

## ALL GAVE SOME; SOME GAVE ALL

This week's veteran is Noble Wright.

Pearl Harbor was attacked on Sunday, December 7, 1941, at 7:55 AM (11:55 AM CST). The attack lasted until 9:45 AM (1:45 PM CST). Noble's family had just finished Sunday dinner and were listening to the radio when the program was interrupted with the news that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. He was a sophomore at McKendree College, Lebanon, IL, at the time.

Noble joined the Navy, but he was allowed to finish the school year. After finishing his sophomore year, he was sent to Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, where he took one more semester of school and training under the guidance of the Navy. Upon finishing at Miami University, he was sent to Plattsburgh, New York, on Lake Champlain for basic training. He was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Navy and shipped to Norfolk, Virginia, where he was on a skeleton crew of about 100 who were training for duty on a destroyer. Completing training at Norfolk and spending another month in Miami, FL, his group was sent to Beaumont, Texas, and assigned to the new destroyer, *USS Henry W. Tucker DD-875*, under the command of Captain Meyers.

Following time in the Atlantic, the *Henry W. Tucker* was sent to Japan. On the way to Japan as part of a convoy of about 30 ships, they encountered a typhoon which damaged many of the ships. During the typhoon, someone reported Noble overboard because they couldn't find him, but he was safe in the 20 MM gun turret on the fantail. After the Japanese surrender, the crew was allowed to go ashore and see some of the destruction. Noble said it was awful. Noble suffered from seasickness early in his career. The crew had a saying, "Up anchor - down Wright".

Noble used the GI Bill to complete his education at the University of Illinois where he graduated in 1947. After having teaching and administrative jobs in Allerton, Villa Grove, Homer, and Arcola, in 1969, he became Superintendent of Schools in Assumption for fifteen years.

Noble is married to Doris Edens Wright and they have three children; Gary, Vicki, and Jeff. Vickie and Gary recently accompanied Noble on the Honor Flight to Washington, D. C.

Thank you, LTJG Noble F. Wright, for what you gave for us.