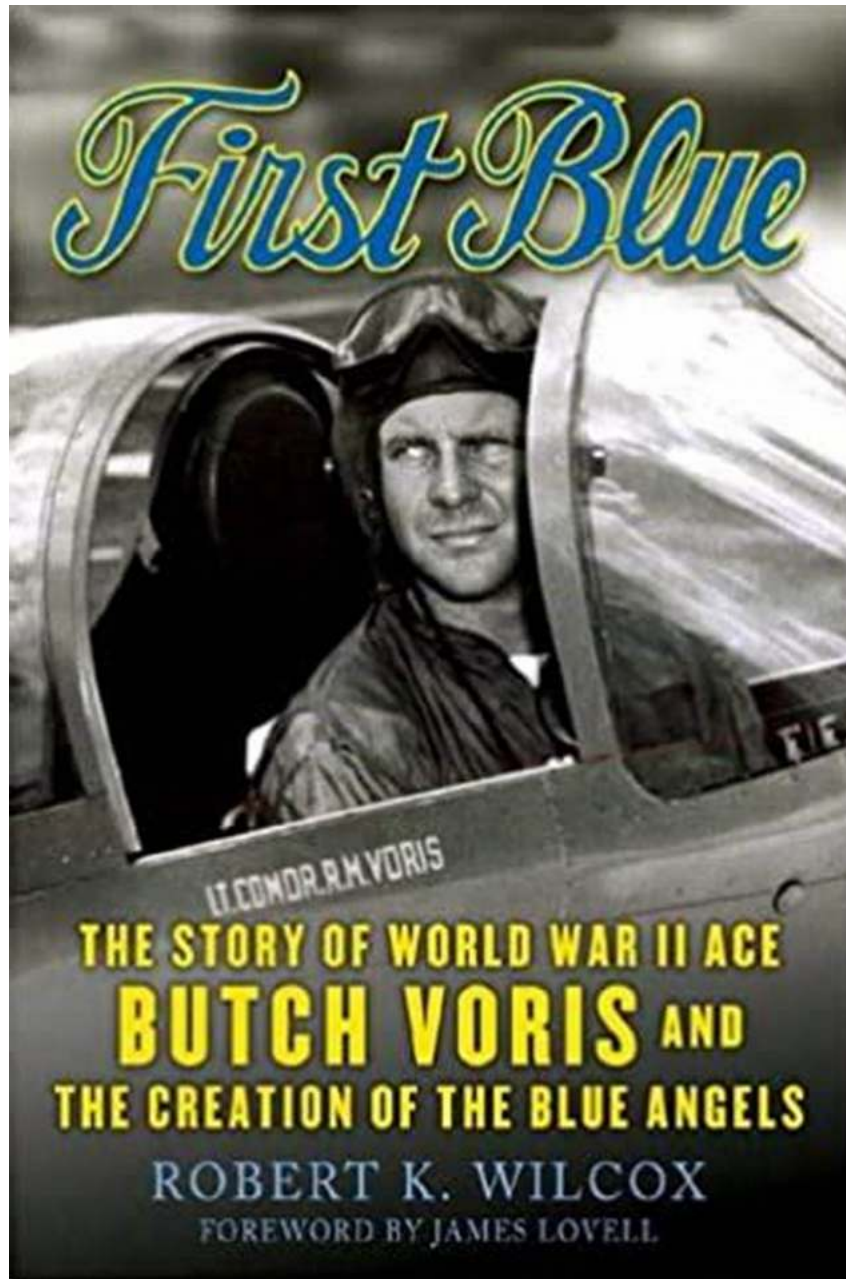


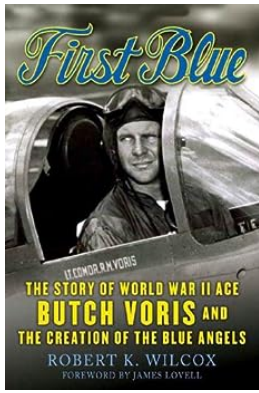
The Story Of World War II Ace Butch Voris And The Creation Of The Blue Angels

The Blue Angels, the United States Navy's flight demonstration squadron, are renowned for their mesmerizing aerial performances that leave spectators in awe. But did you know that the creation of this legendary team can be attributed to World War II ace Butch Voris? In this article, we will delve into the fascinating history behind the Blue Angels and explore Voris' pivotal role in its formation.

War Hero Butch Voris



Lieutenant Commander Marion Carroll "Butch" Voris was born on March 4, 1917, in Prentice, Wisconsin. Growing up with a passion for aviation, Voris attended the United States Naval Academy and graduated in 1937. He quickly established himself as an exceptional pilot, earning the prestigious designation of "ace" during World War II.



First Blue: The Story of World War II Ace Butch Voris and the Creation of the Blue Angels

by Robert K. Wilcox (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 823 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 352 pages



Voris proved his mettle in numerous aerial combat engagements throughout the war, exhibiting extraordinary skill and bravery. He downed a staggering 10 Japanese aircraft, solidifying his reputation as one of the most successful American fighter pilots of the time.

The Birth Of The Blue Angels



Following the end of World War II, Voris found himself stationed at the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Florida. Eager to continue his passion for flying, he conceived the idea of creating a flight demonstration team to showcase the capabilities of naval aviation to the public.

The year was 1946 when Voris pitched his idea to Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, who was impressed by the concept. Encouraged by Nimitz's support, Voris began assembling a team of highly skilled pilots who shared his vision.

