



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ACKER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

JAMES

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

63RD ORDNANCE COMPANY, US ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 3rd Class James W. Acker honorably served in the United States Army / SP3 James Acker was deployed to Korea and served 17 months of foreign service in Germany

SP3 James Acker was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 1 June 1957

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Acker was a longtime member of West Seneca Seniors / James W. Acker passed away on 14 January 2020 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during World War II to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AHRENS, SR.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

CURTIS J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

919TH AVIATION MAINTENANCE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS	UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)
REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION	COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL
ARMY HONORABLE SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL	NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Curtis J. Ahrens, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Curtis Ahrens was assigned to the 919th Aviation Maintenance Company as a Wheeled Vehicle Repairmen during his 12 month assignment in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Curtis Ahrens went to work at the Ford Stamping Plant in Woodlawn, retiring after 34 years of service / Curtis J. Ahrens, Sr. passed away on 15 February 2023 at the age of 92 years old

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945 and December 1991 who served on active duty for 24 consecutive months during the Cold War; were deployed outside of the continental U.S. for a period of at least 30 days during the Cold War; or were a member of a reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold War

The United States Army Commemorative Ribbon is intended to recognize those who have carried out honorable service in the U.S. Army / The medal features the Army Coat of Arms surrounded by green enamel and an inscription reading "UNITED STATES ARMY"

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AMIGONE, SR.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

ANTHONY P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY GRAVES REGISTRATION UNIT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Anthony P. Amigone, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Anthony Amigone was deployed to Korea and was assigned to the Army Graves Registration Unit which was responsible for the repatriation of the Korean War fallen soldiers / In 1955, Anthony Amigone's role in Japan was to modernize embalming and funeral services in the city of Hong Kong

While in Japan, he was employed by the Mitsubishi Chemical Company serving as a Public Relations Representative and taught colloquial English to their managers / While with Mitsubishi, he had the privilege of being received by the Emperor of Japan / In 1955, Amigone played an important role in bringing American ideas and knowledge of modern-day embalming and funeral service to the city of Hong Kong where he was associated with Paul Chang, the President of the International Funeral Parlors of Hong Kong and Singapore

Anthony Amigone was a graduate of Army Leadership School at Fort Lee, Virginia

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Amigone received his education from the University of Buffalo (Business), the Simmons Institute in Syracuse (Mortuary Science), Kensington High School, Canisius High School, and St. Lawrence Grammar School / In the 1950s, Anthony Amigone designed and built the first modern funeral home in Buffalo, New York / Amigone was the Chairman of the family-owned Amigone Funeral Home, Inc. / Amigone was a licensed Funeral Director in New York State since 1953 and Pennsylvania since 1976 / Anthony Amigone served as President of the New York State Funeral Directors Association / Anthony P. Amigone, Sr. passed away in Florida on 7 September 2024 at the age of 92 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Mr. Amigone is past-President of the Associations and Organizations listed below, along with his membership in local clubs and Associations:

Professional Associations:

1. President of the National Association of Approved Morticians – 1968 to 1971
2. President of the Erie Niagara Funeral Directors Association – 1971 to 1972
3. President of the New York State Funeral Directors Association – 1978 to 1980
4. District Governor of the National Funeral Directors Associations – 1978 to 1980
5. He was also a member of the International Order of the Golden Rule.

Local Organizations:

1. Former President of the St. Lawrence Church and St. Gerard Church Holy Name Societies
2. Former Member of the City of Buffalo Urban Renewal Board
3. Former Member of the Clarence Rotary and the Buffalo Rotary and is a Paul Harris Fellow
4. Former President of the Greater Buffalo Advertising Club
5. Member of the Knights of Columbus – 4th Degree
6. Member of the following Chambers of Commerce: Buffalo, Clarence, Kenmore, Tonawanda, Cheektowaga, Amherst
7. Former member of the Operating Board of Directors for Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, Park Country Club and The Buffalo Launch Club
8. Former member of the Board of Directors of Chase Manhattan Bank
9. Member of the Buffalo Club, Cherry Hill Club and the Buffalo Canoe Club

The Army Graves Registration Unit is responsible for the identification and burial of all Army, Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard personnel who lost their lives as the result of service outside the continental limits of the United States

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ANDERSON

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

RUSSELL J

Address: 122 BULLIS ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 8TH ARMY, G3 SECTION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

COMMENDATION RIBBON W/MEDAL PENDANT

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Russell J. Anderson honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Russell Anderson was deployed to Korea and assisted in the reorganization of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Army

Base Assignments:

Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky - Built in 1942, the camp was named for John C. Breckinridge, U.S. Vice President, 1856-60; Confederate Secretary of War, 1865 / The camp was created as infantry training center for up to 40,000 men / During World War II, the camp was used as a prisoner of war camp / During the Korean War, Camp Breckinridge was the headquarters of the 506th Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division and was used for the conduct of basic training of newly inducted U.S. Army recruits

Miscellaneous:

Russell Anderson graduated from West Seneca Central High School and graduated from Bryant & Stratton College / Prior to joining the Army in 1953, Anderson worked for the Erie Railroad / After his honorable discharge in 1954, Russell Anderson joined the West Seneca Police Department, retiring after 34 years of service / Russell Anderson was a member of the East Seneca Fire Department / Russell J. Anderson passed away on 14 June 2024

G3 military operations is a concept and application of military science that involves planning the operations for the projected maneuvering forces' provisions, services, training, and administrative functions

The Eighth Army was officially activated at Memphis, Tennessee, on June 10, 1944 and deployed to the Southwest Pacific/ The Eighth Army methodically eliminated the last fanatical enemy resistance remaining on New Guinea and New Britain / From 26 December 1944 until 15 August 1945, Eighth Army was actively engaged in the reconquest of the Philippines, the



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largest joint campaign of the War in the Pacific / Eighth Army has transformed multiple times since its establishment / During World War II, it fought in the Pacific Theater of Operations as a field army / In the immediate post-World War II era, Eighth Army served in Japan as an Army of Occupation / At the outbreak of the Korean War, the Eighth Army was sent into Inchon, Korea / The Eighth Army was decisively defeated at the Battle of the Chongchon River and forced to retreat all the way back to South Korea / The defeat of the U.S. Eighth Army resulted in the longest retreat of any U.S. military unit in history / The overstretched Eighth Army suffered heavily with the Chinese offensive, who were able to benefit from shorter lines of communication and with rather casually deployed enemy forces / The Chinese broke through the U.S. defenses despite U.S. air supremacy and the Eighth Army and U.N. forces retreated hastily to avoid encirclement. / A reformed Eighth Army returned to combat effectiveness over several months / Eighth Army slowed and ultimately halted the Chinese advance at the battles of Chipyeong-ni and Wonju / It then counter-attacked the Chinese, re-took Seoul, and drove to the 38th parallel, where the front stabilized / During the aftermath of the Korean War, the Eighth Army remained in South Korea / During the Korea War, the Eighth Army served as both a field army and theater army and throughout the preponderance of the Cold War, it remained primarily a theater army / On November 20, 1954, it was merged with US Army Forces Far East (AFFE) as the major Army command in the region / The Eighth Army is a U.S. field army which commands all United States Army forces in South Korea. It is headquartered at the Camp Humphreys in the Anjeong-ri of Pyeongtaek, South Korea

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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



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ANGELO

JOSEPH

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CLARENCE

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Angelo honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Angelo passed away on 27 December 2023 at the age of 92 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **APFEL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

RICHARD D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard D. Apfel honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard D. Apfel passed away on 22 May 2025 at the age of 94 years old



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARNOLD**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOHN

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John A. Arnold honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Arnold retired from Westinghouse Electric Corporation as a Master Electrician / John A. Arnold passed away on 4 April 2023 at the age of 91 years old



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ASCHIERI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** DEPEW

JOSEPH

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Aschieri honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Aschieri retired after 30 years from the General Motors Plant, Buffalo Division / Aschieri was a member of the St. Martha Holy Name Society / Joseph Aschieri passed away on 16 January 2026 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BAETZOLD

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

WILLIAM R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

511TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal William R. Baetzhold honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Baetzhold graduated from Burgard Vocational High School in 1952 and enlisted in the Army / Baetzhold was a mechanic for many years with Cope/Bestway Express and then Room For Rent Equipment Leasing, Inc. / William R. Baetzhold passed away on 17 April 2022 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

