



HERSHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS

Born October 2, 1923

Quiet Dell, Marion Co., West Virginia

Marital Family Status

Married to Ruby Dale Meredith of Fairmont, WV, two children, Travie Jane and Tracle Jean -- daughters, & 5 grandsons, one of which served in Desert Storm.

Employment

Retired Commandant of the W.Va. Veterans Home at Barboursville, WV, appointed as the first Commandant in 1980 - served until June 1985.

Also retired as Veterans Services Officer, United States Veterans Administration, January 1978 after 33 years of serving veterans.

Armed Forces

Served in United States Marines from May 27, 1943 to November 6, 1945. Was in combat on Guam and Iwo Jima. Wounded March 6, 1945 on Iwo Jima. Received the Purple Heart. On October 5, 1945 at Washington, D.C. was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by Harry S. Truman, President of the United States, for action on Iwo Jima. Belongs to all major veterans groups and holds the position of National Chaplain of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society of the United States.

Other Facts

Retired as commissioned warrant officer of the Marine Corps. Received West Virginia's Distinguished Service Medal in 1965. Received the Veteran's Administration Vietnam Service Medal in 1967 for service as a civilian counselor to the armed forces.

The WV National Guard Armory at Fairmont, WV, a bridge at Barboursville, WV and an athletic field at Huntington, WV are named in his honor. Selected for City of Huntington Foundation's "Wall of Fame" in 1999.

Current Activities

For 27 years operated a boarding and training barn for horses at Ona, WV with his wife, Ruby, and his grandson Todd Lee Graham. Active in his church, community and veterans' organizations. Inducted into the City of Huntington's "Wall of Fame" in 1999