NEIGHBORHOODS

Museum to honor pioneer daredevil Locklear

Fifty-thousand mourners Locklear, born in Como on lined both sides of Main Street Oct 28, 1891, was educated in as a funeral cortege made its way toward the Tarrant County Courthouse on Aug. 8, 1920.



TARRANT

his talents that the Army assigned him to teaching

stood

duties rather than chance losing him in aerial

combat Later, he distinguished himself among the barnstorming

pilots for his wing walking. Sadly, but perhaps fittingly, he was killed in an airplane

Renowned pilot and aircraft manufacturer Glenn E. Curtiss sent an airplane-shaped floral arrangement with 6-foot-long wings to the funeral along with a note: "Through his fearless-ness and skill, Ormer Locklear

has contributed immeasurably

to the art of flying."

Fort Worth public schools and at the University of Texas.

He was considered a daredevil for his early motorcycle feats, but his primary interests were science and the mechanics of aeronautics.

When he was 20, Locklear began taking private flying lessons, and soon after bought a

In the Army Air Service, he displayed extraordinary skills as an aerial gunner and naviga-

After World War I. many military aviators turned from deadly dogfights to entertainment enterprises.

Locklear teamed up with another pilot, Lt. Milton Elliott, who had trained with him at Barron Field near Everman.

On the state fair circuit. Locklear was said to have invented the stunt of moving from one biplane to another at

He would climb out onto the lower wing and bound to the lower wing of a nearby aircraft, holding onto the struts.

Locklear also left crowds open-mouthed with another perfected exploit, wing walking without a parachute.

biplane, Locklear stood on the top wing, his arms above his head and his feet secured in strong leather straps moored to the wing.

The daredevil waved and smiled to the crowd as the pilot buzzed the field. Locklear once commented.

"I don't do these things because I want to run the risk of being killed. I do it to demonstrate what can be done. Someday we will all be fly-

ing."
Hollywood beckoned the dashing pilot as an actor and stuntman who flew through barns, crashed into houses and walked" on wings.

During filming for The Skyayman, Locklear and Elliott were to appear as if they were crashing in their burning air-

At 8,000 feet, Locklear lit attached torches to simulate an aircraft in flames

As they nosed the plane into a shallow dive, it began burning furiously, went into a tailspin and, at 200 feet, the outof-control aircraft suddenly plunged to earth in a mass of

A battery of four motion picture cameras recorded every

second of their fiery deaths.

During Locklear's funeral Mulkey Street Memorial Church on Fort Worth's south side was filled to overflowing. and hundreds more waited out-

An American flag draped the casket, which was surrounded by huge banks of flowers.

The centerpiece was a large wreath donated by Locklear's leading lady in The Skyway-man, Louise Lovely

A bugle sounded taps before the funeral procession departed for downtown and proceeded up Main Street to honor the man considered the father of aviation aerobatics

Locklear, who had built a house on Alston Avenue in 1912, was survived by a wife. Ruby, parents, two brothers and three sisters. Melrose Place star Heather Locklear has said she is related to the pilot.

He will be recognized in the planned Aviation Heritage Museum, which also features such local pioneers as Amon Carter Sr., who brought aviation heroes to Fort Worth and donated money for land used for aircraft production; A.P. Barrett, whose Texas Air Transport became the nucleus for American Airlines: and astro-



Daredevil pilot Ormer Locklear will be recognized in the Aviation Heritage

Museum in Fort Worth

Charles A. Ringler, executive vice president of the museum, said recently, "Locklear's outstanding abilities as a pilot, navigator, aerial gunner and flying instructor more than qualify him for a place of honor among aviation's other historical greats in our museum."

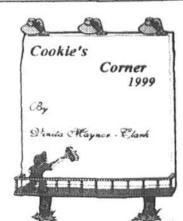
Tax-deductible contributions may be made to the Aviation

naut Alan Bean, a Paschal High School graduate. Heritage Museum at 306 W. Seventh St., Suite 311, Fort Worth 76102.

Sources: Camp Bowie, Fort Worth, 1917-18, edited by Bill Jary and Bernice B. Mayfield: Star-Telegram; and Charles Ringler interview

Bill Fairley is a longtime Fort Worth resident interested in Texas history.

(817) 390-7966



Helt thee world it me again I hope that can have had a good week. This weekend was not one of my better ones as I assisted in a wrech with a young man named Shane that was riding his motorcycle and was hit by a truck People were trying to move him and take off his helmet I got down there on the ground with him until help came I have heard from his friends that he is alright and I thank God for that I can say that luck and the Lord was on his side. The other events of the weekend was where I witnessed a shooting as I was trying to wash us car. I seriously doubt that I will ever go back to that car wash. It really shook me up to say the least But I feel better now



McIntyre Pushes for National Guard Educational Facility

Washington, D.C. -- US Representative Mike McIntyre has been personally meeting with his colleagues in the U.S. House Representatives to ask for their support of a North Carolina National Guard educational facility at Ft.Bragg. North Carolina

Representative McIntyre stated. North Carolina's National Guard plays important missions at every level of government - federal, state, and local. As the Guard continues to serve our community. I want to make sure that it has the finest facilities available. Therefore, I am doing all that I can to discuss with my colleagues the importance of funding this educational facility

Over the last several days. McIntyre has personally spoken with key Members of Congress on the House Armed Services and Appropriations Committees including Representatives Floyd Spence (R-SC). Ike Skelton (D-MO). Joel Hefley (R-COLO). Gene Taylor (D-MISS). Dayid Hobson (R-OH). and John Olver (D-MASS)

The North Carolina National Guard has been selected to establish a regional combat arms school at its present military academy at Ft Bragg. The facility will teach students from North Carolina. South Carolina. Georgia. Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The school will conduct transition training for armor infantry, artillery, and air defense artillery military occupational specialities. The North Carolina National Guard and the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg have entered into a partnership to develop an educational complex of shared facilities at Ft Bragg that will serve the needs of active and reserve component forces at the same time. The educational facility is the first project to develop from that partnership.

McIntyre, along with several of his North Carolina colleagues, are seeking \$8.87 million in federal funds that would build this facility on a 30 acre site at Ft Bragg. Plans and design for the facility are 95% complete as a result of previous federal funds

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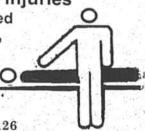
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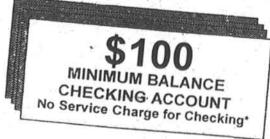
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