

# REPORTS

## DENVER, COLORADO

### Local 208 Retiree Receives 75-Year Pin— Holds the Oldest Book in Local

Pipefitters Local 208, Denver, CO, retiree 99-year-old Brother Howard Sorenson recently received his 75-year pin at the local's Longevity Awards Ceremony held in May. It was reported that Brother Sorenson walked in with just the help of a cane, promptly sat down, drank two beers and ate a heaping plate of BBQ, all the while laughing and joking with all of the members of Local 208 who were in attendance.

The members of Local 208 are so proud of Brother Sorenson, and the fact that he holds the oldest book in the local. Below is a small tribute to Brother Sorenson that was published in the local's 100th Anniversary book. The members would like Brother Sorenson to know how much they all love and admire him.

*HOWARD'S LUCKY LOCKER*

*Patriotism has never been in short supply in the labor movement. This is also true for Pipefitters Local 208. Our local has had its share of volunteers and draftees who served in World War I and World War II, as well as in other major conflicts in which our country has been involved. Members have served in most all of the branches of our Armed Forces.*

*Brother Howard Sorenson served in World War II. During his military service, he had his share of close calls and good luck. As a young man, well into his apprenticeship, Howard joined the United States Navy. After a short boot camp, he was assigned to the battleship USS Maryland as a ship's fitter.*

*Howard continued to serve aboard the Maryland until the end of the war in 1945. The Maryland was never without engagement in battle. It was always in a place where there was action. One such engagement left Howard with something to remember forever.*

*While his ship was under attack, and Howard was at his assigned place of duty, there was an enemy hit that exploded inside the locker room where his prestigious union book and union identification card were stored. The union book and identification card were just barely spared. A piece of shrapnel tore through Howard's locker, and what was left was just a large piece of his book and union card.*

*Brother Sorenson kept the remnants of his precious union book through all of the battles he endured, and then he continued to cherish and keep it safe over the years. This is the spirit that makes our union and our country strong!*

Thank you, Local 208, for sharing this wonderful story that you included in Local 208's 100th Anniversary book.

Congratulations, Brother Sorenson! We thank you for 75 years of service and dedication to the United Association and also for your service to our country.



Brother Howard Sorenson arrives at the local to receive his 75-year anniversary pin.

**The UA is now taking text and photo submissions for Local Reports and The Great Outdoors via e-mail.**

**Please send to [ua-journal@uanet.org](mailto:ua-journal@uanet.org)**

**If you send images, please make sure they are high resolution (300 dpi).**

## COLUMBIA, MARYLAND

### Local 669 Retiree and WWII Veteran Honored for 70 Years of Service

Sprinklerfitters Local 669, Columbia, MD, retiree and World War II Veteran Howard Knox was honored at a recent breakfast celebration for his 70 years of service to the United Association. Brother Knox stated that he has a brother and a nephew who are also members of Local 669. Brother Knox resides in Texas, and the celebration breakfast took place at the Cracker Barrel in San Marco, TX. During World War II, Brother Knox served on the USS Wisconsin and made it back home on the USS Texas. Four Naval Officers attended the breakfast to honor Brother Knox's service to our country and to be part of this momentous occasion.

Congratulations, Brother Knox! We are thankful for your 70 years of service to the United Association, and we honor your service to our great country!



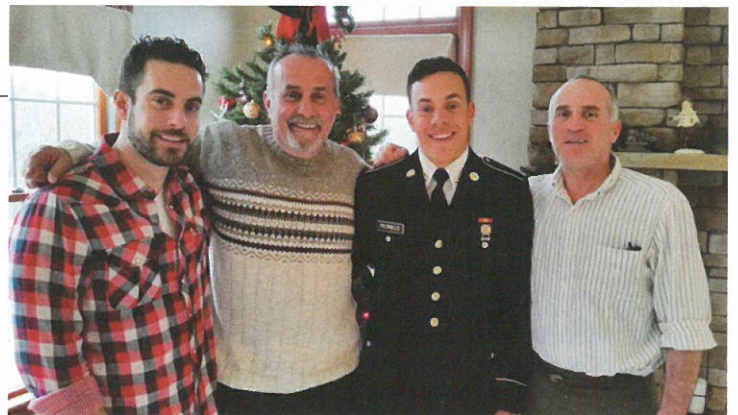
From left to right are Petty Officer Lefendecker, Chief Custer, Howard Knox (seated), Lieutenant Cavanaugh and Petty Officer Yoder.

## PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

### Local 449 Member's Son Graduates From Army "Explosive Ordnance Disposal"

Steamfitters Local 449, Pittsburgh, PA, member Felix "Butch" Petrillo would like to give a proud shout-out to his son, Adam, who has just finished his long, extensive explosive ordnance disposal training in the Army. Within this past year, Adam traveled from Fort Jackson in South Carolina, to Fort Lee in Virginia, to Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where he graduated. Adam is now stationed at Fort Wainwright, AK. Brother Petrillo stated that Adam was just sent to train at Fort Irwin in the Mojave Desert in California, where there is an Afghanistan simulation set up. He has studied air, land and water explosives.

Congratulations, Adam, on a job well done! Remain safe for your remaining activation, and we thank you for your service to our country.



Adam is pictured with his "fitter" family—his Dad, Butch; his brother, Anthony; and Uncle Joe.

## STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

### Local 442 Member Getting the Job Done

Will Higgins is a member of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 442, Stockton, CA, and he is a third-generation welder/pipefitter. This is a recent picture of him 40 feet in the air, welding six-inch stainless. He said, "Getting the job done!"



Well done, Brother Higgins!