



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KARN**

WAYNE D.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

A CO, 1ST BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (MARDIV)

I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (MEF)

III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES (MAF)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Wayne D. Karn was Killed in Action on 20 June 1967 from small arms fire during hostile action in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

LCpl Karn was a Machine Gunner

Base Assignments:

Parris Island, South Carolina - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island is a Marine Corps. military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina. MCRD Parris Island was established on 1 November 1915 and designated for the training of enlisted Marines. Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report to Parris Island to receive their initial training.

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KASPEREK**

GERALD R.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

152ND INFANTRY REGIMENT

198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

- Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

During the years of 1967–1971 as part of the Vietnam War the 198th Infantry Brigade was part of the United States Army's 23rd "Americal" Infantry Division

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Ft. Ord, California - Located near Monterey Bay on an old artillery range, Ft. Ord was constructed in 1940 / Ft. Ord was named in honor of Union Army Maj. Gen. Edward Otho Cresap Ord, (1818-1883) a famous and well respected Federal military leader during the American Civil War who also served in the Second Seminole War in Florida and the western Indian Wars / During the Vietnam War conflict it became the major training center in the nation / In 1964 a Drill Sergeant School was opened / It once again was home to basic combat, advanced infantry, and basic unit training for over half a million soldiers / It was the highest overall training of combat ready troops in the fort's history / In 1973 the last American troops departed Vietnam / The total number of soldiers trained at Fort Ord from 1940 to 1975 is estimated at 1.5 million / In 1994, Fort Ord was officially closed



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Chu Lai, Vietnam - Located southeast of Da Nang, Chu Lai was a United States Marine Corps military base from 1965 to 1971 during the Vietnam War / Chu Lai Air Base became operational on 1 June 1965 and remained in use by Marine aviation units until September 1970 / The Seabees of MCB-10 built the helicopter pad, and the Marines also established combat base and helicopter facility on the Kỳ Hà peninsula north of the air base / On the morning of 31 January 1968 as part of the Tet Offensive, the Viet Cong attacked the base with rockets and mortars triggering an explosion in the bomb dump. MAGs 12 and 13 suffered three aircraft destroyed and 23 damaged / The Marine base was handed over to the U.S. Army's Task Force Oregon in April 1967 and subsequently became the headquarters and base area for the 23rd Americal Division from September 1967 until November 1971

Camp Casey, Korea - Camp Casey is a 3,500 acre U.S. military base in Dongducheon, South Korea / The camp was named in 1952 after Major Hugh Boyd Casey, who was killed in an plane crash near Camp Casey during the Korean War / Camp Casey is one of several U.S. Army bases in South Korea near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Kasperek was employed at the Red Barn Restaurant and the Bethlehem Steel Plant in Lackawanna / Gerald joined the United States Postal Service where he was employed for 38 years / Gerald and his family moved to West Seneca in 1981



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KELLY**

BRIAN F.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 1751 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

KOREAN MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP (KMAG)

NIKE ARTILLERY BATTERY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

SP-4 Brian F. Kelly was attached to the Korean Military Advisory group (KMAG) near Busan, Korea / Kelly spent 13 months in Korea as a Classified Document Specialist and Ration Card Administrator

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Selfridge Air Force Base, Lake St. Clair, Michigan - Originally named Selfridge Army Air Base, it was created in 1917 and was named after Army 1st Lieutenant Thomas Selfridge who was killed while flying on a demonstration flight with Wilbur and Orville Wright in 1908, the first military casualty of flight / In 1947 the Selfridge Army Air Base was renamed Selfridge Air Force Base / During the Cold War era, Nike missiles were stationed at the base to guard the industrial might of the Detroit region

Miscellaneous:

Brian Kelly attended Orchard Park High School, graduating in 1958 / Kelly attended the State University of New York at Buffalo from 1958 through 1963 prior to military service / Before entering the Army, Brian Kelly went to work for the Chevrolet Tonawanda Foundry in 1961 and returned to the Foundry after his discharge, employed as a Clerk, Safety Inspector and Safety Engineer / Kelly became a Safety Manager at Dunlop Tire Corp in 1982



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

and remained there until 1991 / Kelly went to work as a Safety Engineer for the West Valley Nuclear Service from 1991 until his retirement in 2002

The Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG) (officially United States Military Advisory Group to the Republic of Korea) was a United States military unit of the Korean War / Following the end of World War II, the United States and the Soviet union split up the administration of Korea, with the United States taking charge of the southern half / Beginning in January 1946, the U.S. military government in the south began to form a Korean defense force and helped to train and provide logistic support for the Republic of Korea Army



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRONTHALER**

PAUL J.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 139 ALLENDALE ROAD

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 8TH AIR CAVALRY, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, UNITED STATES ARMY
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (USARV)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First Class Paul J. Kronthaler was Killed in Action on 6 May 1969 from bullet wounds sustained from enemy gunfire. His division, the First Cavalry Division, was involved in a battle with Viet Cong troops near the Vietnam - Cambodia border in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam. PFC Kronthaler, a radioman, had only been in Vietnam for 5 weeks.

PFC Kronthaler was an Infantry Direct Fire Crewman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Kronthaler was a 1964 graduate of West Seneca Central School and had received his Bachelor's Degree from Brockport State College earlier in 1968, prior to joining the Army in October 1968

Private First Class Paul J. Kronthaler was 22 years of age at the time of his death