



SANTA BARBARA COURT OF CHAMPIONS

PHIL PATTON | 2014 INDUCTEE



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Joined the U.S. Navy upon his graduation from Cathedral Latin High School in 1944. He served in both the Atlantic and Pacific campaigns as an electrician's mate aboard the U.S.S. Zellars, a destroyer that was heavily damaged during a kamikaze attack at Okinawa which took the lives of 42 of his shipmates.

- Came to the Santa Barbara News-Press in August of 1954 as co-sports editor. He was soon elevated to sports editor and wrote his Patton's Pressbox column for 16 years.

- Covered UCSB athletics from 1954 until 1970
- Voice of the Gauchos as the first radio play-by-play announcer for both the football and basketball teams from 1959 to 1970
- He was instrumental in bringing minor league baseball to Santa Barbara in 1962
- Played a role in the creation of the Santa Barbara Athletic Round Table in 1968.
- He was awarded the R.F. MacFarland Memorial Trophy by the Semana Nautica Association for his service to the community in June of 1970.
- Inducted into the Santa Barbara Athletic Round Table Hall of Fame posthumously in May of 1972.