

USS *Oklahoma* Memorial

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

USS *Arizona* Memorial
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii



Honoring the *Oklahoma*



Why a Memorial?

The USS *Oklahoma* Memorial stands to honor the 429 men who lost their lives aboard the *Oklahoma* on December 7th, 1941. These men were not only sailors and Marines, they were 429 brothers, sons, husbands, and fathers. Edward F. Slapikas, Sea1c, always lent a helping hand to younger sailors. John L. Wortham, GM2c, looked forward to returning to his wife and baby boy. Slapikas, Wortham and their crewmates never went home; on December 7th Japanese torpedoes destroyed their ship and lives in mere minutes. Their memorial stands on the shores of Ford Island, next to the former berth of the *Oklahoma*. Those who escaped and swam ashore may have walked or crawled across this ground. To them these shores were a place of sanctuary, or a place they longed for as they lay trapped inside the capsized *Oklahoma*. For us, it is a place to remember.

Creating the Memorial

The horrendous number of deaths on the USS *Oklahoma*—429— was second only to the 1,177 men who perished aboard the USS *Arizona*. For almost 60 years, there was no memorial to commemorate the men or their ship. Part of the *Oklahoma* sat submerged near Ford Island while many of her crew lay in unidentified mass graves. At the Punchbowl cemetery, where countless young servicemen rest, no one knew exactly where the *Oklahoma* crew was buried. It seemed to some that the *Okie* had been forgotten. Beginning in 2000, USS *Oklahoma* survivors, members of the USS *Oklahoma* Memorial at Pearl Harbor Committee, and hundreds of others came together to create the memorial. In 2006, President Bush officially signed the memorial into law as a national memorial entrusted to the National Park Service. On December 7th, 2007, the memorial was formally dedicated as an enduring reminder of the *Oklahoma* and her crew. To those listed at right we owe a debt of gratitude for their contributions to this effort.

Aubrey McClendon Family
Beck Design Group
Chesapeake Energy
Clifford Projects Inc.
Governor and Mrs. Brad Henry
Inasmuch Foundation
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United States Navy League - OK City Council
Wallace Engineering
W & W Steel

Architectural Theory

The memorial's black granite walls suggest the once formidable hull of the *Oklahoma* while the white marble standards represent its lost sailors and Marines. Each perfectly aligned marble standard symbolizes an individual in pristine white dress uniform, inspired from the naval tradition of 'manning the rails.' In full dress whites the ship's crew stand at attention along the rails or in the rigging of the ship to display respect and honor. The marble standards of this memorial stand perfectly straight, 'manning the rails' of the *Oklahoma*, forever.



Visiting the Memorial



To visit the memorial purchase shuttle tickets at the USS *Bowfin* ticket counter, just north of the USS *Arizona* Memorial Visitor Center. Combine the *Oklahoma* Memorial with visits to the Battleship *Missouri* Memorial Museum or the Pacific Aviation Museum, also located on Ford Island. Tickets include transport to all three sites. Personal cameras and one water bottle per visitor are permitted, but purses, handbags, camera bags, or items that permit concealment are not allowed.