The 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment was a parachute infantry unit of the United States Army first activated during World War II / It formed the parachute infantry element of the 11th Airborne Division / The regiment participated in the fight for Leyte and subsequently performed a combat jump on Tagaytay Ridge, Luzon / B Co, 511th PIR jumped again to liberate the Los Banos prison on 23 February 1945 / The 511th fought during the Battle of Manila and executed another combat jump at Aparri in Northern Luzon / Following the surrender of Japan, the regiment earned the distinction as the first Allied unit to land on Japan, by securing Atusgi Air Base for General MacArthur's arrival / It remained in Japan on occupation duty until February of 1949 / Men from the 511th were used to bring the 187th ARCT to full strength for its fight in Korea / In 1956 the entire Division was sent to Germany to replace the 5th ID / It remained there until the Division was deactivated in 1958

William R. Baetzhold was a mechanic for many years at Cope-Bestway Express and Room for Rent Equipment Leasing, Inc. / William R. Baetzhold passed away on 17 April 2022 at the age of 88 years old / William R. Baetzhold was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BALL, SR.**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE CENTER

RICHARD J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard J. Ball Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Ball was a Gym Teacher at Cleveland Hill School / Richard J. Ball Sr. passed away on 28 July 2023



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BANASIAK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ELMA

FLORIAN E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS HARRY F. BAUER (DM-26)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Florian Edward "Ed" Banasiak honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Florian Banasiak joined the US Navy at the age of 17 years old / Banasiak was a lifelong member of American Legion Post 735 and Pvt Leonard Post Jr. VFW Post #6251 / Florian Edward "Ed" Banasiak passed away on 20 June 2023 at the age of 88 years old

USS Harry F. Bauer (DD-738/DM-26/MMD-26) was a Robert H. Smith-class destroyer minelayer in the United States Navy / She was named for Lieutenant Commander Harry F. Bauer (1904–1942) who was killed aboard the USS Gregory during the Battle of Guadalcanal on 5 September 1942 / Harry Frederick Bauer was posthumously received the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, and promotion to Commander / Bauer was commissioned on 22 September 1944 and participated in the Iwo Jima and Okinawa campaigns during World War II / The Bauer was decommissioned 12 March 1956 at Charleston, entering the Atlantic Reserve Fleet, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania / Harry F. Bauer was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 15 August 1971 and sold for scrap on 1 June 1974 / Harry F. Bauer received a Presidential Unit Citation for the Okinawan campaign and four battle stars for World War II service



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAPST**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

ROBERT J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Bapst honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Bapst passed away on 11 November 2022 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARBER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE

KENNETH A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Kenneth A. Barber honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Barber helped children with special needs, working as a Bus Aide for the Clarence School District / Kenneth A. Barber passed away on 14 October 2022



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARREN**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES **N.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

USS WYOMING (BB-32)

USS WISCONSIN (BB-64)

Medals / Citations:

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL "S"

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

James N. Barren honorably served in the United States Navy / James Barren served twice in the Navy, the first being at the tail end of World War II in 1945-1946, including duty aboard the battleship, USS Wyoming (BB-32) / He was Honorably Discharged with the rating of Seaman 2nd Class and earned the World War II Victory medal

On his second tour with the Navy, Gunners Mate Seaman James N. Barren served on the battleship USS Wisconsin (BB-64) during the Korean War

James Barren was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 27 November 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James N. Barren passed away on 20 January 2019 and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The USS Wyoming (BB-32) was the lead ship of her class of dreadnought battleships and was the third ship named Wyoming / The Wyoming was commissioned on 25 September 1912 and served in World War I as part of Battleship Division One, primarily patrolling the North Sea and escorting convoys to Norway / During World War II, the Wyoming was stationed in the Chesapeake Bay area as a gunnery ship training thousands of anti-aircraft gunners / The Wyoming was decommissioned on 1 August 1947 and sold for scrap



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Wisconsin (BB-64) was an Iowa-class battleship and the second ship named in honor of the state of Wisconsin / She was commissioned on 16 April 1944 and served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, where she shelled Japanese fortifications and screened aircraft carriers / During the Korean War, the Wisconsin shelled North Korean targets in support of United Nations and South Korean ground operations / The Wisconsin was decommissioned on 30 September 1991 and donated to the City of Norfolk, Virginia for a museum ship

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARREN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ORCHARD PARK

NORMAN F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman F. "Mickey" Barren honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman F. "Mickey" Barren passed away on 20 March 2023 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARRY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

WILLIAM C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William C. Barry honorably served in the United States Army / William was assigned as a Military Police Officer during his tour of duty in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William C. Barry passed away on 20 July 2023 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at St. Francis Chapel Columbarium, Tonawanda, New York

Military Police Branch performs law enforcement duties on Army installations or operations under combat conditions / Its focus is on ensuring that Army values are upheld, laws are enforced and providing security for Army personnel and property within the Army training environment



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BARTH, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

GORDON P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Gordon P. "Phil" Barth, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Gordon Barth was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gordon P. "Phil" Barth, Jr. passed away on 13 April 2013



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARTOSZEK**
FRANCIS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Francis "Frank" Bartoszek honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis "Frank" Bartoszek passed away on 5 April 2023 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BATTAGLIA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

MICHAEL C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael C. "Mike" Battaglia honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Battaglia was a retired Detective Sergeant with the Erie County Sheriff's Department / Michael C. "Mike" Battaglia passed away in December 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAUER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* AMHERST

ROBERT

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean 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 Albert "Bob" Bauer honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Bauer graduated from Canisius High School / Bauer was employed as an Insurance Auditor / Robert Bauer was a Deacon for 40 years at various parishes and as New York State Chaplain for JN Adam Developmental Center (Perrysburg, New York) and group homes / Deacon Robert Albert "Bob" Bauer passed away on 28 March 2025 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BECKER, JR.**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

MAX

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MSG

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTERY 209, ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY GROUP

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Max Becker, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / MSG Max Becker trained at Camp Gordon, Camp Stewart and Indiantown Gap Military Reservation before being deployed to Korea with the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery 209, Anti-aircraft Artillery Group

Max Becker was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army in August 1952

Base Assignments:

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 and named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / Fort Gordon is located southwest of Augusta, Georgia / It is the current home of the United States Army Signal Corps, United States Army Cyber Command, and the Cyber Center of Excellence / It was once the home of The Provost Marshal General School and Civil Affairs School / The fort is one of the major components of the installation is Advanced Individual Training for Signal Corps military occupational specialties / Signals Intelligence has become more visible and comprises more and more of the fort's duties / During the Vietnam War, Fort Gordon was home to Camp Crockett, an area of the post conducting 9-week advance airborne infantry training courses for soldiers in line to attend the remaining 3 weeks of Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then be assigned to Airborne units in Vietnam / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS) / Fort Gordon is one of the U.S. Army installations named for Confederate soldiers to be renamed by 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

Fort Stewart, Georgia - Fort Stewart is a United States Army post in the U.S. state of Georgia / It is the largest Army installation east of the Mississippi River, covering 280,000 acres / Constructed in 1940 as an Anti-Aircraft Artillery Training Center, it was officially designated as Camp Stewart, in honor of Brigadier General Daniel Stewart, a native of Liberty County, who had fought with Francis Marion during the American Revolution, and who became one of the county's



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

military heroes / During World War II, Camp Stewart's training programs continued to provide well-trained soldiers for duty in the European, Mediterranean, North African, and Pacific Theaters / By late 1943, Camp Stewart assumed a new responsibility, as one of many holding areas designated in the United States for German and Italian prisoners of war (POWs), who had fallen into Allied hands during fighting in North Africa / Closed after World War II, Camp Stewart was reopened with the outbreak of hostilities in Korea in June 1950 / On 28 December 1950, Camp Stewart was redesignated as the 3rd Army Anti-Aircraft Artillery Training Center where intensive training of soldiers destined for service in Korea began / Camp Stewart's role changed from solely antiaircraft training to include armor and tank firing / On 21 March 1956, Camp Stewart was redesignated as Fort Stewart / In 1959, Fort Stewart was redesignated as an Armor and Artillery Firing Center, since its old antiaircraft ranges and impact areas were better suited for this purpose in the new age of missiles / In 1966 during the Vietnam War, Fort Stewart became the U.S. Army helicopter pilot training and helicopter gunnery center and Fort Stewart's new mission

Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania - Fort Indiantown Gap, also referred to as "The Gap" is a National Guard Training Center located in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania / The name Indiantown Gap was fashioned from the Native American presence and geography. "Indiantown" is derived from the many Native American villages that existed in the vicinity of the installation, and "Gap" refers to the separation in the Blue Mountains through which the creek known as Indiantown Run flows / The current post was originally developed by Pennsylvania, on the recommendation of General Edward Martin, as a National Guard training site in 1931 / Over the years, the installation has served as home to the Pennsylvania National Guard as well as active units of the United States Army / In 1941, the post was officially named Indiantown Gap Military Reservation (IGMR) / From 1951 to 1953, during the Korean War, the Gap again had a strategic role as the home of the 5th Infantry Division, whose mission was to train 32,000 troops as replacements for assignment to Korea / During the late 1960s and early 1970s, during the Vietnam War, Fort Indiantown Gap served as one of the largest Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) summer camps for the U.S. Army / In 1975, after the US left Vietnam, the Gap served as a refugee camp for southeast Asian refugees / For eight months, more than 32,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees were resettled through the installation / In 1976, a section of Fort Indiantown Gap was selected as the new national cemetery for the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, and West Virginia / The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania donated the land for the site to the Veterans Administration / In 1980, the Gap again became a refugee camp when over 19,000 Cuban aliens were brought there for processing and sponsorship after the Mariel boatlift / In 1990, the Gap served as a mobilization and embarkation center for active, reserve, and guard units deploying to the first Persian Gulf War / In July 1995, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommended closing Fort Indiantown Gap, except for minimum essential ranges, facilities, and training areas used by reserve components / Today, Fort Indiantown Gap is one of the busiest National Guard training centers in the country, with more than 100,000 personnel training there annually, including reserve-component and active-duty service members and law-enforcement officers

Miscellaneous:

Max Becker attended Nichols School and graduated from Phillips Andover Academy / Becker graduated from Amherst College in 1950 and joined his father at the Buffalo real estate and insurance firm Gurney Becker & Bourne / After leaving the Army, Max Becker rejoined resumed his employment with Gurney Becker & Bourne, and his career in real estate and general insurance / Until his retirement in November 2025, Max Becker had worked for Gurney Becker & Bourne for 70 years, and had served as President and Chairman / Becker was a past president of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) local chapter and a national district vice president and director, as well as a member of the SIOR Legacy Circle / Max Becker won many awards, including the New York State Commercial Association of Realtors Lifetime Achievement Award and Buffalo's annual Business First Lifetime Achievement "Brick by Brick" Award / Becker and his wife were the first husband and wife team to lead the United Way Employee Division In 1964 / From 1963 to 1993, Max Becker served on the Board of Directors of Millard Fillmore Hospital / Max Becker was a lifetime members of the Saturn Club, the Country Club of Buffalo and the Garret Club / Becker also served as a Deacon for over a decade at Westminster



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Church / ax Becker, Jr. passed away on 22 January 2026 at the age of 97 years old

With much of modern wars fought in the air, anti-aircraft weapons were weapons that could specifically direct their offense against air targets / The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

In United States Army units, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) is a company-sized military unit, found at the battalion level and higher / Considered one unit, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company is essentially two elements within one company / In identifying a specific headquarters unit, it is usually referred to by its abbreviation as an HHC / While a regular line company is formed of three or four platoons, an HHC is made up of the headquarters staff and headquarters support personnel of a battalion, brigade, division, or higher level unit / The Headquarters and Headquarters Company provides command, staff, administrative, supply and maintenance, communication, engineer, and medical support for the battle group



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BENSON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

RALPH

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BMG-3

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Boatswain's Mate (Shipboard) Third-Class Ralph Benson honorably served in the United States Navy / BMC-3 Ralph Benson was deployed to Korea / BMG-3 Benson also served in the Navy during World War II

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ralph Benson was a Brother of the Masonic Lodge for 65 years / Ralph Benson passed away on 14 October 2019 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, Pendleton, New York

A Boatswain's Mate (BM) in the U.S. Navy is a vital role responsible for a wide range of duties, including supervising the maintenance of the ship, managing deck operations, and ensuring the safety of the crew / BMs are trained in seamanship, navigation, and shipboard safety, and they play a key role in the daily operations of a naval vessel / This position is known for its rich history and honored traditions within the Navy



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BEST**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

ROBERT **J**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM2

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS PARICUTIN (AE-18)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Robert Joseph Best honorably served in the United States Navy / MM2 Robert Best sailed 3 years and 7 months aboard the USS Paricutin (AE-18)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Joseph Best passed away on 9 December 2016 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Protection Cemetery, Protection, New York

USS Paricutin (AE-18) was a Wrangler Class ammunition ship, launched 30 January 1945 / After shakedown she joined the Pacific Fleet and was engaged in the transfer of excess ammunition from the forward areas in the Pacific to Bangor, Washington, and Port Chicago, California until 20 November 1947 when she was ordered to Mare Island Naval Shipyard for inactivation / On 30 April 1948, Paricutin was placed out of commission in reserve and berthed with the San Francisco Group of the Pacific Reserve Fleet / Reactivated 24 June 1950, due to the Korean War, Paricutin recommissioned 28 July 1950 and was assigned to Service Squadron 1 / She sailed for the Far East 8 October and arrived Japan 24 October / Operating from U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo, she rearmed the carrier task forces off both coasts of Korea, surface bombardment and blockading forces, and shore based Marine air groups / Paricutin spent 18 months servicing combat units before returning to the States in March 1952 / On 31 July she sailed again for operations off Korea, this time spending nearly seven months on the line rearming warships / She returned to San Francisco 19 March 1953 and was stateside when the Korean Armistice Agreement was announced in July 1953 / The USS Paricutin was commissioned on 3 March 1945 and decommissioned on 30 April 1948 / The Paricutin was stricken on 1 June 1973



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLACK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

ROBERT S.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert S. Black honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Robert Black received a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering from Syracuse University / Black's business and industry experiences took him around the country and around the world / Robert Black was a member of the Buffalo Launch Club / Robert S. Black passed away on 2 January 2026 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLAIR, JR.**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LANCASTER

ERVIN

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Ervin William "Vintage Bill" Blair, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

CPL Ervin Blair was Honorably Discharged from U.S. Army active duty and reserves in 1960

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ervin Blair, Jr. served 50 years as a registered Boy Scout Leader in the greater Niagara Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts / Ervin Blair was the owner of Blair's Hardware and Plumbing in Lancaster, NY / Ervin Blair was a member of the Town Line Fire Company / Blair was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders of New York and the American Legion Riders / Ervin William "Vintage Bill" Blair, Jr. passed away on 6 July 2018 at the age of 84 years old

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

1954

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

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BONAFEDE, JR.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

LEONARD L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leonard L. Bonafede, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard L. Bonafede, Jr. passed away on 11 December 2019 and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BORKOWSKY

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

MELVIN

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

SPECIAL SERVICE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Melvin W. Borkowsky honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Melvin Borkowsky was assigned as a bandsman, playing the drums in the Special Service Company

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his honorable discharge, Melvin Borkowsky continued playing the drums on a professional level in the Dave Cheskin Orchestra / Borkowsky also performed at Carnegie Hall and Madison Square Garden / Taking up permanent residence in West Seneca, Borkowsky spent 27 years at the Buffalo News as a printer before retiring / Borkowsky served the community as an Inspector for the West Seneca Auxiliary Police Department, putting nearly 40 years into the organization before the unit was retired / Melvin Borkowsky was an active member of the American Legion Post #735 / Borkowsky was a resident of the Seneca Health Care Center in West Seneca / Melvin W. Borkowsky passed away on 24 October 2020 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOROWICZ**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

ADRIAN J.

Address: 71 PERSON STREET

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY 1, 15TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

UNITED NATIONS KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE SERVICE STARS (2)

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Adrian J. Borowicz honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Adrian Borowicz was assigned as a Rifleman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Adrian J. Borowicz married his longtime sweetheart in 1957 / Borowicz worked at the General Motors Plant (Saginaw Division) on East Delavan in Buffalo until his retirement in 1996 and retiring to Greensboro, North Carolina / Adrian J. Borowicz passed away on 16 January 2002 at the age of 69 years old and is interred at Saint Adalberts Cemetery, Lancaster, 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.

