The Second World War was the greatest and most deadly conflict in history. As 60 million lives lost (the majority of them civilians), World War II is the largest and most deeply conflicted in history. Unforeseen changes to our work force, social justice, and advancement in technology were also results of the war. Today, 70 years later, the end of the war is upon us. Our living memory is long lost and the world that war created is rapidly disappearing. We are living in a World War II veterans who are of about 204 per day. Of the 16 million who served, fewer than 100,000 were still alive as of September 2016, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We can never separate a generation in the Second World War, the World War II veterans, its enormous. Created in other than slaves and leave tiny legacy. It is the legacy they have imparted to us that adds value to our lives and is increasingly important to share their stories and honor their legacy.

Nancy B. Kramer, President Elect, Tenth Mountain Division Foundation

END OF AN ERA

THIS EXHIBIT HONORS THE MEN AND WOMEN FROM ROUTT COUNTY WHO SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II.

HOME FRONT

On December 7, 1941, the United States entered World War II. The country’s only natural enemies at that time were the Axis Powers (Germany, Japan, and Italy) and the Allies (Great Britain, the United States, and other nations). World War II was the largest and most deeply conflicted in history. Unforeseen changes to our work force, social justice, and advancement in technology were also results of the war. Today, 70 years later, the end of the war is upon us. Our living memory is long lost and the world that war created is rapidly disappearing. We are living in this World War II veterans who are of about 204 per day. Of the 16 million who served, fewer than 100,000 were still alive as of September 2016, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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Don Lufkin
1923-2012
Lufkin enlisted in the Navy with a friend after the pair decided it would be a lot easier to join up than to work for their fathers. Lufkin would later recall that boot camp was less demanding than ranching. Lufkin served over two years in the Pacific, driving PT (Patrol, Torpedo) boats armed with machine guns and torpedoes. Following his 27 months in service, Elkins served as the supervisor of personnel and stationed through the hometown. He was a member of the Navy League, a board member of the local Elks Club, and the development of the Yampa Valley Regional Airport in Hayden, and he worked to obtain the historic railroad depot for the city. He established some of the most accomplished junior skiing programs in the West. During a span of 22 years, Elkins was a Nordic skiing competitor. He attended the 1932 Olympic Trials in cross-country skiing, held at Howelsen Hill. Elkins served in the 10th Mountain Division, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment. Prior to his military service, Elkins was a Nordic skiing competitor. He attended the 1932 Olympic Trials in cross-country skiing, held at Howelsen Hill.

Brookshire enlisted in the Navy on December 28, 1942, and was trained as a Disbursing Clerk. During his service, he served in the U.S.S. Thetis Bay, an escort aircraft carrier. He was discharged as Second Class Yeoman in 1946. Brookshire moved back to the Yampa Valley where he remained an ardent community volunteer the rest of his life. Additionally, Brookshire was a member of many local clubs and service organizations in the community. In 1984 he helped organize the first reunion of the U.S.S. Thetis Bay.

Thank a veteran: Here's to veterans who are still going strong!

Modesto A. Compestine Jr.
1919-2005
Compestine joined the Navy in 1945, just days before his 27th birthday. He served in the Navy on the U.S.S. New York Pacific fleet, as a Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class. He was discharged in 1946. Compestine served in the Navy during World War II. Following his service in World War II, Lufkin returned to Steamboat Springs to work at his father’s store, Allen’s Men’s Wear. He served as city council president and volunteered through the Kiwanis Club, Masonic Lodge, and Methodist Church. Allen worked to encourage growth in town and expand winter tourism opportunities. Lufkin worked to enrich Steamboat Springs through extensive philanthropy.

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Crosby Perry Smith
1922-2007
Smith was a member of the 10th Mountain Division, 86th Regiment, 2nd Battalion, in Italy during World War II. Following his service in World War II, Lufkin returned to Steamboat Springs to work at his father’s store, Allen’s Men’s Wear. He served as city council president and volunteered through the Kiwanis Club, Masonic Lodge, and Methodist Church. Allen worked to encourage growth in town and expand winter tourism opportunities. Lufkin worked to enrich Steamboat Springs through extensive philanthropy.

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