

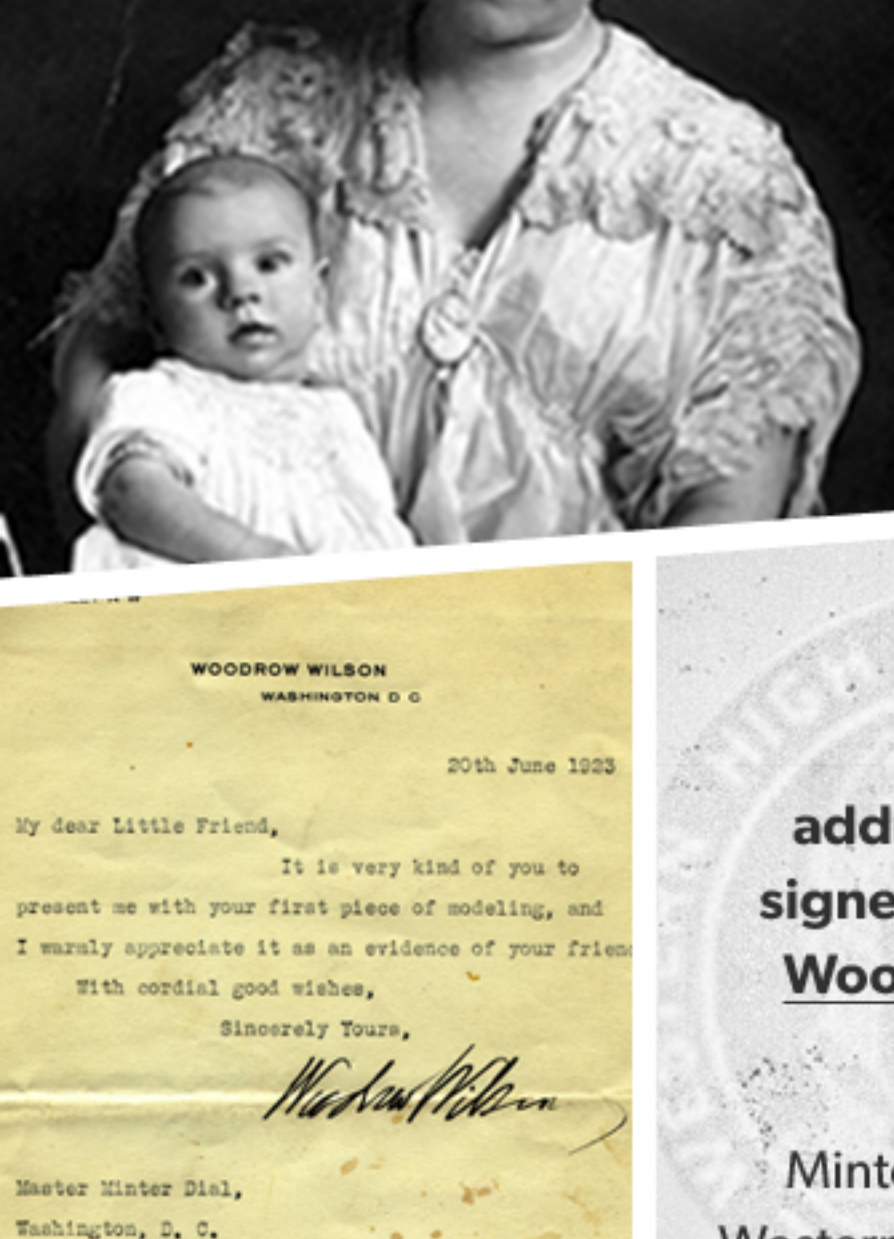
# Minter's Ring

THE LAST RING HOME.

This is the story about my grandfather, after whom I was named. Lt. Cdr. Minter Dial, USN, fought in the Philippines in WWII, but was captured after the Battle of Corregidor.

After 2 1/2 years as a POW of the Japanese, he was killed under ignominious conditions. His memory lives on, however, through the improbable story of his Annapolis ring, his ultimate possession and the last item he touched before dying on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1944.

