



The Lutheran Home for the Aged Association-East
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Nursing Facility
Townhomes
Assisted Living Apartments
Home Health Agency

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"Providing Quality Christian Care and Service"

We are on the Web!
www.lhaa-e.org

REFLECTIONS is the newsletter published by The Lutheran Home for the Aged Association-East, a not-for-profit organization, providing quality health care, housing and services for seniors.

The Lutheran Home for the Aged Association-East does not discriminate in its employment practices or admissions to its facilities or programs of care because of a person's sex, race, color, age, religious creed, national origin, military duty, marital status, veteran status, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or any other classification prohibited by law.

Spiritual Corner

By Rev. Christopher Neuendorf, Davenport Chaplain

The Joy of Resurrection

There is no greater celebration in the Christian Church than that of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Everything else culminates in and flows from this one blessed event. Jesus was conceived, born, suffered, and died so that He could rise from the dead, and it is to His resurrection from the dead that the Apostles and the whole Christian Church forever bears witness. Nothing else in the whole history of the universe even compares.

But the resurrection of Jesus did not take place for its own sake. Jesus rose from the dead that we might rise with Him! St. Paul writes that Jesus "was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification" (Romans 4:25). The sins of the world are forgiven through the resurrection of Jesus! Therefore St. Paul writes of all who

are baptized that "you were also raised with

Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses ..., God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses" (Colossians 2:12-13). Because our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake, we will be raised on the Last Day as He was on Easter Sunday, and we will live with Him in righteousness and peace forever.

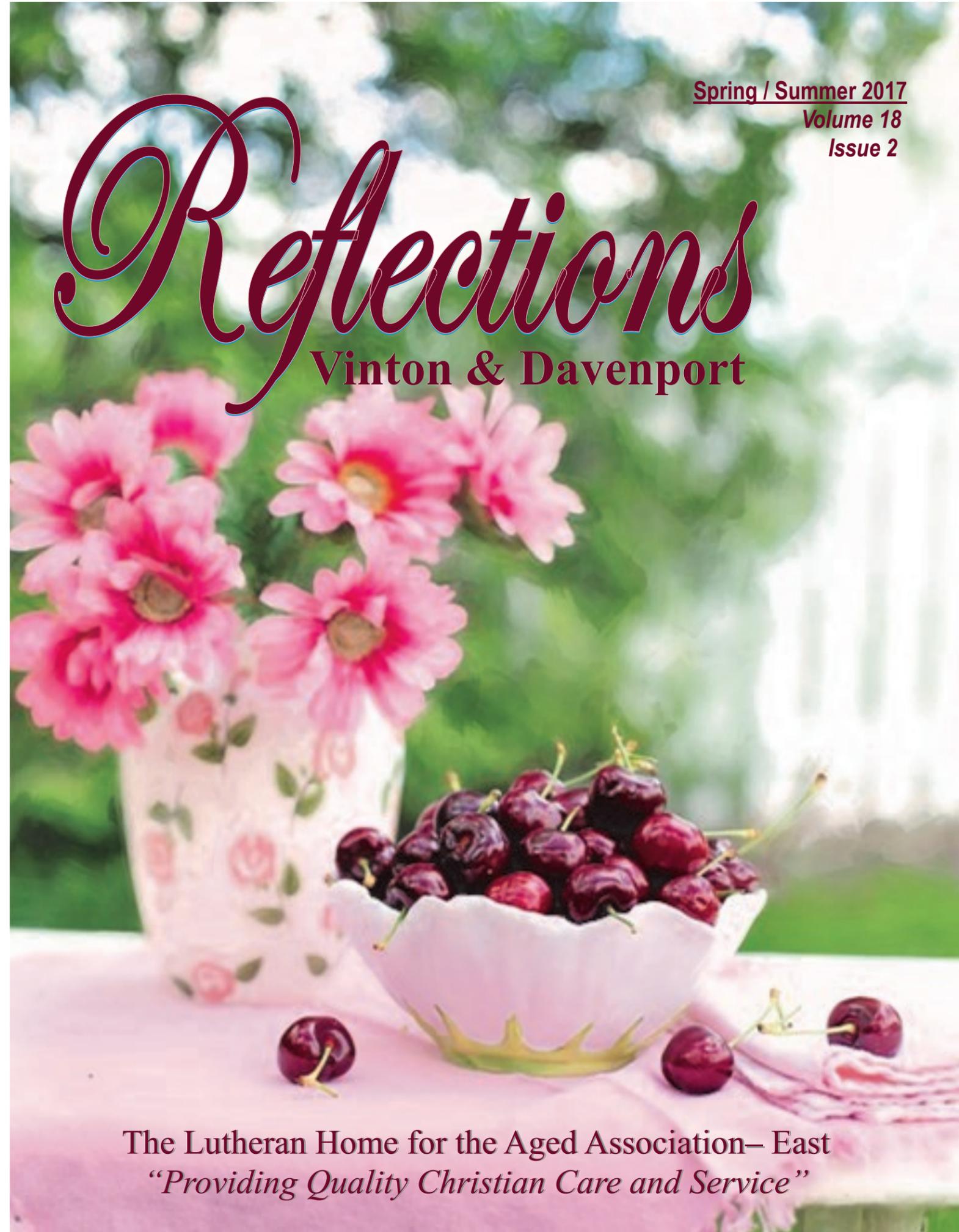
That means that, however certain it may be that we will suffer bodily death at the time appointed beforehand by God, it is far more certain that the afflictions we suffer will all have their preordained end. Whether it be reduced mobility, memory loss, debilitating disease, or even terminal illness, none of the things that trouble us in this life have any portion in the life to come. Their days are numbered, but our days are numberless through the resurrection



