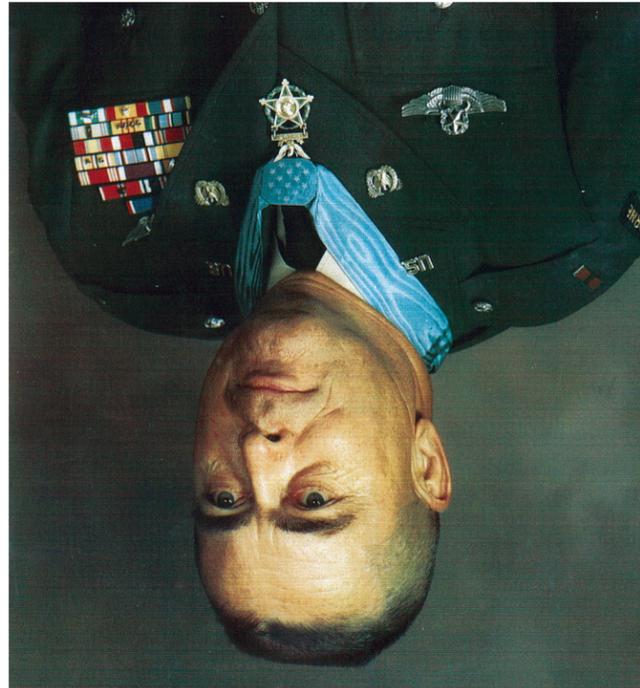


# MICHAEL J. NOVOSEL FOUNDATION

A Certified 501(c)3 Not-For-Profit Organization

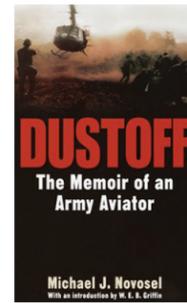


## Michael Novosel on YouTube

Please take some time to visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for **Michael J. Novosel**, where you can find exclusive interviews and information.



## Dustoff: The Memoir of an Army Aviator



Please also consider taking some time to read Mr. Novosel's autobiography, "Dustoff", which describes his overall career, including missions during the Vietnam War that led to his being awarded the Medal of Honor. This book has been called one of the best examples of "What Being a Dustoff Pilot is All About."

## Partnership with Amazon Smile

The Michael J. Novosel Foundation is Pleased to Announce a Partnership with **Amazon Smile**.

Customers of **Amazon** may **AT NO INCREASED COSTS** donate automatically to the Foundation.

The program is simple. Access your **Amazon** account and search **Amazon Smile**. Select the option to elect to contribute to:

**Michael Novosel Foundation**

Once registered, at time of qualified purchases through **smile.amazon.com**

a percentage, courtesy of **Amazon**, will be directed to the Foundation.

*As always, 100% of proceeds from this fundraising effort will be used to assist Veterans and their families. Please support the Foundation and our valued corporate sponsor - Amazon.*



# MICHAEL J. NOVOSEL FOUNDATION

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The Michael J. Novosel Foundation is supported entirely by donations. Proceeds from fundraising efforts, although highly appreciated are insufficient to keep up with the ever increasing demand. The most difficult thing is to have to tell a soldier in need that we just do not have the resources to help.

The Foundation is seeking sponsorship from the business community on a pledge per month basis. It would ensure a steady stream of funding with some certainty. The suggested pledge is one to ten dollars a month.

May we please count on you?

**Our Veterans sacrifice for our freedoms.**

*They have earned your support!*

*Cut Out & Mail to Us with Donations*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**The Michael J. Novosel Foundation**

