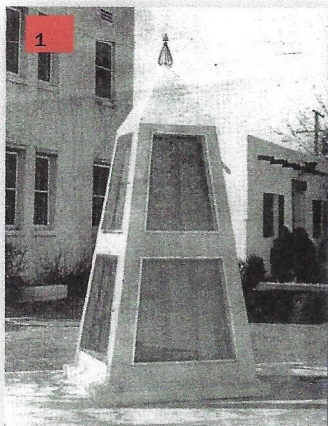


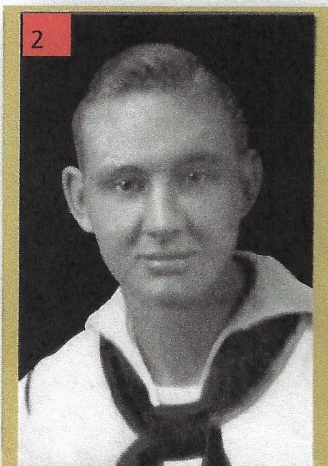
## MONUMENTS AT LANCASTER CEMETERY



World War II monument replicated at Lancaster Cemetery in 2012. 709 names of those who served from AV in WWII. Not all names are on monument—had to be sent in by family.

Original monument at the corner of Cedar and Lancaster Blvd. covered over in early 1960s. Built by the AV Barracks #2030, Veterans of World War I, Laurence L. Linegar, Commander. In 1959, the Lancaster Beautiful Committee invited students from AV College and AVHS to design a covering for the “eyesore.”

Antelope Valley Press, AVHS, Jaqua & Sons, participation.



Lost At Pearl Harbor  
Son Of  
Mrs. George Dougherty



Ivan Westerfield, U.S. Navy — 1st panel. Ceremony took place in 2008 with sand and soil from Iwo Jima, Normandy, Pearl Harbor, USMC Station in Mojave, Muroc Army Airfield East Camp and the National WWII Memorial grounds in Washington, D.C. placed inside monument.

Westerfield was lost on the *U.S.S. Arizona* at Pearl Harbor during the first salvos of World War II. He was a graduate of AVJUHS class of 1938. He enlisted on August 6, 1940 and reported onboard the *U.S.S. Arizona* on October 14, 1940. Killed December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor.

AVHS participation.



Russell Godde, Army Air Corps—2nd panel. Dedicated 4th of July, 2009.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Russell H. Godde was killed during the Ploesti Oil Field Raid over Romania during World War II. While two other men were jumping out of the B-24, Godde was heard still calling the bombing runs. Godde saved the lives of two men who bailed out of the airplane. He was buried in a Romanian cemetery with a “heroes ceremony.”

Lancaster Elks Lodge #1625 participation.





Mark A. Ferguson plaque. Dedicated on March 27, 2010, Vietnam Veterans Day.

USMC Lance Corporal Ferguson was the first person from the AV killed in Vietnam. He was a graduate of AVHS, class of 1965. His poem "Flying High" written while he was in Vietnam, was read into the Congressional Record and acknowledged by President Lyndon B. Johnson and Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

AVHS participation.



Operation Iraqi Freedom & Operation Enduring Freedom plaque. Those who gave their lives during these two wars—18 men and women from the Antelope Valley.

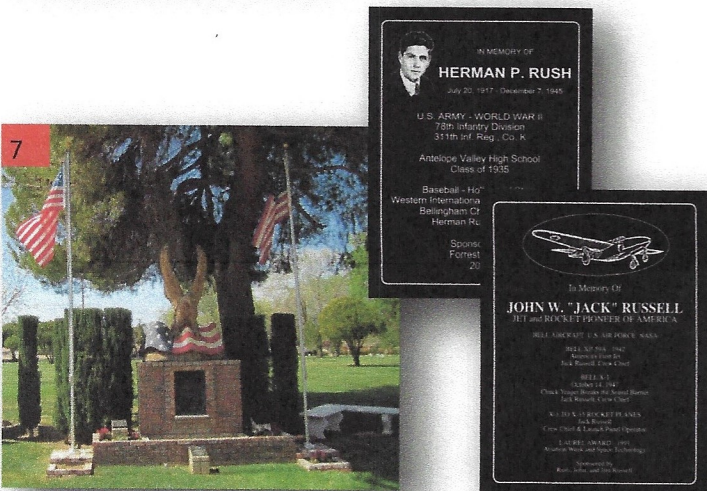
Dedicated Memorial Day 2012.

