ROBERT HULL PENN
LETTERS, 1936–1985

Collection Information
Biographical Sketch
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Series Contents

Processed by
Paul Brockman
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes.

COLLECTION DATES: Inclusive, 1936–1985; bulk, 1941–1945

PROVENANCE: Edie Smith, Nashville, Indiana, September, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015. 0246

NOTES:
BIOGRPAHICAL SKETCH

Robert Hull Penn (1918–2006) was born in Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana and graduated from Indiana University in 1940. A short time later, he married Betty (Elizabeth) J. Kreutzinger (1918–?) from Speedway, Indiana. Penn entered the U. S. Navy in 1944 and was stationed aboard the destroyer USS *Willmarth* (DE 638) in the Pacific, 1944–1945. After the war, the Penns relocated to Elkhart, Elkhart County, Indiana.

Sources:
Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of approximately six hundred letters exchanged between Bob and Betty Penn, their families, and their friends. The majority of the letter were written while Bob was serving in the U. S. Navy during World War II, April, 1944–January, 1946, and contain general information about family and activities both at home and on board the USS *Willmarth*.

There also are several letters written by Bob to Betty while at Indiana University, 1936–1940 and letters from Bob's mother written to them in Elkhart after the war, 1978–1985. In addition to both sets of parents (Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Penn and Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Kreutzinger,) family correspondence include Bob's sister, Buzzy (Mrs. Henry Penn,) a nursing student at Indiana University in Indianapolis and his aunt, Buzzy (Mrs. Henry Penn,) who resided in Tampa, Florida. The majority of Bob's friends who wrote to him were also serving in the military during World War II.
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Bob's Letters to Parents, ca, 1938; May–Dec., 1944
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