



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DAFCHIK

STEPHEN E.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Stephen E. Dafchik honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Stephen E. "Corky" Dafchik passed away on 4 January 2025 at the age of 83 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** D'AGOSTINO

NORMAN T.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 122 RUHLAND AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 5TH BATTALION, 7TH CAVALRY, A COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Norman Thomas D'Agostino honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Norman D'Agostino was deployed to Vietnam on 11 August 1967 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 Norman D'Agostino was Killed In Action on 13 February 1968 by hostile enemy small arms fire during the TET Offensive in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Norman D'Agostino was a graduate of St. Joachims Parochial School and Emerson Vocational High School / D'Agostino was drafted into the Army in March 1967 / Norman Thomas D'Agostino was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Norman Thomas D'Agostino is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 39e, Line 27

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas



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where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action

The 7th Cavalry Regiment is a United States Army cavalry regiment formed in 1866 / Its official nickname is "Garryowen", after the Irish air "Garryowen" that was adopted as its march tune / The regiment participated in some of the largest battles of the Indian Wars, including its famous defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where its commander Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer was killed / The 7th Cavalry became part of the 1st Cavalry Division in the 1920s, it went on to fight in the Pacific Theater of World War II and took part in the Admiralty Islands, Leyte and Luzon campaigns / It later participated several key battles of the Korean War / The unit later participated in the Vietnam War / The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 7th Cavalry fought in one of the first American engagements of the Vietnam War, the Battle of Ia Drang / Over the course of the war, seven men earned the Medal of Honor while serving with the 7th Cavalry in Vietnam / It distinguished itself in the Gulf War and in the Global War on Terror where its squadrons and battalions now serve as Combined Arms Battalions or as reconnaissance squadrons for Brigade Combat Teams in Iraq and Afghanistan

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War



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The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offense



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **D'AGOSTINO**  
**RONALD**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 122 RUHLAND AVENUE

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Ronald D'Agostino honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed at the Philadelphia Arsenal

The brother of SP4 Ronald D'Agostino, Specialist Fourth-Class Norman Thomas D'Agostino, was Killed In Action in Vietnam on 13 February 1968 by hostile enemy small arms fire during the TET Offensive in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

Frankfort Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - The Frankford Arsenal is a former United States Army ammunition plant located adjacent to the Bridesburg neighborhood of Northeast Philadelphia, Pennsylvania / Opened in 1816 on 20 acres of land purchased by President James Madison, it was the center of U.S. military small-arms ammunition design and development until its closure in 1977

**Miscellaneous:**

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DAHLGREN  
TERRY L.

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Terry L. Dahlgren honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Terry Dahlgren was an Auditor for the New York State Labor Department / Terry L. Dahlgren passed away on 26 October 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAHN**

**DAVID J.**

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

David J. Dahn honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

David Dahn was a longtime member of Ironworker's Local #6 / David J. "Red" Dahn passed away on 7 March 2024 at the age of 86 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAIL**  
**RAYMOND**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Private Raymond Dail honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam . PVT Dail served for four years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAILY**

**PATRICK E.**

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **AIR FORCE**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Patrick Edward "Gargie" Dailey honorably served in the United States Air Force / Patrick Dailey was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Dailey attended the State University at New York (SUNY), Buffalo / Dailey was Manager of the Claims Department at Empire Insurance Company / Patrick Dailey was a member of American Legion Post #1286, in Lakewood, New York / Patrick Edward "Gargie" Dailey passed away on 22 April 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DALFONSE**

**RAYMOND R.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Raymond R. Dalfonse honorably served in the Army National Guard / Raymond Dalfonse was discharged from the ANG in 1959 and re-enlisted in the Army Reserve and served until 1967

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond Dalfonse worked for the Buffalo Housing Authority for over 42 years / Dalfonse retired to Naples, Florida / Raymond R. Dalfonse passed away on 16 November 2023 at the age of 87 years old

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / The Army Reserve is meant to augment the needs of the active-duty force in times of conflict or declared war / Army Reserve soldiers can complete part-time service alongside civilian life / The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is responsible for all of the operational tasks involved in training, equipping, managing, supporting, mobilizing and retaining Soldiers under its command



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DALKE

BURTON W.

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:** 95 WHEELER STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

9TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 39TH INFANTRY, D COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Burton Ward Dalke honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Burton Dalke was deployed to Vietnam on 22 November 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 Burton Dalke was Killed In Action on 6 May 1969 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds received during enemy combat action in Dinh Tuong Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Burton Dalke joined the U.S. Army in June 1968 / Burton Ward Dalke was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

Burton Ward Dalke is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 25w, Line 11

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate



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under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 9th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Old Reliables") is an inactive infantry division of the United States Army / It was created as the 9th Division during World War I, but never deployed overseas / In later years it was an important unit of the U.S. Army during World War II and the Vietnam War / The 9th Division was reactivated on 1 February 1966, and arrived in South Vietnam on 16 December 1966 from Fort Riley, Kansas / On deployment the division was assigned to the III Corps Tactical Zone of Vietnam where it commenced operations in Dinh Tuong and Long An Provinces (6 January-31 May 1967) in Operation Palm Beach / Its area of operations was in the rivers and canals of the Mekong Delta from 1967 to 1972 / Operating deep within the Viet Cong (VC) controlled Delta, the Division was charged with protecting the area and its population against VC insurgents and ensuring the success of the South Vietnamese government's pacification program / The Division's major units departed from South Vietnam on 27 August 1969 (HHC & 1st Brigade) to Hawaii; 27 August 1969 (2nd Brigade) to Fort Lewis, Washington; 12 October 1970 (3rd Brigade) to Fort Lewis / It was also activated as a peacetime readiness unit from 1947 to 1962 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Fort Carson, Colorado, and from 1972 to 1991 as an active-duty infantry division at Fort Lewis, Washington / The division was deactivated in December 1991

The 39th Infantry Regiment is a parent regiment in the United States Army / Originally organized for service in World War I, the 39th fought in most of the conflicts involving the United States during the 20th century, and since 1990 the 2nd Battalion has served as a training unit stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina / The 3rd Battalion was started on 21 October 2015 and a 4th Battalion was added in July 2017 / During World War II the regiment fought as part of the 9th Infantry Division / The Fighting Falcons of the 39th became the first unit of United States combat troops to set foot on foreign soil when they stormed the beaches of Algiers in November 1942 / During World War II, the 39th Regiment saw battle action in Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, Northern France, The Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe / During the Vietnam War, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions, 39th Infantry Regiment were reactivated on 1 February 1966 as part of the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas / The 39th deployed in 1966 with the 9th Infantry Division to South Vietnam / The regiment participated in Operation Palm Tree, the 1968 Tet Offensive, and the battle of the Plain of Reeds / The 39th Infantry Regiment returned to Hawaii and deactivated in September, 1969

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in



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Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DALY

TIMOTHY

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Timothy Daly honorably served in the United States Army and served in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Timothy Daly passed away on 15 July 2025 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAMBA**  
**FRANK**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Frank Damba honorably served in the United States Military / Frank Damba was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** D'ANDREA

ANTHONY G.

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** CPO3

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** 1972

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Chief Petty Officer 3rd Class Anthony Gary D'Andrea honorably served in the United States Navy / CPO3 Anthony D'Andrea was deployed for nine months in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Anthony D'Andrea was employed by Consolidated Edison, the major utility company for the New York City Metropolitan area, as a Human Resource Specialist / D'Andrea retired after forty years with Con Edison / Anthony Gary D'Andrea passed away on 21 July 2017 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Clarence Center Cemetery, Clarence, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DASARO**

**AGOSTINO W.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 353 HAMPSHIRE STREET

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE (MAF), 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING (MAW) , MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP (MAG) 16

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Agostino William Dasaro honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Agostino Dasaro was deployed to Vietnam on 22 April 1966 as an Aviation Supply Man / CPL Dasaro died from head wounds suffered in a vehicle crash on 16 February 1967 in Quang Nam Province, Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Agostino Dasaro attended South Park High School for two years and graduated from Lafayette High School / Prior to entering the Marine Corps, Dasaro worked as a Stock Clerk for two years at Kleinhans Clothing Store / Agostino Dasaro enlisted in the Marines Corps on 9 September 1966 / Agostino William Dasaro was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Agostino William Dasaro is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 15e, Line 41

Marine Aviation Supply Specialists are responsible for providing logistic support to aviation activities and to complete customer requests / Aviation Supply Specialists fulfill orders for aviation supply support, if a



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maintenance part is needed quickly, they are the ones who supply it

The III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF) is a formation of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force of the United States Marine Corps / It was established as I Marine Amphibious Corps on October 1, 1942, and was renamed III Amphibious Corps on April 15, 1944 / The III MAF has contributed to noteworthy military campaigns, such as the Solomon Islands campaign, the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign, and the Battle of Okinawa, during World War II / During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command

The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is an aviation unit of the United States Marine Corps that serves as the Aviation Combat Element of the III Marine Expeditionary Force / The wing is headquartered at Camp Foster on the island of Okinawa, Japan / Activated in 1940, the wing has seen heavy combat operations during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War / The mission of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is to conduct air operations in support of the Fleet Marine Forces to include offensive air support, anti-air warfare, assault support, aerial reconnaissance including active and passive electronic countermeasures (ECM), and control of aircraft and missiles

Marine Aircraft Group 16 (MAG-16) is a United States Marine Corps aviation unit based at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar / The group falls under the command of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and the I Marine Expeditionary Force / The mission of MAG-16 is to provide air support to Marine Air-Ground Task Force commanders / Marine Helicopter Transport Group 16 (MAG(HR)-16) was commissioned on 1 March 1952 at Marine Corps Air Facility Santa Ana, California / MAG-16 was the first helicopter group established in the Marine Corps

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Action Ribbon (colloquially "CAR"), is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The U.S. Navy first authorized the Combat Action Ribbon on 17 February 1969 / The CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United



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States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

The NYS Conspicuous Service Cross may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty; whose entire service was honorable subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation while serving in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or in the Army female nurse corps, and who has received a personal decoration issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters. The Conspicuous Service Cross may also be awarded to any citizen of New York State, who while serving with the allied forces, received a personal decoration published in order issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DASCOMB**

**DAVID J.**

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST AVIATION BRIGADE

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS (2)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (M-16)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class David James Dascomb honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 David Dascomb was deployed to Vietnam for 11 months and 25 days as a Transportation Repair-Parts Supply Specialist and was stationed outside Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Fort Ord, California - Fort Ord, named in honor of Union Army Maj. Gen. Edward Otho Cresap Ord, (1818–1883), is a former United States Army post on Monterey Bay on the Pacific Ocean coast in California, which closed in 1994 due to Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action / Before construction and official designation as a fort in 1940, the land was used as a maneuver area and field-artillery target range during 1917 / Fort Ord was considered one of the most attractive locations of any U.S. Army post, because of its proximity to the beach and California weather

Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam - Located near the city of Saigon in southern Vietnam, the French



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Colonial government of Indochina constructed a small unpaved airport in the 1920s, known as Tan Son Nhat Airfield / During the Vietnam War (1959-1975), Tan Son Nhut was a major United States base for Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine units / As the headquarters for the South Vietnamese Air Force, Tan Son Nhut was primarily a command base, with most operational units using nearby Bien Hoa Air Base

Fort Eustis, Newport News, Virginia - Fort Eustis is a United States Army installation in Newport News, Virginia / Camp Abraham Eustis was established in 1918 as a coast artillery replacement center and is named for Brevet Brigadier General Abraham Eustis, a 19th-century U.S. military leader who had been the first commanding officer of Fort Monroe, a defensive fortification at the mouth of Hampton Roads / The post is the home to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, the U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School, the 7th Transportation Brigade, and Joint Task Force - Civil Support / In 2010, Fort Eustis was merged with nearby Langley Air Force Base as Joint Base Langley-Eustis

## *Miscellaneous:*

David Dascomb graduated from Bennett High School in Buffalo / Following his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Dascomb worked for Acadia Graphics, Lou Awald Chevrolet-Parts Department and the West Herr-Parts Department, where he retired after 13 years / Along with his wife, Marian, Dascomb established Tweeter and The Monkey Man, a Disc Jockey (DJ) business / Dave Dascomb was a member and Trustee of the West Seneca American Legion Post 735 and a member of the Post Color Guard / David J. Dascomb passed away on 18 April 2024 at the age of 77 years old after a long illness due to exposure to Agent Orange and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The 1st Aviation Brigade is an aviation brigade of the United States Army, stationed at Fort Novosel in Alabama / In accordance with The Naming Commission recommendations Fort Rucker was renamed Fort Novosel in early 2023 / The 1st Aviation Brigade traces its origins to the Vietnam War / In April 1965 the U.S. Army Aviation Brigade (Provisional) was activated with the existing 13th, 14th, 52nd, and 145th Aviation Battalions already in South Vietnam / In August 1965 it became the 12th Aviation Group, which then doubled in size and was used to form the 1st Aviation Brigade in March 1966 / The companies supporting Army of the Republic of Vietnam units were located in centralized positions to best provide support / The brigade assigned one combat aviation battalion headquarters in direct support of each infantry division and this battalion headquarters normally worked with that division no matter how many companies might be assigned for a specific mission / The Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company was located in Saigon from May 1966 until August 1967 / The HQ then moved to Long Binh where it remained until Long Binh was closed in the early autumn of 1972 / The HQ then moved to the MACV compound at Tan Son Nhut, where it stayed until withdrawal

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAVID**

**EDWARD L.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Edward "Sonny" Louis David honorably served in the United States Air Force / Edward David retired in 1981 from the U.S. Air Force after more then 20 years of service

**Base Assignments:**

Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado - Lowry Air Force Base (Lowry Field from 1938–1948) is a former United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) training base during World War II and a United States Air Force (USAF) training base during the Cold War / From 1955-1958, it served as the initial site of the U.S. Air Force Academy / Constructed in 1937, the base was named for Second Lieutenant Francis Lowry, the only Colorado pilot killed in combat in World War I / Lowry Field was assigned to the new Army Air Field on 11 March 1938 and was designated as Lowry Air Force Base on 24 June 1948 / From 1952 – 1955, Lowry functioned as President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Summer White House / Lowry AFB was designated for closure by BRAC 1991 (1991 Base Realignment and Closure Commission) and the base officially closed on 30 September 1994

