



**Navy & Marine Corps
241ST BIRTHDAY BALL**


October 28, 2016

Presented by

University of Utah

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS

TRAINING CORPS



Sequence of Events

1800-1900 Cocktail Hour

1900-1945 Ceremony

1945-2045 Dining Hour

2100 Ceremonial Toast

2100-2300 Dancing Celebration



Traditional Toasts

It is traditional and customary to render an official toast during the Navy's Annual Birthday Celebration. The toasts are formal and are presented in the following order:

To the United States Marine Corps

To the United States Army

To the United States Air Force

To the Chief of Naval Operations

To the Commandant of the Marine Corps

To our blue Jackets at Sea

To our fallen comrades

To the United States Navy



Anchors Aweigh

Anchors Aweigh, my boys
Anchors Aweigh
Farewell to foreign shores
We sail at break of day, 'ay 'ay 'ay
Through our last night ashore
Drink to the foam
Until we meet once more
Here's wishing you a happy voyage home!




Marine Corps Hymn

From the Halls of Montezuma,
To the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles
In the air, on land, and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title
Of United States Marine.



Star Spangled Banner

Oh say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?



Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Eternal Father, Strong to save
Whose arm doth bide the restless wave.
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep.
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.



*The University of Utah NROTC
Commanding Officer
Captain Mark F. Springer*



Captain Mark Springer, a native of Hillsboro Oregon, graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1989 with a degree in Oceanography and was designated a Naval Aviator in March 1991. His first sea tour was with VP-4, NAS Barbers Pt Hawaii, where he deployed to Masirah Oman, Diego Garcia BIOT, Misawa Japan and Kadena AB Okinawa. Subsequent P-3 community tours include Weapons/Current Operations officer for Patrol Wing Ten, NAS Whidbey Island WA, FRS Instructor Pilot and Maintenance Material Control Officer for VP-30, NAS Jacksonville FL and Maintenance Officer for VP-46, NAS Whidbey Island WA, where he again deployed to the SEVENTH Fleet ADR.

His disassociated sea tour was as Catapult and Arresting Gear officer, USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) home ported in San Diego CA which included a Persian Gulf/Western Pacific deployment. Following his department head tour he served as the Social Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel for selection board matters, Navy Personnel Command, Millington TN.


From 2006-2009 he served as the Commanding and Executive Officer for VT-35, NAS Corpus Christi TX training prospective USN

P-3, USAF C-130 and USMC MV-22 pilots. During his tenure the squadron won the VADM Goldthwaite Training Excellence Trophy, CNO Safety Award and CNO Personal Excellence Partnership award for community service.


Following command he served as the Deputy Director for the Joint Information Operations Warfare Center, Lackland AFB, San Antonio TX as a component of US Strategic Command and subsequently the Joint Staff. In this capacity he conducted several overseas missions including Afghanistan and Honduras.

Captain Springer's major command tour was Navy Munitions Command, Yorktown VA, responsible for 20 ordnance detachments from New Jersey to Texas, Rota Spain, Sigonella Sicily and Bahrain. Captain Springer reported as the NROTC Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science for the University of Utah in July 2015. He has logged over 3,400 flight hours and earned a master's degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College in 2006. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2 awards), Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Navy Commendation Medal (4 awards) and various unit and campaign awards. He and his family currently reside in Bountiful UT.





George E. Wahlen



George Edward Wahlen was born on August 8, 1924 in Ogden, Utah. At the beginning of the war, he worked as an aircraft mechanic for the Army Air Corp at Hill Field, Utah. At the young age of 17, he managed a crew of five mechanics. His father refused to sign the enlistment papers, so George waited until his 18th birthday before volunteering for the draft.

He had hoped to enlist in the Air Corps and continue to work on airplanes, but due to enlistment quotas, he joined the Navy, reasoning he could work on Navy planes just as well. But after basic training, he was assigned to the hospital corps. Fearing he would spend the remainder of the war emptying bedpans, he volunteered for combat duty with the Marine Corps. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 26th Regiment, 5th Marine Division, and trained for over a year alongside his Marine comrades. On February 19, 1945, he was among the invasion force that landed on Iwo Jima. During 12 days on the island, he was injured three times before being evacuated. After many documented heroic deeds, he earned the Medal of Honor.

After the war, he married Melba Holley, and then earned an associate degree from Weber College in Ogden, Utah. He quickly became weary of the demands of being a

national war hero, so he chose to enlist in the Army in order to lessen the speaking and appearance requests.

He served during both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. After 21 years active duty, he retired with the rank of Major. As a civilian, he worked for over a decade with the Veteran's Administration, where he retired from civilian life at the age of 59. George Wahlen passed away on June 5, 2009.

George Wahlen is the only Medal of Honor recipient to have served with all four branches of the military, and to have served active duty in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He was also awarded three Purple Hearts.

Major Wahlen 1924-2009



