

WORLD WAR II VETERAN FRANK MAZUR

By Richard Long

The year was 1945. Sunflower resident Frank Mazur graduated from high school and immediately enlisted in the US Navy. The war in Europe was winding down but there was still substantial conflict in the Pacific, it took a few years before all Japanese surrendered.

After basic training, Frank entered school to become a weather forecaster Class A-B. Upon completion of training, he was stationed on an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific. Quite possibly, the most important of his duties, was to brief pilots about weather related flight risks prior to their individual missions.

Nearing the end of Frank's enlistment, he planned to return to civilian life. However, President Truman froze his career field because of the impending Korean War. As a result, Frank became a career veteran. He served in Korea and also shipboard during the Vietnam Conflicts He remembers advising our fighter pilots of the dangerous Vietcong strategy of stretching cables between mountains to catch the wings of our aircraft.

After completing twenty years of service in 1965, Frank retired from the Navy. He enrolled at San Jose State and studied geography. Then on to Berkley University where he received his BA and MA. He began teaching Oceanography and Weather Forecasting at Skyline Community College where his students were primarily FAA controllers.

Frank ended his working life teaching high school math in the Fremont School System. He also coached football and golf.

Frank, Thank You for your service.



Frank Mazur