

## **Lloyd Charles McKenzie (19.. – 1943)**

Lloyd McKenzie was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and joined the Navy around 1932 in Michigan. He was a Torpedoman's Mate First Class (E6) in the United States Navy. He, his wife, Elna Phelps McKenzie and two daughters, Jeanine and Gayle, lived at 1085 Jefferson Avenue, Chula Vista CA

He was a veteran of the USS Stewart (DD-224) in the Asiatic Navy, and graduated third in his class of 18 at the Submarine School in New London, Connecticut on April 15, 1940. His service number was 409 66 54.

He was then assigned to the USS Triton (SS-201), a new class of submarine with many innovations, as a "plank owner", becoming a member of her initial crew. After her commissioning in August, 1940, the USS TRITON was transferred to the Pacific to be in the forefront of the Navy's defense efforts before the attack on Pearl Harbor. On December 7, 1941, the USS Triton was on patrol off Wake Island, and torpedoed a Japanese destroyer in that area three days later.

*"Lloyd McKenzie was the front loader on the deck gun crew that sank the first enemy ship by gunfire by a US Submarine in WWII. I was very proud of that gun crew."*  
Captain George H. Whiting, USN (ret)

By September 1942, the submarine had sunk more enemy ships than all other submarines operating out of Pearl Harbor. He remained with the USS TRITON, part of her battle-wise crew, until she fell to depth charges in combat with three Japanese destroyers on her sixth war patrol on March 15, 1943.

The USS Triton is credited with sinking 19 enemy ships and damaging 7 more. Petty Officer Lloyd McKenzie was qualified to wear submarine dolphins and the wartime patrol submarine device. His name is among the 3620 sailors on the Submarine Wall of Honor in Groton Connecticut who did not return from their submarine patrol.

He was awarded five unit commendations, the Purple Heart, the American Defense Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Navy China Service Medal, National Defense Medal, Yangtze Service Medal, the World War Two Victory Medal, the Navy Good Conduct Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. His wife, Mrs. Elna Phelps McKenzie lived at 1086 Jefferson Avenue, Chula Vista, CA.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to have a street in Chula Vista dedicated to honor this heroic and dedicated veteran, as there is a MacKenzie Creek, a MacKenzie Creek Street, and a MacKenzie Creek Park in the Rolling Hills section of Chula Vista.

