

# Honoring our VETERANS

## JOHN POWERS



John Powers served in the Army from 1969-73 and saw active duty in Europe and Vietnam after receiving training at Fort Riley in Kansas. Powers said the only things he liked about the military was the people he met, the camaraderie and getting out. He retired from AT&T as an outside technician and senior training manager after 37 years of service. Powers is married and has three children and six grandchildren.

## DANIEL Q. WHITE



Daniel Q. White, a 1986 graduate of Perry Meridian High School, joined the Marine Corps in 1987. Seen in Iraq, he is a veteran of Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Desert Saber. White is employed by Midwest Steel Rule Cutting Die in Beech Grove.

## JIM KELLY



Jim Kelly served in the Army National Guard during World War II, seeing action in the North Africa and European theaters. Serving with the 120th Infantry, Kelly was captured but escaped. A technical sargent, Kelly was awarded a Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge during the war. Returning to the states, he worked for AT&T, from which he retired. He had four boys and two girls with his wife, Mary Frances, and has 19 grandchildren. He resides at Bickford Assisted Living in Greenwood. When asked about his time in the military, Unger simply said with a smile, "I'm still serving."

## JEFF GAER



Jeff Gaer retired from the Coast Guard after 15 years due to medical reasons. He served mostly Florida and did drug interdiction all over the Atlantic, Yucatan and the Caribbean. "Working in four- to seven-man teams, we trained and traveled and did everything we could to stop the drug runners and pirates ... yes, pirates," said Gaer, who is employed by AT&T.

## KEN SCOBEL



Ken Scobel enlisted in the Air Force after graduating from high school in 1965 because he could not afford to go to college. He attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio and learned to be an airman.

Scobel was then sent to Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Miss., for technical training. His next assignment was that as a radio operator in the northwest territory of Pakistan, not far from the Afghanistan border.

"I spent 15 months in Pakistan, and it was an incredible experience to see how a third world country operated," he said. "I left Pakistan in March of 1968 and was never so happy to get home and see my family."

"I was sent to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, on the Canadian border, where I kept the radios operating at a radar station. My hometown was Detroit, about 350 miles away, so I made regular trips there to see my family and friends. I was offered an early out if I wasn't going to re-enlist, so I accepted their offer and received an honorable discharge.

He later worked at Chrysler and Bendix before retiring from Cummins in 2008 after 29 years of service.

Scobel, who continues to battle stage IV prostate cancer, loves to enter his 1966 Dodge Charger in car shows.

He and his wife, Sharon, have four children, Kelly, Tracy, Daniel and Alan, and five grandchildren.

## MIKE ALEXANDER

Mike Alexander served aboard the USS Ticonderoga aircraft carrier while in the Navy from 1962-64, and the first bombing attacks on North Vietnam were launched from the ship.

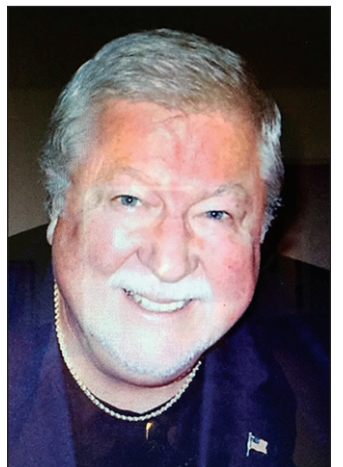
His time in the military included being head of the public information office and organizing the ship's basketball team. He was able to visit Japan, the Philippines and Hong Kong while enlisted.

Alexander enjoyed a varied career after leaving the Navy. He was a doorkeeper for two years in the U.S. Senate, saying, "I really liked that because I was always interested in politics." He was always involved in journalism around the state and was a professor at Valparaiso University. He retired from Ford Visteon after 10 years.

Alexander has one daughter and one granddaughter, one

stepson, one stepdaughter and a stepgrandson.

Occasionally he keeps in touch with a Navy buddy in Lubbock, Texas.



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# Honoring our VETERANS

**BOB LECLERC**



Bob LeClerc served in the Navy from 1966-70 and was stationed aboard the supercarrier *USS Kitty Hawk* for three years off the coast of Vietnam. He also served one year in San Diego at the Fleet Anti-Air Warfare Training Center.

