



CHRISTMAS LETTER 2019

DEAR FAMILY & FRIENDS,

2019 has been a year of difficulties and miraculous recoveries for all of us as some of our family members faced health challenges which began on Christmas Day in Hawaii with Doug's sepsis infection and eventual hospitalization and rehabilitation when he returned to San Diego. Thank God, he has almost fully recovered and we will have an early THANKSGIVING with the entire Ramsey clan and Dr. Mel and Paula Levy and family on Sunday, Nov. 24. At right is a recent photo of Alana who turned 2 on Feb. 2nd with her mom Emily and grandma Janine.

Then in February my brother Paul had a stroke and recovered with no permanent damage, but in April suffered a seizure and thankfully recovered with some residual cognitive issues. He is doing well and with PRAYERS and FAITH and support from our ANGEL LEVY, he and Adriana moved from Windsor to Ottawa.



L-r: Emily, Alana and Janine



There, they joined Daniel and Amy, who also bought a new home there and are now living close by. It has been a blessing for all of them as they can help and support each other. They will be celebrating Canadian THANKSGIVING this October 13 and are grateful for all their blessings, especially since Amy will have a baby girl, OLIVIA ROSE, on December 13. At left is a photo of the Ramirez family during Cristian's 2nd birthday party.

L-r: Paul, Amy, Cristian, Adriana and Daniel

I did not travel much this year as I was busy with my Nadine Team completing "Taking Flight: The Nadine Ramsey Story". We sent it to different publishers on March 8, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. After months of waiting for feedback from one of them, the reviewers of the University Press of Kansas accepted our manuscript and we are working with them in the coming months to get the book into their 2020 fall catalog.



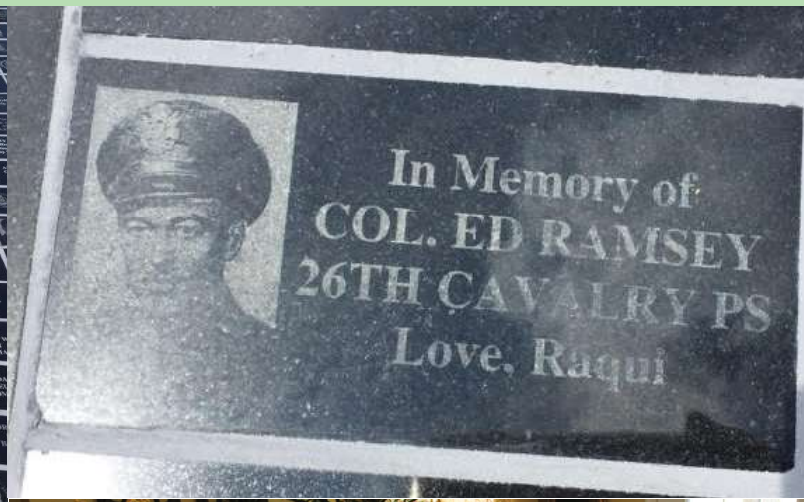
L-r: Paula, Ruth, Kira, Raqui, Josh and Mel



L-r: Paula, Raqui and Mel

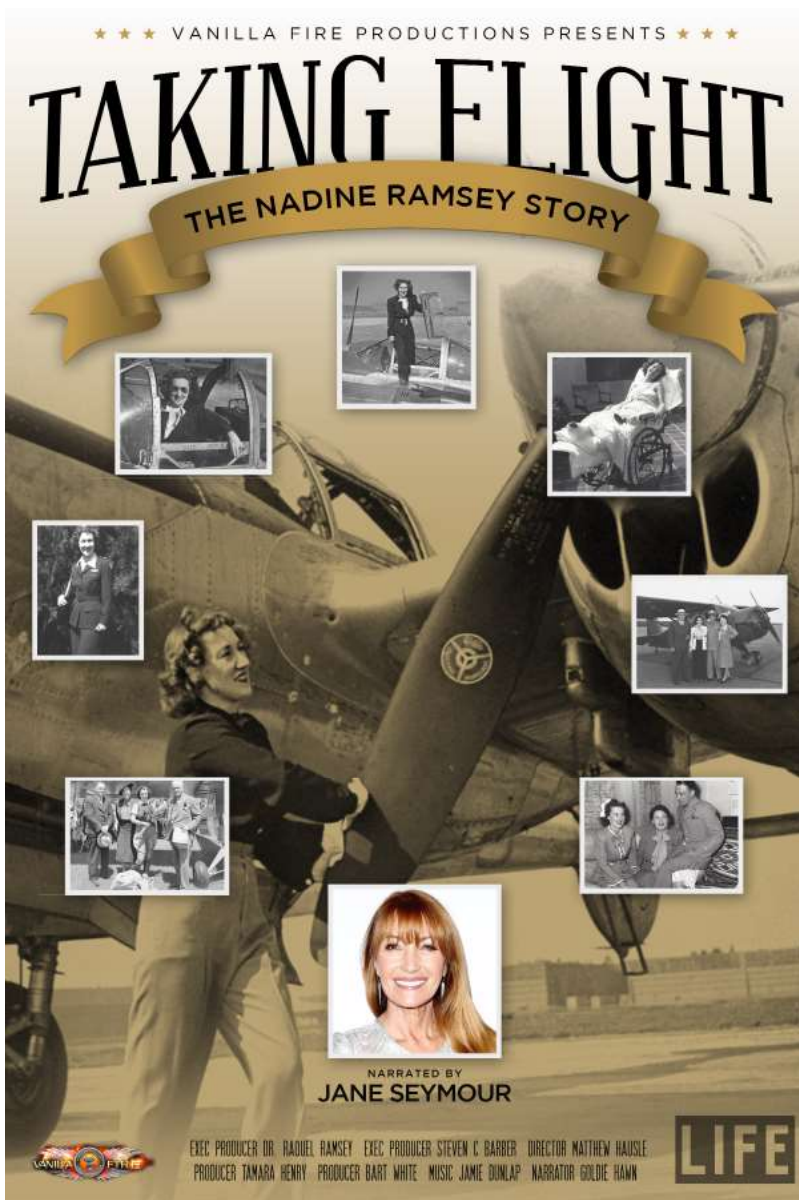
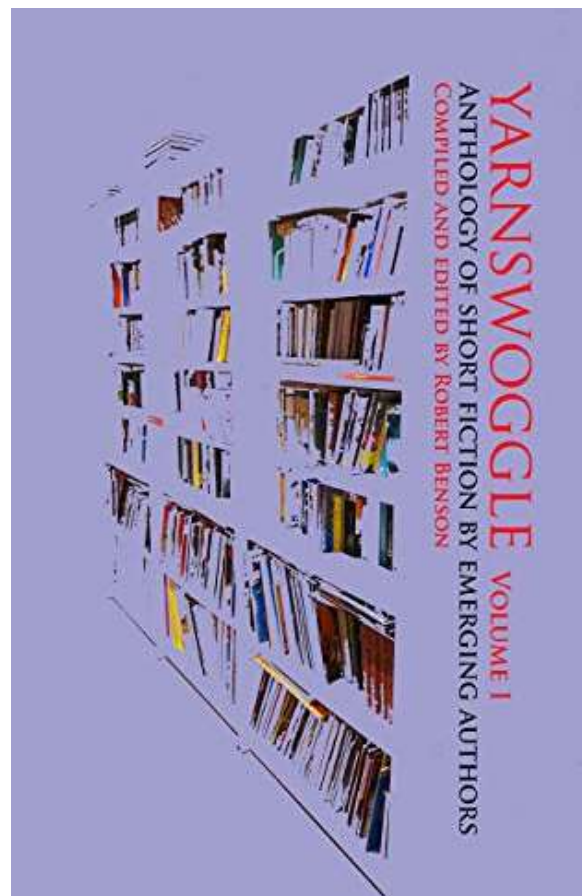
I did attend the CENTENNIAL celebration of Ed's alma mater, the Oklahoma Military Academy (OMA), which took place on June 8-9 in Claremore, OK, with my colleague, Karen Boyarsky. Below are some photos of the events. The highlight was the inauguration of the Legacy Plaza and the installation of Bricks honoring OMA alumni.

