

William (Bill) Waterman

U.S. Navy USS President Adams



William (Bill) Waterman
U.S. Navy
WWII

William 'Bill' Waterman was born July 7, 1921 in Taylorville, Illinois and joined the United States Navy at the age of 21 years. He was inducted in September, 1942 and took boot training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Illinois. He was transferred to Lake Union and during the war served aboard the USS President Adams. This ship carried troops from one field of battle to another and took part in the Liberation of the Philippine Islands. In 1943 and 1944, the President Adams saw action to drive the Japanese from the Solomons. She participated in amphibious assaults on Rendova and Bougainville. In mid 1944, the Adams was part of the Mariana invasion force landing troops and taking the wounded to hospitals in Hawaii and the United States. During 1945, the President Adams took part in combat landings at Lingayen Gulf and Iwo Jima. At war's end, the Adams brought the troops home from the war zone.

Bill Waterman was home on a 10 day leave on April 14, 1943 from Seattle, Washington. On this occasion, the Taylorville Breeze Courier carried a photo of Bill and his great-grandfather, George Taylor Hancock who had celebrated his 94th birthday on February 24, 1943. Mr. Hancock was one of the country's last remaining Civil War veterans.

Bill Waterman received an honorable discharged after

3 years and 8 months of service to his country. On March 30, 1947, he married Betty Melzer of Taylorville. He spent most of his life as a coal miner. Bill died June 12, 1986 at his home in Carmichaels, Pennsylvania and was survived by his wife Betty, one son, Carl William and 3 grandsons.

William Edward Waterman
Taylorville, Illinois
Carmichaels, Pennsylvania