Photo # NH 92305  Ensign Francis C. Flaherty, USNR
PEARL HARBOR MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS
The first Michigan man awarded the Medal of Honor for World War II actions, Ensign Francis Phaherty, Medal of Honor is on display at the first Michigan man saving his own life. Ensign Phaherty's remains were retrieved from the American ship "Oklahoma" on December 7, 1941. When it was seen that the ship was going to capsize and the order was given to abandon ship, Ensign Phaherty remained in a turret, holding onto a flagpole. During the attack on the Pearl Harbor, by Japanese forces, the turret fell off the ship and Phaherty died. The citation reads: "For conspicuous devotion to duty and extraordinary courage and complete disregard of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty during the attack on the Pearl Harbor, by Japanese forces, December 7, 1941. His courage and devotion to duty are a great inspiration to all members of the United States Fleet."
Michigan's Own

The Medal of Honor

Civil War to Vietnam War

Stanley J. Bozich

Colonel Harold A. Furlong
The President of the United States
in the name of
The Congress
takes pleasure in presenting the

Medal of Honor

to

*FLAHERTY, FRANCIS C.

Rank and organization: Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve. Born:

Citation:
For conspicuous devotion to duty and extraordinary
courage and complete disregard of his own life, above and
beyond the call of duty, during the attack on the Fleet in
Pearl Harbor, by Japanese forces on 7 December 1941.
When it was seen that the U.S.S. Oklahoma was going to
capsize and the order was given to abandon ship, Ens.
Flaherty remained in a turret, holding a flashlight so the
remainder of the turret crew could see to escape, thereby
sacrificing his own life.