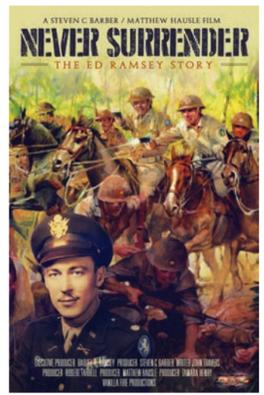


COMMUNITY & Lifestyle

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM DR. RAQUEL RAMSEY

"I'm Back", by Edwin McCain in "Never Surrender: The ED RAMSEY STORY" is on the Oscar Short List of Original Song.

To order your DVD of "Never Surrender: The Ed Ramsey Story", send email to: raquiramsey1946@gmail.com. DVDs are \$20.00 each plus shipping cost depending on the number ordered.



EVA Economy Class ranks third worldwide for 2017

Elite Class premium economy ranks seventh and airline in top 10 best

TAIPEI, TAIWAN— EVA Air's Economy Class rates as the world's third best in AirlineRatings' evaluations for 2017 while its Elite premium economy ranks seventh and the airline has earned overall recognition among the top-10 best of the best. EVA earned the website's top seven-star rating by demonstrating excellence its in-flight product, services and innovation in addition to its safety record and standards. AirlineRatings released its top-10 seats in the sky for first, business, premium economy and economy cabins through a DailyMail.com report on 5 Dec., 2016. Travelers can learn more about EVA seats, flights, services and routes at www.evaair.com.

Economy Class seat pitch and width were among the ratings website's evaluation criteria. It also considered seat design and service. AirlineRatings praised EVA for leadership in Taiwan aviation and innovations such as the industry's first premium economy cabin in 1992. The website is led by editors recognized worldwide for their expertise in the airline industry.

AirlineRatings.com ranked EVA Air among the world's top-10 airlines, identifying it as an airline of choice for business and leisure travel for 2014, 2015, 2016 and, now, 2017. EVA has high standards for comfort and

service. SKYTRAX awarded it 5-Stars, recognizing it among only nine carriers worldwide to hold the elite distinction. SKYTRAX and Travel + Leisure also rank it among the world's Top-10 Best International Airlines.

EVA excels at convenience as well. Its routing within Asia is among the industry's best. With one stop in Taipei, travelers can

connect onward aboard 132 flights throughout Southeast Asia and 155 in Northeast Asia. EVA and affiliate UNI Air operate an additional 113 weekly flights to 27 destinations in Mainland China and fly to Guam, Korea, 8 major cities in Japan and more major gateways throughout the region. EVA operates more flights from North America to Taiwan, con-

necting to more destinations in Asia, than any other airline.

As a Star Alliance member, EVA extends its network to nearly 1,330 destinations in 192 countries. It code-shares with Air Canada, Air China, All Nippon Airways, Asiana Airlines, Avianca, Bangkok Airways, Hainan Airlines, Hongkong Airlines, Air India, Shandong Air, Shenzhen Airlines, Singapore Air, Thai Airways, Turkish Airlines and United Airlines.

EVA Air, a Star Alliance member, is widely recognized for exceptionally high service and safety standards. The carrier was established in 1989 as Taiwan's first privately owned international airline. It is part of the respected Evergreen Group and a sister company to global container-shiping leader Evergreen Line. It flies a fleet of more than 70 Boeing and Airbus aircraft to more than 60 international destinations throughout Asia, Oceania, Europe and North America. Travelers can learn more about EVA's schedule and book and buy tickets at www.evaair.com.



EVA Air's economy class flight attendant with little girl.

