

**NNCASC CHAPTER NEWS**  
contributed by Nancy Owen

**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS YOUNG!**



**Katherine “Kay” Parks**

(John Beard from Honor Flight Kern County presenting a medal & pin. Photo credit: Eliza Green “The Bakersfield Californian” with permission)



(Kay Parks as a young Ensign. Photo credit: Eliza Green “The Bakersfield Californian”- used with permission)

On August 19, 2022 NNCASC member Kay Parks reached a milestone-100 years young! On the eve prior, a surprise drive-by parade was held for her in her hometown of Bakersfield, CA. Kay’s son, daughter-in-law, two grandsons and three great grandkids came out for the event as well as many townspeople, friends, neighbors, and veterans. Steven Mayer, Staff Writer, “The Bakersfield Californian” shared Kay’s military history and a wonderful account of the celebration in the link below:

[Drive-by parade brings celebration to one-time Navy nurse on eve of her 100th birthday | News | bakersfield.com](https://www.bakersfield.com/news/drive-by-parade-brings-celebration-to-one-time-navy-nurse-on-eve-of-her-100th-birthday/news/bakersfield.com)

In addition, our NNCASC chapter put out the word on social media about Kay’s birthday and she received over 50 cards from all over the USA. Becky Nulty, NNCASC President sent Kay a beautiful quilt of valor, which she handmade. NNCASC also arranged for a card and White House photo from the President of the United States.

George Waecker has been in phone contact with Kay and says she is “still recovering” from her big birthday. Kay told George, regarding the parade, “I think most of Bakersfield showed up including the local news station!”

*Dear Veteran,*

*I have tried putting my gratification for you into words, but there is nothing I could write that could ever come close to expressing your immense dedication. You truly do have so many people following your footsteps, and you inspire so many to stand up for what they know is right and just... The next generations will work to uphold your bravery, your valor, your strength, and your faith. On behalf of every American citizen, thank you so much.(M.W. Our Lady of Peace High School- Veterans Day 202, presented to NNCASC atop Mt. Soledad)*

## FINAL HONOR

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On May 18, 2022 we lost a special U.S. Marine shipmate, 1stLt Coralie “Cori Thomson. She was 94 years old. She was one of the **SPLASH** sisters, the oldest group of senior women basketball



players who started the Senior Women’s Basketball Association (SWBA) in San Diego. Six of our NNCASC chapter members: Anita Day, Pat Bull, Easty Law, Mary Miller, Nancy Owen and Jennifer Town had the honor of playing basketball with and on the same courts as Cori and her incredible teammates. Cori was buried at Miramar National Cemetery on Thursday, July 14, 2022. We, the “team” of Navy Nurses” felt Cori deserved the “Final Honor” of the horse drawn funeral carriage and had it provided for her. NNCASC member and Navy Nurse Mary Miller presided over the ceremony. Anita Day, Pat Bull & Nancy Owen donned their summer white uniforms and recited the “Old Glory” poem during the flag folding ceremony.

Since Cori had no immediate family nearby, the flag was presented to her remaining two teammates. Over 50 SWBA women attended the moving ceremony for this shipmate and teammate.



A. Day, Pat Bull, Nancy Owen



Mary Miller