

LIBERTY AVIATION MUSEUM



Lynn R. Emerson Collection

PH-15.2

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Introduction

This collection was given to the Liberty Aviation Museum from the Michigan Military Preservation Society on behalf of Lynn R. Emerson, a veteran of World War II, and a Pearl Harbor survivor. Permission to use this collection for research purposes was granted by the donors.

Biographical Sketch

This collection features archives from Lynn R. Emerson, concerning the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, and his military service information. Lynn R. Emerson was born in Herron, Michigan (Alpena County) on 2 June 1915 to Roy and Lizzie (Holcomb) Emerson. Prior to WWII, he was an automotive mechanic and was living in Bay City, Michigan. He enlisted in the US Army Air Corps on 13 November 1940 in Detroit, Michigan. During his service, Emerson was an Airplane Sheet Metal Worker, he was based at Hickman Field, in Honolulu, Hawaii. He held a military qualification as a sharpshooter, rifle marksman w/ a carbine. He served throughout the entire Second World War and was discharged as a Staff Sergeant on 17 September 1945.

During his postwar years, he married Jean Ronald. Emerson, a survivor of Pearl Harbor, resided in and traveled to many places such as Mesa, Arizona; Sacramento, California, and returned to Pearl Harbor in the 1960s, for reunions of the Pearl Harbor Survivor's Association. The Pearl Harbor Survivors Association (PHSA) conducted many reunion events across the nation, and Emerson was active in attending these affairs. From 1962 to 1964 Emerson had attended three reunions and events put on by the PHSA. The twenty-first anniversary was held in 1962 in Long Beach, California, and a twenty-third annual reunion was held July 25, 1964 in San Francisco, California. December 1966 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Emerson attended ceremonies and events in Hawaii from December 4-10, 1966. Lynn R. Emerson died on 20 June 1982 in Mesa, Arizona in Desert Samaritan Hospital of cardiac arrest. He was buried in Mesa City Cemetery in Mesa, Arizona.

Scope and Content

This collection includes various documents and records from Lynn R. Emerson, including his Enlisted Record and Report of Separation, birth certificate and death certificate. This collection includes many of his dedications with the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. Emerson's papers were collected over the years of travels by attending the different events put on by PHSA. The entirety of the collection features pamphlets and brochures that would have been handed out at the ceremonies. Other items include periodicals, hotel items, receipts, photographs, and letters.

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Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1- Lynn R. Emerson with PHSA

Periodical, December 7, 1966 '*Hawaiian Falcon*'
Brochures & Pamphlets
Booklets and Publications
Travel Momentos and Relics

Folder 2-Emerson Family items

Two Photographs (That of an older woman)
One Award for venturing out in the Blizzard of 1997

Folder 3-Military & Personal Records

US Army Honorable Discharge Papers—Enlisted Record and Report of Separation (Form 53-55)
(Original/Official Photocopy)
US Army Separation Qualification Record (Photocopy)
State of Michigan Birth Certificate (Photocopy)
State of Arizona Death Certificate (Photocopy)

* Objects in relation to the Lynn Emerson Collection, Accession 2014.63, can be viewed upon request on site at **Liberty Aviation Museum** *

Objects in this collection include dog tags, service caps, commemorative medal, commemorative certificate and history book on Pearl Harbor.