

HUBERT L "HOOKS" JONES CHAPTER



TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, INC.
GIVING THE PAST A FUTURE

©

September 20, 2025

Volume 21

Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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- In Memory
- 4th Annual Top Gun Golf Tournament

A Daughter's Love A Father's Legacy

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.®



Giving History A Future!

Gabrielle Martin
President, Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter



2025 Regional Award
TAI National Convention
Awarded
Gabrielle Martin
Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones
Chapter, Colorado

Gabrielle's Words of Wisdom

Go for it
Take the first step
Life is an adventure, now go live it
Figure it out
Be kind and gracious
Help others



Welcome to the quarterly newsletter of the Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter. In the past we took each quarter to pay tribute to one of our own Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen (DOTA). We honored all 19 DOTAs, so today we are highlighting our current Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter President Gabrielle Martin to thank her for her tremendous efforts.

In the coming year, we will honor our living DOTA spouses and other heritage member family members who made history with the Tuskegee Airmen.

As we look to the future, we encourage family members to get involved. There are numerous opportunities to plug in to the Chapter. Helping hands are always welcome. We are also embarking on a project to get photos, articles, and other historical items in a digital format. Please be collecting to add to our ongoing project.

If you know any business or individual looking for a tremendous program to support, Mile High Flight (MHF) remains one of the most successful aviation programs in the country. We encourage you to share this opportunity so others can donate to MHF.

Blessings,
Elizabeth Harper

HLHJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Gabrielle Martin
President



Mark Dickerson
First Vice President



Phyllis Dickerson
Secretary



Vorry Moon
Parliamentarian



Col. James Harvey
Documented Original

SAVE THE DATE

Holiday Lunch

December Holiday Luncheon

December 13, 2025

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Denver

12:00pm-3:00pm



Reminder

Time for yearly membership dues.

Chapter dues may be paid on the

Website

<https://www.colorado-redtails.org/donate>

In notes box include Chapter Dues

OR

mail a check to

Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter

P.O. Box 370431

Denver, CO

See Page 10 for details



John Porche
Immediate Past President/
Board Chairman



Carol Hunter
Treasurer



Elizabeth Harper
Historian



William Eric Mosley
Mile High Flight Project

Gabrielle Martin

Gabrielle is a walking, talking example of her father's legacy. To know her is to admire her. As we finished our newsletters highlighting the lives of our DOTAs, I decided to ask Gabrielle if she would share. She agreed. I am excited for you to get to know Gabrielle a little better. She does so much for our Chapter, I'm sure we only capture a portion. Her heart is to honor her father and the stories of the Tuskegee Airmen. Please enjoy hearing from Gabrielle herself as she shares about her life.

What did you learn from your father?

I found out at an early age that Dad was a Tuskegee Airmen. I watched him take on the world. He started our neighborhood association and was its President and newsletter editor. He knew everyone. I was amazed at how he knew their stories. He remembered the people and the families in our neighborhood. As he gathered this information, he taught me to do the job correctly according to guidelines, but he also taught me to do the job well. He insisted I was to never quit and to treat people with compassion. Dad trained people in the neighborhood not to use their home as collateral for anything. He helped them with financial planning and budgeting. I watched him build the Chicago DODO chapter golf tournament into a powerhouse with corporate sponsorships for the scholarship program. Life was an adventure for Dad. He lived it to the fullest. He would try many things from golf, to ski jumping, to building things. He was creative and industrious, famous for his home-made Mardi Gras Ball (chapter fundraiser) costumes and scratch apple pie with golden raisins. He was an adventurous eater and tried things like elk, venison, rattlesnake medallions, and Rocky Mountain Oysters. He would try anything that was out there.

Any interesting fact you might like to share with Chapter members such as an award, accomplishment, funny story, favorite memory...

Traveling with dad was always an adventure, regardless of the plan. We always found something unscripted to do, some backroad to travel. I traveled with my father to ski and visit National Parks. I treasure our last trip, when he was 92. We traveled to Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks. The scenic drives were awesome. We played in and among the giant trees. His last year of life, I was able to work from Chicago and share caretaker duties with my sisters. I was tasked with spreading his ashes at the four places around the country he directed – from high mountains to sea level sites.

My other favorite, watching dad and six generations of the family and dad as he was presented with a copy of the Congressional Record entry, by Senator Harkin's staff at our June 13, 2013, Family Reunion in Dubuque, Iowa.



Tell us about your childhood.