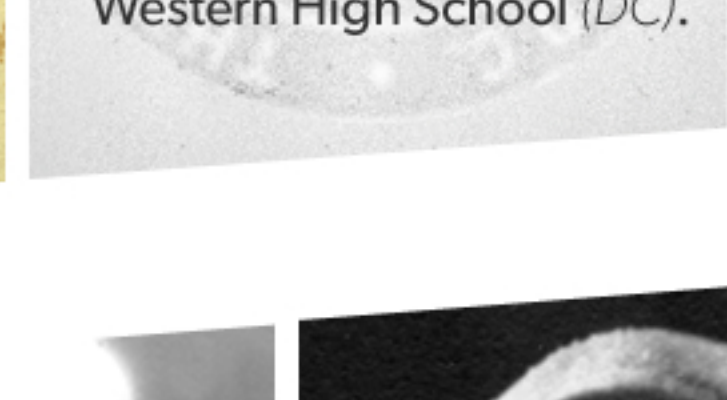
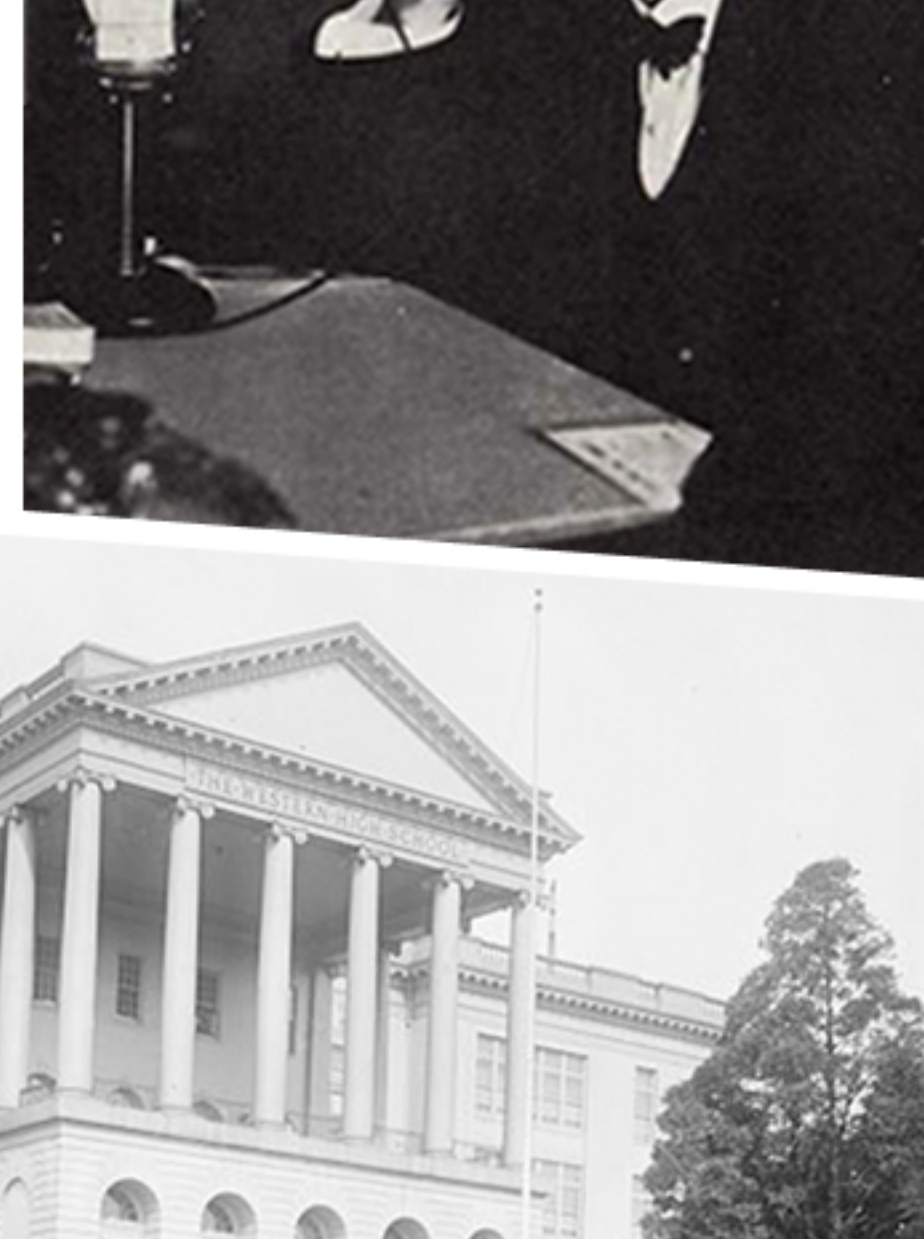
Please come and visit the [Facebook](#) page in honor of him and the other members of the Greatest Generation, and may the journey continue.