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward David was part owner of P&P Oilfield in Greeley, Colorado / David opened S&E Industries, retiring after 20 years / Edward "Sonny" Louis David passed away on 16 December 2025 at the age of 82 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DAVID

PATRICIA B.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** GLENDALE DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1961

**Year Discharged:** 1963

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Patricia B. David honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina - MCAS Cherry Point is a United States Marine Corps airfield located in Havelock, North Carolina, in the eastern part of the state / Cherry Point was built in 1941, and was commissioned in 1942 and is currently home to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing / Cherry Point's primary World War II mission was to train units and individual Marines for service to the Pacific theater / The air station also served as a base for anti-submarine operations, with an Army Air Corps (22d Antisubmarine Squadron) and later a Navy squadron each being responsible for the sinking of a German U-boat just off the North Carolina coast during 1943 / Cherry Point's contribution to the Korean War effort was to provide a steady stream of trained aviators and air crewmen as well as maintenance and support personnel as replacements to forward deployed aviation units / During the Vietnam War, Cherry Point deployed three A-6 Intruder squadrons to the Far East and again provided a constant source of replacements for aircrews and enlisted aviation personnel / The air station and its associated support locations occupy more than 29,000 acres / Its runway system is large enough that the air station served as an alternate emergency landing site for the Space Shuttle launches out of Cape Canaveral, Florida

**Miscellaneous:**

Patricia David graduated from Bishop Colton High School in 1961 and enlisted in the Marine Corps shortly after graduation / After her Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, David worked at Niagara Machine & Tool until 1966 / Patricia David was employed by National Fuel in 1967 and retired in 1998 / Patricia David is a member and former Commandant of the Marine Corps League, Detachment #239 and a member of the West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAVIDOVICH**  
**MICHAEL P.**

**Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Michael P. Davidovich honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Michael Davidovich was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman during his 12 month deployment to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael P. Davidovich passed away on 10 March 2017 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAVIES**

**JAMES**

**B.**

**Hometown:** EDEN

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1959

**Year Discharged:** 1959

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

James B. Davies honorably served in the United States Air Force / James Davies served a total of 3 months and 13 days at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

James Davies received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force on 16 June 1959

**Base Assignments:**

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Bexar County, Texas / The base is under the jurisdiction of the 802d Mission Support Group, Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and an enclave of the city of San Antonio / It is the only site for Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) / Lackland AFB is part of Joint Base San Antonio, an amalgamation of the Fort Sam Houston, the Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base, which were merged on 1 October 2010 / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

**Miscellaneous:**

James Davies worked for 47 years at H&R Construction Equipment in Buffalo, NY / James B. Davies passed away on 30 July 2025 at the age of 83 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAVIES**  
**JOHN**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

John Davies honorably served in the New York State Army National Guard, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel after 28 years of military service

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Davies retired after 45 years as a Superintendent with National Fuel Gas / Davies also lived in The Villages, Florida and Rushford, New York / John Davies passed away on 10 September 2023

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAVIS**  
**ROLAND**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 11TH INFANTRY, FIFTH US ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/2ND CLASP

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Roland Davis honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Roland Davis served in the military for a total of 25 years during the Korea and Vietnam Eras in the Adjutant General's Corps / SSgt Davis served during the Korean War and Vietnam Era, stationed with both the US Army Pacific and the US Army Europe

SSGT Roland Davis received his Honorable Discharge and retired from the United States Army on 30 June 1971

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roland Davis passed away on 27 February 2017 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The 11th Infantry was redesignated 19 February 1962 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Battalion, 11th Infantry, assigned to the 5th Infantry Division, and activated at Fort Carson, Colorado / The 11th Infantry participated in battles during the American Civil War, Indian Wars, War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, World War I and World War II

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service



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The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DAY

ISAAC

L.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff-Sergeant Isaac L. Day honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Isaac Day was deployed to Vietnam for two tours and retired from the United States Army after 24 years of service

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Isaac L. Day passed away on 15 February 2023 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DAYER**

**ROGER S.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Roger S. Dayer honorably served in the United States Army / Roger Dayer was drafted in 1967

**Base Assignments:**

Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Georgia - Fort McPherson was a U.S. Army military base located in Atlanta, Georgia and was the headquarters for the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Southeast Region; the U.S. Army Forces Command; the U.S. Army Reserve Command; the U.S. Army Central / Named after Major General James Birdseye McPherson, the fort was founded by the U.S. Army in September 1867 / During World War I, Fort McPherson was used as a camp for Imperial German Navy prisoners of war and as a training site for the Active Army and Georgia National Guard / At the outbreak of World War II, Fort McPherson served as a general depot and as a reception center established to process thousands of men for entry into the service / In August 1945, as World War II ended, the United States War Department reversed the flow of work at the induction center and Fort McPherson became a separation center for almost 200,000 Soldiers and processed countless others for reassignment / As a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC 2005) recommendation, Fort McPherson was closed down 15 September 2011

**Miscellaneous:**

Roger Dayer attended Bennett High School where he played football / Dayer completed his senior year of high school at the Nichols School where he played football, basketball and ran track / Dayer attended Williams College, later transferring to the University of Buffalo / In his senior year, Dayer was admitted to the University of Buffalo Medical School / Dayer served his internship and surgical residency at Buffalo General Hospital / He went into private practice and worked part-time at the Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Dr. Dayer returned to his practice at Buffalo General Hospital / Dr. Dayer became Clinical Associate Professor at the UB Medical School and served as a member of the school's Admissions Committee / Dr. Dayer was president of the Buffalo Surgical Society and a member of the American



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College of Physician Executives, the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy / Dr. Dayer was also a member of the Buffalo and Cherry Hill Clubs / Dr. Roger Dayer was a pioneer in colonoscopy procedures and helped develop Health Car Plan, and served as a surgeon / Dr. Roger S. Dayer passed away on 6 July 2023 at the age of 90 years old

**Name:** DE LUCA

FREDERICK J.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Frederick J. De Luca honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Frederick De Luca was a life member of Amvets Post #209 in Buffalo, New York / Frederick J. De Luca passed away on 8 April 2025 at the age of 84 years old



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**Name:** DEAN

GARY

P.

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Gary P. Dean honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gary Dean attended Iroquois Central High School / Dean was employed by Nortel Networks / Gary Dean moved to Loganville, Georgia / Gary P. Dean passed away on 15 January 2014 at the age of 66 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEAN

RAYMOND P.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Raymond P. Dean honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond Dean was an exempt member of the U-Crest Volunteer Fire Company and a former member of the South Line Volunteer Fire Company / Raymond P. Dean passed away on 7 July 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEARDEN**

**ALLEN K.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:** 47 SICKMAN AVENUE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 22ND INFANTRY, B COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Allen Kenneth "Ollie" Dearden honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Allen Dearden was deployed to Vietnam on 30 March 1967 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC Allen Deardon was Killed In Action on 18 May 1967 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during military operations when the military vehicle he was riding was hit by hostile recoilless rifle fire in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Ft. Lewis, Washington - Fort Lewis is a United States Army base located 9.1 miles south-southwest of Tacoma, Washington / Fort Lewis was originally established in 1917 and was merged with McChord Air Force Base on 1 February 2010, to form Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) / Fort Lewis, named after Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was one of the largest and most modern military reservations in the United States, consisting of 87,000 acres / From 1942 to 1943, 42 Japanese, German, and Italian Americans were held at Fort Lewis as part of the government's "enemy alien" internment program during World War II / The Japanese and



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Italian internees were transferred to Fort Missoula and the Germans to Fort Lincoln, and the temporary detention facility closed on 30 March 1943 / Joint Base Lewis-McChord (Fort Lewis) is the home of much of the 2nd Infantry Division, along with Headquarters, the 7th Infantry Division, 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and the 1st Special Forces Group / The mission of the base is to provide support to mission commanders and the joint base community, to serve as an enabler to the soldiers as they train and project America's combat power

## *Miscellaneous:*

Allen Dearden was born in England and came to the United States at the age of 10 years old / Dearden graduated from Hamburg High School in 1965 / Dearden was inducted into the U.S. Army on 30 March 1966 / Allen Kenneth "Ollie" Dearden was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery and Mausoleum, Hamburg, New York

Allen Kenneth Dearden is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 20e, Line 24

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado / The division was first activated in 1917 and has served in World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom1 / The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a battalion of the United States Army and assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado

The 22nd Infantry Regiment is a parent regiment of the United States Army / It was deployed to South Vietnam as part of the 2d Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division and conducted operations in the Central Highlands / It was inactivated in August 1984 at Fort Carson, Colorado / Currently the 2nd Battalion is active, with the regimental colors residing at Fort Drum, New York / The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Battalions have been inactivated

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese



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military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEBOTH**

**RICHARD**

**D.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **ARMY**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Richard D. DeBoth honorably served in the United States Army and the United States Merchant Marine

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard DeBoth was Democratic Committeeman for 20 years and worked for the City of Buffalo, retiring from the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority / Richard D. DeBoth passed away on 13 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York

The United States Merchant Marine (USMM) is an organization composed of U.S. civilian mariners and merchant vessels / It is managed by the Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration and includes privately-owned and federally owned, U.S.-registered merchant ships that provide waterborne transportation for passengers and cargo in domestic and international commerce / Some of these ships may also be called into military service



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEBOTTIS**

**CHARLES**

**G.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Charles G. "Corky" DeBottis honorably served in the United States Air Force / Charles DeBottis was stationed in the Philippines and assigned as a Mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles DeBottis graduated from Kenmore West Senior High School in 1963 / Charles DeBottis worked for General Motors at the Tonawanda Engine Plant, retiring in 2006 / DeBottis moved to North Ft. Myers, Florida / Charles G. "Corky" DeBottis passed away on 11 March 2016 at the age of 70 years old and his remains cremated



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DECKER**  
**GARRY**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Garry Decker honorably served in the United States Military / Garry Decker was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEGANIS**  
**GIULIANO**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Giuliano Deganis honorably served in the United States Army / Giuliano Deganis was deployed to South Korea in 1969-1971

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Giuliano Deganis was born in Udine, Italy and immigrated to Buffalo as a child / Deganis was a self-taught stained glass artist and opened up a studio, Inlight Art Glass on Connecticut Street in Buffalo, later relocating to Elmwood Avenue / Deganis was a Master Roycroft Craftsman, affiliated with the Roycrofters-at-Large Association (RALA) / Deganis had many commissions, most notably at the Gardener's Cottage at the Frank Lloyd Wright Darwin Martin House and the Roycroft Inn / Giuliano Deganis passed away on 19 January 2024 at the age of 74 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEGEN**

**ROBERT F.**

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:** 115 SEABROOK DRIVE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** MAJ

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

5TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 77TH ARMOR, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE MEDAL WITH "V" DEVICE

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Major Robert F. "Bob" Degen served in the United States Army / Major Robert Degen was deployed to Vietnam on 9 July 1970 as an Operations & Training Staff Officer / Major Robert Degen died on 8 January 1971 as a result of an intentional homicide in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Major Robert Degen served his first tour in Vietnam as an "Early Bird" Advisor in 1964 / Major Degen was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device for bravery on the battlefield / Returning stateside, Degen attended the University of Wisconsin for a Masters Diploma in Physical Education (PE), followed by a West Point tour / Major Degen redeployed to Vietnam on 9 July 1970 as a Operations & Training Staff Officer in the Third Armored Division / Major Degen died on 8 January 1971 with the cause listed as a homicide in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Major Degen was killed in a non-hostile incident / Late in the evening of 8 January 1971, Major Degen was returning from the Officer's Club through the 1/77th's company area when he and another Army officer, Major Michael Davis, heard loud music from one of the enlisted men's billets / The officers entered the building and ordered the five occupants to lower the volume / The soldiers complied, and the majors walked away / After moving a short distance, the music blared again / Davis returned to the tent barracks with Degen trailing behind / A man came out with a weapon and fired several shots at the officers, one round striking Degen in the head, killing him instantly / Davis was also hit in the head and was able to drag himself to an aid station / He was



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transported to the 95th Evacuation Hospital in Da Nang in satisfactory condition

## *Base Assignments:*

## *Miscellaneous:*

Robert Degen attended Buffalo Technical High School, one year in Engineering at the University of Buffalo and graduated in 1958 after four years at West Point Academy / Robert "Bob" Degen was 34 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at the United States Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Robert Degen is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 05w, Line 33

The 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), nicknamed the "Red Diamond", or the "Red Devils", was an infantry division of the United States Army that served in World War I, World War II and the Vietnam War, and with NATO and the U.S. Army III Corps / The 5th Division was organized in December 1917 from Regular Army troops as a part of the program for the expansion of the armed forces for service in World War I / In 1968 the division was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, as a mechanized formation / 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division was dispatched to South Vietnam after the Tet Offensive to replace a U.S. Marine Corps unit / The brigade, consisting of one battalion each of infantry, mechanized infantry and armor, served there from July 1968 until 1971 defending the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone in northern Quảng Trị Province / It was inactivated on 24 November 1992 and reflagged as the 2nd Armored Division

The 77th Armor is an armored (tank) regiment of the United States Army / The 77th Armor Regiment is part of the U.S. Army Regimental System with only a single battalion, the 1st Battalion / July 1968, the 1st Battalion 77th Armor (1-77) deployed from Fort Carson Colorado USA to Wunder Beach, Quảng Trị Province, South Vietnam / In mid-August, the Battalion deployed to positions in Leatherneck Square south of the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in support of 3rd Marine Division infantry operations during heavy fighting / From time to time in 1969, the 77th participated in 3d Marine Division operations on the Khe Sanh plains and up to the vicinity of the DMZ with the US Marines / In total, the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor participated in eight campaigns during its tour in Vietnam / The 77th Armor is currently stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas as part of the 3rd Brigade "Bulldogs", 1st Armored Division and has transformed from a tank pure battalion into a combined arms battalion (CAB)

