

CWO-3 Walter Winfrey USN – RET

CWO Walter Winfrey was born on 24 April 1915. He enlisted in January 1936, served in USS WEST VIRGINIA (BB 48) for the duration of his first enlistment and was honorably discharged. Walt reenlisted in April 1940, and attended AG "A" School Class 4020 from November 1940 until May 1941 and AG "B" School Class 4603 (B-3) during late 1946 at Lakehurst, NJ. His assignment from AG "A" School was to NAS Seattle, WA. After a few months, he was transferred to Dutch Harbor, AK for further transfer to Kiska, AK, arriving on Kiska in December 1941. He was one of the 10 man Weather Station when the Japanese invaded Kiska on 06 June 1942. AerM 3/c Winfrey was wounded in the right thigh by the Japanese landing force and was able to successfully evade capture for 11 days. Later, he was transported to Japan as a Prisoner Of War (POW), surviving the brutal treatment as a POW until his release on August 31, 1945. His was fire- bombed out of one POW Camp by B-29s. Walt retired from Instructor Duty at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey on 30 April 1957.