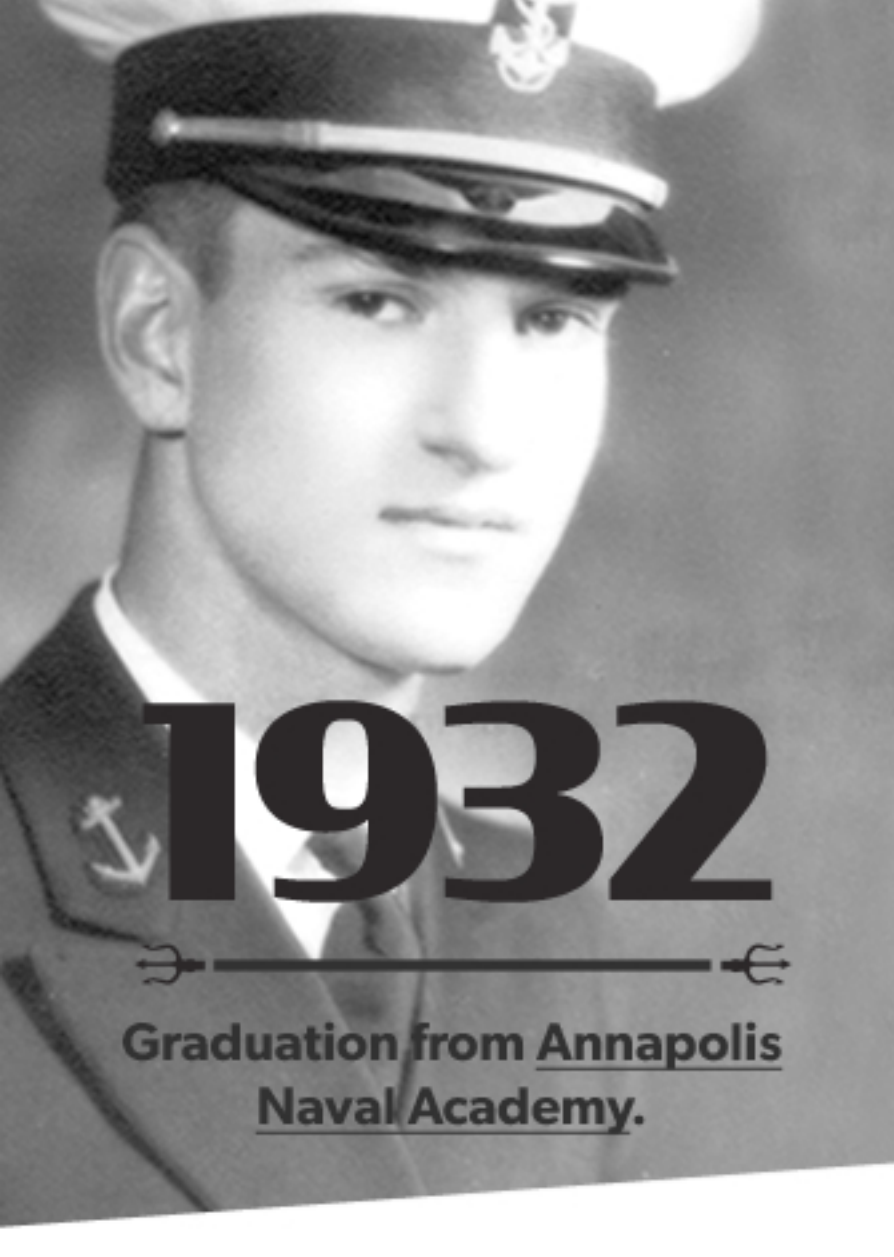
## 1911

**March 21:**

My grandfather, N. Minter Dial is born in Laurens, SC, to Josephine Minter and Senator Nathaniel Barksdale Dial.



