



Marshall Dobrott

August 9, 1924 - January 31, 2013

Marshall Earle Dobrott, 88, passed away on January 31st, 2013 at home in Prescott, Arizona. He was born on August 9, 1924 in Rochester, New York, the son of Marjorie Juanita (nee Benedict), a registered nurse and Earle Sylvester Dobrott, an auto-mechanic and a racecar driver. During the height of the Depression Marshall's family moved to Southern California to obtain work, and eventually settled in Pasadena, California.

Marshall attended John Marshall Junior High School (JMJH) and participated in track and ran the 100-yard dash in the low 9's. While excellent in math and science he also was an accomplished draftsman and model airplane maker. Marshall sang first soprano in the JMJH's contribution to the Pasadena Boys Choir, directed by Dr. John Henry Lions until his voice changed. Although he clearly had an artistic bent, his heart was never far from his fathers' love of automobiles. He was clearly a Renaissance young man. Upon graduating from Junior High, he attended the High School Division of Pasadena Junior College, intending to pursue a career in Mechanical Engineering.

Then came Pearl Harbor. On December 8th, 1941, he and many others like him joined the U. S. Navy and he was sent to San Diego where he joined a converted schooner for patrol off the coast of Mexico and Central America. This abrupt baptism illustrated the desperate state of American naval forces in early 1942. He married to his life-long sweetheart; Miss Nancy Lee Bain of Pasadena after his first cruise

The sailing ship experience taught Marshall not only general seamanship, but

navigation, Morse code, semaphores and introduced him to his life-time love for the sea. He knew how to tie every knot in the Midshipman's Handbook. He later participated in the island hopping aboard the troop ship El Cano with various Marine Divisions, finally culminating in the invasion of Okinawa in the spring of 1945, when Marshall's ship delivered elements of the Sixth Marine Division to the west coast just above the ancient Okinawa capitol of Naha and in short order cut the island in two strategically. The upper part of the island was quickly conquered by the Marines and U. S. Army units.

The major battles took place in the south around Naha, but the struggle ended in early summer. Marshall and a colleague commandeered a jeep and visited the ancient capitol. He said later that most of the old capitol was "only two feet high," alluding to the fierceness of the struggle.

It was during this time frame that his ship was hit while in port by either a Kamikaze or a small one or two man submarine. A Cruiser was moored nearby and Marshall speculated that his ship was hit by mistake and that the attackers were aiming at a higher value target in the early dawn. Marshall recovered his wife's picture from his locker the next day.

After the war Marshall came home to start a family and resume his education. He completed his high school diploma and moved on to his courses in Mechanical Engineering while working as a draftsman for the Ruckstall Corporation.

In later years, while living in Fallbrook, California he worked as a yacht broker in Oceanside and a foreman for Driscoll Marine in San Diego. He enjoyed yacht racing as a member and past-Commodore of the Oceanside Yacht Club. Marshall and Nancy moved to Prescott in 1975. There he enjoyed hunting with his bird dogs model boat building and sailing. He never lost his love for the sea.

Marshall is survived by his wife Nancy, brother Donald R. Dobrott and family of San Francisco, his son Stephen J. Dobrott of Hillsboro, NM and daughter Kristine L. Schaffer of Prescott, AZ, granddaughters Rochelle Adkins, Jamie

Nevarez, Jessica Murray, grandsons, Matt, Nathan, Daniel Bowen, Timothy Schaffer and 17 great grandchildren.

Memorial Services will be held at the Veterans Memorial Chapel in Prescott, AZ under the direction of the Hampton Funeral Home of Prescott (date to be announced). Marshall's remains will be interred at the Prescott National Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Prescott National Cemetery

Tribute Wall



“ *Our world is a better place because of Marshall and other veterans, Nancy you and Marshall are a great example the love of God, he will be missed. My condolences*

Terry Vandervort

terry vandervort - February 11, 2013 at 07:54 PM