

WE HOPE WE CAN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

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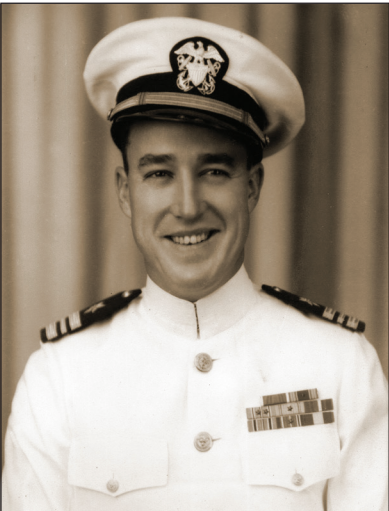


Dear XX. XXXXXXXX:

As we approach the end of another year, I am honored to reach out to you on behalf of Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum to say “thank you!”

Your unwavering support is essential to the Museum’s ability to preserve history, educate future generations, and honor the courageous individuals who have served our nation and helped shape aviation history.

Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is more than just a collection of historic planes and artifacts. We are a living tribute to the heroes of the past and a beacon of hope for the heroes of the future. Our work is possible thanks to the generosity and passion of individuals like you.



Jack Sherertz at the end of WWII.

As I share the inspiring story of one of these heroes – Jack Sherertz – I hope you will consider stepping forward, once again, with a special year-end contribution. With your sustained commitment, we can continue to preserve these important stories. If you are able to make a gift of \$250 or more, we would be honored to send you a signed copy of the book, [*A Hero Among Millions*](#), along with our deepest thanks.

Through your support, the Museum can bring to life the stories of our heroes.

Jack Sherertz, the father of one of our Museum Members, began his service right here in Pearl Harbor on the decks of the USS Nevada. He later served at the helm of a PT boat at Midway and off the shores of Normandy on D-Day.

Jack’s story is a unique tale. In February 1941, he graduated from the V-7 program, a 90-day Wonder officer training program and reported for duty as a deck officer (Ensign) on the USS Nevada on April 4, 1941, alongside fellow 90-day Wonders.

On December 6, 1941, he and some of his fellow officers were granted leave. The next morning, December 7, Sherertz and his fellow ensigns headed back to the USS Nevada. While waiting at the officer’s dock, Rear Admiral Bellinger offered them a ride on his launch. As they were headed toward Battleship Row, the attack on Pearl Harbor began.

With Japanese planes overhead and making their torpedo runs on Battleship Row, Sherertz and his colleagues eventually reached the USS Nevada, the only ship to get underway during the attack. After the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, the USS Nevada was no longer seaworthy. Ensign Sherertz was reassigned to PT Boat Squadron 1 (RON 1).

On May 25, 1942, RON 1 was ordered to Midway Island. They arrived three days later, and the Battle of Midway commenced on June 4th and lasted until June 6th. After the Battle of Midway, Sherertz later became the commanding officer of the PT boat squadron based on Midway Island.

In May of 1944, Lt. Sherertz received new orders that took him to Liverpool, England. Lt. Sherertz and his new PT boat squadron (RON 34) received orders at Southwick House, near Portsmouth. They were to escort minesweepers and anchor in a line extending perpendicular to the western edge of Utah Beach. They were the vanguard of the D-Day invasion. From his vantage point at the helm of one of the PT boats closest to the shore, Lt. Sherertz could see men moving inward across the sand, punctuated by intermittent bursts of machine-gun fire.



Lt. Sherertz was an eyewitness to some of the key naval engagements of World War II in two different theaters of operation. This story is brought to life in [*A Hero Among Millions*](#), a gripping tale of Jack’s many harrowing experiences during World War II. Many others have their own unique story and experiences that helped make this the greatest generation!

Here at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, we are committed to preserving not just the history of hardware and equipment, but the human stories as well. Our mission is threefold:

Jack Sherertz was aboard the USS Nevada during the attack on Pearl Harbor, on a PT Boat during the Battle of Midway, and in the vanguard of the D-Day invasion at Utah Beach, where his PT boat was so close to shore that a wave broke in front of it.





Jack Sherertz (from left) with wife Lillian and WWII shadow box, with WWII PT boat model, and (from left) with children Susan Anthony, Meg Pearce and Bob Sherertz on bow of PT boat.

Remember: We are committed to ensuring that the stories of those who served, like Jack, are not forgotten. Rather, they are preserved for generations to come. The artifacts and exhibits at the Museum serve as a living memorial, a testament to the sacrifices made during World War II, and a tribute to those who helped secure our freedom.

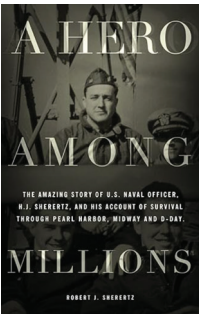
Educate: We understand the importance of education in honoring our history and inspiring future generations. Through STEM programs, we engage students in hands-on learning experiences, encouraging their interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, while instilling the values of honor and sacrifice exhibited by our veterans.

Inspire: By preserving and showcasing these historic aircraft, we hope to inspire not only the young minds who visit our Museum but also the community at large. The courage and dedication of our veterans and aviators serve as a source of inspiration for us all.

Expanding our impact thanks to your generosity:

To sustain our mission and expand our reach, we rely on the generosity of supporters like you. Your donation has a profound impact on our ability to preserve history, educate the next generation, and inspire our community. Your contribution can be seen throughout the Museum’s innovative initiatives, including:

- **Conservation and Preservation:** Your gift helps us maintain and restore historic aircraft, ensuring that they remain in excellent condition, telling the stories of the past and keeping the memory of our veterans alive.
- **STEM Educational Programs:** In 2023, our STEM programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) reached more than 3,500 students kindling their curiosity. Your support today will help fund and drive our STEM programs in 2024 and beyond, enabling us to reach more students and provide them with interactive learning experiences that ignite their passion for aviation, history, and STEM fields.



We invite you to partner with us in ensuring that the history we hold dear remains vibrant, our educational programs thrive, and our community continues to be inspired.

May we count on you for a special contribution of \$35, \$50, \$100 or \$250 or more? For donors who make a contribution of \$250 or more, we will send you an autographed copy of Robert Sherertz’s inspirational book, **A Hero Among Millions**, the story of Jack Sherertz, as a thank you gift!

Thank you for your continued support of Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum; together we can remember, educate, and inspire, ensuring that the legacy of our veterans and aviators endures for generations to come.

With sincere gratitude and warm wishes; may this holiday season bring you joy, peace, and a sense of fulfillment in making a difference.

Elissa Lines

Elissa Lines
Executive Director

Please detach along the perforated line and return the bottom portion along with your gift in the enclosed envelope.

YOUR GIFT NOW WILL HELP US PRESERVE OUR WWII AVIATION BATTLEFIELD!

- ☐ **Yes, I would like to make a gift to help Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum protect and preserve the legacy of our Veterans and the history of our WWII Aviation Battlefield at Pearl Harbor.**
- ☐ **Yes, I have included Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum in my will and estate planning.**
- ☐ **Please send me information on how to include Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum in my will.**

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☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$_____ Other

☐ Make my gift recur monthly. Process it on the ☐ 1st or ☐ 15th of the month.
(Recurring charges require credit card payment)

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Please make checks payable to Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. To make your donation online, visit www.PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org.