I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I attended Ryder, Kipling, and St. Ambrose grammar schools, Kenwood High School, Hope College, University of Illinois Chicago and Loyola University for undergrad. I attended Creighton University for Masters and Law degrees. I worked for the Chicago Water Department, law Office of Costello, Dugan and Grant, Offices of the Cook County and Denver County Public Defender, Colorado Governor's Job Training Office, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

I am the second eldest of four children. I am the oldest girl. My mother, Odette Ewell, was born in Chicago and educated in the Catholic grammar school and a renowned public college prep high school. She attended the University of Chicago on Scholarship earning three degrees, a bachelor's Certificate, a Masters and a Ph.D. in Education.

My maternal grandparents were Severine Rae and Whitney Ewell. Both were born in New Orleans and moved to Chicago. Both attended college and worked for the United States Postal System. Grandpa Whitney eventually managed a department of finance at Chicago's main post office and was the first Black to manage a postal substation in Chicago.

My father, Captain Robert L. Martin, was born in Dubuque, Iowa, and attended Dubuque Senior High School. Although he took ROTC classes, he was denied leadership training. He graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Electrical Engineering and a pilot's license. Dad was accepted in the United States Army Air Corps. Dad had a short stint in the United States Army while he awaited orders to report to Tuskegee. He began training at Tuskegee in 1943. A fighter pilot, he graduated in Class 44A and his wings were pinned on January 7, 1944. He was assigned to the 100th Fighter Group and was sent overseas. Ramitelli, Italy was his home base. Dad flew 64 missions before a bullet pierced his plane on a strafing mission over Zagreb, Yugoslavia. With his plane on fire, he bailed out, radioed in that he would walk back. Eventually, following 6 weeks with the Partisans, he returned to Ramitelli with a little help from planes and trucks. After the war, he moved to Chicago to find work.



Favorites:

Music genre/song - Depends on the mood. Our house had all kinds of music, but classical and light jazz are among my favorites.

Hobbies – Crafting, memory books, long distance bike riding, camping and being outside.

Travel/vacation locations – Aspen, Colorado
Cape Town, South Africa.

Food – I am not an adventurous eater. Very basic food suits me well. Mostly veggie packed salads.

Saying/Bible Verse -You have an education, now use your head and figure out the problem.

Career – Public Defender, Civil Rights and Union attorney

Places lived– Chicago, Nebraska, Colorado

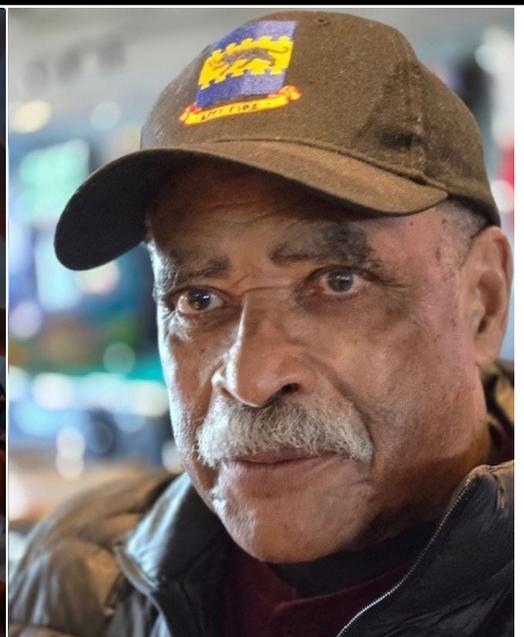
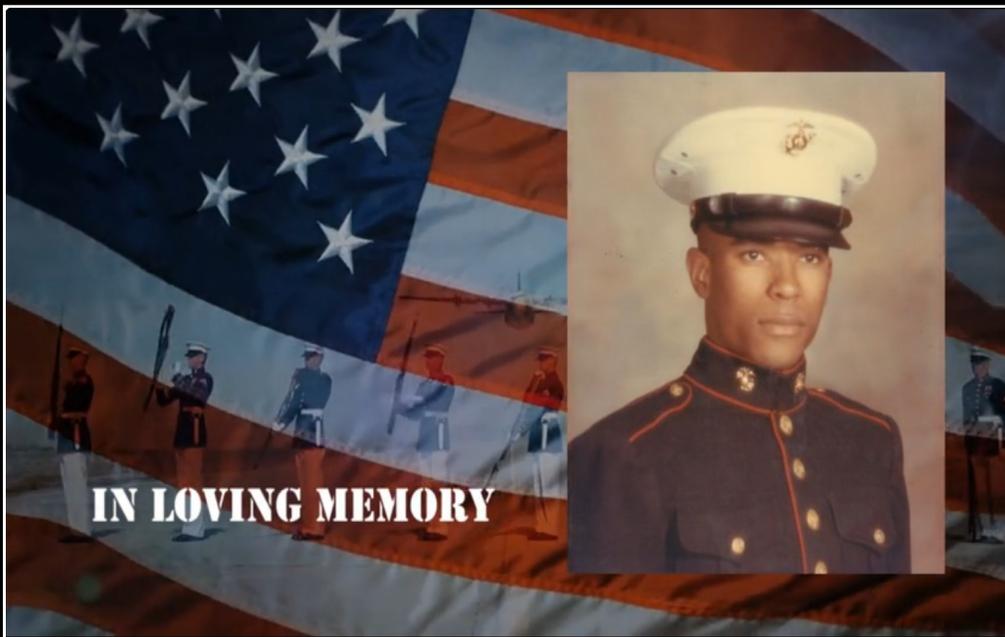
Agreeing to go on a blind date so that his brother’s girlfriend could attend a big party, he met my mom Odette Ewell. They married in August of 1950 on the day mom was to graduate with her Masters. Since she had a her wedding date before graduation was announced, she missed graduation.

