

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY  
RECOGNITION REQUEST FORM**

**Name of Individual, Group or Organization for proposed recognition**

Robert and Louise McCall

**Proposed Type of Recognition** (such as plaque, portrait, statue, monument):

Plaque for Louise and Robert McCall

**Name of individual or entity making the request and contact information:**

Arts Advisory Committee

- **Contact Person:** Janie Russo, Chair
  - Address:
  - Phone:
  - Email:
- **Entity making request if other than contact person:** Arts Advisory Committee

**Provide a detailed explanation the contributions of the individual, group, or organization to be recognized that resulted in tangible benefits to the Town.**

Louise and Robert McCall were artists and Town residents 46 years. They became involved in our community when they loaned their outstanding works of art on three separate occasions:

- 1998 Art Exhibit at Town Hall, featuring both Robert and Louise
- 2007 Art Exhibit at Town Hall featuring Robert McCall (Robert McCall donated to the Town his 5'x10' Mars Outpost painting)
- 2010 Art Exhibit at Town Hall featuring Louise McCall

Louise McCall volunteered as a member of the Arts Advisory Committee for 16 years.

In 1983 the McCalls designed the stained glass windows at Valley Presbyterian Church on McDonald Drive in Paradise Valley. They also designed the stained glass at the interfaith chapels at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport and the Virginia G.

Piper Cancer Center in Scottsdale. Robert's *A Cosmic View* mural (1976) is at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C., and in numerous banking institutions and buildings across the country. His last project was a five piece series recognizing Arizona's aviation heroes painted for the City of Phoenix and shown at Sky Harbor Airport.

Robert McCall passed on February 26, 2010 and Louise McCall passed on February 21, 2017. Their art was donated to University of Arizona Museum of Art and Archives.

To commemorate the artistic contributions of Robert and Louise McCall to our community, the Arts Advisory Committee is recommending a plaque be prepared and installed by a tree that will be planted on the Town Campus as part of the Arbor Day tree planting ceremony scheduled for November 2, 2017.

**If the Town Council deems this recognition to be paid from an outside source, provide a detail of how funds will be raised.**

The Town will pay for the commemorative plaque.

**Suggested wording to be printed on Town recognition.**

See attachment.

**Has the individual, group, or organization consented to being recognized by the Town?**

Yes, notice was given to the two daughters of Robert and Louise McCall (Catherine and Linda). They both live out of State and may not attend the dedication.

**Signature of Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

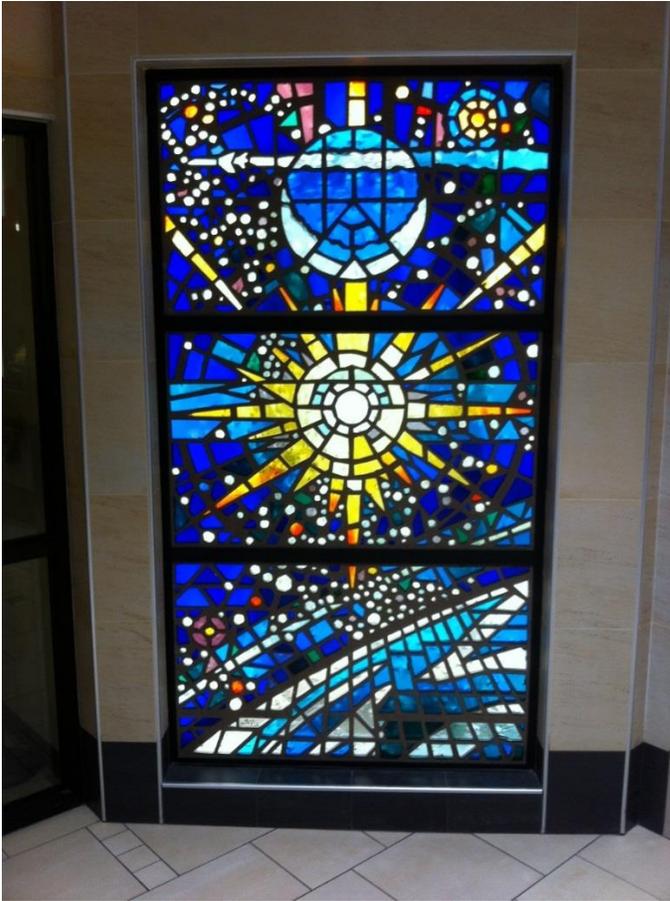
**Date submitted to TPV Historical Advisory Committee:** September 22, 2017

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Date approved by Historical Advisory Committee and sent to Town Council: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachments

Stained Glass at Valley Presbyterian Church designed by Robert and Louise McCall, 1983





1996 Stained Glass Outside Phoenix Sky Harbor Interfaith Chapel  
Paintings by McCall commemorated Arizona aviation notables, including: Frank Luke Jr. (World War I); Vernon Haywood, a member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron of the U.S. Army Air Corps also known as the Tuskegee Airmen that destroyed more than 250 enemy aircraft (World War II); Ruth Dailey Helm who flew fighter planes and B-25 bombers for the Women Air Force Service Pilots (World War II); Arthur Van Haren Jr., who served in the U.S. Navy with Fighting Squadron 2 as a fighter-pilot during World War II; and Frederick E. Ferguson, who during the Vietnam War flew his Bell UH-1 helicopter picking up wounded soldiers in the village of Hue, earning him the Congressional Medal of Honor.