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all



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members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive



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years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

Name: **DEGENER**

**GEORGE**

**R.**

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-9

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO) George R. Degener honorably served in the United States Navy / MCPO George Degener was assigned with a rating as a Master Chief Electrician's Mate

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Degener retired as a Maintenance Supervisor with Buffalo State College / George R. Degener passed away on 17 August 2023 at the age of 88 years old

A Master Chief Electrician's Mate is a position in the United States Navy / Electrician's Mates (EM) are responsible for the operation, maintenance, and repair of electrical systems on Navy ships / They handle generators, switchboards, motors, power circuits, and other electrical equipment / Most work happens indoors, but some shore assignments exist, and most EMs serve at sea



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEGLOPPER**

**JOHN R.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

John Robert DeGlopper honorably served in the United States Army

John DeGlopper was the nephew of Charles Neilans DeGlopper, a United States Army soldier who posthumously received the Medal of Honor, the highest award of the U.S. military, for his heroic actions during the World War II Battle of Normandy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John DeGlopper graduated from Riverside High School in Buffalo and received a B.S. degree in Agriculture from Cornell University / DeGlopper worked for the NY State department of Agriculture and Markets / After retirement, DeGlopper moved to Arlington, Massachusetts / John Robert DeGlopper passed away on 5 April 2015 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEJESUS**  
**BENJAMIN**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Benjamin DeJesus honorably served in the United States Military / Benjamin DeJesus was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEJOY

JOHN

V.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

84TH ENGINEERS BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

OVERSEAS BAR

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant John Vincent DeJoy honorably served in the United States Army / SGT John DeJoy was deployed to Vietnam as a Track Vehicle Mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John V. DeJoy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The 84th Engineers Battalion saw combat in Vietnam, where it arrived on 9 June 1965 at Cam Ranh Bay / This was the first major contingent of US Army Engineers to land in Vietnam / Stationed at Qui Nhon and later Da Nang, the 84th Engineer Battalion was committed to the construction of major bases, depot facilities, warehouses, roads, bridges, and airfields / The Battalion's authorized strength at this time was 899 soldiers, but with the attachment of 2 companies of Vietnamese laborers, the Battalion strength approached 1700 personnel / The Battalion served in Vietnam until it received orders to deploy from Vietnam in July 1972

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese



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military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEL PRINCIPE

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

DALE

F.

**Address:** 24 KATHY LANE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1972

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class (Technical Corporal) Dale Francis Del Principe honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Dale Del Principe was deployed to Vietnam as a Cook

SP5 Dale Del Principe was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 27 September 1968 with reserve obligations ending 13 December 1972

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Dale Del Principe attended Cheektowaga Central High School / Dale Del Principe was a missionary for 20 plus years, serving in Africa, India, and Nepal through the International Mission Board headquartered in Richmond Virginia / Dale Francis Del Principe passed away in Delhi, India on 5 January 2025 at the age of 77 years old

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service operations; and food and supply ordering

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were



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awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DELAHANTY

CHARLES J.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Charles J. Delahanty honorably served six years in the United States Navy and the Navy Reserves

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Charles Delahanty, used his GI Bill educational benefits and graduated from Canisius College / Delahanty was a member of American Legion Post #735 and a lifetime member of AmVets Post #8113 / Delahanty retired in 2009 after 25 years, as the Director of Payment Services with Western Union / Charles J. Delahanty passed away on 5 March 2024 at the age of 82 years old

The Navy Reserve is a branch of the United States Navy made up of qualified sailors who serve part-time while working in civilian jobs or attending school / Members of the Navy Reserve are categorized as being in either the Selected Reserve (SELRES), the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Retired Reserve / They provide invaluable expertise, experience, and leadership while delivering critical support to global operations and planning / The Navy Reserve provides strategic depth and delivers operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team in a range of military operations from peace to war



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELANO**  
**ROBERT**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1957

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert Delano honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Delano was stationed in Washington, D.C. and was assigned as a Presidential Honor Guard for President Dwight D. Eisenhower

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Delano was enrolled in the auto mechanics program at Burgard Vocational High School, leaving to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, completed the requirements for his high school diploma and went to work with Case Pipeline Corp., rising to become a Project Manager / Delano worked as a Manager for Delta Sonic and managed the automobile department at the GEX station in Cheektowaga / In 1978, Robert Delano was appointed as Commissioner of Motor Vehicles Management, in charge of 1,300 City of Buffalo vehicles at 8 city garages / In December 1981, Delano was named Deputy Parks Commissioner for the City of Buffalo and in 1985 becoming the Department head for the City of Buffalo Parks Department / Robert Delano was a retired Volunteer Fireman with the Forks Fire Company in Cheektowaga, New York / Robert Delano passed away on 31 July 2024 at the age of 83 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELECKI**

**THOMAS R.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** 74 WINDMILL ROAD

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

III MARINE, FLEET MARINE FORCE (FMF)

**Medals / Citations:**

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal (E-4) Thomas R. Delecki honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Thomas Delecki was deployed to Okinawa from 1970 - 1971 and assigned to Island Mail Distribution

**Base Assignments:**

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island (Port Royal Harbor, South Carolina) - Established in November 1861, Parris Island was used as an important base for the Union Navy throughout the Civil War / In October 1915, the principle mission of Parris Island was the training of enlisted Marine recruits / During World War II, approximately 200,000 recruits were trained at Parris Island, including Women Marine Reservists / During the Vietnam War, more than 200,000 recruits trained at Parris Island and training was cut from 12 to 10 weeks to accommodate the number of recruits

USMC Headquarters (Quantico, Virginia) - The Marine Corps established Marine Barracks Quantico on 14 May 1917 / Thousands of Marines trained in Quantico during World War I, including units of the much lauded 4th Marine Brigade / In 1941, Quantico's main task became the education of individual Marines, rather than the large unit training it had conducted in the past / The amphibious warfare techniques developed in Quantico in the years before World War II made victory possible in the conflict's Pacific theater / Quantico also trained 15,000 lieutenants, and numerous officers from other services, who helped lead the United States to victory / In 1947, Quantico Marines conceived of carrying troops from ship-to-shore by helicopter and formed a special squadron to test the idea: Marine Helicopter Squadron-1, commonly referred to now as HMX-1 / The helicopter techniques they used there later proved invaluable during the Korean and Vietnam Wars / Quantico's small, but vital, air facility and HMX-1 continue to aid in development, training, and education, as well as their most visible duty, support of the U.S. president / On 1 January 1968, the base was re-designated the Marine Corps



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Development and Education Command (MCDEC) in the spirit of the command motto, "Semper Progredi" — Always Forward / In 1998, Headquarters Marine Corps moved Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&RA) and Marine Corps Recruiting Command to Quantico from the Navy Annex in Arlington, Virginia / M&RA has administrative responsibility for all issues related to Marines, their families, and quality of life / As of 2016, Quantico is home to over 28,000 military, civilian, and contractor personnel / In addition, the base offers support to more than 30 federal agencies for training exercises year round

Headquarters 111, Marines, Fleet Marine Force (FMF) (Cape Croker, Okinawa)

## *Miscellaneous:*

Thomas A. Delecki lived in South Buffalo and graduated from Bishop Timon High School / Delecki enrolled at the University of Buffalo where he received a Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree / Following his graduation from college, Thomas Delecki was inducted into the Marine Corps in 1969 / Receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Marines in 1971, Delecki attended Buffalo State College where he earned his Master of Science (MS) Degree in Special Education / Delecki also received a Principle Certificate in Education from the University of Buffalo / Thomas Delecki was married in 1975 and moved to West Seneca / Delecki worked for 34 years between the West Seneca Developmental Center and the Lakeview Shock Incarceration Facility in Brocton, New York / Leaving the Lakeview Correctional Facility where he had been the Education Director, Delecki returned to the West Seneca Developmental Center where he was engaged in Program Development and retired in 2008 / Thomas Delecki is a live-long member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Leonard Post 6251

The United States Fleet Marine Forces (FMF) are combined general- and special-purpose forces within the United States Department of the Navy that perform offensive amphibious or expeditionary warfare and defensive maritime employment / The Fleet Marine Force (FMF) was established on 7 December 1933 and was the culmination of the Marine Corps' development of amphibious warfare doctrine during the 1920s / Each FMF consists of at least one Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) consisting of at least one Marine Division (MARDIV), one Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW), one Marine Logistics Group (MLG) (formerly the Force Service Support Group (FSSG)), and an MEF Information Group / Other miscellaneous supporting units may be attached / In addition to one or more MEF(s), each FMF is further organized into one or more intermediate-sized MAGTFs called Marine Expeditionary Brigades (MEBs) and smaller MAGTFs called Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs)

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELL**

**GERALD F.**

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** 72 LIBERTY TERRACE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST BATTALION, 9TH MARINES, 3D MARINE DIVISION, (REIN) FMF

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Gerald Francis Dell honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam in 1966

Gerald Dell subsequently enlisted in the US Army where he attained the rank of Staff Sergeant

The twin brother of SSGT Gerald Dell, Marine Corps Private First-Class Thomas Carl Dell, was Killed In Action on 14 September 1966 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam / Another brother of Gerald Dell, Raymond C. Dell is stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gerald Dell enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 30 December 1963 / Dell was a member of American Legion Post 359 and Post 1, a Charter member of the American Family Riders, and a Charter member of the USA River Rats Inc / Gerald Francis "Sunshine" Dell passed away on 28 June 2013 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The 1st Battalion 9th Marines (1/9) was an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I, it served until the mid-2000s when it was deactivated to make room for one of three light armor reconnaissance battalions / During the Vietnam War, the unit earned the name "The Walking Dead" for its high casualty rate / The battalion endured the longest sustained combat and suffered the highest killed in action (KIA)



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rate in Marine Corps history, especially during the Battle of July Two / The battalion was engaged in combat for 47 months and 7 days, from 15 June 1965 to 19 October 1966 and 11 December 1966 to 14 July 1969 / Based on a typical battalion strength of 800 Marines and Navy hospital corpsmen, 2,892 Marines passed through the unit over those 47 months; 747 were killed in action (KIA) and 2 were missing in action (MIA)

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELL**

**RAYMOND C.**

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** 72 LIBERTY TERACE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** MAJOR

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

7TH BATTALION, 17TH CAVALRY

**Medals / Citations:**

SILVER STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Major Raymond C. Dell honorably served in the United States Army Major Raymond Dell was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action / Major Dell was awarded the Silver Star Medal and the Bronze Star Medal for acts of heroism while in Vietnam

Two brothers of Corporal Gerald Dell served in Vietnam / Marine Corps Private First-Class Thomas Carl Dell, was Killed In Action on 14 September 1966 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam / Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Gerald Francis Dell served honorably in Vietnam in 1966

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Bragg, North Carolina - In 1918, Congress established Camp Bragg, an Army field artillery site named for the Confederate General Braxton Bragg / Camp Bragg became a permanent Army post renamed Fort Bragg / Various units trained at Fort Bragg during World War II, including the 9th Infantry Division, 2nd Armored Division, 82nd Airborne Division, 100th Infantry Division, and various field artillery groups

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond C. Dell passed away on 9 August 2009 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Lafayette Memorial Park, West Fayetteville, North Carolina

The 17th Cavalry Regiment is a historical organization within the United States Army that began as a regiment of



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cavalry after the Pancho Villa Expedition / The unit was constituted on 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as the 17th Cavalry at Fort Bliss, Texas / Troop B, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry was the ground reconnaissance element of the 3rd Brigade, 82d Airborne Division in Vietnam / It arrived in Vietnam on 18 February 1968 and departed South Vietnam on 11 December 1969 / The 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry was originally deployed to Vietnam on 12 December 1967 as the ground cavalry squadron of the 101st Airborne Division, but as the division changed to an airmobile mode the squadron was converted to an air cavalry status during the period December 1968 - June 1969 / The entire squadron was involved in intense aerial combat during the Operation Lam Son 719 invasion of Laos, when the helicopters supported the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's drive and retreat directly / This action took place between February and April 1971 / The squadron departed Vietnam on 8 February 1972 / The 17th Cavalry Regiment was reorganized as a part of the U.S. Army Regimental System, an ongoing effort to maintain the lineage and history of the U.S. Army through its units / Today, the 17th Cavalry Regiment is found across the army within the combat aviation brigades, where the squadrons, now constituted as attack/recon helicopter squadrons, carry on the legacy of the 17th Cavalry Regiment

The Silver Star Medal (SSM) is the United States Armed Forces' third-highest military decoration for valor in combat / The Silver Star Medal is awarded primarily to members of the United States Armed Forces for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States / The gallantry displayed must have taken place while in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DELL**

**THOMAS C.**

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** 72 LIBERTY TERRACE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, H S COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Thomas Carl Dell honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Thomas Dell was deployed to Vietnam as a Machine Gunner / PFC Thomas Dell was Killed In Action on 14 September 1966 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

On 14 September 1966, a CAP unit (The entire unit of American Marines and Popular Forces militia members together was designated as a Combined Action Platoon (CAP)) and men from H&S Company left the hamlet of Triem Tu southeast of Dien Ban and were attacked by a large force of Viet Cong (VC) / The attack was initiated by an enemy mortar barrage followed by a ground assault against the Marines and Popular Force's (PF) who set up a defensive perimeter / Reinforcements were immediately dispatched with the Viet Cong inflicting several casualties and withdrawing before the friendly forces arrived / Nine PF's (Popular Force, Vietnamese) were killed, and five were wounded as well as two Marines were killed and two mortally wounded in the action / One of the casualties was Private First-Class Thomas Carl Dell who was killed in action from hostile gunshot wounds penetrating his forehead, left side of face and right hip

The twin brother of PFC Thomas Dell, Staff Sergeant Gerald Francis Dell, was deployed to Vietnam in 1966 / Another brother, Major Raymond C. Dell, served honorably in Vietnam and received the Silver Star and the Purple Heart



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## *Base Assignments:*

## *Miscellaneous:*

Thomas Dell enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 30 December 1963 / Thomas Carl Dell was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Thomas Carl Dell is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 10e, Line 94

Marine Corps Machine Gunners are responsible for the deployment, care, mounting, and unmounting of heavy machine guns / There are several types of heavy machine guns / The primary mission of these machine guns is to provide overwhelming firepower while in a firefight or while suppressing an enemy position / While on foot patrol, the machine guns are carried in support of infantry platoons or light armored reconnaissance units / On convoys, the machine gunners are responsible for mounting and utilizing heavy machine guns in the form of 50-caliber or 40 mm heavy machine guns / Machine gunners are usually referred to as "31s" by the other infantry Marines in their platoon or battalion

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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The Combat Action Ribbon is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded when there is evidence that the Sailor/Marine engaged the enemy, was under hostile fire, or was physically attacked by the enemy / The service member must have demonstrated satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941



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The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DELZER

ROBERT E.