May We Never Forget Those of the Oklahoma



United States Navy

Marvin B. Adkins, GM3c
 Willard H. Aldridge, Seaic
 Hugh R. Alexander, Lt. Comdr
 Stanley W. Allen, Ens (VO-1)
 Hal J. Allison, F2c
 Leon Arickx, Seaic
 Kenneth B. Armstrong, Mldric
 Daryle E. Artley, QM2c
 John C. Auld, Seaic
 John A. Austin, Chf Carp
 Walter H. Backman, RM2c
 Gerald J. Bailey, Seaic
 Robert E. Bailey, SF3c
 Wilbur F. Ballance, Seaic
 Layton T. Banks, Cox
 Leroy K. Barber, F1c
 Malcolm J. Barber, F1c
 Randolph H. Barber, F2c
 Cecil E. Barncord, EM3c
 Wilber C. Barrett, Seaic
 Harold E. Bates, F1c
 Ralph C. Battles, F2c
 Earl P. Baum, Seaic
 Howard W. Bean, RM3c
 Walter S. Belt, Jr., F1c
 Robert J. Bennett, F3c
 Harding C. Blackburn, Y3c
 William E. Blanchard, Bmkr1c
 Clarence A. Blaylock, F3c
 Leo Blitz, MM2c
 Rudolph Blitz, F1c
 John G. Bock, Jr., Seaic
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 Wesley J. Brown, F1c
 William G. Bruesewitz, Seaic
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 Earl G. Burch, Bkr3c
 Oliver K. Burger, WT1c
 Millard Burk, Jr., Seaic
 Rodger C. Butts, SC1c
 Archie Callahan, Jr., MAtt2c
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 William V. Campbell, Seaic
 Murry R. Cargile, Seaic
 Harold F. Carney, MM1c
 Joseph W. Carroll, F2c
 Edward E. Casinger, F2c
 Biacio Casola, Seaic
 Charles R. Casto, F1c
 Richard E. Casto, F2c
 James T. Cheshire, CPhM(PA)
 Patrick L. Chess, SF3c
 David Clark, Jr., Seaic
 Gerald L. Clayton, SK2c
 Hubert P. Clement, FC1c
 Floyd F. Clifford, Seaic
 George A. Coke, Seaic
 James E. Collins, Seaic
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 Keefe R. Connolly, HA1c
 Edward L. Conway, EM1c
 Grant C. Cook, Jr., F1c
 Robert L. Corn, FC1c
 Beoin H. Corzatt, F1c
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 Warren H. Crim, F3c
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 Stanislaw F. Drwall, Pmkr1c
 Cyril I. Dusset, MAttic
 Buford H. Dyer, Seaic

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 * Francis C. Flaherty, Ens
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 George C. Ford F2c
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 Jimmie L. Henrichsen, Seaic
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 George Herbert, GM1c
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 Denis H. Hiskett, F1c
 Joseph P. Hittorff, Jr., Ens
 Frank S. Hoag, Jr., RM3c
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 Chester G. Hord, SK3c
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 Lorentz E. Hultgren, MM2c
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 Edward D. Johnson, F1c
 Joseph M. Johnson, Seaic
 Jim H. Johnston, F1c
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 Jerry Jones, MAtt3c
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 Herbert F. Melton, BM2c
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 Harry E. Nichols, SK3c
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 Eli Olsen, SK3c
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 Wilferd D. Palmer, Seaic
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 Walter R. Pentico, Seaic
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 Wiley J. Perway, Bmkr2c
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 Herman Schmidt, GM3c
 Aloysius H. Schmitt, Lt. (j.g.)(ChC)
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 William J. Shanahan, Jr., SM3c
 Edward J. Shelden, FC1c
 William G. Silva, GM1c
 Eugene M. Skaggs, SM1c
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 Edward F. Slapikas, Seaic
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 Rowland H. Smith, Music
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 James C. Solomon, Seaic
 Maurice V. Spangler, Seaic
 Kirby R. Stapleton, Seaic
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 Samuel C. Steiner, F1c
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 Everett R. Stewart, MM2c
 Lewis S. Stockdate, Ens
 Donald A. Stott, Seaic
 Robert T. Stout, FC3c
 James Stouten, CBM (AA)
 Milton R. Surratt, Seaic
 Charles H. Swanson, MM1c
 Edward E. Talbert, Seaic
 Rangner F. Tanner, Jr., Seaic
 Monroe Temple, Seaic
 Houston Temples, Seaic
 Benjamin C. Terhune, F2c
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 Clarence Thompson, SC1c
 George A. Thompson, Seaic
 Irvin A. R. Thompson, Ens
 William M. Thompson, Ens
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 Cecil H. Thornton, Seaic
 Robert L. Thrombley, Seaic
 David F. Tidball, Seaic
 Lloyd R. Timm, Seaic
 Lewis F. Tindall, F1c
 Dante S. Tini, RM3c
 Henry G. Tipton, Seaic
 Everett C. Titterington, F1c
 Neal K. Todd, F1c
 Natale I. Torti, Seaic
 Orval A. Tranbarger, Seaic
 Harold F. Trapp, FC2c
 William H. Trapp, EM3c
 Shelby Treadway, GM3c
 William D. Tucker, F1c