The 15th United States Infantry Regiment is a parent regiment in the United States Army and has a lineage tracing back to the American Civil War / During the Korean War, the 15th Infantry covered the withdrawal of X Corps from Chosin Reservoir in 1950, fought north to the 38th parallel in 1951, and fought in the Kumsong sector until the armistice was signed in 1953 / At the time of the truce, the regiment had seen action in eight major campaigns and added three more Medal of Honor recipients, Emory L. Bennett (24 June 1951), Ola L. Mize (10 June and 11 June 1953) and Charles F. Pendleton (16 July and 17 July 1953)



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

Bronze Service Stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOWEN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

ROBERT

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART (2)

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

Service Notes:

Robert Bowen honorably served in the United Staes Army / Robert Bowen was deployed to Korea and was awarded two Purple Hearts for injuries suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscelleaneous:

Robert Bowen passed away on 9 March 2022

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BRUCE, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** KENMORE

HOWARD H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

USS PURDY (DD-734)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION AWARD

NAVY CHINA SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Third-Class Howard H. Bruce, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Howard Bruce was assigned as a Boiler Technician aboard the USS Purdy / Petty Officer Bruce circumnavigated the world twice and the USS Purdy provided fire support during the Korean War

PO3 Howard Bruce received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy on 27 April 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce was a member of the American Legion Tonawandas' Post #264, a charter member of the Greater Niagara Chapter of the Wheatfield American Legion Riders Post #1451 and the UAW Local #424 / Howard "Howie" H. Bruce, Jr. passed away on 10 March 2022 at the age of 90 years old

The Navy Boiler Technician operates and performs maintenance on marine boilers, pumps, and other fire room machinery / Technicians perform tests on boiler water, fuel, and lubricating oils; operates and performs preventive maintenance on boilers and boiler auxiliary equipment; operates distilling plants; tests and calibrates gauges; exercises environmental control procedures / Technicians do repair work; supervises oil spill containment and collecting; prepares environment pollution reports; conducts on-the-job training; monitors maintenance and handling of logs, records, accounts, and reports; prepares quarterly maintenance schedules / Boiler Technicians perform all basic fireman apprenticeship functions in engineering areas aboard ship, involving cleanliness, operation, maintenance, and preservation of main propulsion, auxiliary steam or diesel machinery, steam or diesel generators, various pumps



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

USS Purdy (DD-734), was an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer of the United States Navy and was named after Frederick Warren Purdy, who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor aboard the USS California, and was lost at sea while rescuing fellow sailors on the USS Strong / The USS Purdy participated in World War II, the Korean War and the Cold War / The Purdy was commissioned on 18 July 1944/ The Purdy was decommissioned in 1973 and scrapped / the USS Purdy earned one battle star during World War II and 3 during the Korean War

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The China Service Medal was a service medal awarded to U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard personnel / The medal was instituted by Navy Department General Order No. 176 on 1 July 1942 / The medal recognized service in and around China before and after World War II

The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUCHOLTZ**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

FRANK L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank L. Bucholtz honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Bucholtz was a retired employee of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) / Bucholtz was a member of the American Legion Post #1041 and a member of Amalgamated Transit Union #1342 / Frank L. Bucholtz passed away on 29 April 2023 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BURDICK**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

LARRY M.

Address: MAIN STREET

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

7TH DIVISION, HQ COMPANY 31ST INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Larry M. Burdick honorably served in the United States Army

Larry Burdick entered the Army in January 1953 / After an Honorable Discharge in December 1954, Burdick transferred to the Army Reserve to complete eight years of service / Larry Burdick received the Korean War Service Medal on the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War / PFC Burdick spent 17 months on overseas duty

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Larry M. "Bird" Burdick passed away on 1 November 2024 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at the St. Matthew's Cemetery Field of Valor, West Seneca, New York

The 31st Infantry Division, also known as the "Dixie Division," was an infantry division of the United States Army National Guard / It was active almost continuously from 1917 to 1968 / The division saw service in both World War I and World War II, and was mobilized during the Korean War, although it was not sent overseas / The division was organized in 1917 during World War I from the national guardsmen of Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, and deployed to France in September 1918, arriving weeks before the Armistice of 11 November that ended the war / It was mobilized in 1940 during World War II, and spent several years training in the United States In 1944 it was sent to the South-West Pacific Area, fighting in the New Guinea campaign and in the Battle of Mindanao / After the end of the war, the division was demobilized in December 1945 / Mobilized during the Korean War, the division served stateside at Camp Atterbury and Camp Carson / The 6th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 9th Inf Division served in Vietnam from 8 April 1968 until departure on 12 October 1970



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Korean War Service Medal: The medal marked the 50th anniversary of the Korean War / The blue boxes for the medal from South Korea has written in English, "Korean War Service Medal", the reverse side of the enclosed medal is inscribed in Korean writing, "6.25 Incident Participation Medal"

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BURGER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

ROBERT

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert A. "Bob" Burger honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Burger was a member of the West Seneca Lions Club / Robert A. "Bob" Burger passed away on 2 March 2023 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUTTON**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

HOWARD E.

Address: 379 OAK STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

USS ALBUQUERQUE (PG-115/PF-7)

USS TOLEDO (CA-133)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Howard E. Button honorably served in the United States Navy and was stationed in Korea

After his separation from the Navy, Howard Button joined the United States Army in 1956 and served 16 years, with two tours of Vietnam

Sergeant First-Class Howard Earl Button was deployed to Vietnam on 2 December 1967 as an Infantryman and was Killed In Action on 31 January 1968 as a result of combat operations in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Earl Button was 33 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Paris, Tennessee

USS Albuquerque (PG-115/PF-7), a Tacoma-class patrol frigate in commission from 1943 to 1945 and from 1950 to 1953, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for C, New Mexico / Albuquerque, originally classified as a patrol gunboat, PG-115, but reclassified as a patrol frigate, PF-7, on 15 April 1943, was commissioned on 20 December 1943 / For the rest of 1944 and the first half of 1945, Albuquerque shepherded convoys between various Alaskan ports and conducted patrols around the Aleutian Islands and in the Bering Sea / Selected for transfer to the Soviet Navy in Project Hula, a secret program for the transfer of U.S. Navy ships to the Soviet Navy at Cold Bay, Alaska, in anticipation of the Soviet Union joining the war against Japan, she then proceeded to Cold Bay and began training her new Soviet crew / Following the completion of training for her Soviet crew, Albuquerque was decommissioned on 16 August 1945, at Cold Bay, and transferred to the Soviet Union under Lend-Lease immediately along with her sister ships Tacoma (PF-3), Sausalito (PF-4), Hoquiam (PF-5), Pasco (PF-6), and Everett (PF-8) / Commissioned into the Soviet Navy immediately,

Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Albuquerque was designated as a storozhevoi korabl ("escort ship") and renamed EK-14 in Soviet service / She soon departed Cold Bay, bound for Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky in the Soviet Union, where she served as a patrol vessel in the Soviet Far East / In February 1946, the United States began negotiations for the return of ships loaned to the Soviet Union for use during World War II / On 15 November 1949, the Soviet Union returned EK-14 (Albuquerque) to the US Navy at Yokosuka, Japan / Reverting to her former name, Albuquerque lay idle in the Pacific Reserve Fleet at Yokosuka until the outbreak of the Korean War / The Albuquerque spent a period of the Korean War on patrol and escort duties along the eastern coast of Korea / On 28 February 1953, she was decommissioned at Yokosuka, Japan / On 30 November 1953, the United States loaned the ship to Japan, and she was commissioned in the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force as JDS Tochi (PF-16) / The US Navy struck her from the Navy List on 1 December 1961, but she was returned briefly to US Navy custody on 28 August 1962, before the United States almost simultaneously transferred her back to Japan permanently / Reclassified as an "auxiliary stock craft" (YAC) and renamed YAC-15 on 31 March 1965, she was decommissioned on 31 March 1969, and returned to US custody on 9 July 1971, for disposal / Her final disposition is unknown / The US Navy awarded Albuquerque three battle stars for her Korean War service