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Robert E. Delzer honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Delzer was a Life Member of the Lancaster Elks Lodge #1478 / Robert E. Delzer passed away on 27 June 2025 at the age of 88 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEMARCO

DAVID A.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

David A. DeMarco honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

David DeMarco retired from Orleans/Niagara BOCES / David A. DeMarco passed away on 14 January 2026 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEMPSEY**

**EDWARD**

**M.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Edward M. Dempsey honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward Dempsey was a Teacher at Lakeshore Junior High School / Edward M. Dempsey passed away on 20 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEMPSEY**  
**JACK**

**Hometown:** EDEN

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Jack "Bear" Dempsey honorably served in the United States Army Reserve / Jack Dempsey served five and a half years, including six months of active duty at Fort Dix

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

**Miscellaneous:**

Jack Dempsey graduated from Eden High School in 1955 / Dempsey graduated from the University of Buffalo (UB) where he was a standout football player on the UB Bulls' 1958 team in 1960 / Dempsey began teaching in Niagara Falls schools and taught Biology at LaSalle Senior High School / Jack "Bear" Dempsey passed away on 8 October 2011 at the age of 73 years old

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / Together, the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard constitute the Army element of the reserve components of the United States Armed Forces / Army Reserve Soldiers receive the same training as active-duty Soldiers / Army Reserve Soldiers combine civilian experience with military training to provide specialized skills for military missions around the world / The reserve components of the United States Armed Forces are military organizations whose members generally perform a minimum of 39 days of military duty per year and who augment the active duty military when necessary



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEMSHUCK**  
**RALPH**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Ralph Demshuck honorably served in the United States Military / Ralph Demshuck was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DENNING  
EDWARD

**Hometown:** SLOAN

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Edward Denning honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward "Uncle Tommy" Denning passed away on 13 November 2024

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DENNISON

JOSEPH

V.

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1959

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Joseph Vincent Dennison honorably served in the United States Navy / Joseph Dennison was assigned as a Navy Jet Serviceman

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S Navy in 1962, Joseph Dennison served one year in the U.S. Navy Reserve

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Dennison graduated from Kenmore High School in 1959 and volunteered during high school as a junior firefighter at Kenilworth Fire Hall / Dennison worked as an engineer with the New York Telephone Company, retiring to North Carolina / Joseph Vincent Dennison passed away on 23 November 2025 at the age of 83 years old

The Navy Reserve is a branch of the United States Navy made up of qualified sailors who serve part-time while working in civilian jobs or attending school / Members of the Navy Reserve are categorized as being in either the Selected Reserve (SELRES), the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Retired Reserve / They provide invaluable expertise, experience, and leadership while delivering critical support to global operations and planning / The Navy Reserve provides strategic depth and delivers operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team in a range of military operations from peace to war



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEPERTO**  
**GARY J.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Gary J. Deperto honorably served in the United States Army / Gary DePerto was deployed to Vietnam and awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gary DePerto was a Letter Carrier for the United States Postal Service / Gary J. DePerto passed away on 8 November 2010 at the age of 65 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously / An oak leaf cluster is a ribbon device to denote preceding decorations and awards consisting of a miniature bronze or silver twig of four oak leaves with three acorns on the stem

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DETAMBLE**

**CHARLES N.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Charles D. DeTamble honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles DeTamble retired from the united States Postal Service / Charles D. DeTamble passed away on 12 April 2025 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DETAMPLE

GARY

A.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Gary A. DeTemple honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gary A. DeTemple passed away on 9 September 2025 at the age of 84 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DEVLIN**

**PATRICK J.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** LT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Patrick J. Devlin honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Patrick Devlin was a longtime member of the Actors Equity Union / Patrick Devlin held multiple senior level management positions at the Mercedes Benz Corporation, retiring in 2000 / Patrick J. Devlin passed away on 27 March 2021 at the age of 78 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEWALD

JOHN

F.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PVT

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY F, 2ND BATTALION, 9TH MARINE REGIMENT, 3RD MARINE DIVISION, THIRD MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private John Francis Dewald honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PVT John Dewald was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman and assigned to Company F, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division (Rein), Third Marine Amphibious Force, Fleet Marine Forces / Private John Dewald was Killed In Action as a result of small arms fire during an ambush on 04 October 1967 in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Dewald enlisted in the Marine Corps on 8 March 1967 in Buffalo / John Francis Dewald was 19 years of age at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint Francis Xavier Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

John Francis Dewald is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 27e, Line 47

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

2nd Battalion, 9th Marines (2/9) was an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I, the unit played an instrumental role in the defeat of the Japanese forces in the Battles of Guam and Iwo Jima during World War II / The battalion distinguished itself in the defense of Khe Sanh during the Vietnam War, and later participated in an ill-fated invasion of Koh Tang Island in Southeast Asia, with the intention of rescuing the crew of SS Mayaguez / On 4 July 1965, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines were ordered to Vietnam from Okinawa / The 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines fought battles in or around Danang, Hue, Phu Bai, Đông Hà, Camp Carroll, Cam Lộ, Con Thien, Than Cam Son, Quảng Trị, Cửa Việt, Vandegrift Combat Base and what is considered by many as their most vicious engagement, the Battle of Khe Sanh / The 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines left Vietnam in August 1969 and returned to Camp Schwab, Okinawa / During Operation Desert Storm, the battalion served as the lead battalion for the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF)

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

The III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF) is a formation of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force of the United States Marine Corps / It was established as I Marine Amphibious Corps on October 1, 1942, and was renamed III Amphibious Corps on April 15, 1944 / The III MAF has contributed to noteworthy military campaigns, such as the Solomon Islands campaign, the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign, and the Battle of Okinawa, during World War II / During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Action Ribbon is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded when there is evidence that the Sailor/Marine engaged the enemy, was under hostile fire, or was physically attacked by the enemy / The service member must have demonstrated satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEWANE  
EUGENE A.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** 13 SHIRLEY AVENUE

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone    Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Eugene Dewane honorably served in the United States Navy

The brother of Eugene Dewane, Private First-Class Richard Allen Dewan, was Killed In Action by small arms fire on 28 February 1967 during a combat mission 3 northwest of Hill 124, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

Memphis Naval Air Station (NAS) - Memphis, Tennessee - Memphis NAS is the largest inland naval base in the world, dates back to World War I, when the U.S. Army created Park Field as a training ground for air and ground crews / The navy's presence began in 1942 when the Park Field site and adjacent areas became first a Naval Reserve Air Base, then a Naval Air Station and finally, in 1949, Naval Air State Memphis / The primary task of the base has remained the same—to train air and ground crews in the operation and maintenance of the Navy's sea- and land-based aircraft / As a primary flight training center in World War II, six hundred to eight hundred aviation cadets trained at a time / The ground crew training facility was designed for ten thousand students / The entire complex, which included unpaved satellite fields in a fifteen-mile radius, covered an area of more than 3,500 acres.

**Miscellaneous:**



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEWANE

RICHARD A.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:** 13 SHIRLEY AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY G, 2ND BATTALION, 3RD MARINE REGIMENT, 3RD MARINE DIVISION, THIRD MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Richard Allen Dewan honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Richard Dewan was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman in June 1966 / PFC Richard Dewan was Killed In Action by small arms fire on 28 February 1967 during a combat mission 3 northwest of Hill 124, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

In September 1966, Private First-Class Richard Allen Dewan was wounded in combat action and received the Purple Heart

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Dewan graduated from Cleveland Hill High School in 1965 / Dewan enlisted in the Marine Corps in September 1965 / Richard Allen Dewan was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Lancaster Rural Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

Richard Allen Dewan is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 15e, Line 115



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines (2/3) was an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Marine Corps Base Hawaii consisting of approximately 1,000 Marines and sailors / The battalion fell under the command of the 3rd Marine Regiment and the 3rd Marine Division / In January 1961, 2/3 was redeployed to Camp Schwab, Okinawa, and reassigned to 3d Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force / From there the unit deployed at various times between 1961 and 1967 as the Battalion Landing Team of the Seventh Fleet / In April 1965, 2/3 deployed to Da Nang in the Republic of Vietnam / They fought in Vietnam from April 1965 until October 1969 when 2/3 left South Vietnam and relocated to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and was reassigned to 5th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Fleet Marine Force / The battalion was deactivated in January 2022 as part of the Marine Corps' ongoing Force Design efforts

The III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF) is a formation of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force of the United States Marine Corps / It was established as I Marine Amphibious Corps on October 1, 1942, and was renamed III Amphibious Corps on April 15, 1944 / The III MAF has contributed to noteworthy military campaigns, such as the Solomon Islands campaign, the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign, and the Battle of Okinawa, during World War II / During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command

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The Combat Action Ribbon is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded when there is evidence that the Sailor/Marine engaged the enemy, was under hostile fire, or was physically attacked by the enemy / The service member must have demonstrated satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DEYOE

HAROLD J.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Harold J. Deyoe honorably served in the United States Military / Harold Deyoe was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DI ROSA**

**PAUL J.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** SP-4

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY "A", 1ST BATTALION, 19TH INFANTRY, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Paul James Di Rosa honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Paul Di Rosa was deployed to Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Paul J. Di Rosa was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry was constituted 3 May 1861 in the Regular Army / It was organized 24 August 1861 at Indianapolis, Indiana / Following the Civil War the unit was reorganized and redesignated 1 October 1866 as Company A, 19th Infantry

The 24th Infantry Division was an infantry division of the United States Army that was formed during World War II from the disbanding Hawaiian Division / The division saw action throughout the Pacific theater, first fighting in



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New Guinea before landing on the Philippine islands of Leyte and Luzon, driving Japanese forces from them / Following the end of the war, the division participated in occupation duties in Japan, and was the first division to respond at the outbreak of the Korean War / For the first 18 months of the war, the division was heavily engaged on the front lines with North Korean and Chinese forces, suffering over 10,000 casualties / It was withdrawn from the front lines to the reserve force for the remainder of the war after the second battle for Wonju, but returned to Korea for patrol duty at the end of major combat operations / After its deployment in the Korean War, the division was active in Europe and the United States during the Cold War / The 24th Infantry Division was inactivated in October 1996

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DI TOMMASO**

**ROBERT J.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** LT COL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** MIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

388TH COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Joseph Di Tommaso honorably served in the United States Air Force / LT COL Robert Di Tommaso was a member of the 388th Combat Support Group, Udorn Air Base, Thailand / On 29 July 1966, LT COL Di Tommaso was a crew member of an unarmed Douglas Skytrain Reconnaissance Transport (RC-47D) on an operational mission 15 miles south of Sam Neua, North Vietnam, when it was attacked by enemy fighters and crashed / LT Colonel Di Tommaso's remains were not recovered

(On 29 July 1966, an RC-47D Skytrain (tail number 43-48388, call sign "Dogpatch") with eight crew members carried out a classified mission over North Vietnam / In the last radio contact with "Dogpatch," it reported that it was under attack by enemy aircraft and was being forced down / Later reports indicated that "Dogpatch" had been shot down and that at least six of the crew members had died and been buried near the crash site / The remains of five crew members were eventually recovered, returned to U.S. custody, and identified / The other three crew members are still unaccounted for / Robert Joseph Di Tommaso, who entered the U.S. Air Force from New York, served with the 388th Combat Support Group and was a crew member on "Dogpatch" at the time of its loss / He remains are still unaccounted for / Following the incident, the Air Force promoted Di Tommaso to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) / Lieutenant Colonel Di Tommaso is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific / His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC

The primary objective of the C-47 in Laos at that point in the war was visual reconnaissance/ American forces



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worked closely with CAS (CIA) primarily to weaken the communist supply link to South Vietnam via the "Ho Chi Minh Trail" / This particular plane, however, was working in support of the CIA's secret indigenous army which was attempting to prevent a communist takeover in Laos)

## *Base Assignments:*

Udorn RTAFB, Thailand - Udorn RTAFB was established in the 1950s and commanded by Thai officers / The civil war inside Laos and fears of it spreading into Thailand led the Thai government to allow the United States to use Udorn in 1961 for the air defense of Thailand and to fly reconnaissance flights over Laos / The USAF forces at Udorn were under the command of the United States Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) Thirteenth Air Force / Udorn RTAFB was the Asian headquarters for Air America, a US passenger and cargo airline covertly owned and operated by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) which provided essential resources for the war in Laos and elsewhere / Air America's roles supportive of covert and overt situations related to hostilities in Southeast Asia and elsewhere worldwide provided buffers and solutions to problems the United States faced in various locations / Operations were focused in Laos as part of the "secret war" the United States carried out against the Pathet Lao forces operating in the country / Air America continued operations from Udorn into Laos until 3 June 1974 / During the Vietnam War the Udorn base was a front-line USAF facility from 1964 through 1976

## *Miscellaneous:*

Robert Joseph "Bob/Bobby" DiTommaso was 24 years old at the time he went missing

Robert Joseph Di Tommaso is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 09e, Line 86

The 388th Fighter Wing (388FW) is a United States Air Force unit assigned to the Air Combat Command Fifteenth Air Force / On 23 November 1953, the 388th Fighter-Bomber Wing was activated as part of Tactical Air Command / The 388th Fighter-Interceptor Wing activated as the 388th Fighter-Bomber Group (later renamed 388th Operations Group) and became the wing's primary combat element / The group's squadrons were equipped with North American F-86F Sabres, and training commenced for operational proficiency / In April 1966, the 388th was sent to Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand where it replaced the provisional 6234th Tactical Fighter Wing and assumed host wing responsibilities at Korat / The mission of the wing was to engage in combat operations over Indochina, conducting interdiction, direct air support, armed reconnaissance, and fighter escort missions / During the Vietnam War, numerous units were deployed to and stationed at Korat RTAFB and engaged in combat operations / As part of the rapid buildup of United States forces in Thailand in the mid-1960s, the 388th was the umbrella organization to as many as 34 operating units and about 6,500 USAF airmen / For operations and its wartime service at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base (1966–1975), the wing earned a total of eight Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and a Presidential Unit Citation

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were



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awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIBENEDETTO**  
**VINCENT A.**

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1958

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Vincent A. DiBenedetto honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Vincent Di Benedetto was a member of the Tonawanda Sportsmen's Club / Vincent A. DiBenedetto passed away on 29 May 2023 at the age of 82 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DIDIO

CHARLES G.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

SILVER STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Charles G. Didio honorably served in the United States Army / Charles Didio was deployed to Vietnam where he was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry on the battlefield

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles G. Didio passed away on 14 November 2023 at the age of 76 years old

The Silver Star Medal (SSM) is the United States Armed Forces' third-highest military decoration for valor in combat / The Silver Star Medal is awarded primarily to members of the United States Armed Forces for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States / The gallantry displayed must have taken place while in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government



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awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DIFILIPPO

SALVATORE A.