The Blue Angels, initially known as the "Navy Flight Exhibition Team," took shape with Voris serving as its first leader and flight demonstration pilot. The team comprised four Grumman F6F Hellcats and achieved significant milestones in ensuring the Navy's aerial prowess received the recognition it deserved.

Stunning Aerial Performances



The Blue Angels quickly gained popularity through their mesmerizing aerial displays that showcased the incredible skills of naval aviators. Performing thrilling formation maneuvers, death-defying rolls, and precision flying, the team became an instant sensation.

The tight formations, synchronized movements, and breathtaking speed of the Blue Angels captivated audiences worldwide. The squad's dedication to

excellence and the unwavering commitment to professionalism became the cornerstone of their success.

Legacy And Impact



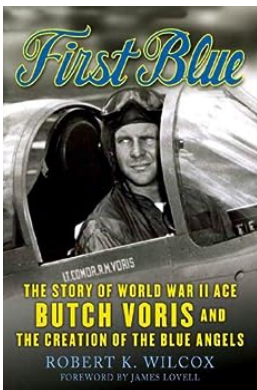
Over the years, the Blue Angels have continued to inspire and captivate aviation enthusiasts and the general public alike. They have played a crucial role in recruiting and motivating future generations of naval aviators, contributing significantly to the United States Navy's reputation.

Butch Voris' vision and determination laid the foundation for the incredible legacy of the Blue Angels. His commitment to showcasing the capabilities of naval aviation has left an indelible mark on the world of aerobatics and flight demonstration teams.

Today, the Blue Angels continue to push the boundaries of aerial performances, integrating advanced technologies and maintaining the highest standards of precision and professionalism. Their incredible displays, which honor Voris' legacy, keep the spirit of excellence alive.

The story of Butch Voris and the creation of the Blue Angels highlights the power of a visionary individual in shaping the course of history. Voris' determination to showcase the Navy's aviation capabilities led to the birth of the Blue Angels, a team that continues to inspire audiences and pays homage to the incredible feats of naval aviators.

As we watch the Blue Angels soar through the sky, let us remember the story behind their formation and appreciate the dedication and skill of those who have contributed to their enduring legacy. Butch Voris and his fellow pilots have truly left a remarkable impact on the world of aviation.



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Robert K Wilcox's *First Blue* presents the remarkable story of a true hero of American aviation during World War II.

The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels are the most famous flight demonstration team in the world. While millions of aviation enthusiasts see their shows every year, the story of the man who formed the squadron has never been told. He is Roy Marlin "Butch" Voris, a World War II Ace and one of only two aviators ever to command the Blue Angels twice.

First Blue details the epic journey of an unassuming man whose strong character and desire to fly launched him into a life of drama, heroism, and accomplishment unique in his field. Because he wanted to serve his country during World War II, a young Butch Voris found himself flying fighter planes as part of the pitifully prepared and outmanned front in the early stages of the Pacific theater. He was nearly killed there but went on to be a leader in one of the most fearsome naval air squadrons in the Pacific. As a pilot, Butch is unquestionably in the same class as more recognized aviator heroes such as Chuck Yeager and Pappy Boyington.

While his World War II experience alone could comprise a book, Butch may be best known for his efforts in the creation of the naval air demonstration team, the Blue Angels. After the war, Voris was personally chosen by Admiral Nimitz to start the Blue Angels and to lead them, first in prop planes and later in jets. The story of his efforts is as exciting as it is inspirational, and it's told here in meticulous detail and with great humor. Today the Blue Angels still follow traditions established by Butch.

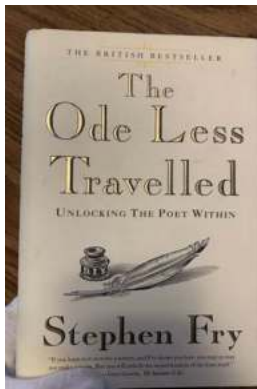
Butch's involvement in military flight didn't end with the Blue Angels; he became a major player in the development of the F-14 Tomcat and NASA's Lunar Explorer Module for Grumman. Butch dedicated his life to his work, and here, finally, is the

remarkable, untold account of this true American aviation pioneer and hero: a man whose life had unparalleled influence on naval aviation and whose legacy continues to inspire millions of Americans each year.



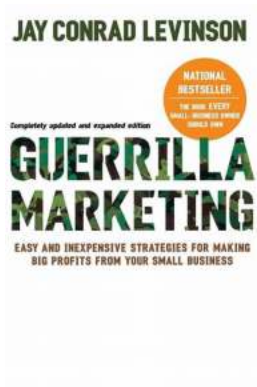
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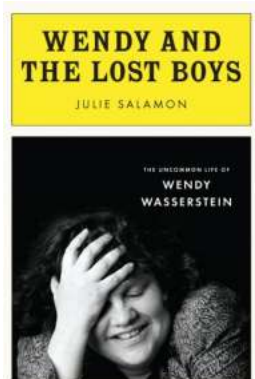
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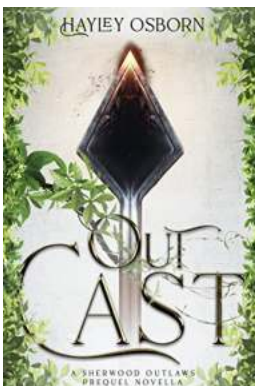
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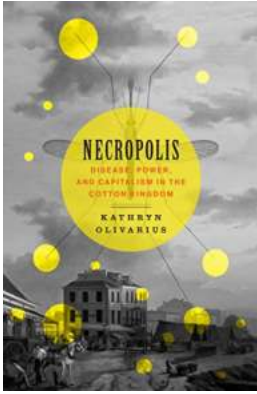
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