

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## "MIGHTY MO" CELEBRATES 8-MILLIONTH VISITOR

**Pearl Harbor**, **HI** – (**February 20, 2018**) – The Battleship Missouri Memorial celebrated a special milestone today as it welcomed aboard its 8-millionth visitor. Edie Jordan and a couple of her traveling friends of Rochester, NY were greeted with lei at the entrance of the historic battleship.

"This is such a big day for the Mighty Mo as we welcome Edie as our 8-millionth visitor," said Mike Carr, President and CEO of the USS Missouri Memorial Association. "Our educational programs and efforts to preserve this important piece of history were made possible with the support from our visitors, staff, volunteers and donors. We look forward to welcoming the next 8 million visitors to the Battleship Missouri Memorial."

"This is amazing, I never win anything. I feel like I've won a lottery being the 8-millionth visitor," said Edie Jordan upon hearing the news that she was the historic attractions lucky visitor.

Edie received a private tour of the famous Mighty Mo and an opportunity to raise an American flag onboard the historic vessel. Other gifts included a bag full of souvenirs and Battleship Missouri swag from the organizations, Battleshop and a complimentary photo package capturing their visit from Magic Memories.

"Today is a major win for the Battleship Missouri Memorial and we will continue to see greater success in the coming years," said Tim Guard, chairman of the board for the USS Missouri Memorial Association. "The growing visitor numbers to this historic attraction is a direct result of the hard work, planning, commitment that's guiding us forward to the next milestone."

The USS *Missouri*, affectionately known as America's last battleship, secured her spot in history as the site of Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allied Forces on Sept. 2, 1945, ending World War II. The *Missouri* was decommissioned for the final time in 1992 concluding a career that spanned five decades and three wars, bringing the Battleship era to an end. On Jan. 29, 1999, 55 years to the day after she was launched, the Battleship Missouri Memorial opened to the public.

## **Battleship Missouri Memorial**

Since opening in January 1999, the Battleship Missouri Memorial has attracted more than 7-million visitors from around the world with a fascinating tour experience showcasing the USS *Missouri's* unique place in history. Located a mere ship's length from the USS Arizona Memorial, the Mighty Mo completes a historical visitor experience that begins with the "day of infamy" and sinking of the USS *Arizona* in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and ends with Japan's formal surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945.

The USS *Missouri* had an astounding career over five decades and three wars – World War II, the Korean War, and Desert Storm – after which it was decommissioned and donated to the

USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The Association operates the Battleship Missouri Memorial as a historic attraction and oversees her care and preservation with the support of visitors, memberships, grants, and donations.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. General admission, which includes choice of an optional tour, is \$29 per adult and \$13 per child (4-12). Military, kama'aina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For information or reservations, call (toll-free) 1-877-644-4896 or visit USSMissouri.org.



Link to image: <a href="https://i.imgur.com/sL3bRaA.jpg">https://i.imgur.com/sL3bRaA.jpg</a>

**Caption:** Eight-millionth visitor, Edie Jordan of Rochester, NY, receives lei, Battleship Missouri Memorial swag and a "Thank You" greeting as she enters the Mighty Mo.



Link to image: https://i.imgur.com/IIXUo3N.jpg

**Caption:** Eight-millionth visitor, Edie Jordan of Rochester, NY and friends receive a private tour of the Mighty Mo.

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