**Hometown:** EAST AURORA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

763RD RADAR SQUADRON (ADC)

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Salvatore Anthony DiFilippo honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Salvatore DiFilippo was deployed to Vietnam as a Communications Center Specialist

**Base Assignments:**

Lockport Air Force Station (AFS), Lockport, New York - Since its activation in 1951, Lockport AFS has remained a vital link in the radar defense chain that guards the North American continent against air attacks / The first unit to occupy the installation was the 763rd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, forerunner to the 763rd Radar Squadron (SAGE) / Aircraft Control and Warning remained the primary mission of the 763rd until early 1959 when it was modernized for SAGE operations and a new and improved concept of air defense was witnessed

**Miscellaneous:**

Salvatore A. DiFilippo was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

Communications Center Specialist supervises teletypewriter, crypto material, and message handling activities; assigns personnel to duties; observes and corrects faulty work procedures; assures observance of proper security measures; checks controls to assure proper recording of information; takes action on service messages; performs administrative functions such as establishment of records, supply requisitions, changes in procedures, and rotation of personnel to assure adequate coverage message handling and related activities; prepares routine and special reports on communications center and crypto material section operations; evaluates proficiency of subordinate personnel; assists in disposition of classified material; insures that all changes to crypto documents are properly inserted and that subordinates personnel have properly interpreted such changes



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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Air Force's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DIGIULIO, JR.  
ALBERT

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1959

**Year Discharged:** 1965

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Albert DiGiulio, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force Reserve

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Albert DiGiulio worked at his family's restaurant, Club 31, before entering the Air Force Reserve / Albert DiGiulio graduated from the University of Buffalo in 1962 with a degree in Business Administration and became a Financial Planner / DiGiulio retired to belleview, Florida / Albert DiGiulio, Jr. passed away on 21 March 2025 at the age of 88 Years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The U.S. Air Force Reserve (AFRC) is a federal reserve component of the United States Air Force / It has approximately 450 aircraft assigned for which it has sole control, as well as access to several hundred additional active-duty USAF aircraft via AFRC "Associate" wings that are collocated with active-duty Air Force wings / The AFRC is actively involved in operations around the world and contributes to the Air Force mission



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DILIMONE**

**JOSEPH**

**C.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Joseph C. Dilimone honorably served in the United States Military / Joseph C. Dilimone was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DINUNZIO, JR.**

**CARL**

**L.**

**Hometown:** DERBY

**Address:** 6616 SCHUYLER ROAD

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

B BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 82D ARTILLERY, AMERICAL DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Carl Lawrence Dinunzio, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Carl Dinunzio was deployed to Vietnam in October 1968 as an Automatic Weapons Crewman / Corporal Carl Dinunzio, Jr. was Killed In Action on 22 March 1969 from mortar fire during combat operations in Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam

On 22 March 1969, the Fire Support Base on Nui Vong (Hill 105) approximately 8 miles southeast of Quang Ngai City, in the Mo Duc District of Quang Ngai Province came under an enemy mortar attack / CPL Dinunzio was killed by the fragmentation wounds he sustained from the hostile mortar fire

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Ft. Sill - Oklahoma - Fort Sill is a United States Army post north of Lawton, Oklahoma, about 85 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. It covers almost 94,000 acres / The fort was first built in 1869 during the Indian Wars and was



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home to the 7th Cavalry, the 19th Kansas Volunteers and the 10th Cavalry, a distinguished group of black "buffalo soldiers" / It was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and serves as home of the United States Army Field Artillery School, as well as the Marine Corps' site for Field Artillery MOS school, United States Army Air Defense Artillery School, the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, and the 75th Field Artillery Brigade / Fort Sill is also one of the four locations for Army Basic Combat Training / Ft. Sill has played a significant role in every major American conflict since 1869

## *Miscellaneous:*

Carl Dinunzio was a graduate of St. Francis High School in Athol Springs and worked for the highway maintenance section of the State Transportation Department before being drafted in May 1968 / Carl Lawrence Dinunzio, Jr. was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at St Vincent's Cemetery, North Evans, New York

Carl Lawrence Dinunzio, Jr. is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 28w, Line 10

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze



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for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIPALMA**

**MICHEL**

**C.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **ARMY**

**Rank:** **SP4**

**Year Entered:** **1972**

**Year Discharged:** **1974**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**C5ISR CENTER'S NIGHT VISION AND ELECTRONIC SENSORS DIRECTORATE (INFRARED RADAR REPAIR)**

**Medals / Citations:**

**NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL**

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

**Service Notes:**

Army Specialist 4 Michel C. DiPalma honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 DiPalma attended the United States Army Survival Infrared Repairman School and tested Night Vision Goggles while stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Huachuca, Arizona - Located in Cochise County, in southeast Arizona, Fort Huachuca was established on 3 March 1877 by Brigadier General Samuel Whitside, a United States Cavalry officer who served from 1858 to 1902 / From 1913 to 1933, the fort was the base for the "Buffalo Soldiers" of the 10th Cavalry Regiment / During the build-up of World War II, the fort had quarters for more than 25,000 male soldiers and hundreds of WACs / Fort Huachuca emerged as a leader in the development of Electronic warfare with the Army's Electronic Proving Ground opened in 1954, followed by the Army Security Agency Test and Evaluation Center in 1960, the Combat Surveillance and Target Acquisition Training Command in 1964, and the Electronic Warfare School in 1966 / In 1967, Fort Huachuca became the headquarters of the U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command (USSTRATCOM), which became the U.S. Army Communications Command (USACC) in 1973; and U.S. Army Information Systems Command (USAISC) in 1984 / Electronic Proving Ground (USAEPG), a forerunner in the research and development of defense technology, was conducted from and located at Ft. Huachuca for several decades

Fort Belvoir, Virginia - The post was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for Union Civil War general Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed as Fort Belvoir in the 1930s in recognition of the Belvoir plantation that once occupied the site / Fort Belvoir was initially the



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home of the Army Engineer School / Fort Belvoir serves as the headquarters for the Defense Logistics Agency, the Defense Acquisition University, the Defense Contract Audit Agency, the Defense Technical Information Center, the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, the United States Army Military Intelligence Readiness Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

## *Miscellaneous:*

Michel C. DiPalma graduated from Seneca Vocational High School and attended Erie Community College prior to enlisting in the United States Army / After his Honorable Discharge, DiPalma went to work for Chenango Foundry and attended Bryant & Stratton College for electronics / DiPalma later entered the construction field as a member of Laborers Local 210 / Now retired, Michel C. DiPalma is a member of the American Legion, South Buffalo Post 721 and a member of Amvets Hank Nowak Post 45

C5ISR Center's Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate researches and develops sensor and sensor suite technologies for air and ground intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and target acquisition under adverse battlefield conditions in day and night-time environments

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIPASQUA, JR.**

**LOUIS**

**A.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1973

**Year Discharged:** 1975

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Louis A. DiPasqua, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Louis DiPasqua was assigned as a Tactical Vehicle Mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Louis DiPasqua was a member of the Masons for 35 years, with Lodge #1111 / DiPasqua was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and American Legion Post #735 / Louis A. DiPasqua, Jr. passed away on 20 April 2024 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DIRINGER

WALTER

C.

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Walter C. Diringer honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Walter Diringer was a retiree of the United States Postal Service / Walter C. Diringer passed away on 14 September 2019 at the age of 86 years old

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DISANTE**

**NORBERTO F.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Norberto F. DiSante honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Norberto DiSante retired from the General Motors Corporation / Norberto F. DiSante passed away on 4 December 2024 at the age of 86 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DISANTO**  
**RICHARD**

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1962

**Year Discharged:** 1964

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Richard DiSanto honorably served in the United States Navy

The brother-in-law of Richard DiSanto, Paul J. Cramer, honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam / Another brother-in-law, Clayton A. Cramer, honorably served in the United States Marine Corps from 1965 - 1968

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard DiSanto was the Treasurer of the CSEA Retiree Local 903 / Richard "Dick" "Rich" DiSanto passed away on 17 January 2020 at the age of 77 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DIXON SR**

**RICHARD L.**

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Richard L. Dixon, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Dixon was born in Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania and moved to Tonawanda, New York where he graduated from Tonawanda Senior High School / Richard L. Dixon, Sr. passed away in Waterport, New York on 7 September 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DLUGOSZ**

**PAUL R.**

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMMENDATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM COMBAT CERTIFICATE

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class Paul R. Dlugosz honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Paul Dlugosz was deployed to Vietnam for one year and 8 months

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

**Name:** DOBSTAFF

JAMES G.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant James G. Dobstaff honorably served in the United States Air Force as a Medical Services Specialist

James Dobstaff was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 4 November 1970

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his discharge, Dobstaff was employed by the Buffalo VA Hospital where he retired after 30 years of service / James Dobstaff was a 100% Disabled Veteran / James Dobstaff was a member of the American Legion Post #567 in Orchard Park / James G. Dobstaff passed away on 5 March 2018 as a result of ALS disease

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOCKERY

ROOSEVELT G.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 616 SOUTH DIVISION STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 7TH CAVALRY, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Roosevelt George "Doc" Dockery honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Roosevelt Dockery was deployed to Vietnam on 6 October 1969 as a Medical Corpsman / CPL Roosevelt Dockery was Killed In Action on 4 February 1970 while at an artillery firing position when the area came under attack by a hostile enemy force in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roosevelt Dockery graduated from East High School in Buffalo / Dockery also attended Erie County Technical Institute prior to entering military service / Roosevelt George Dockery was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Roosevelt George Dockery is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 14w, Line 100

Army Medical Corpsman is a military enlisted person trained to give first aid and minor medical treatment / The Medical Corps consists of commissioned medical officers who are physicians / A combat medic is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at a point of wounding in a combat or training environment / U.S. Army Medics and U.S. Navy Corpsmen were the enlisted "first responders" of the Vietnam War



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action

The 7th Cavalry Regiment is a United States Army cavalry regiment formed in 1866 / Its official nickname is "Garryowen", after the Irish air "Garryowen" that was adopted as its march tune / The regiment participated in some of the largest battles of the Indian Wars, including its famous defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where its commander Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer was killed / The 7th Cavalry became part of the 1st Cavalry Division in the 1920s, it went on to fight in the Pacific Theater of World War II and took part in the Admiralty Islands, Leyte and Luzon campaigns / It later participated several key battles of the Korean War / The unit later participated in the Vietnam War / The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 7th Cavalry fought in one of the first American engagements of the Vietnam War, the Battle of Ia Drang / Over the course of the war, seven men earned the Medal of Honor while serving with the 7th Cavalry in Vietnam / It distinguished itself in the Gulf War and in the Global War on Terror where its squadrons and battalions now serve as Combined Arms Battalions or as reconnaissance squadrons for Brigade Combat Teams in Iraq and Afghanistan

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Medical Badge (CMB) is an award of the United States Army which was first created in January 1945 / Any member of the Army Medical Department, at the rank of colonel or below, who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit of brigade or smaller size which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat is eligible for the CMB / According to the award criterion, the individual



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must be performing medical duties while simultaneously being engaged by the enemy; strict adherence to this requirement and its interpretation (e.g., distant mortar rounds vs. direct small arms fire) will vary by unit

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOEL

RICHARD R

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION, 67TH ARMOR REGIMENT, 2ND ARMORED DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Specialist 5th Class Richard R. Doel honorably served in the United States Army SP5 Richard Doel was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and served as a Wheeled Vehicle Repairman

SP5 Richard Doel was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 24 January 1969

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard R. Doel passed away on 18 September 2020 at the age of 73 years old and had his body donated to the University of Buffalo

Established in 1976, the Armor Division is a combined arms organization composed of tank, cavalry, and mechanized infantry / The Armor Division is very important in helping maneuver Army units achieve their peace and orders missions

The 67th Armored Regiment is an armored regiment in the United States Army / The regiment was first formed in 1929 in the Regular Army as the 2nd Tank Regiment (Heavy) and redesignated as the 67th Infantry Regiment (Medium Tanks) in 1932 / It first became the 67th Armor in 1940 / The 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment was originally constituted on 24 March 1923 in the Regular Army as Company A, 19th Tank Battalion / It was redesignated on 1 September 1929 as Company A, 2d Tank Regiment / It converted and was redesignated 25 October 1932 as Company A, 67th Infantry (Medium Tanks) / The unit activated on 5 June 1940 at Fort Benning,



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Georgia / The 67th Armor Regiment participated in World War I, World War II, Desert Storm/Desert Shield, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Spartan Shield, Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Resolute Support, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMIN**