I never met my paternal grandfather, Henry Ambrose Martin. Grandpa Henry had a postal route as a child, which he got after he taught his father the route. There were now two incomes in the family. Grandpa Henry worked on the Mississippi River Snag Boats and later became a foot doctor after being injured on the snag boats. Grandpa Henry and his first wife agreed to send all their children, even the girls, to college. Grandpa Henry kept that promise and nine children graduated from college. There were several wives, most of whom were homemakers. Mrs. Dorothy Pelke owned her own property, a boarding house, which they listed in the Negro Traveler’s “Green Book”. There was only one stepmom who I met, Mother Sue, and we did not see her often.

Happy Birthday Colonel Harvey!

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Dewey Hicks
December 4, 1944-February 17, 2025

Dewey was a dedicated and loved member of our Chapter. He worked diligently on the success of our now annual Top Gun Golf Tournament. Dewey will always be remembered as a kind and gentle soul who always looked out for others. Below are the words from his family and his obituary. Please go to the link below to watch a loving tribute to Dewey and his legacy.

Dewey served honorably in the United States Marines, including a tour in Vietnam, and later dedicated over 30 years to the Air National Guard. He was immensely proud of his military service and stayed in close contact with many friends that he served with in the Air National Guard.

A proud alumnus of Queens College in New York City, Dewey graduated with a degree in Sociology, and taught Science as a high school substitute teacher. His life was marked by his unwavering commitment to family, friends, and service to his country.

Dewey was predeceased by his daughter Nicole. He is survived by his loving wife, his sister, his brother, his nephew, his stepdaughter, his step granddaughter and her partner their four children, and his dear friend Ron, who provided enormous support to Dewey and Gloria over the years.

Known for his heart of gold, Dewey was always willing to lend a helping hand. His great grandchildren brought him immense joy, and he cherished every moment spent with them. An excellent chef, Dewey had a passion for outdoor grilling and was a master in the kitchen. He also had a keen interest in music, computers, science, technology, military aircraft, and exploring his family history.

Dewey actively participated in organizations such as The Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., and was loved by all who knew him. His legacy of kindness, dedication, and love will forever be remembered.

You can watch or order a beautiful keepsake photo video at this website. Please take time to go watch and remember our dear friend Dewey

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/dewey-hicks-obituary?id=57635011>

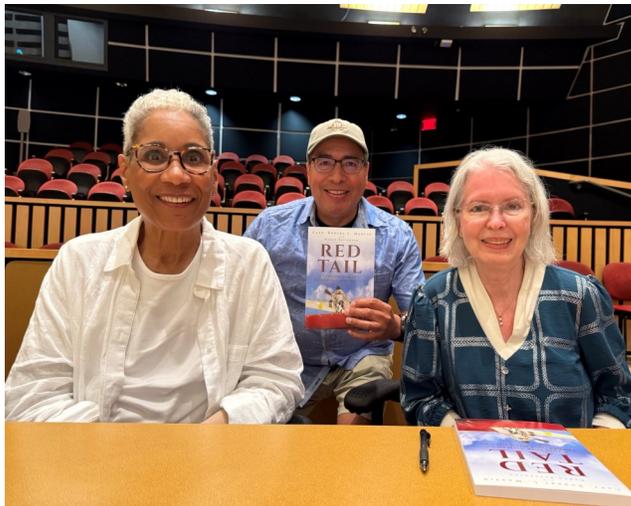
Above information is from Dewey's family noted in his obituary

