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# The town of Hubbard, Oregon wants to honor this Marine by honoring everyone who ever served.

Nearby towns have memorials to Vietnam and Korean War veterans, but the town of Hubbard, Oregon, wants to honor everyone who ever served the United States of America.

They are building a memorial and naming it in honor of Marion E. Carl (story inside), born in Hubbard, a Major General in the U.S. Marine Corps. A quiet and unassuming man, Marion Carl set records in the air, and inspired uncommon loyalty and respect in the people he commanded.

Please join us in recognizing all of those, active duty, discharged, retired or reserve, who serve their country. The memorial is a project of the Hubbard Parks Improvement Committee, an independent 501(c)(3) corporation.



*Marion Carl set a world speed record in this Douglas Skystreak on August 25, 1947*



*Marion Carl, second tour, Guadalcanal, late 1943. The aircraft is a F4U-1 Corsair.*

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# Maj. Gen. Marion E. Carl, USMC (ret.)

Marion Carl was born November 1, 1915, and grew up milking cows and doing chores on a farm outside of Hubbard, Oregon.

“If I had a major fault,” he commented in his autobiography, aptly entitled *Pushing the Envelope*, “it was a happy-go-lucky attitude coupled with a love of speed.”

The aviation bug bit as he was starting classes at Oregon State College in Corvallis. Marion took private flying lessons, and enrolled in an “aviation option” to the engineering program at OSC. His classmates went to work for Boeing, but Marion wanted to fly. He graduated in 1938 with a commission as Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve, Corps of Engineers, but resigned that commission and began pilot training as a private first class in the U.S. Marine Corps.

That was the beginning of a career of change-ups in accomplishment and responsibility that spanned three wars, and three and one-half decades of American and aviation history.

Not every young man who loves speed has what it takes to become a fighter pilot. Not every fighter pilot earns the Navy Cross on his first combat mission. Not ev-

*Major General Carl was shot to death on June 28, 1998 while protecting his wife, Edna, during a burglary of their home in Roseburg, Oregon*

*“Aside from his combat and flight test records, Marion Carl’s legacy is one of extreme skill combined with rare modesty and concern for those entrusted to his care.”*

ery flying ace goes on to set world records in experimental aircraft for the next dozen years. Not every test pilot gets to wear the stars of a general officer.

And not every general officer earns the admiration and respect that was almost universally accorded to Marion Carl during his lifetime, and afterwards.

People were proud to have known him, and Hubbard is proud to claim him as a native son. His accomplishments were stellar, but it is especially fitting to honor this quiet and unpretentious man, who showed such care for the men in his command, by honoring all officers and enlisted men who ever served their country.



*Major General  
Marion E. Carl*

Excerpts from Carl’s official USMC biography follow:

Marion E. Carl was designated a Naval aviator with the rank of second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in December, 1939.

He earned Navy Crosses at Midway and Guadalcanal, and he became the first Marine Corps ace on August 26, 1942.

In July, 1943, Lieutenant Carl began his second tour of duty in the South Pacific,  
*(continued on page 4)*

*A complete list of the general’s medals and decorations includes: the Navy Cross with gold star in lieu of a second Navy Cross; the Legion of Merit with Combat “V” and gold stars in lieu of second through fourth awards; the Distinguished Flying Cross with four gold stars in lieu of second through fourth awards; the Air Medal with two silver stars and three gold stars in lieu of second through fourteenth awards; the Presidential Unit Citation with one bronze star; the American Defense Service Medal with Base Clasp; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three bronze stars; the American Campaign Medal; the World War II Victory Medal; the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star; the Vietnam Service Medal; and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.*

*The Roseburg (Oregon) Regional Airport, and the airfield at Marine Corp Air Station Kanehoe Bay (Hawaii) are named in honor of Marion E. Carl.*

# The Marion E. Carl Veterans' Memorial

The Marion E. Carl Veterans' Memorial will be sited on the Wolfer Will Greenway in central Hubbard.

The memorial will consist of a monument to Marion Carl, flanked by flagpoles displaying the U.S.A, State of Oregon, and POW flags, and fronted by a plaza with benches. Lighting will keep the monument and flags visible around the clock, and the City of Hubbard will maintain the memorial, once it is complete.