USS Toledo (CA-133) was a Baltimore-class heavy cruiser of the United States Navy active during the Korean War / The Toledo was commissioned on 27 October 1946 with shakedown training in the West Indies / In July 1950, the cruiser took up station off the eastern coast of Korea a few miles north of Pohang, near Yongdok / She teamed up with Destroyer Division 91 to form one of the two alternating East Coast Support Elements of Task Group 95.5 / From 27 July to 30 July 1950, Toledo, Mansfield (DD-728), and Collett (DD-730) bombarded North Korean communication arteries which started at Yongdok and ran north between the mountains and the sea to the 38th parallel north / Toledo's next important mission was the landing at Inchon in mid-September 1950 / The heavily armed and fortified island of Wolmi-do – located in the harbor – threatened the success of the operation / Toledo and her previous consorts – augmented by Gurke (DD-783), De Haven (DD-727), and Royal Navy light cruisers, Jamaica (44) and Kenya (14) – entered the harbor to silence the island's guns on 13 September 1950 / The destroyers led the way through the mine-infested channel and moved in close to draw enemy fire while the cruisers stood off waiting for the North Koreans to betray their positions / By early afternoon, the artillery duel had begun / That evening, the cruisers and destroyers retired for the night / They returned the next day to finish the job / After two days of preparatory bombardment, Marines of the 3rd Battalion Landing Team, 5th Marines, stormed Wolmi-do's defenses / Meanwhile, Toledo redirected her fire to support the 1st Marines who were about to land on "Blue Beach" just south of Inchon proper / After reportedly destroying three gun emplacements and a number of machine gun nests, closing two tunnels, hitting trenches and mortar positions, Toledo retired / Toledo's tour of duty along the eastern coast of Korea lasted until late November 1951 / She bombarded Wonsan, Songjin, and Chongjin and rescued several downed pilots — one, from Boxer (CV-21), twice / Late in October 1951, her guns supported the 1st Marine Division in operations near Kansong / While conducting a shore bombardment on 11 November 1951, she again came under fire from an enemy shore battery which scored some close near misses / On 24 November 1951, Toledo completed her deployment to the western Pacific / On 5 January 1960, she entered Long Beach Naval Shipyard to begin inactivation overhaul / Toledo completed preparations and was placed out of commission at Long Beach on 21 May 1960 / She was moved to San Diego soon thereafter and remained there, in reserve, for the next 14 years / On 1 January 1974, her name was struck from the Navy List, and she was sold to the National Metal and Steel Corporation, Terminal Island, California, on 30 October 1974 for \$983,461.29 / The USS Toledo earned five battle stars for service during the Korean War.



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CARLSON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

ROBERT **A.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert A. Carlson honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Carlson was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #5861, Wales, New York / Robert A. Carlson passed away on 20 September 2024 at the age of 96 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CARR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

DAVID L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

157TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David Leon Carr honorably served in the United States Army / David Carr graduated from the Army's Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia / David Carr was deployed to Korea and assigned to the Military Intelligence Service

Base Assignments:

Ft. Benning, Georgia - Fort Benning is a United States Army post straddling the Alabama–Georgia border next to Columbus, Georgia and is named after Henry L. Benning, a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War/ Fort Benning supports more than 120,000 active-duty military, family members, reserve component soldiers, retirees and civilian employees on a daily basis / Since 1909, Fort Benning has served as the Home of the Infantry / Fort Benning is one of ten U.S. Army installations named for former Confederate generals / The congressionally mandated Naming Commission has recommended it be renamed Fort Moore after Lieutenant General Hal and Julia Moore

Fort Carson, Colorado - Fort Carson is a United States Army post located directly south of Colorado Springs in El Paso, Pueblo, Fremont, and Huerfano counties, Colorado / Camp Carson was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and was named in honor of the legendary Army scout, General Christopher "Kit" Carson, who explored much of the West in the 1800s / The 89th Infantry Division was the first major unit to be activated at Camp Carson / During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers trained at Camp Carson. Along with three other infantry divisions: the 71st Infantry Division, 104th Infantry Division and 10th Mountain Division / More than 125 units were activated at Camp Carson and more than 100 others were transferred to the mountain post from other installations / Camp Carson was designated Fort Carson in 1954 / In the 1960s, mechanized units were assigned to the fort and it was expanded to the 137,000 acres / Throughout its history Fort Carson has been used for large force-on-force maneuver training / Comprehensive maneuver and live fire training also occurs downrange at Fort Carson / Exercises and deployments continually hone the skills of Fort Carson soldiers / In 2003, most Fort Carson units were deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom / Troops from the 984th Military Police CO, 759th Military Police Battalion were also sent in support of the guard mission at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

David Carr was originally from Salamanca, New York and graduated from Randolph High School in 1949 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, David Carr began a career with the New York State Police and retired in 1976 as a Senior investigator with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation / After his retirement, Carr became a Corporate Security Consultant with the United Refinery Company in Warren, Pennsylvania / Carr was elected to the Westfield Village Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2001 and served as Mayor between 2005 and 2013 / David Carr was a member of the Interstate Ski Club / David Leon Carr passed away on March 26, 2025 at the age of 92 years old

Intelligence Specialists play a key role in ensuring that military operations are planned using the most accurate, current information about enemy forces and capabilities / They oversee efforts to collect, exploit, develop, analyze, and produce intelligence information for dissemination to key military leaders



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CATALINA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

CHARLES T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles T. Catalina honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Cantalina and his wife, Angie, owned the Catalina Hair Stylists shop in Tonawanda / Charles Catalina was a life member and administrator for the Kenmore Veterans of Foreign (VFW) Post and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) / Charles T. Catalina passed away on 10 April 2024 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CERASA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

LARRY A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Larry A. Cerasa honorably served in the United States Navy / Larry Cerasa was assigned as an Operating Room Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Larry Cerasa was a 4th Degree with the Knights of Columbus and a 3rd Degree Mason / Larry Cerasa was a member of Musician Local #92 for more than 50 years having played bass in Chicago, Wilmington and locally with many bands and small groups /Cerasa worked in the insurance industry for more than 30 years, retiring from Met Life in 1996 / After his retirement, Larry Cerasa has been an independent Life Broker and a NY State Monitor offering continuing education to local insurance agents / Larry A. Cerasa passed away on 18 May 2025 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CHAMPAGNE, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

NORMAN C.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman C. Champagne, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Norman Champagne went to work at the American Standard plant in Buffalo and attended Erie County Community College, earning his Business Certificate / Champagne later joined Hughes Industrial Products, Inc., where he served in several executive positions, retiring in 2001 / In 2010, Champagne worked Syracuse University in the development of the Korean War Legacy project to understand the outcomes of the Korean War and its rich legacy in promoting democracy and freedom in the world today / Champagne was a member of the Marine Corps League, Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 7290 in North Syracuse and the Korean War Veterans Association, serving two years as commander of the Central New York Chapter 105 / Norman C. Champagne, Sr. passed away on 11 November 2022 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHECK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BLASDELL

GEORGE

M.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George M. Check honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Check was a member and past President of Knights of St. John Comm. #391 / Check was also a member of American Legion Hamburg Post #527 / George M. Check passed away on 27 July 2023 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHIRICO**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

ANTHONY T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY H, 9TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Anthony T. Chirico honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Anthony Chirico was deployed to Korea for 16 months

CPL Anthony Chirico was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 17 July 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Chirico was a member and past Commissioner of the U-Crest Fire Department / Anthony T. Chirico passed away on 26 September 2020 and is interred at Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

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

The 9th Infantry Regiment were organized in the United States Army in 1798 during the Quasi-War, in 1812 during the war of 1812, and in 1847 during the Mexican–American War / The 1812 regiment fought in the Battle of Lundy's Lane, and the 1847 regiment in the Battle for Mexico City / The regiment remained in the west during the American Civil War, garrisoning posts near San Francisco / After the end of the American Civil War the regiment continued its service through the final Indian Wars, then fought at the Battle of San Juan Hill during the Spanish–American War / During the Boxer Rebellion, the 9th Infantry was sent to China, where it earned the nickname "Manchu" / After the end of the rebellion the regiment saw duty in the Philippine–American War / In 1917 the regiment became part of the 2nd Infantry Division, with



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

which it served during World War I, World War II, and the Korean War / When South Korea was invaded in 1950 the "Manchus" returned to the far east and the Korean Peninsula / Manchu troops were the first of the 2nd Infantry Division to engage North Korean forces, at Yongsan in August 1950, against numerically superior force / They were later successful at Bloody Ridge, Heartbreak Ridge, Old Baldy, Pork Chop Hill, and T-Bone Hill / During the Korean War, the regiment earned an additional Presidential Unit Citation for its gallant service at Hongchon, and six of its members received the Medal of Honor

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The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CLAFLIN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

MALCOLM L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Malcolm L. Claflin honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Malcolm L. Claflin passed away on 9 May 2022 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CLARK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ANGOLA

WILLIAM

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

24TH RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant William Clark honorably served in the United States Army / SGT William Clark was deployed to Korea for 16 months as a Tank Ammunition Section Chief, assigned to the 24th Reconnaissance Company, 24th Infantry Division