**George T. Metz, Director**

**226 Dupont Drive**

**McDonald, PA 15057**

**Phone/Fax (412) 269-9266**

**Cell (412) 266-8823**



**MEMBER**



## Biography of Michael J. Novosel (Etna, PA Native)

Michael Novosel's military career spanned 3 wars. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps 10 months before Pearl Harbor then he completed the Aviation Cadet program. Upon graduation from flight school, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1942. Promoted to First Lieutenant in 1943, he spent 4 months on special duty with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). Later that year, attended B-24 Flight Transition Training at Smyrna Army Air Field, Tennessee. Promoted to Captain in 1944, he was the Officer in charge of flight test engineering at Laredo Army Air Field, Texas. He attended B-24 Flight Transition Training in January, 1945 at Maxwell Army Air Field, Alabama after training was assigned to duty with the 462nd Bomb Group (VH) of the 58th Bomb Wing (VH). He operated out of Tinian in the Marianas Islands in the air campaign against the Japanese Empire. He was one of 462 B-29 Aircraft Commanders who flew in the covering force over General of the Armies, Douglas Mac Arthur as the surrender of the government of Japan was accepted on the Battleship Missouri, September 2, 1945. He was transferred to the 9th Bomb Group and given command of the 99th Bomb Squadron (VH) and supervised its move to the Clark Field in the Philippines. He was on Okinawa when the United States Air Force was established in September 1947. Two months later he was assigned to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida as a B-29 test pilot. He was forced out of active service due to a reduction in force (RIF) in February 1950, 4 months before the onset of the Korean War. He was eventually recalled to active duty as a Major and attended the Air Command and Staff School. He left active duty in 1953, joined the Air Force Reserve at Eglin Air Force Base with the Directorate for Plans and Programs and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1955. He continued service in the Reserves, which at that time was a non paying position.

In 1963, while working as a commercial pilot, he decided to go back to active duty to serve in Vietnam. He was then 42 years of age. When informed that the Air Force was over strengthened in its senior grades, he vacated his position as Lieutenant Colonel with the Air Force reserves. He accepted an appointment as Warrant Office Aviator, a huge reduction in rank with the U.S. Army in September, 1964.

He was assigned to the Army's Special Forces directly from civilian status and shortly saw duty with the 11th Air Assault Division. In 1965 he was sent to Arabia on a temporary duty where he participated in the intervention in the Dominican Republic. And while there he received orders assigning him to duty in Vietnam. He was assigned to the 283rd Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance) as a "Dustoff Pilot" from January 1966 to January 1967.

When his first tour ended in 1967, a physical indicated that he had glaucoma, a condition that could disqualify him from all flying, military and civilian. A general officer signed a waiver for the eye disease, and he continued flying with the Army. He received orders for his second combat tour in Vietnam and was assigned to the 82nd Medical Detachment (HA) from March 1969 to March 1970.

On October 2, 1969 after flying 7 hours, Novosel was dispatched to the Cambodian border to evacuate a group of South Vietnamese soldiers. They were surrounded by the enemy, with all their ammunition expended and radio communication lost. Novosel and his crew entered the battle area alone, without air cover or fire support. They flew at low altitudes under constant enemy fire, while maneuvering to attract the attention of the wounded soldiers and to get them to assemble for evacuation. As he skimmed the ground, Novosel's medic and crew chief yanked the wounded men on board. He left the battle area three times to take the wounded to medical care and to refuel. Returning again, toward dark he spotted a soldier near an enemy bunker. As he maneuvered his helicopter backward to reach the man, an enemy soldier emptied his AK-47 directly at him. Bullets caused the windshield to disintegrate, fragments hit Novosel in the leg and hand, and a bullet glanced off the sole of his boot. He momentarily lost control of the helicopter, then recovered and lifted off under continuous enemy fire. Novosel saved twenty nine soldiers that day. During his two tours of duty in Vietnam, he evacuated more than five thousand wounded soldiers.

Novosel's eldest son, Michael Jr., a recent graduate of Army flight school, arrived in Vietnam in early 1970 and was assigned to his father's unit. They were the only father and son aviators ever to be assigned to the same unit, to fly combat missions as pilot and copilot, and rescue each other when downed by enemy fire. Novosel, Sr. completed his tour in March 1970. He was the Aviation Officer of the "Golden Knights", the Army Parachute Team, from April 1970 to August 1972. His next assignment was at Fort Rucker where he was an author/lecturer with the Warrant Officer Career College until September 1976. He was assigned to Korea and the Second Infantry division as its Aviation Safety Officer for a year and returned to Fort Rucker. In November 1977 he was assigned to the Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization as its Aviation Safety Officer. In May 1983 he was assigned new duties as the Aviation Center Senior Training, Advising and Counseling (TAC) Officer with the Warrant Officer Candidate Program.