Lemon Leaf Café participation. Vietnam Veteran Lyle Banks donated the eagle on top of the monument in 2016.



Women Airforce Service Pilots—WASP—monument. Dedication held on Memorial Day 2011. In the midst of World War II, thousands of male pilots were overseas leaving the women to take to the skies. 1, 102 young women began flying and repairing military aircraft.

Four of those women were from the Antelope Valley. Flora Belle (Smith) Reece is interred at Lancaster Cemetery. Hillview Middle School participation.



Freedom Corner: Sponsored by Forrest Godde and Ruth, Jim and John Russell. Dedicated on Veterans Day 2010.

Herman Rush was a 1935 graduate of AVJUHS who played with the Hollywood Stars baseball team of the Pacific Coast League. In 1938 he was a catcher for the Bellingham Chinooks. Rush entered into the Army in 1941 and was wounded by a sniper on March 2, 1945. He passed away on December 7, 1945.

John "Jack" Russell was a crew chief on America's 1st jet—the Bell XP-59A. He was crew chief for Chuck Yeager when he broke the sound barrier in 1947. He received the Aviation Week & Space Technology Laurel Award in 1991.





Meyer Bernard Himelstaub. Dedicated February 2007. Prior to WWII the British government require assistance in training pilots for the Royal Air Force. Polaris Flight Academy was established at War Eagle Field at 60th W. and Ave. I.

Cadet Himelstaub was killed in 1942 when he walked into the propeller of a training airplane being taxied for takeoff. At that time during the war, bodies were not shipped home, so Lancaster Cemetery became his resting place.

He was called "The Ghost of Mira Loma" as he was said to been seen walking the halls at the then Mira Loma Detention Center.

Hillview Middle School participation.



Japanese Memorial dedicated May 2008. In the early nineteen-teens, 13 Japanese families settled on the Westside of the AV. On May 30, 1938, these 13 families held a dedication ceremony in honor of a new monument erected in memory of the Japanese citizens who had died in the AV.

After the onset of WWII, in mid-1942, 85 AV citizens were taken to the interment camp at Poston, AZ. Shortly after they were taken away, the Japanese memorial was toppled over by vandals and broken into pieces.

Fast forward to 2007 when a file was discovered in the cemetery office and the restoration of the monument began. Many donations were received from the families.

Del Sur School 7th grade classes, Lancaster West Rotary, WAVHS and Supervisor Michael Antonovich participation.



Civil War Mourning Ceremony held April 2008.

There are over 950 veterans of all wars and conflicts interred here at Lancaster Cemetery. Of those 950+, six of them are Civil War veterans. Union veterans John D. Hoffman, Solomon Lapham, William H.H. Moxley, James Madison West and Homer Ware, and Confederate Veteran Morgan Price.

Veterans markers for Morgan Price and James West dedicated at the ceremony in 2008. West pictured at left.



11



St. Francis Dam memorial and headstones dedicated March 2018.

Interment for victims of the St. Francis Dam disaster, the flood that swept through the Santa Clara Valley and Ventura County on March 12-13, 1928. Over 400 people lost their lives on that day.

Five who lost their lives were buried at Lancaster Cemetery and did not have markers until March 2018.

12



Maurice Reynolds and Jane Porter Reynolds. In 1897, pioneers and community leaders began their married life in the wood house at left, located on the southwest corner of Sierra Hwy. and Kettering.

In 1937 Jane donated the property at Elm and Fern to L.A. County for a park that is named after her.

Funeral for Maurice Reynolds at far left—1916.

