

# Pearl Harbor Survivors Remember December 7th with a USPS Pictorial Cancellation



**Mount Diablo's Beacon  
Lighting Ceremony**

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**Annual Pearl Harbor  
Remembrance Day Sta.  
"Lest We Forget"  
December 7, 2020  
Concord, CA 94518**

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The Sons and Daughters of the Pearl Harbor Survivors and Save Mount Diablo are sponsoring an official United States Postal Service pictorial cancellation for the annual Mount Diablo Beacon Lighting on December 7, 2020

To get the cancellation, mail a SASE envelope to:  
Postmaster, Main Office, Mt Diablo pictorial postmark,  
2121 Meridian Park Blvd., Concord CA 94520-9998



*Mount Diablo Beacon at Sunrise – Photo by Ted Clement*

The Beacon on Mount Diablo was originally installed and illuminated in 1928 to aid in trans-continental aviation. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Beacon's light was extinguished during the West Coast Blackout, for fear it may aid an attack on California. It stayed dark until Pearl Harbor Day 1964, when Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander in Chief of Pacific Forces during World War II, relit the Beacon in a commemorative ceremony and suggested it be illuminated every December 7th to honor those who served and sacrificed.

Since that day, Pearl Harbor Veterans and their families have gathered every December 7<sup>th</sup> to see the Beacon light shine once again. Save Mount Diablo and its good partners (California State Parks, the Sons & Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors Chapter 5 and California State East Bay Concord Campus) sponsor and organize the annual lighting ceremony of the Beacon for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. This year's event will be online, with the Beacon lighting scheduled for sunset, December 7th. For more information on this event please visit: [http://www.savemountdiablo.org/activities\\_events\\_beacon.html](http://www.savemountdiablo.org/activities_events_beacon.html)

Concord Pearl Harbor Survivor Chuck Kohler (Ford Island) speaking at last year's event: ***"...when we light that beacon, as you stand and watch it rotate and send its brighter and broader beam of remembrance out across all the valleys below, if you will put yourselves in the right frame of mind, and if you will listen very, very carefully not only with your eyes, but with grateful hearts and respectful minds then all of those people who down through the years not just at Pearl Harbor, but anywhere that the US has been engaged in these battles, those who have given their lives in the pursuit, protection and preservation of our liberties and our freedoms, they will communicate with you. They will do so in unison as if with one voice. And their message, their plea will be the same; remember us. Remember us. We gave our lives while in service to you."...***



Mount Diablo Beacon after Sunset – Photo by Stephen Joseph

## USPS Pictorial Postmarks Announcement from Postal Bulletin

As a community service, the Postal Service™ offers pictorial postmarks to commemorate local events celebrated in communities throughout the nation. Those who wish to obtain the postmark may submit a mail order request. Pictorial postmarks are available only for the dates indicated, and requests must be postmarked no later than 30 days following the requested pictorial postmark date. All requests must include a stamped envelope or postcard bearing at least the minimum First-Class Mail® postage. Items submitted for postmark may not include postage issued after the date of the requested postmark. Such items will be returned unserved.

Customers wishing to obtain a postmark must affix stamps to any envelope or postcard of their choice, address the envelope or postcard to themselves or others, insert a card of postcard thickness in envelopes for sturdiness, and tuck in the flap. Place the envelope or postcard in a larger envelope and address it to:

**Postmaster  
Main Office  
Mt Diablo pictorial postmark  
2121 Meridian Park Blvd.  
Concord CA 94520-9998**

Customers can also send stamped envelopes and postcard without addresses for postmark, as long as they supply a larger envelope with adequate postage and their return address. After applying the pictorial postmark, the Postal Service returns the items (with or without addresses) under addressed protective cover.

Universal Ship Cancellation Society member Richard Hoffner designed the cancel combining the Save Mount Diablo logo with the Sons and Daughters of the Pearl Harbor Survivors "Lest We Forget" motto.

For more information please contact:  
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