

CONTRACTOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Denise Dutra Maloney, *The Dutra Group*



"I still remember looking down, and how proud I was of those callouses on my hands. Although I was 17 years old and between school, studying and friends, I had just earned my Inland Waterway Tugboat license – just like my father and grandfather had done." Even as a young woman Denise Dutra had already developed what many today call "grit" – that amazing combination of passion, determination, discipline and optimism that is the cornerstone to achievement.

Since earning her Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering from the Oregon Institute of Technology, Denise's career and impact on the California construction industry spans 25 years over multiple positions – including Deck Hand, Estimator and Project Manager. As the owner of DD-M Crane and Rigging, Denise joined an elite minority of Women Business leaders. Her technical expertise, client-centric focus and never-ending work ethic on projects up to \$200M earned the firm recognition as the USACE – South Pacific Division, Contractor of the Year for 2015. Over the years, Denise's hands-on approach and skill project management and oversight has been vital in delivering tough projects including the Upper Newport Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project in Orange County, California; the Folsom Dam Dike 5 Project in Folsom, California; and the Sacramento Bank Protection, Phase II, Lower Sites and Miller Park Projects for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Sacramento.

In her current role as the Director of Business Development for the Dutra Group – a name synonymous with Bay Area Dredging and Marine Construction – Denise continues to lead, now catalyzing innovation and optimizing strategies across multiple business units while guiding this 5th generation family business to grow and advance in the ever changing and challenging marketplace of a new century. Her investment in the industry includes board and leadership positions within the Association of General Contractors of California, North Bay Chapter (North Bay AGC); Society of American Military Engineers, Sacramento Post (S.A.M.E); the California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (C.M.A.N.C); and the American Society of Civil Engineers Construction Institute (ASCE CI).

Threaded through this storied career, Denise has delivered thousands of volunteer hours supporting, mentoring and guiding a new generation of young people within the industry and beyond. Under her guidance as Chair of the Dutra Museum Foundation Golf Tournament, over \$32,500 has been raised to directly benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Marine and Petaluma. Denise leads similar efforts for her local post of the Society of Military Engineers ("SAME"). Her investment of time and expertise has exponentially grown scholarships available to high school and college students studying engineering or related technical disciplines. From 2008 to 2016, the post has awarded some 247 scholarships totaling \$327,000.

Over a career that has been as much about giving as receiving, it has been passion, determination, discipline and optimism that have underpinned Denise's success as a professional, parent, community partner and construction industry leader.