About EVA Air

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in the news

Twin anniversaries celebrated; 110 years of community service



Parishioners listen to singers, from left: Tenor Vicente Bastidas, assistant director and conductor of the Schola Cantorum of the Pacific; Louinn Lota, soprano; Marilu Reyes, soprano; Christina van Ingen, soprano; Elizabeth Tew, alto; Janice Druetz, alto; and Schola director and its resident composer, Fr. Ted Ley, SM, who sings bass. (Ivsolis)

WRIGHTWOOD, Calif. — Dec. 18, 2016, was a Sunday celebration of 70 years since the founding of Our Lady of the Snows. The special devotion to Mary, under said title "is the oldest Marian devotion in the Catholic Church, dating back to the 352 A.D." It was also the Schola's

40th year fostering excellence in classical and contemporary Liturgical and Sacred Music in the Catholic Church in the United States. Founded by Marianist Father Ted Ley, SM, the Schola's special ministry is to provide Music Education gratis to children in needier circumstances.



"The spirit of Christmas lingers on among us parishioners here at St. Martha's Catholic Community Church in Valinda, Calif.," said Eddie B. De Sagun, "because our beloved former Pastor, Fr. Rodel Balagtas (5th from left), offered the Holy Mass on the 3rd day of Simbang Gabi. Fr. Balagtas, formerly the Pastor at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Los Angeles is now Vice Rector of St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, Calif."



Joe Cobilla received Award of Recognition from the Philippine Children Charities Inc. as one of the 100 Outstanding Filipino Americans in the USA, the new Consul General of Los Angeles - Adelio Angelito S. Cruz handed the Award, the event held at the Hilton Hotel LAX, Saturday December 17, 2016

Radio Manila Worldwide

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we are happy to inform you that we are now enjoying tremendous listenership all over the world especially in the following countries/areas:

United States: California, New York, Arkansas, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, Florida, Louisiana, Virginia, Texas, Alaska, Ohio, Philadelphia, Nevada, Sacramento, Oregon, Washington, San Diego, New Hampshire, Utah. **Europe:** Denmark, Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Norway, Netherlands, Norway, Germany, England, Belgium, Austria, Estonia, Sweden, Ireland, United Kingdom, Romania, Switzerland, Yugoslavia. **Other Countries:** Argentina, Lithuania, Sweden, Switzerland, Romania, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia, Pakistan, Mexico, Canada, Columbia, Croatia, Australia, Japan, Hongkong, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Jamaica, Faroe Island, Bermuda, Bahamas, Brazil, Oman, Trinidad Tobago, Lebanon, New Zealand, Israel, Iceland, Czech Republic, India, Venezuela, Slovenia, Guatemala. **Other Areas:** Several U.S. Military Bases, Several Government Institutions, Nonprofit Agencies, Russian Federation.

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7 Days A Week



AWEE ABAYARI Executive Vice-President & Station Manager

Exclusive Interview by Awee Abayari with JAY WERTZ, Author/historian



"I appeared in 'Never Surrender' and I have authored two works so far that talk about the '26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts: The Pacific - Volume One - Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal' and 'Pearl Harbor and the Day of Infamy,' a comic book. I am also a member of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society and recently reported on the 26th Cavalry Ceremonial Mounted Unit in the Rose Parade (see American in WWII Facebook page). I will be happy to speak to you about the role of the Philippines and Filipino units and individuals in World War II and also our upcoming comic book, 'They Called Themselves The Battling Bastards of Bataan'."

"War is hell and you cannot refine it." -- American Civil War General William T. Sherman. I agree. It is something no one should have to endure yet until people settle their differences in more humane ways it will always be with us. It is important to study the most concentrated aspect of the human condition, that is war, to understand human nature and to try to avoid situations that result in wars." -- JAY WERTZ

AWEE ABAYARI: What started you to write books about war stories?
JAY WERTZ: I was originally concentrating on producing a documentary film about D-Day. But when I started interviewing veterans and became aware of a number of veterans, from different forces and different theaters of war, I realized the wealth of information I could get from talking to them was so much greater than one battle or campaign. I knew I had to do a comprehensive book series on the entire war to make use of the many dynamic and interesting interviews I have done, which now number close to 1,000.