***Of the \$20,865 cost of the project, \$14,168 has been raised through general donations and sales of engraved paving bricks. A balance of \$6,697 is needed to make the memorial a reality.***

Linda Kleczynski has been the power behind the Marion E. Carl Memorial. She has been working on it, and dreaming about it, for more than three years – the latest project in a 20-plus-year career of volunteerism in Hubbard by Linda and Ken Kleczynski and the non-profit Hubbard Parks Improvement Committee.

After getting three Hubbard Parks updated and safe for children to enjoy, Linda approached the

Marion Carl Memorial with the same energy, extending her appeals to neighboring towns, and to organizations of veterans who will see clearly the value in setting aside a space to remember those who served.

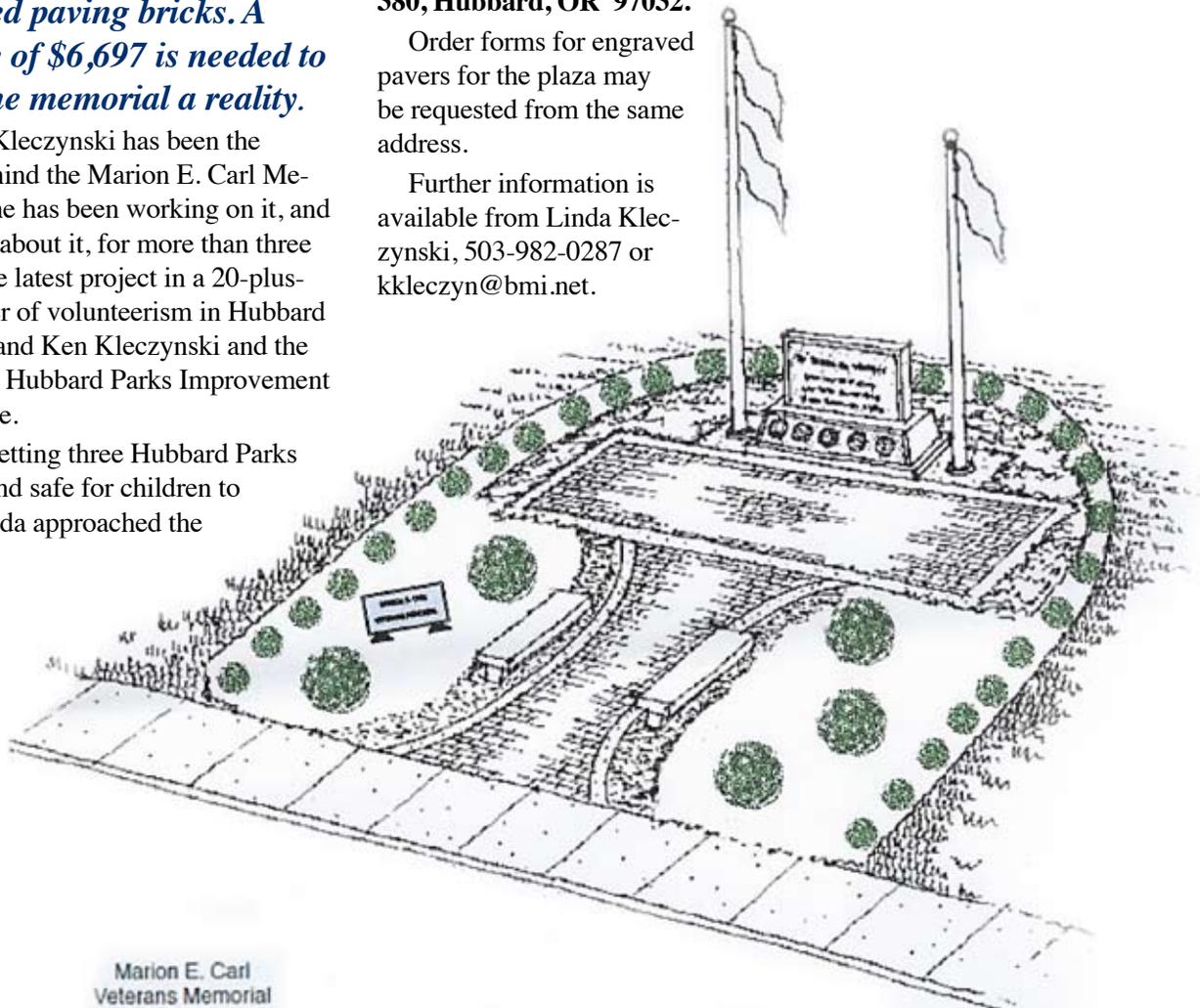
The project is funded by general donations. Donors may include a name in the memorial by purchasing an engraved paving brick for the plaza. Engraved bricks cost \$50 each, of which the project receives \$35, and names other than veterans will be accepted. The plaza has space for 600 bricks.