Peterson SFB/Book Events



The Chapter continues to share Tuskegee History and sell our Chapter coins, stationery, gear, and books all around the state and more. This summer events included Peterson SFB BX and the Pikes Peak Library District's Shiver's Foundation Concert Series. In addition, Gabrielle shared her father's book at the world famous EAA Oshkosh Air Show.

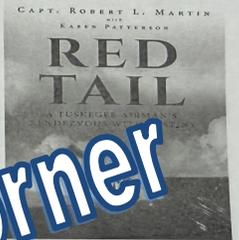
Gabrielle in Oshkosh



RED TAIL

A Tuskegee Airman's Rendezvous with Destiny EVENTS

- Author and guest Karen Patterson and the daughter of Tuskegee Airman Capt. Robert Martin, Gabrielle Martin, will talk about their exciting, new book
- Tuesday, July 22, 10:00AM Skyscape Theater at the EAA Museum
- Author's Corner book signing, EAA Warehouse, Tuesday, July 22 at 1:00PM
- Also signing books before and after the Private Event for Marian University guests on Tuesday night beginning at 7:00PM in the Marian University Auditorium



Author's Corner
Tuesday, July 22, 2025

- 9:00 a.m. - Capt. Lynn Rippelmeyer "Life Takes Wings: Lessons Learned by the World's First Female 747 Pilot"
- 10:00 a.m. - Jay A. Stout "Savage Skies, Emerald Hell: The U.S., Australia, Japan, and the Ferocious Air Battle for New Guinea in World War II"
- 11:00 a.m. - Jim Busha "Bazooka Charlie: The Unbelievable Story of Major Charles Carpenter and Rosie the Rocketeer"
- 12:00 p.m. - Heidi A. Forch "Ditching the Sky: A Memoir of Triumph Against all Odds"
- 1:00 p.m. - Karen Patterson & Gabrielle Martin "Red Tail: A Tuskegee Airman's Rendezvous with Destiny"
- 2:00 p.m. - Joe Peterburs "The Autobiography of Colonel Joe Peterburs with Memories of Over 36 Years of Active Military Service"
- 3:00 p.m. - Anne Keene "The Cloudbuster Nine: The Untold Story of Ted Williams and the Baseball Team That Helped Win World War II"
- 3:00 p.m. - Diane Ballweg "Into the Wind, Above the Clouds: Love at First Flight!"
- 4:00 p.m. - Lt. Colonel Olga Custodio, USAF (Retired) "Flightpath of Fortitude: Breaking Barriers, Building Horizons"
- 5:00 p.m. - Eileen Bjorkman "The Fly Girls Revolt: The Story of the Women Who Kicked Open the Door to Fly in Combat"



Congratulations!

The Hubert L. “Hooks” Jones Chapter always has many noted events and accomplishments. This summer was no exception. We are thrilled to announce that John Frazier was awarded the 2025 ***Captain Lemuel Rodney Custis Award*** for his tremendous leadership with Mile High Flight students.



We would also like to share President Gabrielle Martin was awarded the Western Region Award for the Hubert L. “Hooks” Jones Chapter. As a chapter, we were recognized for continued and outstanding contributions to the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Gabrielle was also awarded this year’s ***Brigadier General Noel F. Parrish Award***. Celebrated for her tireless work honoring her father’s legacy and that of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Reach out to thank both of these remarkable members for their efforts and say Congrats.

4th Annual Top Gun Golf Tournament



The 4th Annual Top Gun Golf Tournament was a huge success. Thank you to all who participated. Special gratitude for all of our sponsors. We are encouraged by our continued support in raising money for future scholarships.

Special appreciation to Ken Bowens, Malcolm Chandler for heading up the golf tournament.

Thank you to all who helped day of including Linda, Carol, Minnie Rae, Mark, Phyllis, John Thomas, and Jim Johns. Thank you to Vorry and Candace for honoring Dewey and awarding scholarships.

