

**EX-SANTA BARBARAN**

# John Northrop, aircraft designer, to be honored

By Michael Kohn

In 1908, a 13-year-old Santa Barbara boy named Jack Northrop watched a French aviator assemble an airplane on a field here and fly it around town.

That experience solidified the boy's determination to start a career in aviation that would eventually lead to the founding of Northrop Aircraft Corp. and to the design, development and production of such aircraft as the P-41 Black Widow eight fighter, the F-89 Scorpion interceptor, and the Flying Wing.

Now, 72 years later, the career of aircraft design pioneer John K. (Jack) Northrop, 85, will be remembered at a testimonial dinner in his honor on Tuesday at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills.

Several astronauts and the chief executives of Lockheed, Douglas, Rockwell International, General Dynamics, and Boeing, have reserved seats at the dinner, and according to spokesman Dante Di Carlo, over a thousand people will be on hand to honor the former Santa Barbara draftsman who went on to become one of the world's most creative aircraft designers.

A 1913 graduate of Santa Barbara High School, Northrop went to work in 1915 as a draftsman-engineer for the Loughhead brothers' Aircraft Manufacturing Co. located at 101 State St.

Eleven years later, following military service during World War I and four years as an engineer for Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica, he joined one of the Loughheads and two other associates to form the Lockheed Aircraft Corp.

In six months with Lockheed, Northrop established his place in aviation history by designing the Lockheed Vega, an airplane which set speed and endurance records.



**JOHN K. NORTHROP**  
Pioneer to be honored

Northrop founded the corporation that bears his name in 1939. In addition to the rocket-guided Black Widow and the twin-jet Scorpion, the company produced the world's first successful all-wing airplane, as well as the first operational intercontinental guided missile.

Northrop's Santa Barbara residences ranged from a seat-house in a ravine on the Mesa when he was nine and a two-story frame house at the corner of Linnis Alta and Coronel when he was 21, to 485 Via Hertha, Hope Ranch where he moved in 1956. Now he resides with his son and daughter-in-law in La Canada, a suburb of Los Angeles.

Information about the dinner in his honor can be obtained by calling (213) 879-8794.



Photos from Jack Canney Historical Collection

**JOHN K. NORTHROP, far right, then a draftsman-engineer for the Loughhead Aircraft Manufacturing Corp., stands**

**beside one of the firm's flying boats as it was prepared for launching at East Beach in 1916.**



JOHN K. NORTHROP  
TESTIMONIAL DINNER



BEVERLY HILTON  
INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM  
SEPTEMBER 23, 1980



*"Every major airplane in the skies  
has some Jack Northrop in it."*

- DONALD DOUGLAS SR

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# PROGRAM

## WELCOME

LEO GAY  
Testimonial Executive Chairman

## BLUE EAGLES HONOR GUARD

Flag History Presentation of the United States  
and  
The National Anthem

## INVOCATION

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Curator, Dominguez Ranch Adobe

## DINNER

## COMMENTS

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Northrop Corporation

## MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

CLETE ROBERTS  
LARRY BURRELL

## MUSICAL PRESENTATION

YOUNG LIFE SINGERS  
Representing the City of Carson  
Directed by Martin Canavan

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

## REMARKS

HON. PAUL T. BANNAI  
California Legislator—53rd Assembly District

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

SOCIETY OF EXPERIMENTAL TEST PILOTS  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS

## ENTERTAINMENT

## PROCLAMATIONS

## JOHN NORTHROP FILM TRIBUTE

## INTRODUCTION OF GUEST OF HONOR

JOHN NORTHROP

## BENEDICTION

RABBI EDGAR F. MAGNIN, D.D.  
Wilshire Boulevard Temple

## CLOSING REMARKS

## DINNER MENU

### APPETIZER

HEARTS OF PALM  
on bed of Fresh Watercress  
Sauce Vinaigrette  
Served on Chilled Plates

### ENTREE

CHATEAUBRIAND de BOEUF ROTI  
Sauce Marchand du Vin  
Parisienne Potatoes  
Broccoli Spears Mimosa

### DESSERT

PAPAYA SURPRISE  
Half Papaya filled with  
Sliced Strawberries and Walnuts  
Flavored with Kirsch Liqueur  
Topped with Baked Meringue  
Served en Rosette

HILTON SPECIAL BLEND COFFEE

## IN APPRECIATION

*The Testimonial Committee would like to thank all those who have helped to make this event a success, and who have given so freely of themselves, financially, physically and emotionally.*

*Lo O. Gay Chado Aluckonch Arthur Fern*

### SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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JAMES FRANCISCUS  
VALERIE PERRINE  
WAYNE ROGERS  
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JOSEPH AND ANN DE LUCA

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