Spring / Summer 2017
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Issue 2

Reflections

Vinton & Davenport



The Lutheran Home for the Aged Association— East
"Providing Quality Christian Care and Service"

Who are the Heroes?

By definition:

A hero is a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities:

So what do Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day have in

common? You guessed it, they each honor heroes. The Lutheran Home

Communities are home to many

such heroes, and our staff are often

spellbound as they listen to their

stories of war and parenthood.

What an honor it is to care for those

who so selflessly cared for others.

Reflections

Vinton & Davenport

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EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

Congratulations to:

Shelley Spangler, CNA, Vinton
5 year anniversary (May 17, 2012)

Lana Elwick, Community Relations Director, Vinton, 5 year anniversary (June 19, 2012)

Jennifer Bunten, Dining Services, Vinton
5 year anniversary (September 12, 2012)

Kathleen Carter, CNA, Davenport
5 year anniversary (May 3, 2012)

Ashley McKnight, CNA, Davenport
5 year anniversary (May 3, 2012)

Dawn Davis, Housekeeping & Laundry, Davenport 5 year anniversary (May 7, 2012)

Joseph Frank, Dining Services, Davenport
5 year anniversary (May 17, 2012)

Marna Nicola, LPN, Davenport
5 year anniversary (June 21, 2012)

Ashley Wilson, Dining Services, Davenport
5 year anniversary (June 26, 2012)

Alyssa Britton, CNA, Davenport
5 year anniversary (September 27, 2012)

Jennifer Alderson, CNA/CMA, Vinton
10 year anniversary (July 26, 2007)

Carmen Espanto, RN, Davenport
10 year anniversary (September 6, 2007)

LHAA-E Upcoming Summer Events

VINTON LUTHERAN HOME:

June 7th - June 28th "The Drive Thru" will take place every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Join us for ½ pound burgers on pretzel buns, chips, and homemade malts.

June 15th - Father/Son Night at 6:30 p.m.

June 24th - Party in the Park Parade: *time pending*

August 6th - Ice Cream Social 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

August 2nd - August 30th - "The Drive Thru" will take place every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Join us for ½ pound burgers on pretzel buns, chips, and homemade malts.

DAVENPORT LUTHERAN HOME:

June 9th - Celebration Belle Boat Ride 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

June 15th - Men's Social at 2:30 p.m.