Pictured below clockwise from top left: Legacy Plaza; Ed's Brick on the Plaza; a photo of the Ladies Luncheon (including Karen and me at right); and me being escorted by OMA alumnus Hugh Miller during the Grand March.



I have also been actively writing short stories and one of them, "DAD'S LITTLE GIRL", was published in Volume 1 of the anthology series, YARNWOGGLE (pictured at right), which showcases emerging authors of fiction and is available on Amazon.com. I have also sent a personal narrative, "A NEW CAREER IN RETIREMENT", to *Chicken Soup for the Soul* as part of their book "THE GOLDEN YEARS."

I find writing inspiring and satisfying as I work with UPK on Nadine's book.



In September, Vanilla Fire Productions met with me as they are getting started on Nadine's documentary. At left is a photo of the poster with Jane Seymour (BOND GIRL) as the narrator. They will be filming this October in Wichita, KS at the Wichita Aviation Museum, the Kansas Oil Museum and Beechcraft Aviation (now Textron Aviation), where Nadine trained. They will also interview Barbara Stunz, 98, Ed and Nadine's cousin, who resides there close to the Powells, her daughter's family.

Since we are not spending Christmas in Hawaii this year, we will be celebrating it in Los Angeles with Doug and Bob and the Levy family. I look forward to receiving your cards and letters, which I enjoy reading each year as you celebrate the holidays with your families.



On Sunday, Sept. 22, I joined the Greenblatt family to celebrate Dick's 90th birthday (Dick and Sue are seated in the center of front row.) The group photo took place in their home garden. We reminisced with photos of him since his childhood and laughed as he told his stories of life and career especially as a champion weightlifter. I will join them again at Thanksgiving as has been our yearly tradition.

Dec. 22nd will be my 40th wedding anniversary, so let's walk down memory lane as I share some photos of our anniversaries in Hawaii through the years. I chose The Four Lads' 1955 song, "MOMENTS TO REMEMBER", but I've changed the lyrics to apply to my unforgettable life with Ed.

MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

Originally written by Robert Allen

On New Year's Eve we danced all night
And watched the fireworks, what a sight!
We'll have these moments to remember

When other nights and other days
I find that you have gone away
I'll have these moments to remember

The quiet walks along the beach
The dinners by the Banyan tree
We'll have these moments to remember

Our favorite shows are on TV
But you're not there to laugh with me
I'll have those moments to remember

Though summer turns to winter
And the present disappears
The laughter we were glad to share
Will echo through the years

So now you're gone and I'm alone
The times with you will make me whole
I'll always have those MOMENTS TO REMEMBER.

Wishing you a magical Holiday Season surrounded by the people you love and care for. As you have always been there for me in good times and in tough ones too because YOU ARE FAMILY! Thanks for that love and support as I continue my journey without my Darling Ed.

I know he is watching over me and knows you my family are looking after me. Let us remember our veterans like Ed who fought for our freedoms and our men and women of the Armed Forces and their families who protect us daily all over the world, like our dear friends, LTG Mike and Megan Bills who are in South Korea (where he is Commander of the 8th Army).

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH and A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With love and prayers for a better 2020,

Raqui Ramsey