Descriptive Finding Guide for the Zilda De Carlo Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10035

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San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
11/05/2014
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
**Descriptive Finding Guide for the**

Zilda De Carlo Personal Papers

**Language of Material:** English

**Contributing Institution:** San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives

**Title:** Zilda De Carlo Special Collection

**source:** De Carlo, Zilda

**Identifier/Call Number:** SDASM.SC.10035

**Physical Description:** 0.6 Cubic Feet | 2 Boxes

**Date (inclusive):** 1913-2010

**Abstract:** Zilda De Carlo was born July 2, 1913 in North Hollywood, California. She was the youngest of four children to Frank and Vincenza (Dinino) De Carlo. Their sons, Ray, Bill, and Nick, also served in the Armed Forces. Zilda enrolled in Parachute Rigger School at Lakehurst in January 1943 after completing WAVES basic training at Hunter College in The Bronx. She was one of the first women to serve in the Navy as a chief parachute rigger.

**Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open to researchers by appointment.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

The materials in this Collection were donated to the San Diego Air and Space Museum.

**Conditions Governing Use**

Some copyright may be reserved. Consult with the library director for more information.

**Preferred Citation**

[Item], [Filing Unit], [Series Title], [Subgroups], [Record Group Title and Number], [Repository “San Diego Air & Space Museum Library & Archives”]

**Biographical / Historical**

Zilda De Carlo was born July 2, 1913 in North Hollywood, California. She was the youngest of four children to Frank and Vincenza (Dinino) De Carlo. Their sons, Ray, Bill, and Nick, also served in the Armed Forces. Zilda enrolled in Parachute Rigger School at Lakehurst in January 1943 after completing WAVES basic training at Hunter College in The Bronx. She was appointed as Chief Parachute Rigger on November 24, 1956 and retired from the Navy Reserves in 1973 as a Chief Petty Officer/Chief Parachute Rigger. De Carlo was also a commander for the 20th District American Legion Auxiliary. De Carlo was an expert seamstress and before her enlistment, she was employed in Desmond’s alteration department, a large men’s clothing store in North Hollywood, and in the wardrobe department at 20th Century Fox. De Carlo passed away at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Long Beach, California on January 17, 2010 and was honored at a “Beach Jumpers” reunion ceremony in November 2010, held at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, and included WAVES from the local San Diego Unit, Stars & Stripes. She was married after World War II to Beatrice Claude Davis and is interred as “Zilda De Carlo Davis” at Pierce Brothers Valhalla Memorial Park in North Hollywood, California

**Scope and Contents**

The collection includes photographs; 1945 newspapers from Honolulu; Naval Air Station newsletters; U.S. Navy certificates of service and I.D. cards; manual, album, and personal diary in two boxes.

**Related Materials**

Women of Flight Collection.

Naval Aviation Collection.

[https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157629966404085/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/sets/72157629966404085/)

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Women in aeronautics

Women air pilots

Naval Station Pearl Harbor (Hawaii)

Naval Air Station (N.J.)

World War, 1939-1945

United States. Naval Reserve. Women's Reserve (WAVES)

De Carlo, Zilda
**Box 01**


**Box 02**