AWEE ABAYARI: Is there anyone in your family who fought in WWII? What did they do?
JAY WERTZ: My father was a gunnery instructor, a tech sergeant, who did not serve outside the United States. I have an uncle who was a B-24 co-pilot, shot down and killed over France. Several other uncles served but I'm not sure of their roles. My mother was also a "Rosie the Riveter" making bomb parts.

AWEE ABAYARI: You are an author of six books, what made you achieve two award-winning war stories?
JAY WERTZ: The wealth of material derived from interviews with veterans and eyewitnesses, combined with solid research and retelling of the latest scholarly writings on the war. Excellent maps and dramatic photos well designed into a quality printed work.

AWEE ABAYARI: What kind of research did you have to undertake?
JAY WERTZ: I read the classic works of each period along with more contemporary writings in books and magazines to get the latest word on what really happened.

AWEE ABAYARI: How long did it take you to write the two works that talk about the "26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts: The Pacific - Volume One - Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal" and "Pearl Harbor and the Day of Infamy," a comic book?
JAY WERTZ: The Pacific - Volume One was a year from beginning the outline to the publication date. For the comic book it was five months.

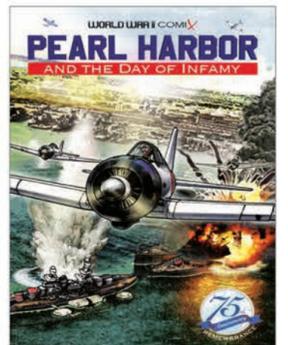
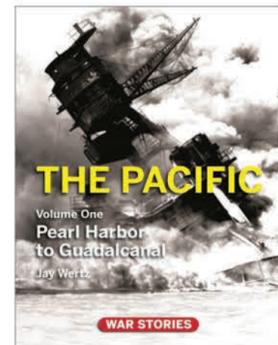
AWEE ABAYARI: What motivated you to write a comic book? Tell us more about it and explain the title, "They Called Themselves The Battling Bastards of Bataan"?
JAY WERTZ: The idea of the comic books, the first, Pearl Harbor and the Day of Infamy, and the one I am writing now, They Call Themselves The Battling Bastards of Bataan, is to use a type of publication which many younger readers (school age and young adults) relate to and use the format to tell real history with real heroes in place of the fictional superheroes on which many comic books are based. The title of the new comic book comes from a name a unit of the Philippine Scouts used to describe themselves while fighting the Japanese in early 1942 and was adopted by the Americans and Filipinos desperately fighting the Japanese on Bataan, unsupported by the U.S. government at the time. The idea of using the phrase "The Battling Bastards of Bataan" was suggested to me by a member of the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society.

AWEE ABAYARI: Is this an easier read and will encourage more people to take interest in reading books about war history? Why?
JAY WERTZ: It is an easier read and we hope the graphic illustrations and concise narration will attract readers who are not ready to take on an academic history, or even a well-written but involved popular history of the war or one of the actions in it. We hope the comic book will inspire them later to read more on the part or parts of the story that interests them.

AWEE ABAYARI: What type of challenges do you generally encounter in writing your books?
JAY WERTZ: The challenge in writing is to get every detail correct, make the work error free in content and design. The challenge once the book is finished in finding distribution channels and booksellers that realize that people desire access to important works of history and other non-fiction; and not just a few of the latest best sellers.

AWEE ABAYARI: What war stories do you remember most when you interviewed the Filipino World War II veterans and why?
JAY WERTZ: There are so many. Obviously the last cavalry charge at Barong was a very important one. The desperation of the last days on Bataan before the surrender. The mistreatment of POWs in the hands of the Japanese. The dangers of being discovered while operating as a guerrilla. Why? These are great stories of human character and also firsthand combat experiences.

