



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALEK**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RICHARD M.

Address: LARKWOOD ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Malek attended high school in Buffalo / After receiving an Honorable Dscharge from the Army, Malek attended Erie Technological Institute and received a degree in Civil Engineering / Malek retired as a Civil Engineer from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) / Malek was a member of the 82nd Airborne Veterans Association and also served a a Boy Scoutmaster in Orchard Park / Richard M. Malek passed away on 27 December 2017

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army, specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas / Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division and is Sconsidered the most highly trained light infantry division in the world / The 82nd Division was first constituted on 5 August 1917 during World War I in the National Army / It was organized and formally activated on 25 August 1917 at Camp Gordon, Georgia / The 82nd Division was redesignated on 13 February 1942 during World War II, just two months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the German declaration of war, as Division Headquarters, 82nd Division / It was recalled to active service on 25 March 1942, and reorganized at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, under the command of Major General Omar Bradley / The division returned to the United States on 3 January 1946 on the RMS Queen Mary / Instead of being demobilized, the 82nd found a permanent home at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, designated a Regular Army division on 15 November 1948 / The 82nd was not sent to the Korean War, as both Presidents Truman and Eisenhower chose to keep it in strategic reserve in the event of a Soviet ground attack anywhere in the world / In 1966, the 82nd went into action in Vietnam moving south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months / The 1st Brigade of the 82nd deployed in April 2005 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and returned in April 2006 / 1st Battalion, 325th Infantry Regiment deployed in support of OEF from July through November 2005.



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCGRATH**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JAMES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

38TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

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

Service Notes:

Private First Class James McGrath was a member of the 38th Infantry Division / He was Killed in Action on 12 February 1951 while fighting the enemy near Chipyeong-ni, South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The Battle of Chipyeong-ni, also known as the Battle of Dipingli, was a decisive battle of the Korean War, that took place from 13–15 February 1951 between American and French units of the US 23rd Infantry Regiment and various units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Army (PVA) around the village of Chipyeong-ni / The result was a United Nations Command victory / Due to the ferocity of the Chinese attack and the heroism of the defenders, the battle has also been called, "...one of the greatest regimental defense actions in military history"

Private First Class James J. McGrath was 20 years of age at the time of his death