**JACK**

**D.**

**Hometown:** SLOAN

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Jack D. Domin honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Jack Domin graduated from McKinley High School and Farmington College / in 1955, Domin founded the Alden Evergreen Nursery in Alden, new York / In 1986, jack Domin purchased the Adams Nurseries in Lancaster, New York / After selling Adam Nurseries in 2014, Domin purchased the Northtown Garden Center in Tonawanda, New York / Domin retired from the nursery business in 2024 at the age of 86 years old / For his lifelong dedication to the field, Jack Domin received the Lifetime Certified Nurseryman Award / Jack D. Domin passed away on 18 March 2026 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMINO**  
**JEROME P.**

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Jerome P. Domino honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Jerome P. Domino passed away on 5 April 2026 at the age of 79 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOMKOWSKI

KENNETH L.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Kenneth L. Domkowski honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Kenneth Domkowski worked for Dunlop Tire, retiring after 30 years / Kenneth L. Domkowski passed away on 8 March 2024 at the age of 83 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOMON**

**RONALD P.**

**Hometown:** HOLLAND

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST BATTALION, 69TH ARMOR REGIMENT (1/69), 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

1 OVERSEAS BAR

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT ( M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class Ronald P. Domon honorably served in the United States Army / SP Ronald Domon was deployed for 9 months of duty in South Vietnam, assigned to 1st Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment (1/69), 4th Infantry Division as an Armor Crewman

SP5 Ronald Domon was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on 12 October 1968

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Ronald Domon was employed by Fisher Price Toys in East Aurora, New York / Ronald P. Domon passed away on 15 July 2023 and is interred at Holland Cemetery, Holland, New York

An Armor Crewman is a highly trained soldier who operates and maintains the M1 Abrams tank, which is the backbone of the U.S. Army's armored forces / They work as part of a team to operate armored equipment and fire weapons to destroy enemy positions / During combat, their role is to operate tanks and amphibious assault vehicles to engage and destroy the enemy

The 69th Armor is an armored (tank) regiment of the United States Army / The 69th Armor Regiment is part of the U.S. Army Regimental System / The 1st Battalion was deployed to South Vietnam on 25 January 1966 with



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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the Battalion laying over in Okinawa to take over 52 new M48A3 tanks and familiarize crews with the new series, AN-GRC 12 radios / "A" Company was committed within two hours of its disembarking from LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank) in Saigon as a reaction force to combat in the Filhol Rubber Plantation west of Saigon / The battalion's first major combat operation took place in April 1966 in the tangled jungle growth of the Ho Bo Woods and along the trails of the Filhol Rubber plantation northwest of Saigon / This operation proved the value of armor in reducing friendly casualties while significantly increasing losses to the enemy / 69th Armor tankers learned on-the-job the importance of rear and flank security, the effect of canister in dense jungle, the exaggerated needs for constant maintenance halts / "A" Company completed its mission with the 1st Cavalry in October 1967 and returned to Camp Enari with Battalion HQ / "A" Company was charged with the security of Highway 19 between An Khe and Mang Yang Pass, and on 10 April 1968, routed a regimental size ambush attempt on a convoy by the 95B Regiment killing 45 Viet Cong and capturing seven crew-served weapons; U.S. losses were one killed / The battalion continued operations west of Pleiku and along the coastal plain during 1969 with both the 4th Division and the 173rd Airborne Brigade / The 1st Battalion stood down with the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division and returned to the U.S. in mid-1970 / The unit and its component line companies were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Valorous Unit Award, the Meritorious Award, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm and the Vietnam Civic Action Award First Class

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado / The division was first activated in 1917 and has served in World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom / The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a battalion of the United States Army and assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

An Overseas Service Bar indicates a soldier has served six months of service in a combat zone / Service Bars are cumulative, in that each bar worn indicates another six-month period / Time spent overseas is also cumulative, meaning one bar could be earned for two separate deployments totaling six months

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DONAHUE

JAMES W.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** ROSEWOOD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant James W. Donahue honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Donahue was deployed to Vietnam with the 1st Air Cavalry Division

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

**Miscellaneous:**

James Donahue graduated from West Seneca High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Donahue spent 37 years working for the Railroad

The 1st Air Cavalry refers to the 1st Cavalry Division of the U.S. Army, which was the first Airmobile Division / This division is known for its air assault infantry capabilities and has a rich history, including significant



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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operations during the Iraq War, where Apache Longbows from the division engaged in battles against Iraq's Republican Guard / The division continues to provide scalable combat-ready forces and is capable of conducting operations globally / Recently, the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade conducted a change of command ceremony, highlighting its ongoing operational relevance

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is a mid-level award given to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves by acts of heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service / It was established in 1945 and is awarded retroactively to those who served after December 6, 1941



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DONLEY**

**WILLIAM H.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

William H. Donley honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Donley was the retired President of O-Cel-O Company in Tonawanda, New York / William H. Donley passed away on 1 February 2025 at the age of 80 years old

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DONOHUE**

**WILLIAM E.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **MARINE CORPS**

**Rank:** **PFC**

**Year Entered:** **1967**

**Year Discharged:** **KIA**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**3RD MARINE DIVISION, 3RD BATTALION, 4TH MARINES, M COMPANY**

**Medals / Citations:**

**PURPLE HEART**

**VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL**

**MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION**

**MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL**

**GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL**

**VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL**

**COMBAT ACTION RIBBON**

**VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS**

**NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL**

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class William Edmond Donohue honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC William Donohue was deployed to Vietnam on 2 January 1968 as a Mortarman / PFC William Donohue was Killed In Action on 27 January 1968 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire at Mike's Hill, Route 9 at Cam Lo River, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

In the early morning hours of 27 January 1968, elements of the 320 NVA launched an attack on positions of the 4th Marines along Route 9, Mikes Hill, and including the Battalion CP (Command Post) in the Cam Lo District of Quang Tri Province / Heavy fighting went on for several days with numerous losses both to the Marines and their aggressors, the NVA / One of the casualties during the battles was Private First-Class William Edmond Donohue who was killed in action as a result of a gunshot wound from hostile rifle fire / Private First-Class William Donohue was in Vietnam for 25 before he died

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Donohue attended South Park High School / William Donohue enlisted in the US Marine Corps on 27 July 1967 in Buffalo / William Edmond Donohue was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Lackawanna, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

William Edmond Donohue is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 35e, Line 45

A Mortarman is a soldier who operates a firing device called a mortar / Mortarmen in the U.S. Marines are the unit that is mainly responsible for the tactical employment of the 60 mm light mortar and the 81 mm medium mortar

The 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines (3/4) or (V34) is an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Nicknamed "Thundering Third" or Nicknamed "Darkside," it is based at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California, and consist of approximately 1,000 Marines / The battalion was first activated in 1925 at Naval Base San Diego, California / The 3/4 fought in World War II in the Battle of Corregidor, Guam and Okinawa / On 14 April 1965, the 3rd battalion, 4th Marines was deployed to an area near Chu Lai, South Vietnam / Two companies were sent north to Phu Bai to secure a small airfield just 8 miles south of Hue City / First contact was made on 22 April 1965 southwest of Da Nang with a Vietcong (VC) unit / The Marines at Phu Bai made their first contact on April 24 / They participated in company and platoon size patrols and ambushes against the VC in the Thua Thien–Hue Province till the end of June 1966 / On 31 January 1967, Operation Prairie II started / On 27 February 1967, L/3/4 and a tank platoon was involved in a battle near Hill 48 to save a recon team that ran into a PAVN Regiment / On the 28th other Marine companies including M/3/4 were brought in for ground operation / When the operation ended total casualties for both sides were put at 93 Marines killed, 483 wounded and the PAVN losses were put at 694 killed / Some of the other major Operations in 1967 were Operation Hickory (18 May to 28 May), Operation Kingfisher (16 July to 31 Oct) and Operation Kentucky near Con Thien in the western area of Leatherneck Square in the latter part of 1967 and in January 1968 / After 6 November 1968, the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines were the last infantry battalion of the 3rd Marine Division left in South Vietnam / On 24 November 1969, the battalion sailed from Vietnam to Okinawa

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Action Ribbon is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively



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participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded when there is evidence that the Sailor/Marine engaged the enemy, was under hostile fire, or was physically attacked by the enemy / The service member must have demonstrated satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DONOVAN**

**JEREMIAH J.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** UT2

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, DANANG, VIETNAM

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Utilitiesman Petty Officer Second-Class Jeremiah James Donovan honorably served in the United States Navy / UT2 Jeremiah Donovan was deployed to Vietnam as a Utilities Service Mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

U.S. Naval Support Activity Da Nang, South Vietnam (1964-1973) - At the height of the American involvement in Vietnam, the port of Da Nang, South Vietnam, was the Navy's largest overseas shore command / From this port city, over 200,000 U.S., Vietnamese, and allied forces fighting in the I Corps Tactical Zone were supplied with everything that they needed to combat the VC and NVA aggressors / On 30 June 1970, NSA Danang was deactivated and on 1 July new Army-Marine service support agreements went into effect / In April 1972 all US Navy facilities in Danang were transferred to the Republic of Vietnam Navy

**Miscellaneous:**

Jeremiah J. Donovan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government



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awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DONOWICK**  
**DENNIS**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:** LTC

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Dennis Donowick honorably served in the United States Military / Dennis Donowick was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DORN**

**JEFFREY T.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

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

**Service Notes:**

Jeffrey T. Dorn honorably served in the United States Marine Corps JeffreyDorn was deployed to Vietnam as an Interpreter in 1967 after completing a Vietnamese Language School / Dorn suffered leg wounds during an enemy firefight on 12 March 1968 that took the lives of 17 men in his company / Jeffrey Dorn received the Purple Heart for his wounds and the Bronze Star for meritorious service

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Jeffrey Dorn attended Buffalo School 61 and was a 1965 graduate of St. Joseph's Institute, where he played football / Dorn enrolled at the University of Buffalo for one year before he left to enlist in the United States Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Jeffrey Dorn enrolled at Canisius College and the University of Buffalo, earning his Masters Degree in Business Administration / Dorn became Controller at Truly Magic Products, which made foam rubber and Mylar-based items for health care and beauty products and foam parts for copy machines / Jaffrey Dorn later went to work for a custom fabric die business in Albemarle, North Carolina / Returning to Buffalo in 1987, Dorn became controller at Irr Supply Centers, a plumbing supply distributor before returning to Truly Magic as its Chief Financial Officer and General Manager / In 1992, Jeffrey Dorn purchased the Truly Magic Company and renamed it TMP Technologies / TMP Technologies produced the Mr. Clean Magic Eraser, a cleaning pad, for Proctor & Gamble Company / In 2015, Dorn sold the company to his nephew, Kirk Dorn / Jeffrey Dorn was a longtime Board Member of Goodwill Industries of Western New York, a trustee and Chairman of the United Auto Workers Local 55 Pension and Welfare Funds and a member of the St; Joseph's Collegiate Institute Alumni Association / In 2010, Dorn was diagnosed with multiple myeloma from exposure to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam / After a long illness, Jeffrey T. Dorn passed away at the age of 75 years old on 16 February 2023



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Interpreter/Translator is a military occupational specialty that tells soldiers how to translate language, interpret verbal statements, and give the whole meaning of passages

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOSTER**

**HENRY J.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 835 WOODLAWN AVENUE

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 3RD BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, M COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Henry James Doster honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Henry Doster was deployed to Vietnam in September 1965 and served as a Rifleman / CPL Henry Doster was Killed In Action on 5 March 1966 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire at Chau Ngai east of Hill 50, Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam

On 4 March 1966, Operation UTAH was launched under the command of Task Force Delta in the Son Think District of Quang Ngai Province where the Marines would encounter elements of the 21st NVA Regiment / Mike Company was helicoptered into the operations area on the evening of 4 March and the Marines moved forward on their search and destroy mission at first light on 5 March / With little contact in the morning hours, Company M got heavily engaged with the enemy in the vicinity of Chau Nhay by 1100 hours with the battle continuing into the afternoon / The NVA troops "occupied classic defensive positions, were well-armed and equipped, and defended occupied positions in strength" / The Marines engaged and aggressively assaulted the enemy fortified positions and by approximately 1330 hours were able to penetrate the enemy positions which came at a cost of fifteen Marines killed and forty-six wounded in the action / Enemy resistance slackened with nightfall and when the Marines began again after daybreak on 06 March they found the NVA had withdrawn / The position turned out to be an extensive tunnel and underground bunker complex for the NVA 21st Regiment / The action on 05 March cost the Marines 43 dead / Mike 3/1 had fifteen of the Americans killed in action and forty-six wounded on 05 March / Corporal Henry James Doster was one of the casualties, he was killed in action from a hostile



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gunshot wound in his chest

Corporal Henry Doster was stationed at various bases in Europe before deploying to Vietnam

### *Base Assignments:*

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, South Carolina - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

### *Miscellaneous:*

Henry Doster attended Public School 59 and 26 / Doster graduated from Genesee-Humboldt Junior High School and attended Seneca Vocational High School, leaving school in his Junior year to enlist in the US Marine Corps on 11 April 1963 in Buffalo / Henry James Doster was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Henry James Doster is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 05e, Line 115

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of 22,000 personnel / It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent



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land operations in any operational environment / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

3rd Battalion, 1st Marines (3/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Horno on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / Nicknamed the "Thundering Third", the battalion consists of approximately 1,220 Marines and Sailors and falls under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines was activated on 1 March 1941 at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and assigned to the 1st Marine Division / From January 1966 to May 1971, the battalion fought in the Vietnam War, operating from Chu Lai, Da Nang, Thang Binh, Thanh Thuy, Cua Viet, Ca Lu, Vandegrift Combat Base, Route 9, An Hoa, and Hoa Vang / In May 1971, they re-located to MCB Camp Pendleton, California

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A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high



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achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOUGHER**

**THOMAS E.**

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:** 1095 PARKHURST BOULEVARD

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY, C COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Thomas Edward Dougher honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Thomas Dougher was deployed to Vietnam on 11 December 1965 as a Light Weapons Infantry / SP4 Dougher successfully completed his 1-year tour and signed up for an additional 6 month extension / Specialist Fourth-Class Thomas Dougher was Killed In Action on 30 April 1967 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