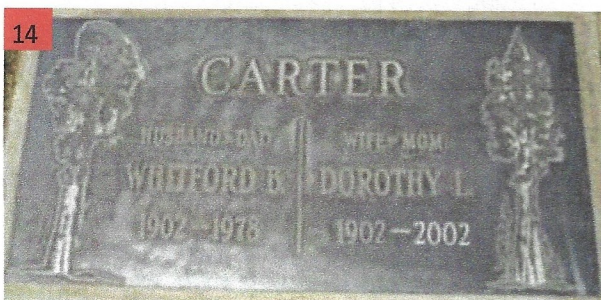
13



Alice Radloff Hull and Henry Specht. Alice Hull was touted as "one of the most beautiful and popular women in the AV region" in 1913. She was an accomplished horsewoman and beat out nine men in a trail horse competition at the Antelope Dude Ranch. She is believed to be the first Alfalfa Queen. She also helped found the Lancaster Cemetery District and was a trustee in 1950. She served as a trustee until 1982.

Henry Specht (cousin of Alice) was a veteran of the Spanish American War. He owned the Corner Saloon in Lancaster, a favorite drinking spot for cowboys. The saloon burned down in 1912. L.A. Co. Sheriff's Dept. is where it used to stand.

14

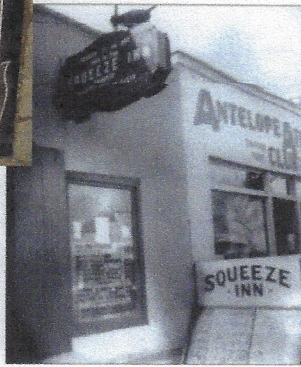
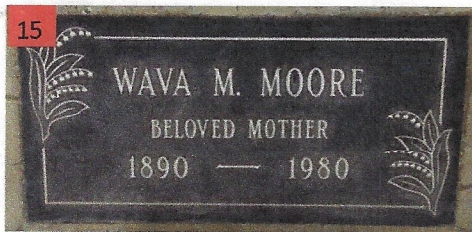


Whit Carter. Carter ran a small radio and appliance store in 1931—Lancaster Radio. The store provide many residents with their first radios and televisions. Carter started the AV's first radio station, KAVL, in 1950.

His Spanish Mission style home was built on 25 acres near H-8 & Sierra Highway where Whit Carter Park now stands. Carter donated the property to the City in 2000.



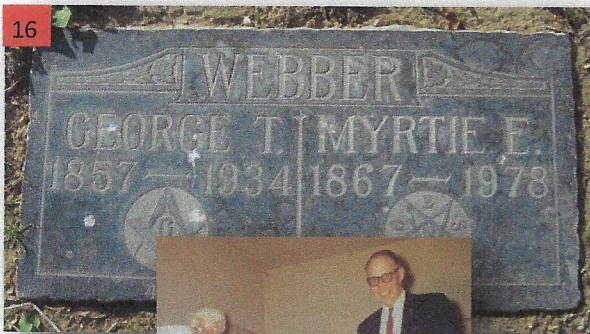
15



The Squeeze Inn. Owned by Guy and Wava Moore, located on Sierra Highway, was opened in 1927. It was labeled as "the world's smallest café" by Ripley's Believe it Or Not. Patrons had to eat their ten-cent hamburgers on only three stools inside the 5' x 7' eating area.

The Inn prospered and soon grew into a ten-stool establishment with five employees. (Lancaster, California Through Time)

16



Myrtie and George Webber. The Western Hotel built ca. 1888 was a 20 room, two-story hotel first known as the Antelope Valley Hotel, then the Gillwyn Hotel. Later its name was changed to the Western Hotel.

The most popular proprietors were George Webber and his wife Myrtie. Myrtie lived to be 110 years old.

(Lancaster California Through Time)

17



Nick Evert and wife Anna "Mom" Evert arrived in Lancaster in 1891. They purchased Thomas Devereaux's wooden general store and saloon, which was originally located on the SW corner of Lancaster Blvd. and Sierra Hwy. They relocated it to the NE corner of Lancaster Blvd. and Beech Ave. Anna was a midwife/nurse, who also established Lancaster's first hospital from 1909—1921. She delivered many of Lancaster's pioneers. (Lancaster California Through Time)



# Antelope Valley Cemetery District Lancaster Cemetery



Revised: 7/6/2017

