



USS Midway Museum Commemorates 75th Anniversary of the End of World War II

Museum partners with Honor Flight and Spirit of '45 to pay tribute to America's Greatest Generation with Flight Deck ceremony

- WHAT:** The USS Midway Museum, in partnership with [Honor Flight San Diego](#) and the [Spirit of '45](#), will conduct an outdoor flight-deck ceremony commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. The ceremony will pay tribute to America's Greatest Generation for their service and sacrifice. Along with representatives from the Midway, Honor Flight and Spirit of '45, three World War II Navy veterans will participate in the ceremony.
- WHERE:** USS Midway Museum
- WHEN:** Friday, Aug. 14, 2020 at 9 a.m.
Media are invited to attend. Request media arrive at USS Midway Museum by 8:40 a.m.
- DETAILS:** On Aug. 14, 1945, it was officially announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allied Forces. The formal surrender was signed onboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay a few weeks later on Sept. 2, 1945. More than 400,000 American servicemembers paid the ultimate sacrifice during World War II. USS Midway Museum, as America's Living Symbol of Freedom, will hold a ceremony to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the war and honor all those who fought to preserve freedom and democracy. Partnering with Honor Flight San Diego and Spirit of '45, the ceremony on the Midway will highlight three Navy veterans who served during World War II – Jack Scott, Al Hansen and Don Hubbard. Hansen and Hubbard were naval aviators, with Hansen flying missions in the Pacific Theater, while Scott supported the D-Day landings in Normandy on June 6, 1944 as a crew member of the USS Maloy (DE-791). During the ceremony, each of these three American heroes, all in their 90s, will reflect on their service during the war and how they felt when hostilities finally ended. A wreath laying ceremony will close the commemoration. As the number of surviving World War II veterans becomes fewer each year, it is critically important to continue to pay tribute to this Greatest Generation.
- The ceremony will be held before the museum opens, will not be open to spectators and conducted with all public health and safety protocols in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.***
- VISUALS:** Commemoration ceremony to include color guard and national anthem; remarks from representatives of the USS Midway Museum, Honor Flight San Diego and Spirit of 45, as well as from three World War II Navy veterans; and a wreath laying ceremony accompanied by Taps played by a bugler.
- INTERVIEWS:** Interviews available with WWII vets Al Hansen, Jack Scott and Don Hubbard following the ceremony.
- CONTACT:** David Koontz, USS Midway Museum – 619.571.6561/dkoontz@midway.org.

USS Midway Museum – America's Living Symbol of Freedom – www.midway.org

Honor Flight San Diego – Bringing America's veterans to Washington D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to honoring those who have served and sacrificed for our country – <http://www.HonorFlightSanDiego.org>

Spirit of '45 – Honoring the legacy of service of the men and women of America's Greatest Generation – www.spiritof45.org