

Ernie Pyle Elementary

Pyle Elementary School is named in honor of the famous World War II journalist, columnist and war correspondent Ernie Pyle. It is located at 4140 North Augusta and serves elementary age school children. It first appears in the Fresno Unified School District directory during the school year 1955-56.

Ernie Pyle was stationed in London during the World War II bombardment of that city. He was at that time a roving reporter. He was assigned to cover the front lines of the U.S battlefronts throughout the world as the war progressed. He specialized in describing the "human side" of the war in articles for newspapers and magazines. He was the author of two books on war conditions at the fronts, and was beloved by the GI's who came to know and admire him. He was greatly respected not only by the GI's but by armed forces officers and the general public.

Pyle was unfortunately killed by Japanese gunfire on August 18, 1945, while he was covering the Pacific front of the World War II on Iejima (also known as Ie Shima), an island west of Okinawa Island, as he followed front line action.

He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for his outstanding reporting, which was syndicated and carried in many newspapers throughout the United States.