Are you shopping for one of those people who really have everything? We have the antidote to your quandary. Purchase a Planes of Fame Air Museum memorial bench in their honor! A name, company, squadron etc. can be engraved on a sturdy bench that will be positioned in one of the seven hangars at the Museum. Your wonderful gift will give visitors an attractive, convenient resting place AND be a tribute to the individual or group you “gift” the bench for.

Benches are $1,500 and help the Museum further its mission. Call or e-mail Kristen Maloney to order your bench today!

Kristen can be reached at (909) 597-4754 or at kristen.maloney@planesoffame.org.
By Karen Hinton

With Halloween and Thanksgiving behind us Christmas is just around the corner. It’s time to reflect on the year, and plan how to maximize your charitable contributions before December 31.

For us at Planes of Fame, 2016 meant the loss of our founder, my father Ed Maloney. As tough as it is to get past the loss of our founder, my father Ed Maloney, we are very fortunate to have his legacy. Through the absence of our patriarch, we have been working on history, we have been working on the history of the plane.

After a presentation of the colors and a gathering to honor him and his service, and to say goodbye, Lt. Col. Ferrill Purdy saluted the crowd and then had a moment of silence. “There aren’t many of us left.”

First of all, he said he wanted to thank his family — his wife, mother, and other relatives — and to express his love to learning about our nation’s aviation history. The Corsair was flown in from Planes of Fame Air Museum in Chino, Ca.

All of these people — veterans, active military and civilians alike — had come to honor the service of one Mr. Ferrill Purdy — or Ll. Col. Purdy as he was known during the war. 90-year-old Fred Bethman, a fellow WWII veteran Wilbur Richardson about his missions as a ball turret gunner in the Pacific theater during WWII. He said that his engine to keep these activities and the plane flying is in Chino, California.

What does it take to sustain this level of activity? Well, dedicated volunteers first and foremost. But it also takes significant capital to keep the planes flying. It was when she began looking through his flight log books that she discovered that one of the planes Purdy flew in June 1944 was still around, still functioning and flown by the Planes of Fame Air Museum in Chino, California.

Purdy had to make an emergency landing into the ocean. “And his wingman stayed right next to him when his plane went into the water, and made sure to circle him so the other boys went back to get a Navy destroyer. Mr. Purdy says John [his wingman] saved my life.”

Following a brief roundup of Purdy’s service during WWII by Spry, a little more history about the Corsair from O’Bryan and the Corsair’s pilot Robbie Patterson, the time came. Mr. Purdy was taken outside, and more than 72 years after he last nestled the cockpit of this F4U-1 Corsair serial number 17799, he put the belly of the plane and smiled.

So she sent them an email. “We just knew it had to been in combat somewhere and I had been searching for log books for any history I could find on it with no luck,” Cory O’Bryan, a volunteer at the museum said. “Out of the blue then I got an email and a phone call one day and here we are — and that was only a couple of months.”

Spry introduced O’Bryan, as well as Col. Ferrill Purdy and introduced Michelle Spry. Thank you Michele Spry. Talked about Purdy’s experience in the Pacific.

After 72 Years, Veteran is Reunited with F4U Corsair

Michele Spry talked about Purdy’s service during WWII. He said they don’t really know what MGM used the plane for, if anything, but since the museum purchased the plane in the 1970s, it has been busy. It appeared in TV shows like Baa Baa Black Sheep and Airwolf, and in films like Flags of Our Fathers.

But they were missing a lot of the history of the Corsair. “Oh, it’s a long story,” said Col. Ferrill Purdy. “I’ll speak. But its history’s connection to this plane, they have found two other veterans who flew the Corsair. One of whom was Mr. Purdy’s wingman. Michele Spry talked about Purdy’s experience in the Pacific.

“We just knew it had to been in combat somewhere and I had been searching for log books for any history I could find on it with no luck,” Cory O’Bryan, a volunteer at the museum said. “Out of the blue then I got an email and a phone call one day and here we are — and that was only a couple of months.”

So she sent them an email. “We just knew it had to been in combat somewhere and I had been searching for log books for any history I could find on it with no luck,” Cory O’Bryan, a volunteer at the museum said. “Out of the blue then I got an email and a phone call one day and here we are — and that was only a couple of months.”

By Rebecca Smith NBIA

“All of this was made possible by the fund raising, determination and organization of Michele Spry. Thank you Michele!”

PLANNING A VISIT TO PLANES OF FAME

www.planesofofmuseum.org

www.planesoffame.org
By Karen Hinton

With Halloween and Thanksgiving behind us Christmas is just around the corner. It’s time to reflect on the year, and plan now to maximize your charitable contributions before December 31.

For us at Planes of Fame, 2016 meant commemorating the life of our founder, my father Ed Maloney. As tough as it is to get through the absence of our patriarch, we are very fortunate to have his legacy which sustains us and encourages all of us from all walks of life to continue to participate in aviation. Our volunteers and staff are more motivated than ever to continue his mission here at Planes of Fame.

That mission has always been to keep ’em flying. And we did that in 2016 with your support. The airshow was the best ever, a display of aviation history and current air power as well as the pilot prowess of top aerobatic performers like Sean Tucker. Over 30,000 people attended here at Chino, but countless more thousands enjoyed seeing the aircraft perform at airshows around the world with each other sanctioned by historic aircraft. Thank you to Starbuck’s at Euclid and Schaffer for donating the coffee and candy. Thank you for supporting Planes of Fame on Thanksgiving.

