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Pruett/Pruitt/Prewitt

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Welcome Alan Pruitt

Alan, welcome to the group. I hope you will find this group useful and helpful. Please feel free to post any discussion item you like.

I hope you will tell us something about your family which you are reseaching. Its possible someone here will be able to answer your questions.

Your DNA group is Group D if you clickthe "Compare DNA" tab at top. There are a pretty large number of NC Pruitt photos as well.

Comments



Alan Pruitt Jan 11, 11

Thank you Ritch - I appreciate the welcome. I have been interested in my family history since high school and every few years something will trigger even more activity on my part. Several years ago I searched on eBay for "Pruitt" items and discovered a letter that was postmarked "U.S.S. Pruitt" from circa 1937. As a retired U.S. Marine, I could not resist bidding (and winning) on that item. The ship's namesake was Corporal John H. Pruitt, USMC (4 Oct 1896 – 4 Oct 1918) and is one of only 19 people who received TWO Medals of Honor. The Medals of Honor were presented posthumously for his actions during World War I. The USS PRUITT (DD-347) was on duty at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and was one of the few ships's that was able to get underway and return fire on the attacking Japanese airplanes on that terrible day. Years later, a Marine that I served with, told me a story about his brother who served on the USS PRUITT and was on the ship's deck - manning a gun that fired back at the Japanese. In 2007, when I moved to Arizona and I visited the State Capital in Phoenix; I noticed a war memorial in front of the capital building with only four individual names listed – John H. Pruitt is the very first name listed, along with Ira Hayes (another Marine), who helped raise the American flag on Iwo Jima at Mount Suribachi in that iconic Marine photograph. As it turns out - my step-father served on the USS SURIBACHI in the 1960s. Both Pruitt and Hayes were Arizona residents at the time of their brave actions and that is how they were recognized by the State of Arizona. In 2008, I travelled to Trap Hill in Wilkes County NC and collected a vast amount of information from the local area - including many photographs in the Round Hill Cemetery. I also interviewed some Pruitt members in the local area - including one gentleman that runs a general store that remembers one of my direct Pruitt ancestors - Hardin Pruitt (g-grandfather). I will scan and post the USS PRUITT envelope soon and I also wanted to mention that USS PRUITT gear can be purchased from: <http://www.historycentral.com/navy/destroyer2/pruitt.html>

Corporal John H. Pruitt source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_H._Pruitt

USS PRUITT source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Pruitt_\(DD-347\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Pruitt_(DD-347))

I look forward to sharing more Pruitt items.



M.P. Phelps Jan 11, 11

Hey Alan. Welcome to the group...



John W.Pruett-VA DF13 Jan 11, 11

Welcome to the group Alan and thanks for the interesting information. I too, had collected photos and information of John Henry Pruitt and the USS Pruitt and had planned to put them in an photo album some day when I had time. I always thought those Navy caps you can order that have USS Pruitt and DD-347 were a neat item. The Destroyer USS Pruitt at 36 knots was fast for it day and not bad even by today's standards. The ship was later converted to a minelayer and a mine sweeper. I have the action report for that day at Pearl Harbor and I think one sailor from the USS Pruitt was killed who was visiting another ship which was attacked.

Alan, I hope you post more interesting articles from your experience researching your family history.



Ritchie Pruitt

Wrote this on Jan 10, 11

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