Minter's Childhood - Western High School (DC).



## 1934

He marries my grandmother, Lisa Porter (Pasadena, California)

## 1938

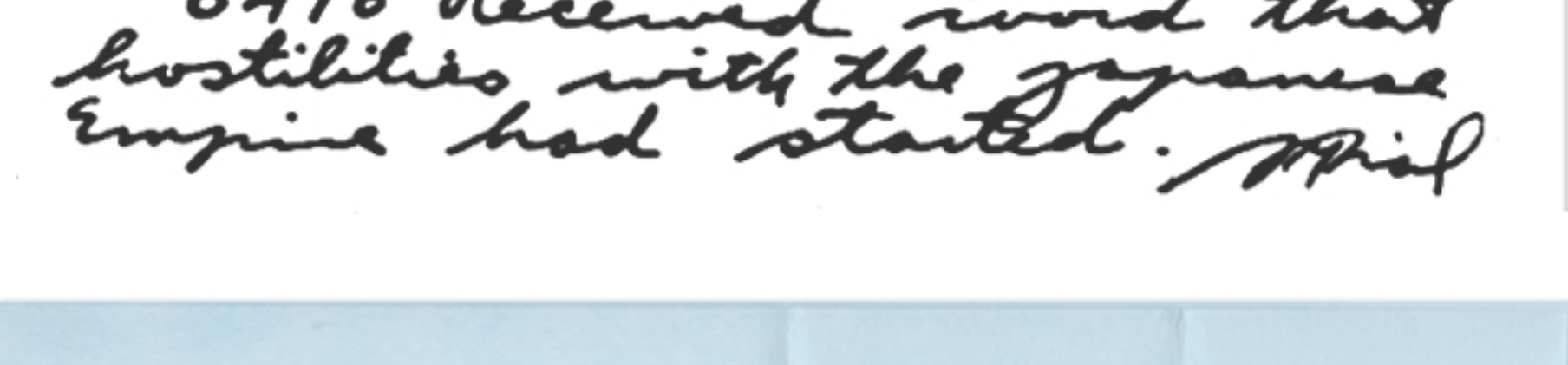
My father, Victor, is born (June 20).

My aunt, Diana, is born (April 16 1940).

