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Anderson honored

Former Minot pilot to be honored by S.D. Aviation Hall of Fame

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SPEARFISH, S.D. A former Minot pilot will be inducted in the South Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame in Spearfish, S.D.,

The late Anne Ross Anderson, who many knew as Kary Anderson when she lived in Minot, was born in 1920 in Mellette County, S.D., raised her family in Minot and gave flight instructions at the Minot airport for many years. In the 1940s, she was a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, better known as WASPs, a distinguished group of female pilots who flew military aircraft during World War II. The female pilots flew noncombat missions so their male counterparts could be deployed for combat.

Anderson lived in Minot for 20 years, leaving in 1964 when she moved to Grand Forks where she taught ground school and flight instructions. She also was the first woman FAA inspector and was stationed in Grand Rapids, Mich. She also lived in California. She died July 2, 1996, in Idaho.

In March, Anderson and other WASPs were honored with the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the nation's highest civilian awards, for their outstanding service to this country

Patricia McBride, Anderson's daughter of St. Paul, Minn., accepted the honor on behalf of her mother at the ceremony in the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. McBride will be in Spearfish for the induction ceremony.

McBride said the state of South Dakota this year dedicated Memorial Day in that state to the WASPs

Article Photos



Submitted Photo The late Anne Ross Anderson, who many knew as Kary Anderson when she lived in Minot, will be inducted in the South Dakota Aviation Hall of Fame. This photo shows her when she was a pilot with the Women Airforce Service Pilots, better known as WASPs, during World War II.

The S.D. Aviation Hall of Fame was established to honor the pioneers and contributors to South Dakota aviation.

"This has been a very thrilling and memorable year," McBride said Thursday.

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