

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Chuck the Iguana isn't just a playful mascot, he's inspired by a real-world story of life aboard the Mighty Mo and the Sailors who helped shape her legacy.

The USS Missouri, affectionately known as the "Mighty Mo," is the last battleship commissioned by the United States Navy and one of the most celebrated warships in history. From her launch in 1944 to her pivotal role in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and the formal Japanese Surrender aboard her decks, the Korean War and Operation Desert Storm the Missouri stands as a living symbol of service, sacrifice and peace.

Long before she became a museum ship, Sailors aboard the Missouri brought with them the traditions, stories, and companionship that made life at sea resemble a second family. One particular tale that captured the spirit of that shipboard camaraderie comes from Angelo "Rosie" Rosselli, a Sailor who served on board the Missouri during overseas deployments, including time in the Philippines. During one of the Missouri's missions, Rosie encountered an iguana that quietly became known as the ship's little stowaway companion. That iguana became a shipmate in spirit, a reminder that even in the vast expanses of the ocean, moments of joy, curiosity, and connection can be found in the most unexpected places.

Inspired by Rosie's story, Chuck the Iguana was brought to life, not just as a mascot, but as a bridge between generations, families, and the visitors who explore the Battleship Missouri Memorial today. Chuck embodies exploration, curiosity, and the joy of uncovering stories hidden in plain sight.

Now, Chuck leads young explorers and families on Chuck's Quest: Secrets of the Mighty Mo, an interactive scavenger hunt that transforms a museum visit into a mission of discovery. As guests follow Chuck's clues through 14 key stops on the ship, they uncover history, decode messages once used by Sailors, and learn about life at sea through the lens of engaging storytelling and hands-on exploration.

Chuck's arrival on the Missouri, marks a new chapter for the Battleship Missouri Memorial: one that honors the legacy of the ship's storied past while inviting a new generation to connect, explore, and make history their own. His story reminds us that even in the mightiest of warships, a little curiosity can spark the greatest adventures.



Angelo "Rosie" Rosselli
Gunner's Mate



Chuck Enjoying
Shore Leave

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