SUMMER EVENTS

A MOSLEY LEGACY GATHERING

JULY 12, 2025

12:00 - 4:00 PM

BLAIR-CALDWELL AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY



Celebrate the John and Edna Mosley Scholarship Fund and its upcoming anniversary, and hear our plans to expand its financial support. Food and beverages provided. \$5 drawing to win a print of the iconic mural of John W. Mosley.

The Chapter was involved in a number of Colorado summer events. The Mosley Foundation hosted a scholarship event at the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library.

John Thomas performed his Tuskegee reenactment at the Boulder Museum Black History Impact Display kick-off. Thank you to the team who contributed to this display.

Members also helped with parking and handing out medals at the Wings Over the Rockies 5K.



Mile High Flight



In Loving
Memory
Darryl
Searuggs

December 11, 1961-July
28, 2025



It's with great sadness that we report the passing of Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones member Captain Darryl Searuggs. Though Darryl had been ill for some time, he handled it with grace, courage, and an unwavering faith in his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Darryl graduated from Metropolitan State University and served 20 years as an Air Force Instructor and Command Pilot before being hired by FedEx. At the end of his career at FedEx, he flew internationally as a B777 Captain.

He was instrumental in the success of our chapter's award-winning Mile High Flight program. As the program's lead coordinator, he was indispensable. For over 20 years, Darryl worked tirelessly to coordinate tours, manage and monitor flight students' progress in their demanding training and helped to fundraise, enabling our program to thrive, offering once-in-a-life-time opportunities for our youth. But Darryl's greatest gift was his unique talent of mentoring and encouraging our students. His deep knowledge of all things aviation and aerospace related made him an invaluable resource, helping launch many many careers over the years.

He is missed!

Eric Mosley & The Mile High Flight Team

Mile High Flight 30th Year Kick-Off

October 11, 2025

Wings Over the Rockies, Lowry

**Events
&
Presentations
Of the Quarter**

Peterson BX

**Annual Chapter Meeting and
Luncheon**

4th Annual Top Gun Tournament

J.U.S.T Breakfast

Presented Scholarships

National Convention

**Colonel Harvey's
102nd Birthday**

Mosley Foundation

Peggy Shivers Concert Series

**Digital Archives Project
(ongoing)**

Mile High Flight Kick –Off



SAVE THE DATE

Holiday Lunch

December Holiday Luncheon

December 13, 2025

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Denver

12:00pm-3:00pm



Chapter Dues

- A. Chapter dues are \$50.00 and shall be paid on the first day of December annually.
- B. Note: Lifetime membership in TAI applies to the national organization only and does not negate the payment of chapter dues.
- C. Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen (DOTA) or their spouse are exempt from the payment of chapter dues.
- D. Student member, Chapter dues are \$15.00.
- E. Active Duty E-4 and below, Chapter dues are \$25.00.
- F. Active Duty O-3 and below, Chapter dues are \$40.00.
- G. Active Duty O-4 and above, Chapter dues are \$50.00.
- H. Affiliate Members, Chapter dues are \$0.00.

National Dues

\$90 yearly

\$750 Lifetime

2025 Annual Convention

This year's convention was held in New Orleans at the National World War II Museum and the Higgins Hotel August 19-23, 2025. We had a number of members attend including DOTA spouses Shirley Edwards and Peggy Shivers. It was a very successful event for Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter. The HLHJ Chapter received a number of awards. Please go to page eight for details of awards.



MISSION



Tuskegee Airmen of World War II
 By
 Lt. Col. Clarence Shivers, DOTA
 USAFA

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to:

Honoring the accomplishments and perpetuating the history of African-Americans who participated in air crew, ground crew and operations support training in the Army Air Corps during WWII.

Introducing young people across the nation to the world of aviation, aerospace, mathematics and science through local programs such as the Mile High Flight Program.

Providing annual scholarships and awards to deserving individuals, groups and corporations whose deeds lend support to the goals of Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

Calendar

Oct, 2025	Board Meeting	Oct 5
Oct, 2025	Chapter Meeting	Denver
	Mile High Flight Kick-Off October 11, 2025	
Nov, 2025	Board Meeting	Nov 2
Nov, 2025	Chapter Meeting	Colorado Springs
Dec, 2025	Board Meeting	Dec 7
Dec, 2025	Chapter Meeting	Dec 13 @ Ruth's Chris

Holiday Luncheon at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse December 13,2025 1:00-3:00

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

Giving History a Future!



Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.



Hubert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter
 P.O. Box 370431
 Denver, CO