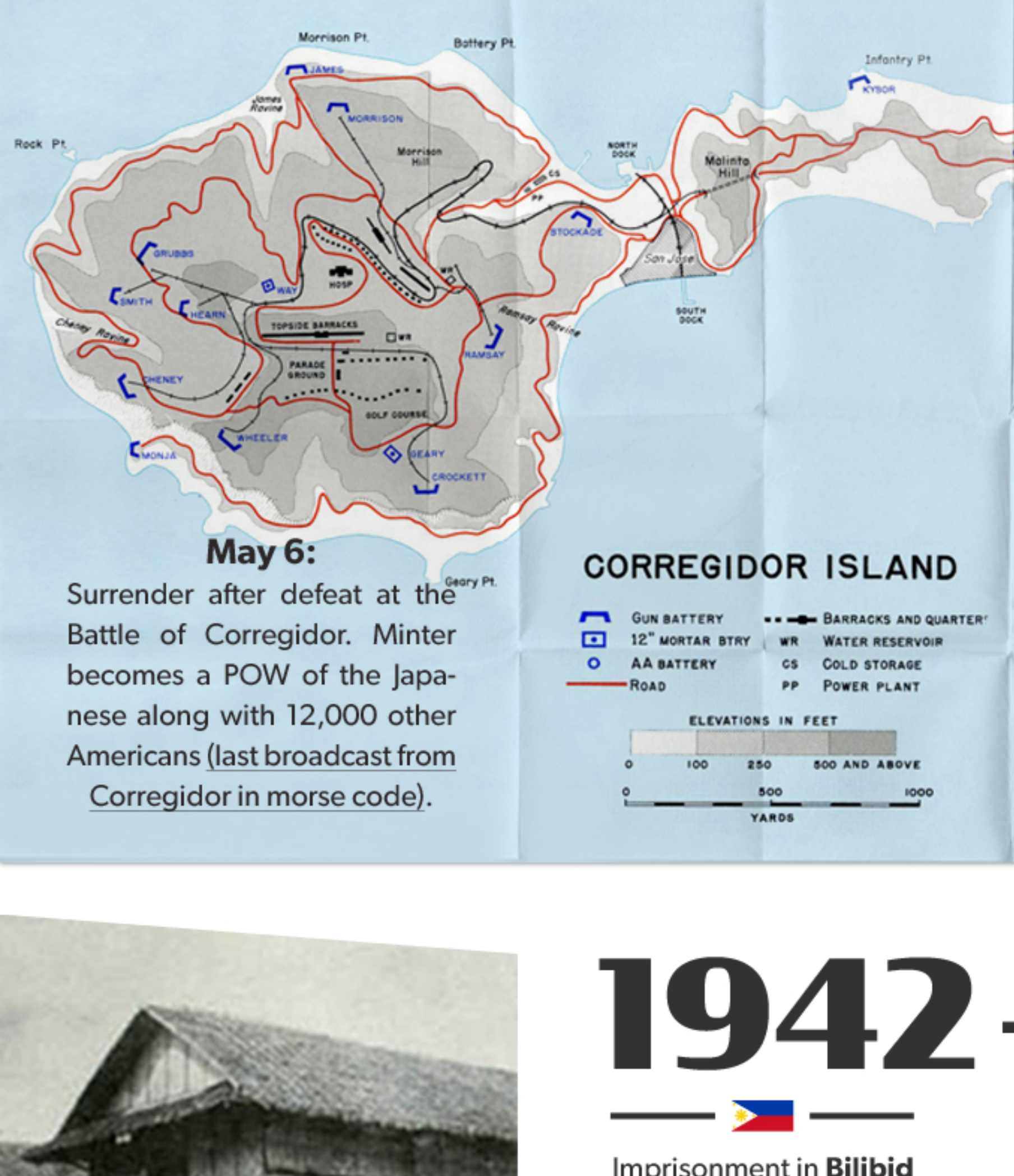


## 1941

My grandfather, Minter, is assigned to the Philippines, as captain of the USS Napa.



**December 8:** Over the dateline, war is declared in the Philippines after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.



## 1942

**March:** Lt. Minter Dial engages in a daring mission for which he is posthumously awarded the Navy Cross (citation).



## 1942-1944

Imprisonment in **Bilibid Prison** (Manila) then **Cabanatuan Prison Camp #1** (Luzon Province), Philippines.