William Clark received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 15 September 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Clark worked for Wagner Box and then worked at Bethlehem Steel as a Locomotive Diesel Mechanic for 35 years / William Clark passed away on 12 December 2023 at the age of 91 years old

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 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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: COLERN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

THOMAS E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Thomas E. Colern honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Thomas Colern was deployed to Korea for 14 1/2 months as a Lineman (Radio Communications)

Thomas Colern received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 12 February 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas E. Colern passed away on 27 July 2017 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONMY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

JAMES

M.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

74TH ENGINEER HEAVY EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal James M. Conmy honorably served in the United States Army / CPL James Conmy was assigned as a Welder with the 74th Engineer Heavy Equipment Company while stationed in Korea for eighteen months

CPL James Conmy was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 10 July 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Conmy was a member of Msgr. Nash Knights of Columbus #3875 and St. Ambrose Seniors Club / James M. Conmy passed away on 10 June 2019 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The 74th Engineer Company was constituted in the Regular Army on 1 October 1933 / The company was redesignated as the 74th Engineer Heavy Equipment Company on 19 August 1949 / The Company received the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation in 1950-1951 while serving in Korea

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The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONNOR**

Killed in Action

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

DONALD

J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Corporal Donald J. Connor honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONSCHAFTER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** AMHERST

ROBERT L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT.

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

I CORPS ARTILLERY, 159TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Robert L. Conschafter honorably served in the United States Army / LT Robert Conschafter was assigned as an Intelligence Officer in I Corps Artillery with the 159th Artillery Battalion while stationed in Korea / Conschafter received his commission after graduating from Bowling Green University

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Conschafter graduated from Amherst High School in 1948 where he played drums in the school's Marching Band and also played Right Tackle on Amherst's undefeated football year during his Senior year / He enrolled in Bowling Green State University in Ohio, earning a degree in 1952 / Conschafter also played in the ROTC Marching Band at Bowling Green / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, Robert Conschafter enrolled at Palmer Chiropractic College in Davenport, Iowa, receiving his Doctorate / After graduation, Dr. Conschafter worked as an associate in his father's chiropractic clinic / Dr. Conschafter was a former Vice Chairman of the Board of New York State Chiropractic College and a member of the New York State Chiropractic Association, District 17 and the New York State Chiropractic Council, District 8 / In 1997, Dr. Conschafter received an outstanding service award from the regents of the State Board of Chiropractic and was honored as the Chiropractor of the Year in 1994 / Dr. Conschafter received the Pioneer Award in 2013 for his service to his profession / Dr. Conschafter was a former member of the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club of Buffalo / Dr. Conschafter continued seeing his patients until the age of 90 years old Dr. Robert L. Conschafter passed away on 6 July 2023 at the age of 92 years old

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONTRINO**
CHARLES

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TONAWANDA

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles "Frenchie" Contrino honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Contrino was a life member of the Ellwood Volunteer Fire Company and the Tonawanda Senior Center / Charles "Frenchie" Contrino passed away on 9 January 2024 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COOPER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

GLENN **J.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Glenn J. Cooper honorably served in the United States Army / Glenn Cooper was deployed to Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart medal for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Glenn Cooper was born in Andover, New York and moved to Buffalo after his military enlistment / Glenn Cooper worked for the A.B. Dick Company until his retirement in 1992 and moving to Cuba, New York / Cooper was a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Frontiersmen Post #7545 in the City of Tonawanda, New York and served as Post Commander / Glenn Cooper served as the Erie County council quartermaster for over two decades and contributed significantly to District 6 of the VFW / Cooper also played a key role in the founding of the Sons of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #7545 / Glenn J. Cooper passed away on 12 December 2025 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda

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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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COSTA**

JAMES

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Costa honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COUCHE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BLASDELL

ROBERT

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

3RD DIVISION, 7TH REGIMENT, "F" COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert W. Couche honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert W. Couche passed away on 19 July 2022 at the age of 91 years old

The 3rd Infantry Division (nicknamed Rock of the Marne) is a combined arms division of the United States Army based at Fort Stewart, Georgia / It is a direct subordinate unit of the XVIII Airborne Corps and U.S. Army Forces Command / The division has a distinguished history, having seen active service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Global War on Terror / The Medal of Honor has been awarded to 61 members of the 3rd Infantry Division, making the division the most honored in the Army / The division fought in France in World War I / In World War II, it landed with General Patton's task force in a contested amphibious landing on the coast of Morocco, North Africa, overwhelming Vichy French defenders in November 1942 / In 1943, the division invaded Sicily in July, and invaded Italy at Salerno in September, before fighting in France and finally Germany / Medal of Honor recipient Audie Murphy, featured in the Hollywood movie, "To Hell and Back," was a member / The division also served in the Korean War / From 1957 until 1996, the division was a major part of the United States Army's presence in the NATO alliance in West Germany / During the Korean War, the division was known as the "Fire Brigade" for its rapid response to crisis / The division served in Korea from 1951 until 1953 and received ten Battle Stars / During the Korean War, the division had 2,160 killed in action and 7,939 wounded



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CROSSLEY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

LEROY G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leroy G. Crossley honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leroy Crossley retired from the Ford Motor Buffalo Stamping Plant / Leroy G. Crossley passed away on 24 July 2025 at the age of 96 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CULKOWSKI**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

MARIAN B.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Marian B. Culkowski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marian B. Culkowski (nee Verso) passed away on 31 July 2025 at the age of 98 years old and is interred at White Haven Memorial Park, Pittsford, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CULLEN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

JAMES V.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARINE CORPS GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private James Victor Cullen honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PVT James Cullen was deployed to Korea as a Flame Thrower Specialist / Private James Cullen was Killed in Action during combat operations on 7 September 1952

James V. Cullen is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Cullen attended St. Thomas Aquinas parochial school, Bishop Timon High School and South Park High School / James Cullen was employed as a Western Union Messenger and later worked for the Twin Coach Company prior to joining the U.S. Marine Corps / James Victor Cullen was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

1st Battalion, 1st Marines (1/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Pendleton, California, consisting of anywhere from 800 to 2,000 Marines and Sailors, but the number fluctuates depending on the battalion's mission / Falling under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division, they are commonly referred to as "The First of the First" / The battalion has been organized around fire and maneuver warfare in tropical, woodland, desert, or Arctic environments / 1/1 deployed to Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam in August 1965 and



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

were reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division / They remained in Vietnam until May 1971, serving in or around Da Nang, Dong Ha, Con Thien, Quảng Trị, Hue, Phu Bai and Khe Sanh / 1st Battalion, 1st Marines returned to Camp Pendleton, California, in May 1971

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 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

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean 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



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Erie County

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

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CURRY

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

ROBERT

Address: 154 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Curry honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of Robert Curry, Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr. was an Army Platoon Leader who served in Vietnam and was Killed In Action on 15 November 1965 from multiple fragmentation (grenade) wounds suffered during combat action at Landing Zone X-ray Ia Drang Valley, Pleiku province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CURRY, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

WILBUR

Address: 154 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL FOR KOREA

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SSG Wilbur Curry was deployed to Korea as an Infantryman / SSG Wilbur Curry was awarded the Purple Heart when wounded on 6 March 1953 while leading a patrol

Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr. enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968

Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr. also served served as a Light Weapons Infantryman in the Vietnam War / SSG Curry, Jr. was a Platoon Leader who was Killed In Action on 15 November 1965 from multiple fragmentation (grenade) wounds suffered during combat action at Landing Zone X-ray Ia Drang Valley, Pleiku province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wilbur Curry graduated from Hutchinson High School / Wilbur Curry, Jr. was 35 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

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

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

As a Vietnam War veteran, Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr. received the following honors while serving in South Vietnam:

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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CZAPLICKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

ROMAN

R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Roman R. Czaplicki honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Roman Czaplicki was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roman Czaplicki retired from the Erie County Clerk's Office / Roman R. Czaplicki passed away at the age of 89 years old on 26 October 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAILY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RALPH

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Ralph G. Daily honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Ralph Daily was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ralph Daily retired from the Transparent Bag Company where he had been employed as a Graphics Art Coordinator / Daily also served as a longtime volunteer at Buffalo Mercy Hospital / Ralph G. Daily passed away at the age of 91 years old on 2 September 2022 and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DALY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TOWN OF TONAWANDA