Victor P. Tumlinson, FC3c
 Billy Turner, Seaic
 Louis J. Tushla, F1c
 Russell O. Ufford, Seaic
 Lowell E. Valley, F2c
 Durrell Wade, AMM2c
 Lewis L. Wagoner, Seaic
 Harry E. Walker, SK1c
 Robert N. Walkowiak, F3c
 Eugene A. Walpole, Seaic
 Charles E. Walters, Seaic
 * James R. Ward, Seaic
 Edward Wasielewski, Seaic
 Richard L. Watson, Seaic
 James C. Webb, F1c
 William E. Welch, Seaic
 Alfred F. Wells, MM1c
 Ernest R. West, Seaic
 John D. Wheeler, F2c
 Claude White, CWT (PA)
 Jack D. White, Seaic
 Alton W. Whitson, EM3c
 Eugene W. Wicker, Seaic
 Lloyd P. Wiegand, Mus2c
 George J. Wilcox, Jr., Seaic
 Albert L. Williams, Mus2c
 James C. Williams, Seaic
 Wilbur S. Williams, OS3c
 Bernard R. Wimmer, FC1c
 Everett G. Windle, Seaic
 Starring B. Winfield, RM3c
 Rex E. Wise, F1c
 Frank Wood, Seaic
 Lawrence E. Woods, F1c
 Winfred O. Woods, MM1c
 Creighton H. Workman, F1c
 John L. Wortham, GM2c
 Paul R. Wright, CWT (PA)
 Eldon P. Wyman, Ens
 Martin D. Young, F2c
 Robert V. Young, Seaic
 Joseph J. Yurko, WT1c
 Thomas Zvansky, CSM (PA)

United States Marine Corps

Marley R. Arthurholtz, PFC
 Waldean Black, Pvt
 Walter L. Collier, PFC
 Alva J. Cremean, PFC
 Elmer E. Drefahl, Cpl
 Harry H. Gaver, Jr., 2d Lt
 Ted Hall, Pvt
 Otis W. Henry, Pvt
 Robert K. Holmes, PFC
 Vernon P. Keaton, Pvt
 John F. Middleswart, PFC
 Robert H. Peak, Pvt
 Raymond Pennington, Pvt
 Charles R. Taylor, PFC

United States Navy Ranks and Rates	
AMM	Aviation's Machinist Mate
BGMstr	Bugelmaster
Bkr	Baker
Bmkr	Boilermaker
CBM	Chief Boatswain's Mate
CBMstr	Chief Bandmaster
CCM	Chief Carpenter's Mate
CEM	Chief Electrician's Mate
CFC	Chief Fire Controlman
Chf Carp	Chief Carpenter
Chf Pay Clk	Chief Pay Clerk
CMM	Chief Machinist's Mate
CMsmth	Chief Metalsmith
Cox	Coxswain
CPhM	Chief Pharmacist's Mate
CSK	Chief Storekeeper
CSM	Chief Signalman
CWT	Chief Watertender
EM	Electrician's Mate
Ens	Ensign
F	Fireman
FC	Fire Controlman
GM	Gunner's Mate
HA	Hospital's Apprentice
Lt. Comdr	Lieutenant Commander
Lt.	Lieutenant
Lt. (jg)(Chc)	Lieutenant Jr. Grade, Chaplain Corps
Mach	Machinist
MAtt	Mess Attendant
Mldr	Molder
MM	Machinist's Mate
Msmth	Metalsmith
Mus	Musician
OS	Officer's Steward
PhM	Pharmacist's Mate
Pmkr	Patternmaker
QM	Quartermaster
RM	Radioman
Seaman	Seaman
SC	Ship's Cook
SF	Shipfitter
SK	Storekeeper
SM	Signalman
WT	Watertender
Yeoman	Yeoman
United States Marine Corps Ranks	
2d Lt	Second Lieutenant
Cpl	Corporal
PFC	Private First Class
Pvt	Private

*Denotes Medal of Honor Recipient