



Military Heritage Museum

900 West Marion Avenue
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www.militaryheritagemuseum.org

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MILITARY HERITAGE MUSEUM UNEARTH'S HISTORIC TREASURE BELONGING TO ESTEEMED ARMY BRIGADIER GENERAL CARROLL

PUNTA GORDA, FL - Among the nearly 7,000 artifacts housed at the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda, a remarkable rediscovery is capturing the attention of historians and veterans alike. A military shadow box, recently found in the museum's archives, belonged to one of the most distinguished and influential military figures of the mid-20th century - Brigadier General Paul T. Carroll (1915–1954).

While the museum showcases dozens of shadow boxes honoring military service members, this one stands out for its profound historical significance. BG Carroll's extraordinary career began with his graduation from West Point in 1933. He served heroically during World War II, participating in the pivotal D-Day landing in June 1944 as part of the 5th Infantry Division. His bravery and leadership earned him numerous high honors, including two Silver Stars, a Bronze Star for Valor, two Legion of Merit awards, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

In October 1944, BG Carroll was summoned to Washington, D.C. to join the Operations Division at the War Department, where he briefed Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall daily on developments in Europe. His career would go on to include service under three of America's five-star generals - Marshall, Omar Bradley and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

BG Carroll played a pivotal role in the founding of NATO, assisting Eisenhower in creating its first staff. Later, he was handpicked by President-elect Eisenhower to plan and execute the famed secret trip to Korea. So trusted was Carroll, he became the first White House Staff Secretary, a role still vital to the presidency today.

BG Carroll passed away unexpectedly in 1954 at the age of 39 and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery. He was married to Ruth Carroll (née Cooper) and had three children.

The museum invites the public to view this incredible piece of American history and to honor a legacy that helped shape U.S. military and political history.

The Military Heritage Museum is located at 900 West Marion Avenue in Punta Gorda. For more information or reservations, please go to the website and sign up at www.militaryheritagemuseum.org or call 941-575-9002.

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