LeClerc said he enjoyed his time in the military because he had the opportunity to see parts of the world that he otherwise would have never visited.

LeClerc is retired from the Lumina Foundation, where he was an office automation specialist for 26 years. He enjoys playing golf in his free time and keeps in touch with his former military buddies.

He has been married for 45 years and has three children, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**WINTON ARMSTRONG**



Winton Armstrong was born in Augusta, Ga., and served in the Navy during World War II.

He was stationed on two submarines, first on an older World War I sub because there were not enough newer submarines built at the outbreak of the war.

Armstrong was later transferred to the *USS Peto*, which spent most of its time in the Pacific disrupting Japanese supply lines and rescuing downed American fighter planes.

"We were available to do whatever needed to be done," Armstrong said of his time on the *Peto*.

Armstrong worked in Indianapolis as a commercial artist before retiring. He resides at Bickford Assisted Living in Greenwood.

**CEDRIC FOWLER**



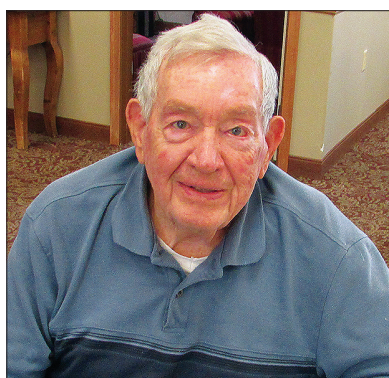
Cedric Fowler, who celebrated his 100th birthday Tuesday, served in Guam and in the Pacific with the Air Force during World War II.

"I loved fighting for my country; I'm still proud of serving," said Fowler, who used to install electric organs in churches. He was born in Waynetown, about 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis off I-74.

The centenarian followed the campaigns of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton but said he was getting sick of politics. "I hope Trump wins, and I will be glad when its over," he said Monday while eating lunch at Rosegate, an assisted living community for senior citizens.

When asked about the birthday party the center was going to have for him, he commented, "I think I'm already partied out."

**PAUL THOMPSON**



Paul Thompson served in Panama and Miami with the Navy during World War II.

"I was stationed along the Panama Canal and was a storekeeper 3rd Class," said Thompson, 94, who restocked U.S. military ships when they came through the canal. "Being in Panama was OK; I tolerated it. It was always hot and humid.

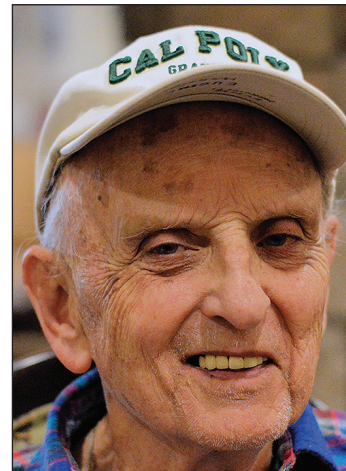
For some added excitement he went to the nearby airfield and bummed rides with pilots who patrolled the waterway for submarines.

Thompson laughingly said his time served in Miami was rough. "I had to check out the beaches and taverns in my free time to make sure everything was running smoothly. It was a tough job but someone had to do it."

Once out of the Navy, he worked at the U.S. Rubber Co. before attending an apprentice school to become a jeweler. "I really liked the profession. It was challenging, but that's what I really liked about it. You had to know what your were doing."

**GENE MARGIOTTI**

Gene Margiotti served in the Navy and resides at Bickford Assisted Living in Greenwood.



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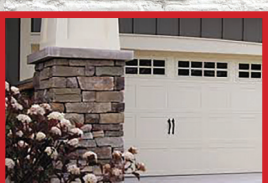
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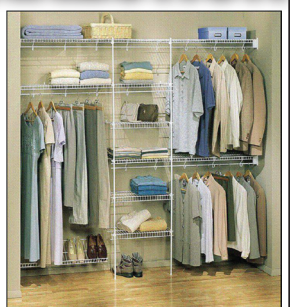
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