



Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame

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Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame Mission

"Educate and inspire children and adults to discover the legacy of Idaho aviation and explore the opportunities for aerospace careers."

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2012



Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame

INDUCTION CEREMONY & DINNER

September 29, 2012

6:00-9:30 p.m.

Bird Aviation Museum
& Invention Center

1655 Glengary Road, Sagle, ID 83860

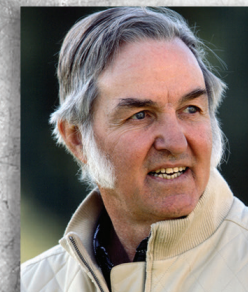
Program

6:00 pm — Social Hour & Drinks
7:00 pm — Dinner
8:00 pm — Induction Ceremony
8:30 pm — Presentation/Keynote Address
Burt Rutan

Inductees:



Gregory "Pappy" Boyington



Burt Rutan

The Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame's mission is to educate and inspire children and adults to discover the legacy of Idaho aviation and explore the opportunities for aerospace careers.

GREGORY "PAPPY" BOYINGTON

Pappy Boyington was born Dec. 4, 1912 in Coeur d'Alene, ID. He grew up in the logging town of St. Maries, ID and Tacoma, WA. Boyington graduated from the University of Washington in 1934 with a B.S. in aeronautical engineering. In 1936, Boyington accepted an appointment as an aviation cadet in the Marine Corps Reserve. He was assigned to the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, for flight training. On Jul. 1, 1937 he accepted a second lieutenant's commission in the regular Marine Corps. Boyington resigned his commission in the Marine Corps on Aug. 26, 1941 to accept a position with the American Volunteer Group (AVG), the famed Flying Tigers of China. In the AVG Boyington was credited with 3.5 Japanese aircraft destroyed. In the spring of 1942, he returned to the U.S. where he was re-instated in the Marine Corps as a major. He eventually became Commanding Officer (CO) of Marine Fighter Squadron 214, better known by its nickname, the "Black Sheep Squadron." Boyington is best known for his exploits flying the Vought F4U Corsair in VMF-214. During his squadron's first tour of combat duty, the major shot down 14 enemy fighter planes in 32 days. By the end of 1943, he had shot down 25. He tied the American record of 26 planes on Jan. 3, 1944 over



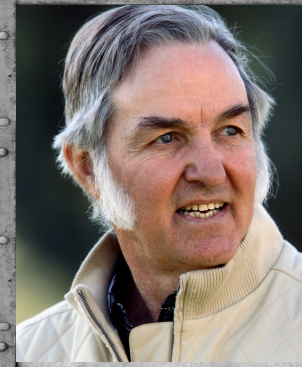
Rabaul, but was shot down later the same day. Boyington became a prisoner of war. He spent the rest of the war, 20 months, in Japanese prison camps. During mid-Aug. 1945, after the atomic bombs and the Japanese surrender, Boyington was liberated from Japanese custody. Shortly after his return to the U.S., as a lieutenant colonel, Boyington was ordered to Washington to receive the nation's highest honor—the Medal of Honor. His MOH citation reads in part:

"...Major Boyington led a formation of 24 fighters over Kahili on October 17, and, persistently circling the airdrome where 60 hostile aircraft were grounded, boldly challenged the Japanese to send up planes. Under his brilliant command, our fighters shot down twenty enemy craft in the ensuing action without the loss of a single ship ..."

On Oct. 4, 1945, Boyington received the Navy Cross from the Commandant of the Marine Corps. He retired from the Marines on Aug. 1, 1947 with the rank of colonel. He died on Jan. 11, 1988. In Aug. 2007, the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho airport was renamed the "Coeur d'Alene Airport—Pappy Boyington Field" in his honor.

BURT RUTAN

Burt Rutan is an aeronautical engineer who has designed, developed and flight proven many innovative aerospace vehicles from light, home-built airplanes, and record-setting long-range aircraft to suborbital space-planes. He was born June 17, 1943 near Portland, Oregon and grew up in Dinuba, California. Rutan showed an early interest in aviation, designing and building his own model airplanes, and piloted his first solo flight at the age of sixteen. He majored in aeronautical engineering at California Polytechnic University, graduating 3rd in his class in 1965. In 1974 he founded the Rutan Aircraft Factory where he gained acclaim for designing airplanes that could be built at home, such as the lightweight VariEze. His designs were characterized by their unusual appearance with elevator forward (canard configuration) and the use of composite materials such as fiberglass and plastics. In 1982 Rutan launched a second company, Scaled Composites, which created research aircraft. His fame spread worldwide in 1986 when his aircraft, Voyager, piloted by his brother, Dick Rutan, and Jeana Yeager, made the first unrefueled flight around the world. The suborbital space plane, SpaceShipOne, was developed at Scaled Composites. The craft set a new civilian altitude record of 40 miles in May 2004. Then, in October 2004, he won the \$10 million Ansari X Prize by sending SpaceShipOne into suborbital flight—62 miles above Earth—twice



in a two-week period. He has received dozens of awards and recognitions. Six of Burt Rutan's aircraft are now on permanent display in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Burt and his wife, Tonya, retired to Coeur d'Alene, ID in April 2011.

Photo Credits

Boyington, second picture: An American B-25 Mitchell flies overhead two parked P-40 Flying Tigers. Notice one is named "Nipponese Nemesis." Photo source unknown.

Boyington, third picture: President Harry S. Truman congratulates Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Boyington, USMCR. Photo source: U.S. Naval Historical Center, #NH-105689.

Rutan, second picture: VariEze on display at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, VA. Photo courtesy of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM).

Rutan, third picture: Voyager on display at the NASM. Photo courtesy of the NASM.

Rutan, fourth picture: SpaceShipOne in flight. Photo courtesy of Scaled Composites, LLC.