## 1944

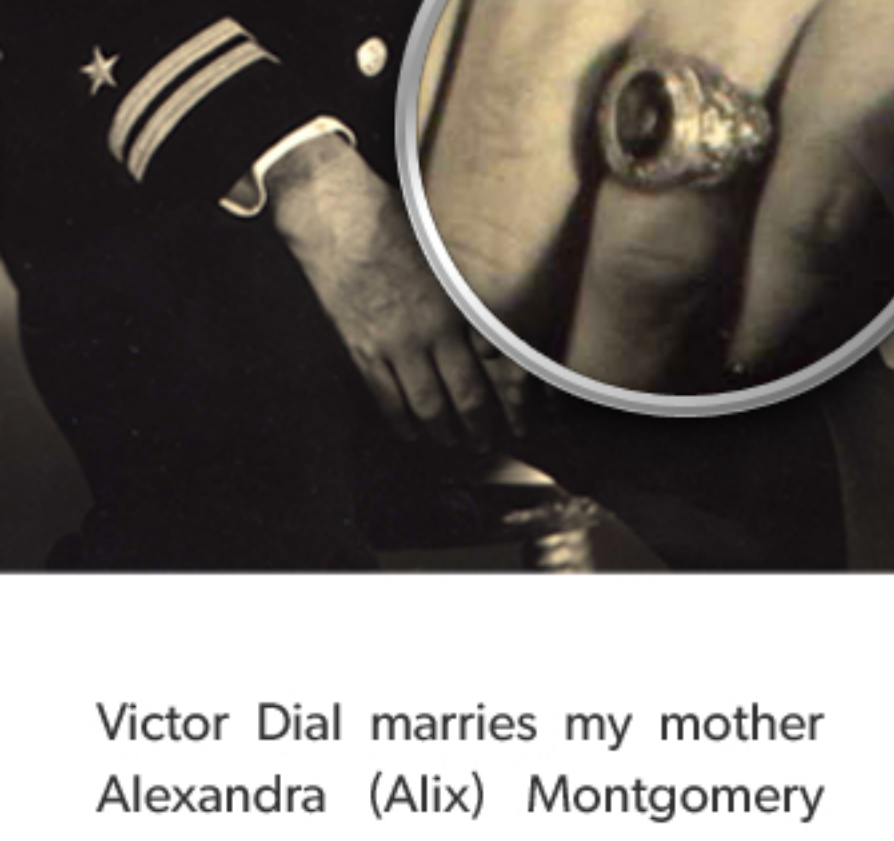
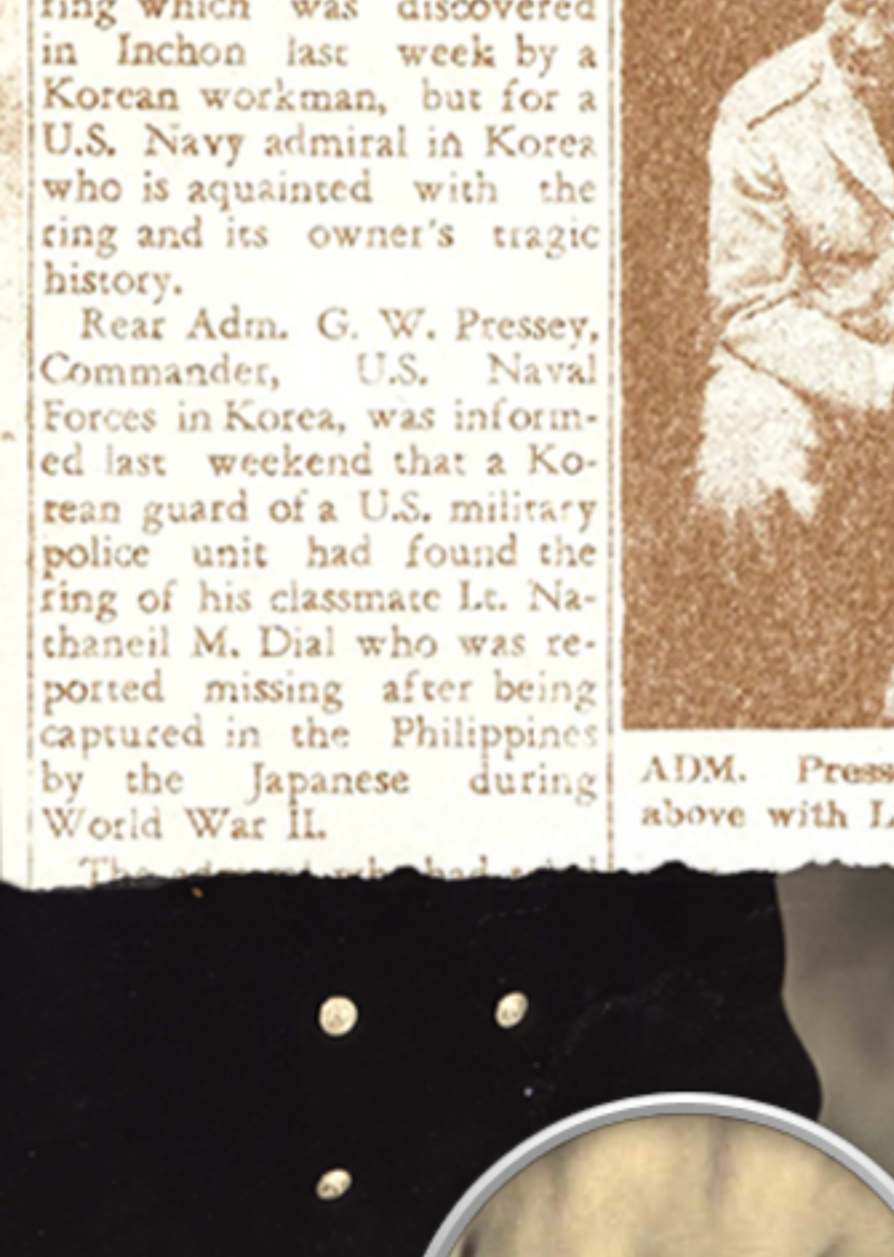
**December 15:** Death after the Oryoku Maru hellship is sunk, en route for Japan.... A dying Minter passes his last wishes and Annapolis ring to his friend, Lt. Douglas Fisher. The ring is lost under miserable circumstances. Minter's grave lies at Arlington Cemetery.