360 Mural at the Challenger Space Center in Peoria, Arizona (2010)

# Artist Robert McCall's Airport Legacy

*by Public Relations | Published On: May 26, 2015 | Last Updated:*

Arizona recently lost esteemed artist, Robert T. McCall of Paradise Valley, Arizona. He passed away in late February 2010. McCall's artistic vision contributed to how a generation views aviation history and the air and space industry. McCall, who is often referred to as "the NASA Artist" (National Air and Space Administration), has over the years exhibited his artwork at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport to the delight of the traveling public. Several major artworks are part of the Phoenix Airport Museum collection and provide a legacy for those visiting PHX Sky Harbor to enjoy.

McCall has partnered many times with PHX Sky Harbor. He was first commissioned to commemorate the opening of Terminal 4 in 1991 with a reproduction print of a painting that he created specifically for the event. Over the last 20 years, the PHX Airport Museum has hosted two one-man exhibitions of McCall's work as well as shown individual pieces in group exhibitions.

In December 2007, McCall unveiled five large commissioned paintings as part of the dedication ceremony for the [SPAD XIII World War I era airplane](#), Sky Harbor's Terminal 3 exhibition. These works were purchased with Phoenix Aviation Department percent-for-arts funds through the Phoenix Office of Cultural Affairs.

Paintings by McCall (pictured above right) commemorated Arizona aviation notables, including: Frank Luke Jr. (World War I); Vernon Haywood, a member of the 99th Pursuit Squadron of the U.S. Army Air Corps also known as the Tuskegee Airmen that destroyed more than 250 enemy aircraft (World War II); Ruth Dailey Helm who flew fighter planes and B-25 bombers for the Women Air Force Service Pilots (World War II); Arthur Van Haren Jr., who served in the U.S. Navy with Fighting Squadron 2 as a fighter-pilot during World War II; and Frederick E. Ferguson, who during the Vietnam War flew his Bell UH-1 helicopter picking up wounded soldiers in the village of Hue, earning him the Congressional Medal of Honor. Those images are pictured above in rotation.

Another McCall treasure to be found at the Airport isn't a painting at all but a stained glass window. Designed in 1996 by McCall with assistance in color selections from his artist-wife, Louise, it serves as a spiritual welcome to people who visit the chapel. "It is one of McCall's most viewed works because it is at the Airport and close to the Terminal 4 B-Checkpoint," said Airport Chaplain, Rev. Al Young. See images of the window pictured above in the rotation.

The window was funded by a grant from the Solheim Foundation, which was founded by Karsten Solheim, the creator of the Ping golf club. "Robert told me that stained glass was not his primary medium so this window is one of only a

few he designed,” Rev. Young said. “Other local windows of his design are in the chapel at the Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley.”

McCall had a life-long passion for art, space, and flight. “Bob wanted to be an artist from the age of eight years old, he painted every day of his professional life right till the end, as a dreamer and optimist his imagination had no boundaries”, says Lennée Eller, Phoenix Airport Museum Program Manager. “Working together Bob and Louise created architectural stain glass pieces that are landmarks in our community. It has been a delight to work with them over years.”

McCall, who has also been called a visual historian, has played a vital role in documenting the United States Space Program for more than 50 years, as well as worked as a conceptual artist for such films as 2001 :A Space Odyssey, the Star Trek movies, and The Black Hole. Commission by the U.S. Post Office, McCall designed 23 postage stamps depicting the space program, his smallest work today.

Interested in seeing artwork by McCall? His works are on display at the National Air and Space Museum, the Pentagon, the Air Force Academy, the Smithsonian, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. and of course, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

## Career Highlights

- McCall is a Founder of The American Society of Aviation Artists inducted into the Society of Illustrators “Hall of Fame” - New York, 1988
- Recipient of the “Yuri Gagarin Medal” from the Soviet Union, Russia, 1988
- The Honoree of the Scottsdale Memorial Honor Ball of 1989
- Robert T. McCall received an Honorary Doctor of Visual Arts Degree from Columbus College of Art and Design, 1998
- McCall was identified and honored as an “Arizona History Maker” in 1999
- Inducted into the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame,” 2001
- Recipient of the “Elder Statesman of Aviation” Award from the National Aeronautic Association, 2002
- Honored in April 2003 by the Space Foundation with the “Douglas S. Morrow Public Outreach Award,” and identified by the Foundation as “The World’s Pre-eminent Space Artist”
- Recipient of the Arizona Governor’s Arts Award for 2005

- 360 One-of-a-Kind Mural at the Arizona Challenger Space Center in Peoria completed in 2010
- McCall has served on the Boards of:
  - The Scottsdale Center for the Arts
  - Astronomy of Arizona, University of Arizona, Tucson
  - Arizona Science Center
- Appointed by the Governor, McCall served as a member of the Arizona Governor's Space Commission  
Source: <http://www.mccallstudios.com/the-artist/>

SUGGESTED WORDING FOR PLAQUE

**IN MEMORY OF**

**ROBERT AND LOUISE**

**MCCALL**

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY**

**RESIDENTS AND WORLD**

**REKNOWNED ARTISTS WHO**

**EXHIBITED THEIR OUTSTANDING**

**WORKS OF ART AT TOWN HALL ON**

**THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS, AND**

**WHOSE ENTHUSIASM AND LOVE**

OF ART ENRICHED EVERYONE THEY  
MET DURING THEIR MOST  
ILLUSTRIOUS CAREERS. LOUISE  
WAS ALSO A VALUED MEMBER OF  
THE ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FOR 16 YEARS.  
DEDICATED NOVEMBER 2, 2017