RICHARD D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard D. Daly honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Richard Daly was a Buyer for Westinghouse for 38 years until his retirement / Richard D. Daly passed away on 18 March 2023 at the age of 95 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DAUM

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

RICHARD C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

595TH RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (RM) SERVICE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Richard Charles Daum honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Richard Daum was deployed to Korea as an Auto Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Daum was employed as an Auto Mechanic for Wassman Brothers prior to his induction into the U.S. Army on 22 May 1951 / Richard Daum was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / Richard Charles Daum passed away on 27 May 2019 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery and Mausoleum, Hamburg, New York

The Resource Management (RM) office mission is to serve as the principal advisor on all Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution functions within the Army Support Activity (ASA)

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York





Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DE REU

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

CLAYTON

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: UT2

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

USS SUTTON (DE-771)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN DEFENSE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Utilitiesman Clayton F. DeReu honorably served in the United States Navy / UT2 Clayton was deployed to Korea and served with the Seabees

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Clayton DeReu was a member of the Horn and Finn Sportsmen's Club and a member of Local #22 of the Plumbers Union for over 40 years / DeReu a member of Seabees Island X-5 of Western New York / Clayton F. DeReu passed away on 9 July 2017 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

UT2 is a skilled and knowledgeable Leader who continues to mentor and influence Junior Sailors within their own Navy careers / Utilitiesman (abbreviated as UT) is a United States Navy occupational rating / UTs are responsible for the installation, maintenance, operation, and repair of plumbing

United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Navy Seabees, form the U.S. Naval Construction Force (NCF) / Naval Construction Battalions were conceived of as replacements for civilian construction companies in combat zones after the attack on Pearl Harbor / At the time civilian contractors had roughly 70,000 men working U.S. Navy contracts overseas / International law made it illegal for civilian workers to resist an attack and by doing so would classify them as guerrillas and could lead to summary execution / With roots dating back to World War II, the Seabees were formally established on 5 March 1942, to meet the Navy's growing need to construct bases, build airfields, conduct underwater construction and build roads, bridges and other support facilities while providing protection for themselves and those around them as part of the war effort / The Seabees were deployed to Vietnam twice in the 1950s to survey



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Town of West Seneca, New York

and map the roads / Seabee teams (501 and 502) arrived in January 1963 as the first Seabees of the Vietnam War / The last battalion withdrew late 1971 with the last Seabee teams out a year later / When it was over, 137 Seabee teams were sent to Vietnam and had built 15 CB camps and deployed 22 battalions / In the over seven decades since its founding, Seabees have gone on to serve in most major U.S. conflicts

USS Sutton (DE-771) was a Cannon-class destroyer escort commissioned on 22 December 1944 / The ship was named for Shelton B. Sutton Jr., who was killed in action on 13 November 1942 when his ship, the USS Juneau, was torpedoed and sunk by an Imperial Japanese Navy submarine during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal / On 9 May 1945, the Sutton and the USS Neal A. Scott were sent to intercept the German submarine U-1228 which wished to surrender / They contacted the submarine the next day, and the two ships began escorting it to Casco Bay / The Sutton was soon detached to accept the surrender of U-234 and Sutton met the latter U-boat two days later, and she escorted it towards the United States / On 15 May, she put a 15-man boarding party on the submarine and embarked 37 prisoners / Sutton's destination was changed to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she arrived with U-234 on the 19th / The submarine and the prisoners were delivered to a representative of the 1st Naval District / U-234 had left Germany with a cargo bound for Japan of a disassembled Messerschmitt Me 262 jet plane, two Japanese scientists, and two high ranking German officers, including General der Flieger Ulrich Kessler of the Luftwaffe / While this was enough to create a media sensation, it was decades later before the U.S. government revealed that the submarine also carried a load of uranium oxide produced by the German atomic weapons program bound for a last-ditch Japanese effort / The approximately 550 kg of uranium dioxide was transferred to the Manhattan Project / Sutton steamed on to New York two days later and remained there until early June / The USS Sutton was decommissioned on 19 March 1984 and loaned to the Republic of Korea on 2 February 1956 under the Grant Aid Program and served that government as ROKS Kang Won (F-72) until she was stricken on 28 December 1977 and sent to the Philippines for cannibalization of parts

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The 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: **DEPETERS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOSEPH

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Joseph A. DePeters honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Joseph DePeters was drafted into the Army and served in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph DePeters graduated from Public School #1 in 1946 and graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in 1950 / DePeters attended and graduated from SUNY in Fredonia (formally Fredonia State College) in 1952 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, DePeters enrolled at the University of Buffalo on a scholarship from WNY Coating Association / From 1955 through 1962, DePeters was employed by several paint coating manufacturing companies, including McDougal-Butler Plant, National Manufacturing and Rose Products / In 1962, Joseph DePeters joined State Farm Insurance, retiring in 1997 and moving to Nokomis, Florida / DePeters was a member of the WNY Coating Association, Buffalo Rotary Club, Buffalo Business Association and Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Harry E. Crosby Post / Joseph A. DePeters passed away on 15 November 2023 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, Florida



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEVANEY**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

JOSEPH P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS CO., 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph P. Devaney honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Joseph Devaney was stationed with the Headquarters Co., 7th Infantry Division in Korea

CPL Joseph Devaney was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 13 January 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph P. Devaney passed away on 3 March 2017

The Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Infantry Division was organized 1 January 1918 at Camp Wheeler, Georgia and activated 1 July 1940 at Camp Ord, California / The Division received the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered INCHON, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered KOREA 1950-1953 and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer embroidered KOREA 1945-1948; 1953-1971

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DICKMAN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AMHERST

ALLAN C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Allan C. Dickman honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Allan Dickman retired from Bell Aerospace / Allan C. Dickman passed away on 16 May 2023 at the age of 90 years old and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIEFENBACH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

WILLIAM F.

Address: MARINE CORPS

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William F. Diefenbach honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Diefenbach was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (V.F.W.), The Chosen Few, American Legion and the Korean War Veterans Association / William Diefenbach was a deputy for the Erie County Sheriff's Department and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police / After his retirement, Diefenbach moved to Elizabeth, Kentucky / William F. Diefenbach passed away on 2 October 2012 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central, Radcliff, Kentucky



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DIMARCO

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BOWMANSVILLE

HAROLD M.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Harold Mario DiMarco honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold DiMarco was a member of the Clarence Senior Citizens Center / Harold Mario DiMarco passed away on 1 February 2025 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DIXON

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

PAUL A.

Address: 23 GREENFIELD AVENUE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY G, 3RD BATTALION, 1ST MARINES

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Paul Augustus Dixon honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Paul Dixon was Killed in Action on 25 July 1953 during the Battle of Boulder City on Hill 119, the last ground battle of the Korean War / Corporal Dixon's remains were never recovered

Base Assignments:

Camp Lejune, North Carolina - Constructed in May 1941, Camp LeJeune is a Marine Corps. amphibious assault training facility located in Jacksonville, North Carolina / The base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / The camps is also the home of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Forces in Readiness

Camp Pendleton, California - The camp was established in 1942 to train U.S. Marines for service in World War II / In October 1944, Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent installation" and by 1946, it became the home of the 1st Marine Division / The camp was named after Major General Joseph Henry Pendleton (1860–1942), who had long advocated setting up a training base for the Marine Corps on the west coast.

