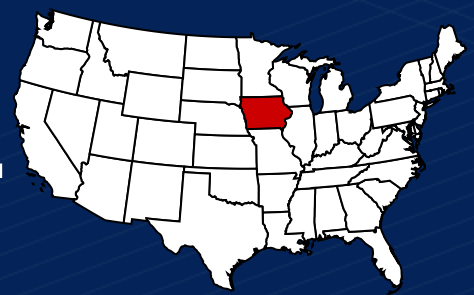




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IOWA'S NAVAL HISTORY



SHIPS



26

USS Iowa III (BB 61)

Named after the 29th state, USS Iowa (BB 61) was known as the "The Battleship of Presidents." Iowa earned nine battle stars for World War II service and two for Korean service. She is now a museum ship on display at The Pacific Battleship Center at the Port of Los Angeles. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox deemed it the "greatest ship that's ever been launched by the American nation."

At least 26 ships have been named after the state of Iowa, its cities, places, and people. A few of those include:

- USS Appanoose (AK 226), 1944
- USS Boone County (LST 389), 1942
- USS Benton County (LST 267), 1943
- USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54), 1994
- USS Davenport (PF 69), 1945
- Des Moines (Cruiser No. 15), 1904
- USS Des Moines (CA 134), 1948
- Dubuque (Gunboat No. 17), 1905
- USS Dubuque (LPD 8), 1967
- USS Durant (DE 389), 1943
- USS Fletcher (DD 445), 1942
- USS Fletcher (DD 992), 1980
- USS Howard (DDG 83), 2001

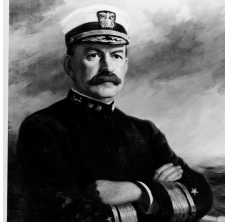
- Iowa II (Battleship No. 4), 1897
- USS Iowa III (BB 61), 1943
- USS Keokuk I (Ironclad Steamer), 1893
- USS Keokuk II (CMC 6), 1942
- USS Lamson I (DD 18), 1910
- USS Lamson II (DD 328), 1921
- USS Lamson III (DD 367), 1936
- USS Mack (DE 358), 1944
- USS Schmitt (DE 676), 1943
- USS Sioux City (LCS 11), 2018
- USS The Sullivans (DD 537), 1943
- USS The Sullivans (DDG 68), 1997
- USS Weber (DE 675), 1943

PEOPLE



The Sullivan Brothers World War II Sailors

The five Sullivan brothers from Waterloo, Iowa, were killed in action while serving as Sailors aboard the USS Juneau (CL 52) which was sunk Nov. 13, 1942. George, Francis "Frank", Joseph "Joe", Madison "Matt", and Albert "Al", ages 27, 26, 24, 23, and 20, respectively, enlisted in the Navy under the condition that they all be assigned together – in spite of the Navy's policy to separate siblings.



Admiral Frank F. Fletcher Medal of Honor Recipient

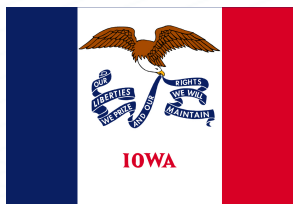
Admiral Fletcher was born Nov. 23, 1855 in Oskaloosa, Iowa, and died Nov. 28, 1928. The U.S. Naval Academy graduate received the Medal of Honor for "distinguished conduct in battle" at Vera Cruz, Mexico. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery. The World War II Fletcher-class destroyer, USS Fletcher (DD 445) was named after him.



Dr. James Van Allen Scientist and Naval Officer

While in the Navy, Dr. James Van Allen, from Mt. Pleasant Iowa, developed a radio-proximity fuse which increased the effectiveness of anti-aircraft fire and is considered one of the most important technological innovations of World War II. He also discovered earth-circling radiation belts, which are now named after him, and is world renowned as a pioneer in early planetary exploration and rocket research.

PLACES



Navy Operational Support Centers

A Navy Operational Support Center, or NOSC, is a facility used to provide operational support for training and administrative services to Navy Reserve Units. There is a NOSC in Des Moines, Iowa.

Naval Air Station Ottumwa, Iowa

Its mission was to provide primary training of future naval aviators. In addition to the main base, the Navy also built and operated numerous practice fields in the Ottumwa area to provide additional space for the cadets and instructors to log their long hours of practice time. From March 1943 to the end of the war, NAS Ottumwa graduated 4,626 new Navy pilots.

Did You Know?



Iowa State Teacher's College (University of Northern Iowa) was host to the first indoctrination school and later yeomen school of the U.S. Naval Women's Reserve, or the Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES). The first class of 1,500 WAVES arrived in December 1942.