



**Sports
Legend
LAHS
ORIGINAL**

**19-year-old Marine
on Iwo Jima**

What made Bill Hudson who he was?

**Feb. 18
Sunday**

Mesa
Public
Library

2:00

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Save the Date!

For more information call:

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Where: Mesa Public Library, Los Alamos

When: Sunday, February 18, 2018

Time: 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Why: To learn about The Battle for Iwo Jima and Bill Hudson's role in it

On Sunday, February 18, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Mesa Public Library, biographer Karen Tallentire, historian Nancy Bartlit, and friends will sponsor a remembrance of Bill Hudson, a Marine wounded in the 1945 battle of Iwo Jima and who later became a Los Alamos Living Treasure. They will show the Canadian documentary "Uncommon Valour: The Battle for Iwo Jima." The public event is free and all are welcome.

Bill was perhaps best known in Los Alamos for his influence on a generation of top swimmers as the swim coach at Los Alamos High School. Yet he was also a teacher. For many years before his death in 2015, every February he would reserve a room at the library to commemorate the February 19th landing on Iwo Jima. He wanted to keep the memory of the weeks-long battle alive in the minds of Los Alamos youth. Thus, this educational event commemorates Bill and his fellow Marines who bravely gave their lives to win the strategically located island.

American Superfortresses (B-29s) taking off from Guam or Tinian airbases to bomb Japanese cities had to fly near or over Iwo Jima (Japanese for "Sulfur Island"). By war's end, over two thousand of those planes, with total aircrew of over twenty-four thousand, found refuge, repair, and fuel on the airfields of Iwo Jima. Showing the Marines why they were fighting, the first B-29 came in with a fuel supply problem on March 4th, grateful for landing space in the middle of a combat zone, on a runway which was still being rebuilt, and one end of which was still held by Japanese defenders.

Come learn more from the documentary, from remarks by Karen Tallentire, author of Bill's biography "Fighting the Unbeatable Foe," on how the battle affected Los Alamos, and from slides of Nancy Bartlit's trip to the battle site, which few civilians have visited, but which Bill visited several times with Military Tours.

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