

GOLD STAR HALL

ceremony

November 12, 2018

Honoring Iowa State
Servicemembers
from World War II
& Commemorating
the End of World War I



IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY.
MEMORIAL UNION

Program

Presentation of the Colors by the ROTC color guard and National Anthem, sung by ROTC students Jackson Koster and Colin Long

Steve Winfrey, Director of the Memorial Union

Comments from Iowa State President Wendy Wintersteen

Captain Scott Curtis, USN

Douglas Jorgensen, Student Veteran

Honoree rememberances by LtCol Daniel P. Divine, USMC, Retired; CDR Daniel A. Buhr, USN, Retired; and CDR Beth L. Hartmann, CEC, USN, Retired

History of WW I and the Formation of the Iowa State University Memorial Union by ISU Student Lindsay Bell

Moment of silence

Final reading of names

Echo Taps by Iowa State students David Lass and Victoria Demerest

Retrieval of Colors

Viewing of names and displays in Gold Star Hall

Reception in Great Hall

ISU Gold Star Committee: Captain John Baldwin, ISU Student Lindsay Bell, Veterans Center Director Jathan Chicoine, Lieutenant Colonel Ethan Dial, MU Assistant Director Seth Dohrn, MU Marketing Coordinator Kristin Erdman, Commander Jeremy A. Gross, Major Matthew Guerttman, ISU Student Veteran Douglas Jorgensen, Lieutenant Colonel Bill McTernan, ISU Alumnus and Veteran Jim Olberding, MU Admin Specialist Rod Simpson, Senior Associate Registrar Jennifer Suchan, Ames Community Member Kathy Svec, Veterans Center Assistant Director Jeffrey Vaske, and MU Director Steve Winfrey



World War II



William "Howard" Butler

July 16, 1945 - Chengkung, China

Hometown: Indianola, IA

Iowa State: Agricultural Engineering, 1940-42

Military: Captain, US Army Air Corps



Robert Vance Rannells

April 1, 1945 - Coast of Saipan, Japan

Hometown: Dunlap, IA

Iowa State: Agronomy, 1938 - 1942

Military: Staff Sergeant, US Army Air Corps



Richard Wayne Suesens

June 4, 1942 - Midway Islands near Hawaii, USA

Hometown: Burlington, IA

Iowa State: Mechanical Engineering, 1936-38

Military: Lieutenant, Junior Grade, US Navy

The Memorial Union would like to thank the family and friends of our honorees for their memories and pictures that enabled us to tell their stories.



About the Memorial Union's *Gold Star Hall*

Gold Star Hall is the “memorial” in the Memorial Union. In World War I, when a family had a son or daughter in the service, they displayed a card with a simple blue star in their window. When a life was lost, the card with the blue star was changed to one with a gold star — hence the name, Gold Star Hall. Gold Star Hall embodies the memorial that the entire Memorial Union building represents.

A quotation by poet John Drinkwater is inscribed at the north door:

**For Thee they died, Master and Maker, God of Right
The Soldier dead are at Thy gate
Who kept the spears of honor bright
And Freedom's house inviolate.**

When the Memorial Union opened in 1928, the names of 117 Iowa Staters who died in World War I were carved into the walls.

Early in 1969, ten bronze plaques bearing the names of 369 Iowa State servicemembers who died in military service during WW II were mounted on two huge bronze doors that stood at the doorway between the vestibule and Gold Star Hall. The bronze doors were later removed and are now on display in Alumni Hall, and in 1984, the names from WW II, Korea, and Vietnam were engraved into the limestone. In subsequent years, additional names were engraved for WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, and the USS Liberty, as well as Somalia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. When the time is right, additional names from the Global War on Terrorism will be engraved in the stone.

Each year, more than a million people pass through this memorial. Students understand its purpose and many pause on the benches during the course of their busy daily lives. Gold Star Hall remains an active memorial.

This quotation is inscribed in the vestibule:

**A memorial to the six thousand Iowa State College men and women
who offered their lives during the World War in the cause of
human liberty and free government.**