



Distinguished Flying Cross  
Recipient:

Birth: December 14, 1922

Death: June 3, 2009

**Eddie “Ed” Carlos Torbett**

Branch: U.S. Navy & U. S. Marine Corps

Theatre: WWII, Korea

***(National has no Citation) Research Information:*** After graduating from high school, Eddie Torbett attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville for two years before joining the United States Navy where he completed the Flight Training program, graduating among the top ten in his class. He was offered the choice of remaining with the Navy or joining the United States Marine Corps. He chose the Marine Corps. In 1943, he was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Air Wing. During a 20-year military career, he flew the F4U Corsair in the Pacific Theater during World War II, seeing action in the Battle of Peleliu. He also flew the Corsair in the Korean War, during which he provided air support for soldiers during the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. Over the course of these two wars, he flew a total of 251 combat missions from both land and aircraft carriers. For his services, Lt. Col. Torbett was awarded five *Distinguished Flying Crosses*, 16 Air Medals and ten additional citations including an Asian Pacific Combat Medal, a World War II Victory Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation as well as others. He retired from the military in 1963 as a Lieutenant Colonel.