There was an incident when SP4 Thomas E. "Dog" Dougher volunteered to be lowered head first into an enemy bunker armed only with a flashlight and .45 caliber pistol / There was an exchange of gunfire in the hole and Dougher was pulled out by his ankles / Dougher had wounded one of the NVA combatants / As his platoon prepared to grenade the bunker, Dougher convinced his mates to let him try and bring out the NVA alive and he did / Dougher risked his own life to save the lives of two strangers, two enemy combatants, two people who had just shot at him / In a time of war, Dougher chose to save lives rather than take them

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thomas Dougher attended Kenmore East Senior High School / Thomas Edward Dougher was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Thomas Edward Dougher is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 18e, Line 120

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action

The 8th Cavalry Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army formed in 1866 during the American Indian Wars / The 8th Cavalry continued to serve under a number of designations, fighting in every other major U.S. conflict since, except World War I, when it was not deployed to Europe because it was already engaged in the Punitive Expedition in Mexico from 1916 to 1920 / It is currently a component of the 1st Cavalry Division / The regiment originally was organized as horse cavalry in 1866, a designation under U.S. military doctrine that emphasized both light cavalry and dragoon-type mounted and dismounted fighting roles, until 1942 / It served on foot during World War II and Korea, with some elements converting to airmobile infantry for Vietnam, while others were detached and assigned to West Germany as part of an armored task force to resist any potential Soviet incursion / In 1965, 1st Battalion (ABN), 8th Cavalry Regiment arrived in Vietnam, and participated in numerous campaigns in South Vietnam and Cambodia / The battalion was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations, the Valorous Unit Citation, and four soldiers were awarded with the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DOWNING**

**THOMAS J.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** LTJG

**Year Entered:** 1964

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Junior Grade (j.g.) Thomas J. Downing honorably served in the United States Navy / LYJG Thomas Downing was stationed at Little Creek Amphibious Base, Virginia

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1967, Thomas Downing served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1968-1970

**Base Assignments:**

Little Creek Amphibious Base, Virginia Beach, Virginia - Joint Expeditionary Base–Little Creek, formerly known as Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, is a major operating base for the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet, providing essential support for amphibious operations / The Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek is the largest base of its kind in the world and comprises four locations in three states, including almost 12,000 acres of real estate / The mission of the Naval Amphibious Base is to provide required support services to over 15,000 personnel of the 27 homeported ships and 78 resident and/or supported activities / The base's combination of operational, support, and training facilities are geared predominantly to amphibious operations, making the base unique among bases of the United States and Allied Navies

**Miscellaneous:**

Thomas Downing graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in Buffalo, New York, and Manhattan College in New York City / Downing spent his career in the solid waste and recycling industry, beginning at family founded Downing Container Service, and later served as Division President and New York Development Manager for Waste Management of New York / Thomas J. Downing passed away on 18 February 2026 at the age of 83 years old

The Navy Reserve is a branch of the United States Navy made up of qualified sailors who serve part-time while



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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working in civilian jobs or attending school / Members of the Navy Reserve are categorized as being in either the Selected Reserve (SELRES), the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Retired Reserve / They provide invaluable expertise, experience, and leadership while delivering critical support to global operations and planning / The Navy Reserve provides strategic depth and delivers operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team in a range of military operations from peace to war

**Name:** DOYLE

JOHN

C.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1964

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

John C. Doyle honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Doyle joined the Air Force after graduating from South Park High School / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force in 1968, Doyle joined the Buffalo Police Department where he was assigned to Precinct 3, Tactical Patrol Unit and the Underwater Recovery Team / While with the Police Department, Doyle enrolled into college, earning an Associate Degree, Bachelorette of Science and Bachelorette of Art Degrees / John Doyle was a temporary Teacher for the Buffalo Public School System / Doyle left the Buffalo Police department in 1978 to join Mayor Jimmy Griffin's Administration as the Director for the Buffalo Division for Youth / During his tenure, Doyle began the Lighted School House Program for underserved youth / In 1989, Doyle won the At Large Seat on the Buffalo School Board and reelected in 1994 / In 1999, Doyle joined the Administration of Erie County Executive Dennis Gorski as the Erie County Director of Purchase until his retirement / John Doyle was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans and American Legion Troop I Post / Doyle retired to Largo, Florida / John C. Doyle passed away on 25 May 2023 at the age of 78 years old due to health complications from Agent Orange



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DOYLE

ROBERT P.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Robert P. Doyle honorably served in the United States Army for three years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Doyle was born in Belfast, Ireland and immigrated to the United States in 1957, joining the U.S. Army / Robert Doyle worked with disabled and blind children at the West Seneca Developmental Center for 25 years / Robert P. Doyle passed away on 29 January 2025 at the age of 88 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRAGOVIC  
JOSEPH

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Joseph Dragovic honorably served in the United States Military / Joseph Dragovic was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DRAY

DONALD B.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 375 CRESCENT AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

3RD PLATOON, COMPANY A, 3RD RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION, 3RD MARINE DIVISION,  
THIRD MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADG

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Donald Barry Dray honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Donald Dray was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman / PFC Donald Dray was Killed In Action on 14 September 1967 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam

This was the second deployment to Vietnam for PFC Donald Barry / Barry had previously served an 18 month deployment in Vietnam, receiving a Purple Heart for injuries suffered in combat action

The Brother-In-Law of PFC Donald Dray, PFC Carmen Cartonia, was Killed In Action on 4 November 1966 as a result of small arms fire during hostile enemy action Near Dau Tieng, Tay Ninh province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald Barry Dray was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Lakeview Memorial Park, Greensboro, North Carolina

Donald Barry Dray is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Wall, Panel 26e, Line 70

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion (3rd Recon) conducts amphibious and ground reconnaissance in support of the 3rd Marine Division and Marine Forces Pacific (MarForPac), operating in the commander's areas of influence / The Battalion is based out of Camp Schwab, a satellite base of Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler / The 3rd Recon Battalion consists of approximately 450 Marines and Fleet Marine Force sailors that falls under the command of the 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force / The first U.S. combat units that landed during the Vietnam War were Marine units / On 8 March 1965 the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade landed at Red Beach, Da Nang to secure Da Nang Air Base and establish an effective beachhead / Within the original landing force, a platoon from Company A, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion attached to Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines became the first division reconnaissance element to be "resident" in South Vietnam / On 4 June 1969, the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion lost an entire 6 man recon team, call sign "Flight Time" / No other full team was lost during the remaining six years of the Vietnam War / The last elements of the battalion left South Vietnam on 20 November 1969

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

The III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF) is a formation of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force of the United States Marine Corps / It was established as I Marine Amphibious Corps on October 1, 1942, and was renamed III Amphibious Corps on April 15, 1944 / The III MAF has contributed to noteworthy military campaigns, such as the Solomon Islands campaign, the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign, and the Battle of Okinawa, during World War II / During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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The Combat Action Ribbon is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The Combat Action Ribbon is awarded when there is evidence that the Sailor/Marine engaged the enemy, was under hostile fire, or was physically attacked by the enemy / The service member must have demonstrated satisfactory performance under enemy fire while actively participating in a ground or surface engagement

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DREWS

ALLAN

F.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff-Sergeant Allan F. Drews honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DRONEY**

**DANIEL**

**P.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Daniel Patrick Droney honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Daniel Patrick Droney passed away on 6 February 2024 at the age of 72 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DROZDOWSKI**

**JAMES C.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

James C. Drozdowski honorably served in the United States Army / James Drozdowski served thirteen years in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany and later deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S Army, James C moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado where he was employed by Timkin Company, a global manufacturer of engineered bearings and industrial motion products / Drozdowski later moved to Racine, Wisconsin and worked for Young Radiator and retired from Bosch Group, a leading global supplier of technology and services / James C. Drozdowski passed away at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in Union Grove, Wisconsin on 17 October 2017 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Union Grove, Wisconsin

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

**Name:** DUBOIS

FERNALD

F.

**Hometown:** AKRON

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** RM3

**Year Entered:** 1958

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Radioman Third-Class Fernald F. "Fred" DuBois honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Fernald F. "Fred" DuBois passed away on 27 December 2023 at the age of 83 years old

Radioman (RM) was a rating for United States Navy and United States Coast Guard enlisted personnel, specializing in communications technology



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUCETTE**  
**GERALD R.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1965

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Gerald R. Ducette honorably served in the United States Army / Gerald Ducette was stationed in Frankfurt, Germany assigned to the Army Military Police

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gerald Ducette was born in Niagara Falls, New York, moving to Grand Island later in life / Ducette graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo / Gerald Ducette was the owner and operator of Duce International, managing Western New York sales and distribution of a variety of car audio systems for companies / Ducette moved to Boynton Beach, Florida after retiring / Gerald R. Ducette passed away on 11 March 2023 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at South Florida National Cemetery, Lake Worth, Florida

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUDCZAK

DANIEL J.

**Hometown:** BLASDELL

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS, COMPANY "A", 709TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Daniel John Dudczak honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Daniel Dudczak was deployed to Vietnam as a Radio Repairman

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Daniel J. Dudczak was inducted into the U.S. Army on 24 March 1966 and received his Honorable Discharge on 25 December 1967 / Daniel Dudczak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The 709th Maintenance Battalion was reactivated at Ft. Riley, Kansas in early 1966 as part of the reactivation of the 9th Infantry Division for deployment to Vietnam / The first units of the 709th deployed to Vietnam in late 1966

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUFFY

JOSEPH

P.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone    Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Joseph Patrick Duffy honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Duffy earned an Undergraduate Degree from Canisius College and spent time at the Franciscan Seminary in upstate New York / Duffy attended the University of Wisconsin, earning a Master's Degree in Communication / Duffy moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where he lived for over 50 years / Joseph Duffy taught History at Rio Salado Community College before retiring / Joseph Patrick Duffy passed away on 28 July 2024 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUGAN**

**MARTIN**

**P.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** AO3

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1964

**Unit / Squadron:**

PATROL SQUADRON 56

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Aviation Ordnanceman Petty Officer Third-Class Martin Patrick Dugan honorably served in the United States Navy and was assigned to Patrol Squadron 56

**Base Assignments:**

Norfolk, Virginia - Naval Station Norfolk, is a United States Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia. It supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces Command, those operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / The installation occupies about 4 miles of waterfront space and 11 miles of pier and wharf space of the Hampton Roads peninsula known as Sewell's Point / It is the world's largest naval station, with the largest concentration of U.S. Navy forces through 75 ships alongside 14 piers and with 134 aircraft and 11 aircraft hangars at the adjacently operated Chambers Field / In 1968, the Naval Air Station was given a major role in John F. Kennedy's vision of putting a man on the moon / The air station became Recovery Control Center Atlantic, which provided command, control, and communications for the ships and aircraft that participated in the recovery operations of Apollo 7

**Miscellaneous:**

Martin P. Dugan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

Patrol Squadron VP-56, nicknamed the Dragons, was a long-lived Patrol Squadron of the U.S. Navy / It was originally established as Patrol Squadron VP-900 on 1 July 1946, redesignated Medium Patrol Squadron (Landplane) VP-ML-71 on 15 November 1946, redesignated VP-661 in February 1950, redesignated VP-56 on 4 February 1953 and disestablished on 28 June 1991 / October–November 1962: VP-56 deployed a detachment of five aircraft to NAS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis / The squadron returned to NAS Norfolk in late November 1962, after earning a letter of commendation for their efforts / 15 May 1966: VP-56



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deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, relieving VP-23 / Detachments operated at various times from RAAF Souda Bay, Crete; Capodichine, Italy; Athens, Greece; Wheelus Air Base, Libya; and Izmir Air Station, Turkey. While at Crete, the squadron was supported by USS Tallahatchie County / 27 May–5 June 1968: VP-56 were among the patrol squadrons and other naval units called upon to assist in the search for the ill-fated USS Scorpion which disappeared on 21 May 1968 50 miles south of the Azores / The search proved futile, and the four VP-56 patrol aircraft were released for return to NAS Norfolk on 5 June 1968



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUKARM**

**PAUL T.**

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS ALBEMARIE (AV-5)

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Paul T. Dukarm honorably served in the United States Navy / Paul Dukarm served on the seaplane tender, USS Albemarie

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Paul Dukarm worked for Hewitt Rubber / Dukarm became a cook at Troidl's Restaurant in Buffalo / Paul Dukarm owned his own restaurant, Buffalo's Best Café, on Delaware Avenue in Buffalo / Paul T. Dukarm passed away on 15 June 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

USS Albemarle (AV-5) was one of only two Curtiss-class seaplane tenders built for the United States Navy just prior to the United States' entry into World War II / Named for Albemarle Sound on the North Carolina coast, she was the third U.S. Naval vessel to bear the name / The Albemarle was commissioned on 20 December 1940 / She was transferred to the Maritime Administration (MARAD) James River Fleet at Fort Eustis, Virginia / Placed in the custodial care of MARAD, Albemarle was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 September 1962 / On 27 March 1965, the ship was reinstated on the Navy Vessel Register and received a new name and classification as USNS Corpus Christi Bay (T-ARVH-1), named for Corpus Christi Bay in the southern Texas Coastal Bend; the ship was transferred to the Military Sealift Command (MSC) on 11 January 1966 / Converted at the Charleston Naval Shipyard to an Aircraft Repair Ship, Helicopter, the conversion project was nicknamed Project Flat Top / The seaplane ramp was replaced by a superstructure topped with a helicopter landing pad / The ship was fitted out with dozens of shops and equipment necessary to repair and maintain helicopters / During the Vietnam War Corpus Christi Bay participated in several campaigns from 1966 to 1969 / Last anchored off Vung Tau, the ship left for the US in late 1972, stopping at Guam and Hawaii before transiting the Panama Canal and returning to its



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home base at Corpus Christi, Texas, arriving in December 1972 / The ship was once again struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 31 December 1974 / On 17 July 1975, the ship was sold to Brownsville (Texas) Steel and Salvage, Inc. for scrapping

