

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL  
RECEIVES \$1 MILLION FROM TAYLOR FAMILY TO  
PRESERVE LEGACY OF WORLD WAR II GENERATION**

*Gift from founder of Enterprise Rent-A-Car and WWII veteran Jack C. Taylor  
and family to fund education programs.*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) has received a \$1 million gift from St. Louis, Missouri businessman Jack C. Taylor and his family to sustain education efforts and activities sponsored by Friends and allow for the development of new multimedia education initiatives. This is the largest single gift to Friends in the organization’s history.

“Jack Taylor embodies the values and character of the Greatest Generation. It is these values that are at the core philosophy of Enterprise and the World War II Memorial and which we hope to instill in succeeding generations through new education programs supported by this significant gift,” says Josiah Bunting III, chairman of Friends. “We are grateful to Mr. Taylor and his family for their generous support that will help Friends to continue to lead this noblest of efforts.”

Mr. Taylor is a World War II veteran, having served as an F6F Hellcat fighter from the decks of the USS Essex and the USS Enterprise. He earned two Distinguished Flying Crosses and the Navy Air Medal. In 1957, Mr. Taylor established a car rental business that he eventually named “Enterprise Rent-A-Car” after the ship he served on during WWII. The Taylor family owns Enterprise Holdings, which operates Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, and Alamo Rent-A-Car.

The “Jack C. Taylor / Enterprise Rent-A-Car WWII Memorial Education Endowment” will enable Friends to enhance its education initiatives and work to empower America’s young people with a heightened sense of community, civic engagement, and personal responsibility.

Specifically, the endowment will fund an annual teacher institute held in Washington, DC that will facilitate the kind of teaching meant to inspire lifelong learning and breathe new life into the values that brought freedom to the world. The WWII generation was a unique moment in time when the nation was unified with a sense of purpose. The Friends teachers’ conference will aim to bring that spirit of unity to countless towns and cities across the country.

This significant gift from the Taylor family will help Friends to ensure that the legacy, lessons, and values of Mr. Taylor and the World War II era are not forgotten and, more, that the character and spirit of the Greatest Generation is passed on to our future generations.

**About Friends of the National World War II Memorial ([www.wwiimemorialfriends.org](http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)):**

Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to ensuring that the legacy, lessons, and sacrifices of World War II are not forgotten. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; provides teachers with curriculum materials; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning and staging five or more major national commemorative events annually and each summer sponsors a dozen free public performances of military bands at the Memorial. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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For media inquiries:

**Friends of the National World War II Memorial**  
Holly Rotondi, Executive Director  
202.675.2017 / [hrotondi@wwiimemorialfriends.org](mailto:hrotondi@wwiimemorialfriends.org)