What does it take to sustain this level of activity? Well, dedicated volunteers first and foremost. But it also takes significant capital to keep the aircraft and the aircraft running strong. I hope you will consider supporting Planes of Fame as you pull out your checkbook or credit card to make your year-end donations. Every dollar counts! To quote Sir Winston Churchill, “We can make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Support Planes of Fame and enrich not only your life, but the lives of others. Thank you for believing in our mission, keeping my father’s legacy alive for another generation. The very best to you and your families in the upcoming holiday season!

Cory O’Bryan points out the day when Lt. Col. Purdy flew the F4U Corsair serial #17799 in combat during WWII that visited Columbia in October.

Cory O’Bryan points out the days when Lt. Col. Purdy flew the F4U Corsair in combat during WWII that visited Columbia in October.

After 72 Years, Veteran is Reunited with F4U Corsair

Cory O”Bryan points out the days when Lt. Col. Purdy flew the F4U Corsair in combat during WWII that visited Columbia in October.

Mr. Purdy says John [his wingman] called to give him the cockpit of this F4U-1 Corsair number 17799, he packed the belly of the plane and smiled.

by Rebecca Smith NBIA

All of this was made possible by the fund raising, determination and organization of Michele Spy. Thank you Michele!
Planes of Fame Air Museum
www.planesoffame.org

Are you shopping for one of those people who care about history? We have the antiques to your family. Purchase a Planes of Fame Air Museum memorial bench in their honor! A name, company, squadron etc. can be engraved on a sturdy bench that will be positioned in one of the seven hangars at the Museum. Your wonderful gift will give visitors an attractive, convenient resting place AND be a tribute to the individual or group you “gift” the bench for.

Benches are $1,500 and help the Museum further its mission. Call or e-mail Kristen Maloney to order your bench today!

Kristen can be reached at (909) 597-4754 or at kristen.maloney@planesoffame.org.

Board of Directors
Tom Nightingale (Chairman)
Karen Hinton, Steve Hinton, John Maloney, Bill Schanz
Founder
Edward T. Maloney
President
Steve Hinton
Vice President – Facilities
John Maloney

STAFF
Executive Director
Jarry Hitchens
Director – Grand Canyon
Bob Reed
Director of Retail & Visitor Services
Deborah J. Manning
Director of Marketing & Development
Harry "T" Geier
Office Manager
Kris Maloney

TWO LOCATIONS!
Planes of Fame, Chino Airport
7000 North Avenue, #17
Chino, California 91710
(909) 597-3722

Planes of Fame, Vallejo Air Museum
761 Maharishi Way
Valle-Wilkins, Arizona 85046
(928) 653-1000

The 10th Annual ‘Taste of Flight’ Gala, An incredible evening with Bud Anderson

By Frank R. Mermillo

The 10th Annual “Taste of Flight” Gala hosted by the Planes of Fame Air Museum at the Chino Airport, California on the evening of October 22, 2016 paid special tribute to World War II victory P-51 Mustang ace Colonel C.E. “Bud” Anderson. The featured speaker at the gala, Anderson went on to enjoy a distinguished post World War II career in the United States Air Force as a test pilot and fighter squadron and fighter wing commander before retiring from active duty in 1972 and going to work for McDonnell Douglas in flight test management.

At the “Taste of Flight” Gala, Anderson talked about his involvement in the FICON (Fighter Concepts) Project of the 1950s, testing the feasibility of carrying high-performance jet fighter planes in the belly of Boeing B-36 Peacemaker strategic bombers. The idea was to carry the fighters long distances toward potential targets, release them for high-speed dashes into enemy territory, and then recover them for the flight back home. Anderson described the initial difficulties involved in maneuvering the fighters into position for attachment to the bombers in flight.

The featured raffle at the gala was the Planes of Fame Air Museum’s RF-4K, which was finished in its original 911 SRS colors and markings specifically for the event. Prior to the gala, Planes of Fame asked Anderson to supply an RF-4K photo as reference for the colors and markings, and purely by chance, the photo he supplied was of the museum’s jet, 82-7263. At the conclusion of his presentation, Anderson received the museum’s Planes of Fame Achievement in Aviation Award from President Steve Hinton and Chairman Tom Nightingale.

A major fund raiser to help support aircraft preservation, educational programs and new displays at the Planes of Fame Air Museum, the “Taste of Flight” Gala also presented guests with the opportunity to enjoy wine and beer tasting, a variety of food and dessert options and a silent auction featuring a plethora of aviation ephemera, aviation-themed gift packages, travel and entertainment packages, and even aviation-themed bicycles and motorcycles. Also auctioned off for vocal bidding were autographed bottles of Old Crow whiskey provided by “Bud” Anderson; “Old Crow” was the name on the North American P-51 Mustang that Anderson flew in combat with the 457th Fighter Group in World War II. Great Food, Beverages, and People made the evening an enjoyable and informative event for all. The event also raised funds to ‘Help Keep em flying.’ Thank you all to all the Sponsors and Volunteers that helped make the 10th Annual ‘Taste of Flight’ worthwhile success.

Top left: Bud Anderson captivates the audience with his test pilot presentation.
Top right: Bud Anderson receives the Planes of Fame Achievement in Aviation Award from Tom Nightingale and Steve Hinton.

Delicious food and drink was served by caterers, vendors and brewers that helped sponsor the event.

For more information about Planes of Fame Air Museum, call (909) 597-3722 or visit www.planesoffame.org.