Douglas Fisher returns, without the ring, to deliver final message to Lisa in California. He slips his gold watch to my father in lieu of the ring.



## 1962

**May:** Rear Admiral George W. Pressey buys Minter's ring in a pawn shop in Inchon Korea, thanks to his chauffeur who had noticed the similarity with Pressey's own Annapolis ring (1932).



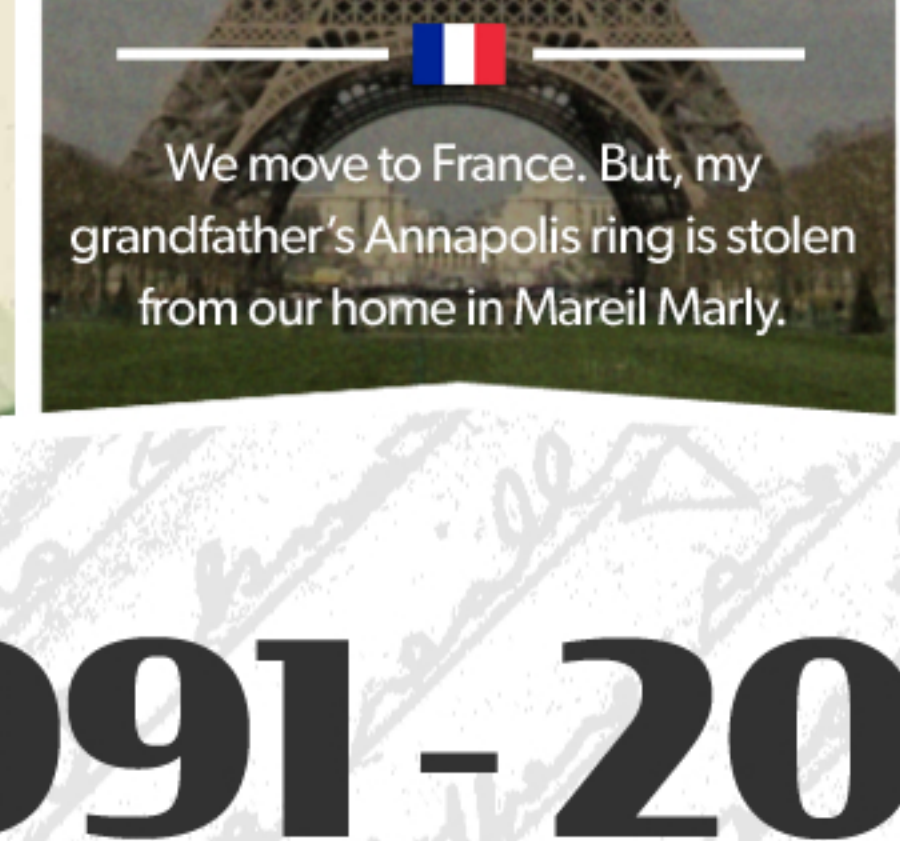
**My father, Lt N Victor Dial (USN), receives the ring from Pressey while stationed in New Orleans, LA.**

My grandmother, Lisa, receives the ring forwarded on to her by my father. She dies shortly thereafter.



## 1991

I move to Washington DC, having invested in a start-up. I receive a surprise telephone from the Western School, looking for my grandfather.