CW4 Novosel has attended the Air Tactical School, the Air Command and Staff School, the Army Warrant Officer Senior Course and the Air Assault Course. CW4 Novosel was a fixed wing and rotary wing aviator and had been in the military for 44 years. He was rated in single, twin and four engine aircraft, single and multi-engine jets and helicopters. He has accumulated 12,400 military flying hours, including 2,038 hours in combat. At the time of his retirement, February 28, 1985, CW4 Novosel was the last World War II military aviator on active flying duty in the United States. He became known as the "Last Eagle."

### Awards and Decorations

The Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with "V" device and 60 Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Good conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with two Battle Stars, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two Hour Glass Devices, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Philippine Independence Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star, Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, Air Force Command Pilot badge, Army Master Aviator badge, and the Air Assault badge.

CW4 Novosel was inducted into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame in June 1975, designated and the "Elder Statesman of Aviation" by the National Aeronautic Association of America in November 1988. Member of the "Order of Military Medical Merit" and inducted into the Alabama Aviation Hall of Fame and the Louisiana Hall of Fame.

**No soldiers will be forgotten. No warrior left behind...In battle or at home.**

**That is the cornerstone of the Michael J. Novosel Foundation.**

**A 501(c)3 Not-For-Profit Organization**

The Foundation was established in 2007 to assist National Guard and Reservists with the challenges of transitioning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan to civilian lives. After the bright lights of the media have faded, our Warriors return home to find the very system designed to help them is not working. Due to the agonizingly slow pace that the Veterans Administration moves, our wounded warriors face losing their homes, vehicles and utility service. This creates extreme stress on them, their spouses and children after all the tough times they have already been through during multiple deployments. Our Soldiers are coping with physical losses and post traumatic stress disorder on top of low disability ratings from the service groups. Wounded warriors who have served their country and are seriously disabled are being rated under 30%. Some are even delaying necessary surgeries due to their dire financial situation. Now back at home they must work to feed their families. There is no pay forthcoming while getting medical treatment and the recovery time they need.

**Who will be their advocate...**

In 2007 Michael J. Novosel Jr. and George Metz began The Michael J. Novosel Sr. Foundation to be that advocate for soldiers. Michael J. Novosel Sr. was born in Etna, Pennsylvania. His forty-four year military career spanned three wars, World War II, Korea and Vietnam. As a Vietnam dustoff helicopter pilot Novosel flew 2,543 missions and extracted 5,589 wounded personnel. In 1971, former President Richard Nixon presented Michael J. Novosel Sr. this nation's highest award for valor in combat, the Medal of Honor. At the time of his retirement in 1985 Novosel was the last World War II military aviator to retire from active flying duty. Michael J. Novosel Sr. died on April 2, 2006 at Walter Reed Hospital. As U.S. Army pilots, Michael Novosel Sr. and Mike Novosel Jr. rescued some 8,800 wounded warriors in Vietnam. Sadly, Mike Jr. also died on Dec. 10, 2009.

**Today the need is still great and the commitment of the Michael J. Novosel Foundation is the same. No soldier will be forgotten. No warrior left behind...In battle or at home. Our National Guard and Reservists need assistance with rent, mortgage and utility payments, carpentry, transportation and more.**

**CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?**

Please visit our website at [NovoselFoundation.org](http://NovoselFoundation.org). **If You Truly Want To Help A Soldier,** you can donate money, your time or materials to help veterans and their families. **100% of all that is donated goes directly to the needs of the veterans** - there are no administrative costs. Both current and past contributors have designed the website, made our video, participated in projects, fundraising events and assisted veterans in countless ways.

**EVERYTHING IS DONATED! Hopefully it's a mission that you too want to be a part of.**

Again, please visit our website to view a list of the generous businesses and corporations that support our foundation. You don't have to be big to help a veteran. Michael J. Novosel Sr. stood only 5 foot 3-7/8 inches tall and rescued over 5,500 wounded veterans.

If your corporation, small business, media outlet, school or scout troop would like to sponsor a fundraiser or telethon, **call us at 412-266-8823 or 412-269-9266, or visit our website to learn more about us at [www.NovoselFoundation.org](http://www.NovoselFoundation.org).**

Sincere thanks,



George T. Metz  
Director