**Donations may be made payable to "HPIC Veterans Memorial" and mailed to City of Hubbard, P.O. Box 380, Hubbard, OR 97032.**

Order forms for engraved pavers for the plaza may be requested from the same address.

Further information is available from Linda Kleczynski, 503-982-0287 or [kkleczyn@bmi.net](mailto:kkleczyn@bmi.net).

*Our goal is not only to honor our military personnel who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation, but to honor all veterans, living and deceased, who have donned the uniforms of the United States of America.*



Marion E. Carl  
Veterans Memorial  
Hubbard, Oregon  
Concept Drawing

Drawing Courtesy of G. Victor Madge, Architect  
Modified by Ken Kleczynski  
Printing Courtesy of Yes Graphics Printing

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## Maj. Gen. Marion Carl, continued

during which time he earned a total of three Distinguished Flying Crosses and thirteen Air Medals.

Upon return to the United States in 1944, Carl became a test pilot at Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland. He made some of the first carrier landings and take-offs with an F-80 Shooting Star Jet; he became the first Marine helicopter pilot; and set a world's speed record in the Douglas Skystreak in 1947. He commanded the Marine Corps' first jet fighter outfit, VMF-122, at Cherry Point, North Carolina, and formed the first jet aerobatic team.

From 1949-52, he commanded the Carrier Section of Flight Test at Patuxent River. In 1953, he set an unofficial world's altitude record in the Navy's rocket-powered Douglas Skyrocket aircraft.

Carl was ordered to Korea in November, 1954, where he commanded a Marine photographic squadron with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force. He moved with his squadron from Korea to Japan, and served as Operations Officer and

Executive Officer, respectively, of Marine Aircraft Group 11, until December 1955.

Carl was named Wing Aviation Safety Officer, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, in May 1956, and was given command of Marine Aircraft Group 33 in October 1956, following his promotion to colonel that same month.

In August, 1958, Colonel Carl entered the Air War College, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama. Upon graduation he was assigned to the Joint Staff, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served, consecutively, as Assistant Division Director, Director of Aviation, and in July 1962 became Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff (Air).

In July 1963 he departed Washington, D.C. for Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, serving as Chief of Staff, 1st Marine Brigade, until January 1964, when he was promoted to brigadier general and named Commanding General of the Brigade.

Following the transfer of elements of

the 3d Marine Division from Okinawa to Vietnam in February 1965, units of the 1st Brigade were deployed from Hawaii to Okinawa where Brigadier General Carl was designated Commanding General, Task Force 79. In June 1965 he was transferred to Iwakuni, Japan, where he assumed duty as Assistant Wing Commander, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

Upon his return to the United States in May 1966, he became Commanding General, Marine Corps Air Bases, Eastern Area and of the Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point. While stationed at Cherry Point, he was promoted to major general in August 1967.

Major General Carl's last duty assignment was as Inspector General of the Marine Corps at Headquarters Marine Corps from July 10, 1970 until May 31, 1973. For outstanding performance of duty during this tour, he was awarded a gold star in lieu of a fourth award of the Legion of Merit. He was placed on the retired list on 1 June 1973, completing over 35 years of active service.

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## Hubbard Parks Improvement Committee

P.O. Box 380, Hubbard, OR 97032

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