## 1991-2001

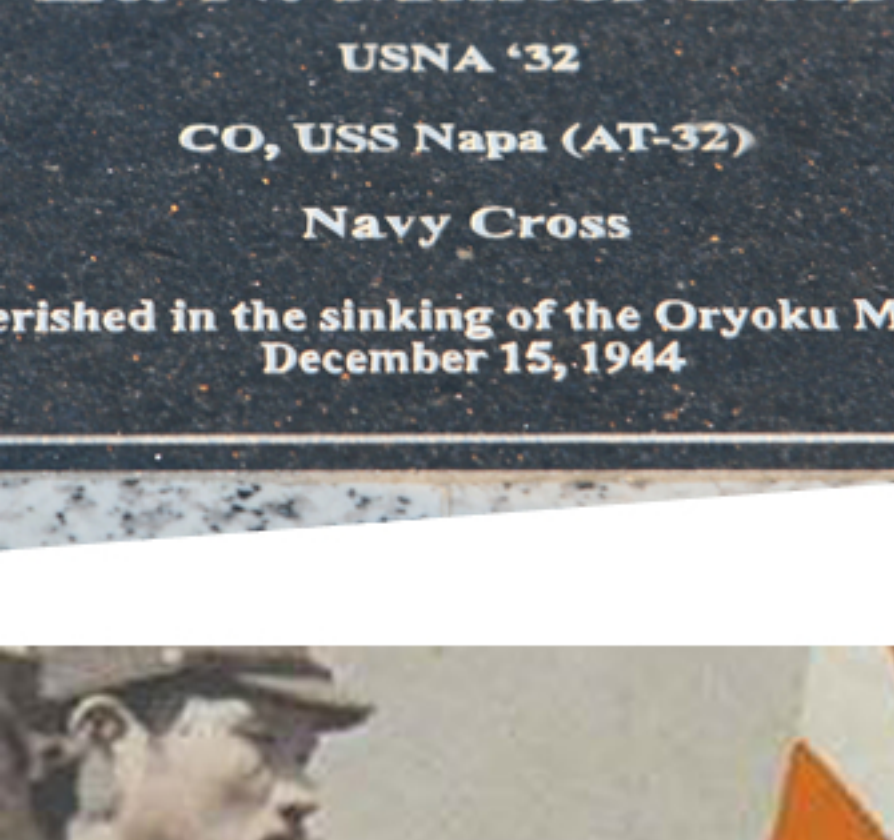
For ten years, I researched the life and death of my grandfather, traveling to POW conventions and to Korea, Japan, Australia & the Philippines. In parallel, I complete an extensive biography. (Pinterest board in his honor)



## 2001

**September 11:** I watch the second hijacked airplane fly down Manhattan and crash into the South Tower.

**September 12:** I hand over the manuscript to my father.



## 2004

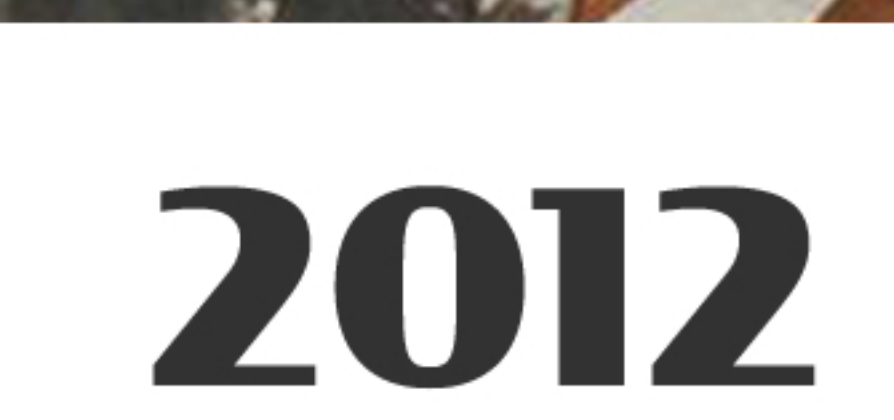
**December 15:** My father and I visit the Philippines to mark the 60th anniversary of the death of my grandfather. We lay a wreath in his honor (Hellship memorial).



## 2011

The story by Gilbert King is published in the Smithsonian. **December:** The story is published in Japanese on US-Japan Dialogue on POWs.

Haraku Ichimaru, eldest daughter of Admiral Rinosuke Ichimaru contacts me to share parallel story of her father's Edo period samurai sword.



## 2012

**March:**

Via Facebook, I met Margy Wooding, daughter of Admiral Pressey.

**November:**

I discover the granddaughter of Charlie Keene, my grandfather's roommate at Annapolis and an usher at his wedding...

## THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...

If you have any information about my grandfather or his missing ring, please contact me [contact@themyndset.com](mailto:contact@themyndset.com)

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