Gifts of Love

Listed below are the names of persons or groups who have made a special gift, and the persons so remembered, from February 1, 2017, to April 30, 2017.

Contributions:

Alliant Energy Foundation, Inc.,
Matching Gifts Program/Del
Block, Princeton, NJ

Bern Family Foundation Fund at the
Community Foundation of the
Great River Bend, Bettendorf

Debra Batchelder, Decorah

Janet Berens, Strawberry Point

Daniel Blanchard, Belle Plaine

William & Elaine Brown, Cedar Falls

Evelyn Casserly, Coralville

Chris Bierchen's Card Club, Vinton

Sylvia Clemmensen, Elk Run Heights

Kim Cook, Newhall

Vicki Coppinger, Davenport

Joan Dvorak, Vinton

Gladys Folkmann, Vinton

Glen Dale Geiger's Family, Vinton

Toni Grove, Clearwater, MN

Roger Haerther, Shellsburg

Lester & Alma Happel, Cedar Rapids

Vernon Happel, Cedar Rapids

Ester Ann Hite, Vinton

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran
Church, Davenport

Daniel Kraus, Davenport

Blake & Jess Lahmann, Cedar Falls

Dina Lanham, Vinton

Doris Mauer, Cedar Falls

Richard Melick, Cedar Falls

Wayne & Susan Meyerhoff, Waterloo

Lyle Mohr, Davenport

Ruth Mund, Cedar Rapids

Brett & Robin Nelson, Johnston

Dan Newton, Blairstown

Christine St. Onge, Chesterfield, MO

Mark & Carolyn Phippen, Vinton

Rev. Donald Pohlars, Statesboro, GA

Sandy Prichard, Dysart

Risen Christ Lutheran Church,
Davenport

Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids

Norm & Zelda Sackett, Center Point

R.A. Schanbacher, Newhall

James Schlotfeldt, Cedar Rapids

Rev. Larry & Jane Schmidt,
Cedar Rapids

Allenor Selck, Atkins

Daniel & Dina Smidt, Des Moines

Andrew & Christine Smith, Vinton

St. John Lutheran Church, Center Point

St. Stephen's Ladies Society, Atkins

Jenny Tarrant, Galesburg, IL

The Family of Wendell Watts, Davenport

The Lutheran Church Missouri
Foundation, Loyal Liebsch
Endowment Fund, St Louis, MO

Thrivent Choice Program, Appleton, WI

Trinity Lutheran Church, Davenport

Trinity Lutheran Church, Vinton

Carol Van Horn, Vinton

Kathleen Vogel, Waterloo

Steve & Rosemary Weber, Waterloo

Rev. Thomas Wegener, Cedar
Falls

Marlyn & Luana White, Shellsburg

Pam Woolison, Vinton

In Loving Memory of:
Wanda Ash
Ethel Braun
Dorothy Mae DeMoss



"He believed in me!"

This year marks Mike Newburry's 10th anniversary of work at the Vinton Lutheran Home. Mike loves his job, and the relationships he forms with the residents through his work as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

"The residents become like my family," Mike shared "and I enjoy spending time with them."

Outside of work, Mike spends time helping to care for his own family. Mike is the father of three children who think the world of him. In fact, his 4th grade daughter Maliah said it best: "I always think about how he is a hero and how he is unique from other people. I love my dad!"

Mike doesn't share this "hero" opinion however, he related: "I've never considered myself a hero. I simply want what is best for my children, to protect and raise them the best that I can. I want to pick them up when they fall, and praise them for doing what is right. I want to cherish their childhood and help them make great memories as they grow. I know that life is short and I

want to make the most of it with my family. My Mike Newburry with his daughter, Maliah.



ultimate goal is to watch my

children succeed in life."

Maliah drew this picture for her Dad because he is her Hero!



Davenport Memory Care Unit is Progressing Right Along!



In roughly one month the new memory care addition at the Davenport Lutheran Home will be complete. Our construction crew is diligently working to ensure a safe and beautiful home that will be ready to accept our residents.



