

John Joseph Datko Jr -W8ATG- *1914-1945* Per 1936 Flying Horse Call Book, resided 323 Monroe Street Youngstown, Ohio. A member of the ill fated USS Bismarck Sea CVE-95 – Datko was listed as missing or assumed dead from the Kamikaze raid of the Bismarck Sea on the night of 21 Feb 1945. The carrier escort went down in 45 minutes with munitions blazing. Of a crew of 860 sailors, W8ATG was one of the missing in action 318 crew members.

John left his family and wife Carmel Marie Datko who expired in 1998 at age 86 in Sun Lakes Arizona formerly of Hubbard, Ohio.

Tom K8CX has John's W8ATG QSL card in file with his fine extensive collection. He has additional information that W8ATG belonged to the Youngstown NCR (Navy Communications reserve) in the 1940's - John moved to Sharon and worked at Westinghouse. He went on active duty during WWII and didn't return.

Pictured in Honolulu is the U.S. Military Memorial to our Servicemen lost in the Pacific during WW2. John Datko's name is inscribed with thousands of other servicemen who paid the maximum price.



Datko had entered service from Youngstown, Ohio and did well on his technical examinations and was awarded a commission as Warrant Officer in the specialty field of Radio Electrician.

It is a good to review the life of Datko and honor his sacrifice and learn a few things about his short time on this earth with us. The USS Bismarck Sea CVE-95 was the last carrier to be lost in WW2. We have John's signature and are aware a few things about his amateur status in Youngstown before he entered the service. I also believe that a QSL will usually show something of the personal character especially his signature.



It is my hope one day that the K8CX collection will have some personal history on each wireless pioneer amateur in the region.