**Name:** DULAK

FRANK

E.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Frank E. Dulak honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his retirement, Frank Dulak earned his Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree / Frank E. Dulak passed away on 22 April 2026 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUNCAN**  
**LEON T.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 109 SYCAMORE STREET

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

124TH TRANSPORT BATTALION, 8TH TRANSPORTATION GROUP, 64TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private Leon Timothy Duncan honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Leon Duncan was deployed to Vietnam on 13 May 1968 as a Heavy Vehicle Driver / Private Leon Duncan died on 17 June 1969 from illness, pulmonary congestion (non-hostile action) in Pleiku Province, South Vietnam

PVT Leon Duncan was stationed in Germany prior to his deployment to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Leon Duncan graduated from St. Mary's School and attended Boy's Vocational High School / Leon Timothy Duncan was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Leon Timothy Duncan is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 22w, Line 64

The Transportation Corps is a combat service support branch of the U.S. Army / It is responsible for the movement of personnel and material by truck, rail, air, and sea / It is one of three U.S. Army logistics branches, the others being the Quartermaster Corps and the Ordnance Corps



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The 8th Transportation Group was formed on 9 December 1943, at Fort Lawton, Washington / It was originally called the 8th Traffic Regulation Group / After training in Washington, the group was transferred to the European Theater of Operations, where it served in northern France and the Rhineland campaigns / In June 1946 it was deactivated at Reims, France / The unit was reactivated on 15 October 1949, and served with Army units in Germany throughout the 1950s / In June 1966, the 8th Transportation Group was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, when it was notified of its impending movement to Vietnam / The 8th Transportation Group's involvement in the war began in October 1966, as America's activity in Vietnam increased and intensified / The 8th Transportation Group, which had the 27th, 54th and 124th Transportation battalions under its command, was in Qui Nhon / In the fall of 1967, the 57th and 159th Transportation battalions were also assigned to Qui Nhon as part of the 4th Transportation Command / The 8th Transportation Group and its three battalions would bear the brunt of the ambushes around An Khe / Their mission was to provide logistical support from the port at Qui Nhon to the various American and allied units in the II Corps area / Their main customers were the 1st Air Cav at An Khe, the provincial capital of Pleiku in the Central Highlands, and a Republic of Korea army base located at Song Cau

The 64th Transportation Company was constituted 1 May 1936 in the Regular Army as Company A, 1st Battalion, 29th Quartermaster Regiment / It was activated 1 June 1941 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and reorganized and redesignated 20 August 1943 as Company A, 1st Battalion, 29th Quartermaster Truck Regiment / It reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1954 as the 64th Transportation Company and was inactive 1 June 1955 on Okinawa, after the Korean war / It was reactivated 27 August 1955 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and inactivated 19 February 1962 at Fort Knox, Kentucky, this was the only time that the unit would support a peace time mission / The 64th activated once again on 26 March 1963 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to serve during the Vietnam War until it was inactivated 16 June 1971 in Vietnam

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps,



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Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUNKEL**

**RAYMOND H.**

**Hometown:** FARNUM

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGM

**Year Entered:** 1947

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

4TH INFANTRY, PANEL BRIDGE COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Command Sergeant Major Raymond H. Dunkel honorably served in the United States Army / SGM Raymond Dunkel was deployed to Vietnam for two tours and also was deployed to Korea during the Korean War / Dunkel was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for acts of valor in a combat zone / Sergeant Major Dunkel served on various bases in the United States and Germany serving with various Combat and Armored Engineer Battalions

Command Sergeant Major Raymond Dunkel was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army in 1970

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond Dunkel retired from M&T Bank in 1988 as an Assistant Physical Security Manager / Raymond Dunkel was a member of the American Legion Lackawanna Post #63, Harvey D. Morin VFW Post #2940, Silver Creek VFW, Past President of the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association, Past President of the 4th Infantry Ohio Chapter, Society of the First Infantry Division, the 547 Engineer Battalion (Combat) Association, Association of the US Army, the Army Engineer Society, Disabled American Veterans Association, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 459, Army Historical Society, Loyal Order of Moose, Gowanda NY Lodge 1382, Past Master of Tyrian Lodge No 925 F&AM, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Buffalo USA, International Ismailia Shriners, Village of Farnham Veteran's Committee and the Brant Historical Society / Raymond H. Dunkel passed away on 17 December 2022 at the age of 92 years old and is interred in the National Veterans Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado. It is composed of a division headquarters battalion, three brigade combat teams (two Stryker and one armor), a combat aviation



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brigade, a division sustainment brigade, and a division artillery.

The 4th Infantry Division's official nickname, "Ivy", is a play on words of the Roman numeral IV or 4 / Ivy leaves symbolize tenacity and fidelity which is the basis of the division's motto: "Steadfast and Loyal" / The second nickname, "Iron Horse", has been adopted to underscore the speed and power of the division and its soldiers / The 4th Division was organized at Camp Greene, North Carolina on 10 December 1917 / The 4th participated in France during World War I and World War II / The 4th Infantry Division deployed from Fort Lewis to Camp Enari, Pleiku, Vietnam on 25 September 1966 and served more than four years, returning to Fort Carson, Colorado on 8 December 1970 / In May 2009 the 4th Brigade Combat Team deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom X for a 12-month combat rotation

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUPREE**

**ROBERT J.**

**Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert J. Dupree honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Dupree owned the World Auto Paint store for over 60 years / Robert J. Dupree passed away on 21 September 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DURAND**

**EDWARD J.**

*Hometown:*

*Address:*

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

*Service Branch:* MARINE CORPS

*Rank:*

*Year Entered:*

*Year Discharged:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

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

*Service Notes:*

Edward J. Durand honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Edward Durand was a Supervising Bank Examiner for the State of New York / Edward J. Durand passed away on 11 February 2024 at the age of 77 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DURES

FRANCIS

W.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Francis William "Frank" Dures honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Francis Dures was a union printer by trade / Dures was a lifelong member of the National Rifle Association / Francis William "Frank" Dures passed away on 15 January 2026 at the age of 82 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** DUSCH

MICHAEL F.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Michael F. Dusch honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Michael Dusch was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael Dusch graduated from West Seneca West Senior High School / Michael Dusch was a salesman for Auto-trol Technology



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DUSENBURY  
THOMAS**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Thomas Dusenbury honorably served in the United States Military / Thomas Dusenbury was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **DYCKOWSKI**

**ROBERT R.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 32 KERMIT AVENUE

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** LT COL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

7TH AIR FORCE, 366TH TACTICAL FIGHTER WING, 421ST TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

UNITED STATES AVIATOR BADGE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Raymond Dyczkowski honorably served in the United States Air Force / While a member of the Air Force Reserves, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Raymond Dyczkowski was accepted for pilot training and subsequently deployed to Vietnam for two tours as a Tactical Fighter Pilot / LT COL Robert Dyczkowski was Killed In Action on 23 April 1966 when his fighter plane was shot down over Quang Nam Province, North Vietnam / Lt Col Robert Dyczkowski was on this 99th mission when he disappeared

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Dyczkowski was a member of the 421st Tactical Fighter Squadron, Korat Air Base, Thailand / On 23 April 1966, he was the pilot of a Thunderchief Fighter (F-105D) on a mission 75 miles north of Hanoi, North Vietnam, when his aircraft was shot down by hostile fire / LT COL Dyczkowski was listed as missing in action for 12 years / In 1978, the military changed his designation to "presumed killed in action, body not recovered"

Between 1988 and 1999, joint investigative teams gained access to the Viet Bac Museum, where they reviewed records and artifacts correlating to this aircraft's loss; investigators also surveyed alleged burial and crash site locations / Their findings later led investigators to reexamine human remains that the Vietnamese government had repatriated in 1977 / On 20 September 2000, modern forensic techniques were able to identify Lieutenant Colonel Dyczkowski from these remains



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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For nearly 35 years, Colonel Dyczkowski remained Missing in Action / In a poignant ceremony held on 6 April 2001, at Arlington Cemetery, his remains were finally repatriated / The 421st Fighter Squadron, also known as the Black Widows, paid their last respects / As a formation of F-16 Fighting Falcons soared above Arlington, one of the Falcons pulled away from the others, a symbolic tribute to those left behind and to Colonel Dyczkowski himself / The missing man formation, specifically designed to honor military members who sacrificed their lives for their country, was a fitting farewell to this brave aviator

## *Base Assignments:*

Korat AFB, Thailand - Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base is a base of the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) in northeast Thailand, approximately 125 miles northeast of Bangkok / During the Vietnam War, from 1962 to 1975, Korat RTAFB was a front-line facility of the United States Air Force (USAF) in Thailand / By 1967, Korat RTAFB was home to as many as 34 American operating units and about 6,500 USAF airmen

## *Miscellaneous:*

Robert Dyczkowski attended St. Mary's Parochial School and Burgard Vocational High School, where he became a member of the Civil Air Patrol, receiving his commission and pilot wings / Robert Dyczkowski was 33 years old at the time of his passing / The remains of Robert Raymond Dyczkowski were interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia on 6 April 2001, 35 years after his death during a bombing mission over North Vietnam

Robert Raymond Dyczkowski is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 06e, Line 129

The 366th Fighter Wing (366 FW) is a fighter wing of the United States Air Force Air Combat Command stationed at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho / The wing comprises four groups: the 366th Operations Group, 366th Maintenance Group, 366th Mission Support Group and 366th Medical Group / In March 1966, HQ 366th Tactical Fighter Wing, the 389th TFS and various support units of the wing entered the Vietnam War and were reassigned to Phan Rang Air Base, Republic of Vietnam as the base host organization / Missions then flown by the 366th TFW consisted generally of two types, MiG-CAP patrols to protect strike aircraft from attack by marauding North Vietnamese fighters and fighter-bomber strikes carried out with iron bombs against ground targets / The MiG patrols and attacks in North Vietnam were taken over by the F-4s and F-105s based in Thailand, which could carry a larger bomb load further and faster / The 366th TFW was inactivated on 31 October 1972, and activated the same day without personnel or equipment at Mountain Home Air Force Base

The 421st Fighter Squadron is part of the 388th Fighter Wing at Hill Air Force Base, Utah / The squadron is one of the most decorated fighter squadrons in the United States Air Force, being awarded three Presidential Unit Citations and seven Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards for Valor in Combat / The squadron's nickname "Black Widows" is derived from its World War II combat heritage of flying the Northrop P-61 Black Widow night fighter, the only dedicated night fighter produced by the United States during the war / Equipped with Republic F-105 Thunderchiefs, it deployed to Southeast Asia and engaged in combat operations over North Vietnam / It returned to the United States and was re-equipped with the McDonnell F-4D Phantom II and returned to Southeast Asia for a second and later third tour of duty in the Vietnam War / It was one of the first USAF squadrons equipped with the F-16A Fighting Falcon in 1980; and went on to serve in the 1991 Gulf War

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American



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decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created in 1942 and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

A United States Aviator Badge refers to three types of aviation badges issued by the United States Armed Forces, those being for Air Force, Army, and Naval (to include Marine and Coast Guard) aviation / Air Force Pilot and Army Aviator Badges are issued in three ratings: Basic, Senior, and Command (Air Force)/Master (Army) / The higher degrees are denoted by a star or star with wreath above the badge. Air Force regulations state that the basic rating denotes completion of specified training and that the advanced ratings denote experience levels / The Naval Aviator Badge is issued to pilots upon designation as a Naval Aviator for Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aviators who successfully complete flight training / There is a single badge design regardless of an individual's further qualifications

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S.



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Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

**Name:** **DZIEDZIC**  
**FRANK**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Frank Dziejdzic honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Frank Dziejdzic was a retired Buffalo Teacher / Frank Dziejdzic passed away on 28 January 2025 at the age of 81 years old



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**Name:** **DZIERBA**

**TIMOTHY R.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

82ND AIRBORNE

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Timothy Rodger Dzierba honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam with the 82nd Airborne

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Timothy Dzierba attended St. John Gualbert Elementary School and graduated in 1964 from Diocesan Preparatory Seminary in Buffalo / Dzierba enrolled at Canisius College, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in History in 1968 / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Timothy Dzierba taught at Maryvale High School in Cheektowaga for a year, then was a lecturer for a year at Villa Maria College while earning a Master's Degree in History from Buffalo State College / Dzierba joined the Medaille faculty in 1972 and went on to complete a doctorate in history from the University at Buffalo / Timothy Dzierba became a tenured professor at Medaille in 1979, retiring in 2014 / Dzierba was academic chairman in social sciences from 1976 to 1994, and concurrently served shorter terms as chairman of liberal studies, government services, human services, child youth services and mathematics and sciences / Timothy Dzierba was an adjunct professor at Niagara County Community College, the School of Industrial Labor Relations at Cornell University and Daemen College / Dzierba served on the Boards of Directors of the Buffalo Area Council of Churches and Buffalo Area Municipal Ministries / Timothy Dzierba performed with the Trinity English Handbell Ringers and played glockenspiel in parades with Teddy's Islettes of Grand Island and also volunteered for the Asbury Soup Kitchen / Dzierba retired to Albuquerque, New Mexico in 2015 Timothy Rodger Dzierba passed away on 9 March 2021 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Santa Fe National Cemetery, Santa Fe, New Mexico



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The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into hostile areas with a U.S. Department of Defense mandate to be "on-call to fight anytime, anywhere" at "the knife's edge of technology and readiness / Primarily based at Fort Liberty, 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 / The division was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia and later served with distinction on the Western Front in the final months of World War I / Since its initial members came from all 48 states, the division acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its "AA" on the shoulder patch / The division later served in World War II where, in August 1942, it was reconstituted as the first airborne division of the U.S. Army and fought in numerous campaigns during the war / In April 1965, the "All-Americans" invaded the Dominican Republic / Spearheaded by the 3rd Brigade, the 82nd deployed in Operation Power Pack / During the Vietnamese Tet Offensive, which swept across South Vietnam in January/February 1968, the 3rd Brigade was enroute to Chu Lai within 24 hours of receiving its orders / The 3rd Brigade performed combat duties in the Hue – Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector / Later the brigade moved south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months