grade One. Designator as 7212. Transferred to USS Cabot CVL 28, Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard as Aircraft Ordnance and Training Officer. - Gunner

- 04/1954, Reversion to Enlisted Status, Aviation Ordnance Chief, to be continued on active duty. Transferred to NAS Quonset Point for processing. – Gunner/AOC
- 06/1954, Fleet Composite Squadron 62, Jacksonville, FL, Leading Chief and Training - AOC
- Attack Squadron 106, NAS Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL, Ordnance Chief - AOC
- USNAAS Barin Field, Foley, AL, Ordnance Chief and CPO Club Manager – AOC
- Attack Squadron 196, NAS Moffett Field, Sunnyvale, CA - FFT Attack Squadron 152, NAS Alameda, CA - AOC
- 01 July 1960, Transferred to Fleet Reserve

AOC Creamer maintained association with Shipmates while attending American Legion, and American Ex-Prisoner of War functions immediately following his transfer to the Fleet Reserve. He also attended PatWing 4 and VP-41's final squadron reunion in 1999, where he met and shook the hand of the Japanese Zero pilot that shot him and the crew of his PBY5A from the sky on June 3rd 1942.

There have been books written about his capture and interment in Japan.

- We Stole to Live – Joseph Rust Brown
- The Thousand-Mile War, WW II in the Aleutians – Brian Garfield
- War Comes to Alaska, The Dutch Harbor Attack – Norman Rouke

He has continued to volunteer to speak at ceremonies and recognitions of Ex prisoners of War and MIA's, most recently aboard NAS Jacksonville, FL and Kings Bay Naval Submarine bases.

AOC Carl Edward Creamer has two sons; both retired US Navy Chief Petty Officers. He and they share a combined US Navy affiliation of 66 years between 1940 and 1995.

AOC Creamer who will be 90 years old January 26, 2011, lives in Jacksonville, Florida with his wife Jeanette.

* 04/05/2011- Selected as one of the 6 first Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) Hall of Honor recipients' at the Annual symposium, marking the centennial of Naval Aviation, held aboard NAS Jacksonville, Florida.

* 04/06/2011 - PBY-5A BUNO 6582 (Side number of the aircraft AOC Creamer and crew lost in the Bering Sea) dedicated onboard NAS Jacksonville, Florida, to honor all those lost aboard a PBY aircraft.

Comments from Rear Adm. Michael Hewitt "The markings on this particular PBY-5A honor a crew from VP-41 that flew in the Battle of Dutch Harbor during the Aleutian Islands Campaign in Alaska June 3-4, 1942. During the seventh hour of their patrol, the crew of BUNO 6582 was overwhelmed by Japanese fighters. With one engine destroyed, the Catalina crash-landed at sea with three of its nine-man crew surviving in a life raft. They were picked up by a Japanese vessel and spent the remainder of World War II as prisoners of war," concluded Hewitt.

Retired AOC Carl Creamer, a surviving crew member of VP-41 BUNO 6582, was an honored guest at the ceremony.

PATCH PAGE



Recruit Training Command
San Diego, CA



Naval Training Center
San Diego, CA



VP 41 Seattle, WA



NAS Sand Point, Seattle, WA



VC 5
NAS Moffett Field, CA



Heavy Attack Squadron ONE,
Norfolk, VA

FASRON 51, Sanford, FL



USS Cabot CVL 28
Philadelphia Naval Shipyard



VC 62
Jacksonville, FL



VA 106
Jacksonville, FL



USNAAS Barin Field, Foley AL



VA 196 Moffett Field, CA



VA 152 NAS Alameda, CA



Home Port

Affiliated Post Military involvement:



Member at Large



Member and Past Commander
Florida First Coast Chapter