

# Myravisen

January/February 2022  
Myrmarken Lodge 5-609  
Marshfield, WI 54449



Dear Members of Myrmarken;

The groundhog didn't see his shadow at my house this morning, so legend says we will have an early spring coming to Marshfield, while more winter will happen in Pennsylvania. Whatever the season holds for us, we are looking for a good spring with Myrmarken Lodge. We thank Doug Framness for his willingness to serve as Myrmarken's president for the next 2 years.

Doug has planned an interesting program for the February 12th meeting: "The History of the National Ski Patrol and the 10th Mountain Division". The time and place is 9 am that Saturday morning at Scotty's Pizza.

Should bad weather or high health risks be a cause for the meeting to be canceled, an email will be sent out to the members.

I look forward to seeing everyone again. Stay safe and healthy.

Hilsen fra Sherrie F., editor

## FUN FACT

"Happy Valentine's Day" in Norwegian:  
**God valentinsdag**  
Other February holidays in Norway:  
Feb. 6: The Sami People's Day—Flag day  
Feb. 13: Mother's Day  
Feb. 21: King Harald V's Day—Flag Day

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

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There is only ONE MONTH left to apply for all the Sons of Norway Foundation Scholarships. Make sure you or your loved one has submitted all the required documents to be considered before our March 1st deadline. To learn more about each scholarship and access the link to apply, visit our website at <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/>.

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## Krigshelten Norman Edward Midthun er død

Amerikaneren Norman Edward Midthun var piloten til kronprins Olav etter krigen. Han ble 96 år.

I august markeres slutten på et begivenhetsrikt liv. 14. august stedes nemlig Midthun til hvile. Midthun tilbrakte store deler av sin karriere innenfor luftfarten, men det er kanskje krigsårene som satte dypest spor hos amerikaneren der begge besteforeldrene ble født i Norge.

Da han var 17 år ønsket Midthun å verve seg til den amerikanske marines luftvåpen, men han ble avvist på grunn av alderen.

I stedet falt valget på Det norske luftforsvaret (daværende Marinens og Hærens flyvåpen, journ.anm.) som hadde etablert seg utenfor Toronto i «Little Norway».

Til tross for at få forventet at han skulle klare det, blant annet på grunn av at han knapt snakket norsk, ble Midthun den første amerikaneren til å tilegne seg «norske vinger» under 2. verdenskrig, ifølge en nekrolog publisert i Star Tribune.

Da fløy han blant annet rekognoseringsoppdrag samt at han fraktet sabotører til kysten av Norge under okkupasjonen. Da krigen var over ble han utvalgt til å være daværende kronprins Olavs pilot under et etterkrigsoppdrag, blant annet for å vurdere skadene som var påført Norge i løpet av krigen.

## War Hero Norman Edward Midthun Has Died

American Norman Edward Midthun was the pilot for Crown Prince Olav after the war. He was 96 years old.

August marked the end of an eventful life. Midthun was laid to rest on August 14. Midthun spent large parts of his career in aviation, but it was perhaps the war years that left the deepest mark on the American whose grandparents were born in Norway.

When he was 17, Midthun wanted to enlist in the US Navy Air Force, but was rejected because of his age.

Instead, the choice fell on the Norwegian Air Force (then the Navy and Army Air Force, -Ed.) Which had established itself outside Toronto in "Little Norway."

Despite few expecting him to do so, partly because he barely spoke Norwegian, Midthun became the first American to receive "Norwegian wings" during World War II, according to an obituary published in Star Tribune.

Then he flew, among other things, reconnaissance missions and he transported saboteurs to the coast of Norway during the occupation. When the war was over, he was selected to be the then-Crown Prince Olav's pilot during a post-war mission, among other things to assess the damage inflicted on Norway during the war.



**Februar = fjorten dager friluftsliv** As a fervent hiker, Henrik Ibsen gave name to a concept already deeply rooted in the Norwegian psyche: friluftsliv (free-loofts-leave). Roughly translated as "life in the free air," the idea is to immerse yourself in nature, resulting in benefits to mind, body and spirit.

Being the shortest month, February is the perfect time to try and get outside every other day. Why not challenge yourself to experience friluftsliv on at least half of the days in February?\*

few ideas: watch a sunrise or sunset, chop wood, go to the dog park, hike in a nature preserve and pack some classic Norwegian trail snacks like oranges and chocolate!

\*If you can't get outside: open the window and breathe some fresh air.