AWEE ABAYARI: How difficult is it to get veterans to tell you their personal stories about the war?
JAY WERTZ: I have been fortunate enough to only be turned down for interviews about a dozen times. Most veterans realize it's now or never to get their personal war stories chronicled. Occasionally, some have difficulties with their memories but I can usually steer them to a dramatic event or encounter which they have more vivid recollections of.



AWEE ABAYARI: Of all the veterans you have interviewed, who will you remember most for the rest of your life and why?
JAY WERTZ: I can remember all of them to some degree and always will. I have a hundred great movie scripts rolling around in my head from these individuals actual wartime experiences. I could give dozens of examples if you have the time.

AWEE ABAYARI: What would you want people to know about World War II?
JAY WERTZ: That millions sacrificed everything they had including often their lives to save the world from the control of evil forces wishing to dehumanize all they defeated. Without the historic outcome of World War II the world would have devolved into a segregated culture of militarily strong controlling entities and zombie-like enslaved peoples. And that if we don't learn what happened and why, the world will fall prey to the same dominating forces in the future.

AWEE ABAYARI: What is your opinion about the war?
JAY WERTZ: "War is hell and you cannot refine it." -- American Civil War General William T. Sherman. I agree. It is something no one should have to endure yet until people settle their differences in more humane ways it will always be with us. It is important to study the most concentrated aspect of the human condition, that is war, to understand human nature and to try to avoid situations that result in wars.

AWEE ABAYARI: Who do you admire most among the military and political leaders that you have interviewed and why?
JAY WERTZ: That's a difficult question to answer because there are so many and so many different reasons why. I will say the U.S. President I most admire is Abraham Lincoln because he remained true to his ideals but was also the most skilled politician and knew how to use politics and the military to better the country and its people.

AWEE ABAYARI: Have you interviewed Col. Ed Ramsey? What do you remember most about him?
JAY WERTZ: I did. What I remember most was how engaging his personality was and how he took to me immediately without any particular reason -- just accepted me as an eager student of what I could learn from him. I think this is something that everyone who knew him after the war probably encountered. That lack of judgment and bitterness toward people is unusual for someone who went through what he did.

AWEE ABAYARI: What for you is the role of the Philippines and Filipino units and individuals in World War II?
JAY WERTZ: They were fighters for freedom entirely loyal to the Allies (except for the Huks) against a shared enemy. They fought the invasion, they fought as guerrillas and they fought to the end on the side of the American soldiers and even beyond as independent units bringing in the Japanese who refused to surrender.

AWEE ABAYARI: What is your message to the Filipino World War II veterans? Do you think they have received the recognition they deserve?
JAY WERTZ: That they were invaluable partners to freedom, to be proud of their contributions and to understand that patience is necessary until the world realizes their contributions. The history of their fight had been overlooked for too long. But historians and historical writers are beginning to overcome that ignorance on the part of Americans and those in other cultures. Recognition like the Congressional gold medal is very late, but it is coming.

AWEE ABAYARI: What makes you proud about the books that you have written and how did it change your life?
JAY WERTZ: I'm proud that I can leave behind historic works that touch people and bring great stories to readers in highly communicative ways. Not only have I met some of the finest people anyone could know in the process of writing and finishing the books, I have realized the best contribution I can make to those in current and future generations.

AWEE ABAYARI: What do you expect people to learn from reading your books and how will it impact their lives?
JAY WERTZ: I expect people to get a greater understanding of what war means on an individual level, to those who have experienced it and have lived through it. With the big picture content of my works, I hope that people will go further, to other primary sources and well-made books, other writing styles and even audio-visual presentations, in their quest for the most complete knowledge in what interests them.

AWEE ABAYARI: Where are your books available?
JAY WERTZ: The exclusive Southern California source for my books is Philippine Expression Bookshop, San Pedro. They can also be purchased online from Amazon, America in WWII magazine's online store, WorldWarComix.com and fine museum bookstores such as that at the National WWII Museum, New Orleans.

AWEE ABAYARI: Thank you.