All that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel Mother.

~ Abe Lincoln

Bunny Fritch has learned more life lessons from her mother than she can count, and the lessons started early. Irene Geiger taught her 3 children how to have faith, to love, to laugh, to work, and to play— and Bunny caught on quickly.

"As a farm kid, I really had the best of both worlds," reflected Bunny. "I learned about nature and animals, as well as a long list of domestic duties including how to cook, can, sew, keep house, serve others, and raise a family. I have always admired that my mother managed to laugh and look beautiful as she completed this multitude of tasks!"

Bunny went on to share that as a child she thought every little girl's mom was amazing like hers. It was only as Bunny matured, that she realized just how special her mother is. "To me she was just mom. It never dawned on me that not all moms are considered heroes."

When asked what the most important lesson Irene ever taught her, Bunny responded, "Mom always says, 'Make the best of every situation, always look for the positives, share your hugs and happiness, and say 'I love you' often'. Mom's advice, combined with the strength of her faith, her positive outlook, and joy-filled response to the little things, have served as inspiration to me, our entire family, and everyone she meets."

Today, Irene resides at the Vinton Lutheran Home where Bunny visits her daily.

"We may not cook or sew together anymore, but we still enjoy each other's company. At the Lutheran Home we often eat meals together, attend chapel, go to activities, spend time in the gardens, and simply enjoy each other's

company. My momma will al-

Bunny Fritch and her mother, Irene Geiger.

ways be my hero,



Tara Farrell and Teresa Hill.

Tara Farrell and Teresa Hill have a lot in common. They work as Certified Nursing Assistants at the Davenport Lutheran Home, live in the same neighborhood, and are related to one another--mother/daughter to be exact.

Tara worked at the Davenport Lutheran Home about 13 years ago, but had to quit when she moved away. Upon returning to the area, she knew exactly where she wanted to work.

"I've been a C.N.A. for 25 years and worked in 7 different facilities," Tara explained. "Being back at the Davenport Lutheran Home feels like I have come home!"

Teresa recently joined the Davenport Lutheran Home family as well, thanks in large part to her mother. "My mom always shared wonderful things about working here" Teresa explained, "I knew that someday I wanted to work at the facility too—and here I am today!"

Teresa went on to share how her relationship with her mother has grown and strengthened over time.

"Aside from a strong work ethic, my mom taught me how to get along with others and the importance of family. Though I am an adult now, I still rely upon my mom whenever something goes wrong in my life, and she always answers my call. As I've gotten older I've realized that my mom truly is my hero."

Not all family members would enjoy working together, but both Tara and Teresa see it as a blessing.

"My mom isn't getting any younger," Teresa related. "So I value the time I spend with her, whether at work or not. The more time we spend together, the more

I think a hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people.

~ Maya Angelou



Vinton Assisted Living Tenant

Grace Milroy

WWII Navy Wave Veteran

Grace Milroy, one of Vinton's Assisted Living Tenants, first joined the Waves (Women in the Navy) in 1942. After extensive training, she was stationed in Washington D.C. and was assigned to the Casualty Section. Grace was tasked with taking the names of the Navy personnel who died and writing letters to their next of kin. In each letter Grace wrote, she gave the family of the deceased Navy personnel as much detail as she could regarding the events leading up to the death.

"I provided the family with any information that wasn't classified," Grace shared. "One of the most touching letters I ever wrote was to the mother of a young priest. He wanted someone to assure his mom that he was able to say his prayers before his death. I was honored to be that messenger."

Grace's job was not without hardships. For instance, she wasn't allowed to go home on holidays, nor was she paid well. Yet despite those difficulties, she has never had any regrets about joining the military, and has never considered herself a hero for doing so. Grace expressed: "Each qualified American citizen was asked to contribute in some way to the war effort. I was single, had no children, and was of sound mind and body. There was no reason for me not to join the Waves. I learned many valuable life lessons from the military. I was taught how to get along with others, live within my means, and most importantly, that if you work hard enough toward your goals, everything will work out the way God intended."



Davenport Lutheran Home Resident

Ralph Schneider

WWII Navy Veteran

"It's a beautiful thing; to take off from the water and fly in a Seaplane," said Aviation Ordnance man, First Class, **Ralph Schneider**, who served four years on a Patrol Bomber, Medium (PBM) during the Second World War. A Medium Bomber is an aircraft designed to operate with medium-sized bombloads over medium range distances. The *Box 6* was the name of the aircraft that Ralph was assigned to and his squadron consisted of 15 men. The *Box 6* was 80 feet long with a 115 foot wingspan. There were twin, 500 HP engines on the aircraft which was equipped with eight bombs and eight, 50 caliber machine guns.

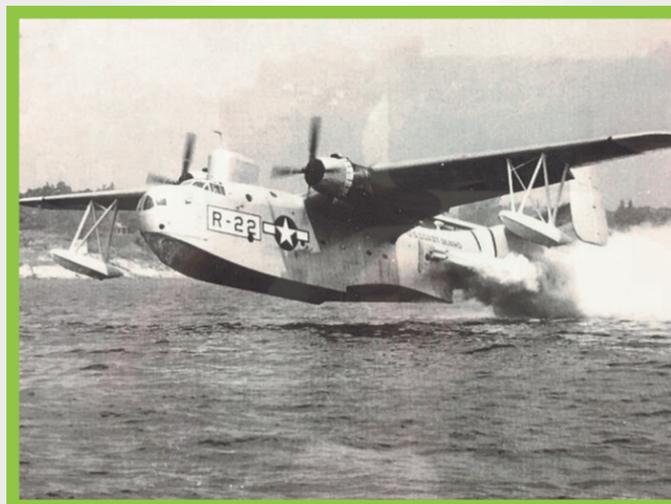
The Aviation Ordnance men were responsible for the maintenance of guns, bombs, and any other artillery that the bomber was equipped with. Ralph's duties included stowing, issuing, and loading munitions and small arms, often transporting these arms to ports and islands in the South Pacific. He was a bombardier and chief machine-gunner. Unlike other squadrons, the Patrol Bombers had to land the aircraft on water, often landing in the ocean, after a battle to retrieve the wounded. Ralph's crew administered first aid and transported the wounded soldiers to a hospital ship.

Ralph's tours involved flying around at least half of the world during his service time, allowing him the opportunity to collect a variety of war memorabilia. One especially prized possession is a sword from a native islander. Ralph traded his uniform for this sword but unfortunately left his billfold in the pocket of his pants. This sword cost him a little more than just a set of fatigues, but it makes for a great story!

Ralph's military family is extensive and includes his father, brother and son. When asked about his time in the Navy, Ralph said, "I wouldn't take a million dollars for the experience, but I wouldn't give a million to do it again, either."



Ralph's squadron posing in front of The Box 6.



Navy Seaplane during takeoff.

"He believed in me!"

"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person: He believed in me!"

~ Jim Valvano

Davenport Lutheran Home Resident, Ralph Schneider, may look like an ordinary man, but to his son Tom, he is anything but. Tom and his father have always been close.

"Dad is a great mentor," Tom expressed. "He has always led by example."

Tom recalled many fond memories of spending time with his father.

"My dad is my hero having always provided me with constant support. There was never a time in my life when he wasn't there for me. When I was a boy, dad took me camping and fishing. As adults, we were on the same bowling league. After dad retired, we golfed together. I will forever treasure all of those memories."

The greatest lesson Ralph taught Tom was honesty. Tom shared:

"Dad is an honest man, and he instilled that in me. He always said 'It's easier to remember the truth than a lie'."

Bringing Ralph to the Davenport Lutheran Home was a difficult decision for Tom to make. As the demands of Ralph's care progressed, however, Tom knew he made the right choice.

Tom visits Ralph almost daily and treasures the time he gets to spend with him.

"I will continue to support my dad, as he supported me," Tom explained.

DLH Resident, Ralph Schneider & his son, Tom.



"He is my hero, and