Miscellaneous:

The last ground action fought by the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War was the Battle of Boulder City on 23-27 July 1953 near the 38th parallel, 30 miles north of Seoul. Approximately 3,000 Chinese Communists launched an attack in the Berlin Complex ("Boulder City") area held by the 7th Marine regiments on Hill 111 and the 1st Marine regiments on Hill 119. With the peace talks in Panmunjom reaching a conclusion, the Chinese had been eager to gain a



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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last-minute victory over the UN forces and the battle was the last of the war before the official signing of the Korean Armistice

During the action the Chinese had attempted to make a breakthrough to the Imjin River along the divisional boundary between the US 1st Marine Division and the 1st Commonwealth Division (Australian) in order to turn the Marine division's flank. The Marines had endured the brunt of the attack, repelling the Chinese onslaught with their infantry and artillery but suffering casualties in the process. Only a few hours later the Armistice Agreement was signed, ultimately ending the war

Corporal Paul Augustus Dixon is memorialized at the Honolulu Memorial on the "Courts of the Missing" along with more than 8,000 other Americans Missing In Action from the Korean War / Corporal Dixon Paul is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Paul Augustus Dixon joined the United States Marine Corps in 1951 and was 19 years of age at the time of his death

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 land operations in any operational environment

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 land operations in any operational environment

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 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 CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

The Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon is awarded to any qualifying unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that distinguishes itself by outstanding heroism in combat against a hostile foreign force or for extremely meritorious service not involving combat but in support of military operations

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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Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DOHERTY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

JOHN V.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John V. Doherty honorably served in the United States Army / John Doherty was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Doherty retired as a Firefighter from the Buffalo Fire Department after 32 years / John V. Doherty passed away on 6 April 2024



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DONAHUE

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JOSEPH P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph P. Donahue honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Donahue was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DRAJEM**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

LEONARD R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Leonard R. Drajem honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Leonard Drajem was deployed to Korea / After completion of his two year Active Duty commitment, Drajem was transferred to the US Army Reserve on 9 April 1953

CPL Leonard Drajem received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 25 March 1957

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard Drajem was employed by the State of New York as a Stationary Engineer / Drajem was a long-time member of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) / Leonard Richard Drajem passed away on 6 November 2011 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DRESSLER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

NORMAN J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman J. Dressler honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman J. Dressler retired from the U.S. Postal Service / Norman J. Dressler passed away on 26 March 2022 at the age of 88 years old and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DROZDOWSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

RICHARD B.

Address: 768 MILL ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART (2)

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Richard B. Drozdowski honorably served in the United States Army / SSG Richard Drozdowski was a veteran of World War II, enlisting in the United States Army in 1940 at the age of 17 years old / Private Drozdowski was deployed to Africa with the 2nd Army Infantry Division, later being promoted to Sergeant / During the North African Invasion, Richard Drozdowski was wounded and taken as a Prisoner of War (POW) at Casserine Pass (a gap in the Grand Dorsal chain of the Atlas Mountains in west central Tunisia), and sent to an Italian POW Camp in Sicily / Sergeant Drozdowski was later transferred to Stalag 2B Hammerstein in West Prussia / Drozdowski was a Prisoner of War for more than two years before he managed to escape / Russian Armed Forces advancing towards Germany from the East, found Sergeant Richard Drozdowski and returned him to the American lines / Sergeant Richard B Drozdowski was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions during battlefield combat and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action / The bullet and shrapnel he received from his wounding were never removed

When the Korean War broke out, our nation once again called upon Richard Drozdowski to serve his country, drafting him in 1948 / Promoted to Staff Sergeant, Drozdowski was deployed to Korea / SSG Drozdowski was wounded during combat operations and taken by Communist forces as a Prisoner of War and sent to a POW camp / SSG Drozdowski managed to escape his captors and with the aid of an Australian soldier, found his way back to the American lines and returned to duty / SSG Drozdowski was awarded his second Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat.

Staff Sergeant Richard Drozdowski continued to serve in the U.S. Army for 20 years.

Base Assignments:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Richard Drozdowski was born in Buffalo and attended Lackawanna High School / Richard Drozdowski worked for Moog for 20 years as an Auditor until his retirement / After his retirement, Drozdowski continued to work as an Auditor for the U.S. Government Audit System / Richard Drozdowski was a member of Matthew Glab Post #1477; American Legion, in Lackawanna and was an officer in the Ex-POW Organization / Richard B. Drozdowski passed away on 27 October 1991 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at St. John's Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The 2nd Infantry Division was first constituted on 21 September 1917 in the Regular Army and organized on 26 October 1917 at Bourmont, Haute Marne, France / During World War I and World War II, The 2nd Infantry Division won many hard-fought victories / With the outbreak of hostilities in Korea on 25 June 1950, the 2nd Infantry Division was quickly alerted for movement to the Far East Command and assignment to the Eighth United States Army / The division arrived in Korea on 23 July 1950, becoming the first unit to reach Korea directly from the United States / Relieving the 24th Infantry Division at the Naktong River Line, the North Korean Korean People's Army (KPA) struck in a human wave attack on the night of 31 August 1950 / In the 16-day battle that followed, the division's clerks, bandsmen, technical and supply personnel joined in the fight to defend against the attackers / In August 1951, the division was on the offensive once again, ordered to attack a series of ridges that had been designated threats to the Eighth Army's line / These actions would devolve into the battles of Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge / The division would not receive relief until October 1951, with its infantry regiments having suffered heavy losses / After the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed on 27 July 1953, the 2nd Infantry Division withdrew to positions south of the Korean Demilitarized Zone / The 2nd Infantry Division was redeployed to the United States in 1954

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUDEK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

VICTOR F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

39TH AIR ARTILLERY BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Victor F. Dudek honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Victor Dudek was deployed to Korea for 1 year and 5 months

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Victor F. Dudek passed away on 1 April 2024 at the age of 92 years old

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DUDZIAK

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CLARENCE

THOMAS L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

SERVICE BATTERY, 424TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, 8TH ARMY ARTILLERY, 9TH CORPS

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Thomas L. Dudziak honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Thomas Dudziak was deployed for 18 months of foreign service, assigned to the Service Battery, 424th Field Artillery Battalion, 8th Army Artillery, 9th Corps

SGT Thomas Dudziak was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 12 June 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Dudziak attended St. Bernard's Elementary School , South Park High School and LaSalle University, Chicago / Dudziak had a good career in the food business / Thomas L, Dudziak passed away on 19 August 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The Field Artillery is the branch of the Army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces

The 424th Field Artillery Battalion was 8th Army Artillery assigned to the 9th Corps / the 424th were equipped with 8-inch artillery and thus not assigned to any one division or regiment. There were three 8-inch outfits in Korea and covered approximately 50 miles of the central front with the other two outfits covering the eastern front and western front



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945 and December 1991 who served on active duty for 24 consecutive months during the Cold War; were deployed outside of the continental U.S. for a period of at least 30 days during the Cold War; or were a member of a reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUGGAN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

MICHAEL P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CW5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael P. Duggan honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Michal Duggan served a lengthy career in the Active Army, Army Reserve and New York Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michale Duggan joined the Knights of St. George in 2001 / Duggan was a member and Commander of American Legion Post #63 in Lackawanna / Michael P. Duggan passed away on 9 February 2020 at the age of 85 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

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUNKEL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* FARNHAM

RAYMOND H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean 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:* KOREA

Service Notes:

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

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



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EFRON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

ARTHUR

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur Efron honorably served in the United States Army / Arthur Efron was deployed to Korea as a Radio Officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Efron was born in Chicago, Illinois / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Efron earning a college degree at the University of Washington / Dr. Arthur Efron joined the University of Buffalo faculty in 1963 and ran the UB English Department in the late 1970's and early 1980's / Efron took emeritus status in 2005 / Dr. Efron was a former member of the Buffalo Peace Center; founding member of the Independent School of Buffalo; and a member of the Albright-Knox (AKG) Art Museum / Dr. Arthur Efron passed away on 16 May 2024 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: EHRENREICH

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

NEIL

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Neil Ehrenreich honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Neil Ehrenreich was a curling champion and winner of the Lead of the Year on the Grand National Champion Rink (1968) / Neil Ehrenreich was the former owner and President of the Riverside Men's Shop in Buffalo / Neil Ehrenreich retired to Bradenton, Florida and passed away on 1 November 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ENGELHAUPT

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

JOSEPH E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Joseph E. Engelhaupt honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Engelhaupt was a member of the Sheetmetal Workers, Local #71 / Joseph E. Engelhaupt passed away at the age of 90 years old on 18 January 2023



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ENGLEKA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ANGOLA

HOWARD L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Howard L. Engleka honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Engleka retired from the Ford Motor Company / Howard L. Engleka passed away on 2 October 2024 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ERHARDT

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

HAROLD E.

Address: 3448 CLINTON STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

3 AAA (ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY) AW (AUTOMATIC WEAPONS) BN 3RD DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private Harold Erhardt honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Harold Erhardt was assigned as a Field Artillery Chief and stationed with the 3rd Anti-Aircraft Artillery (Automatic Weapons) Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division / PVT Erhardt was Killed in Action when seriously wounded on 12 June 1953 while fighting the enemy in North Korea and died of those wounds the next day / Private Harold Erhardt was posthumously award the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold E. Erhardt passed away on 12 June 1953 at the age of 20 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Harold E. Erhardt is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ERNST**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RICHARD A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard A. Ernst honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Ernst was the owner of Ernst Press in Buffalo / Richard A. Ernst passed away on 27 December 2023 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ESCHBERGER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LANCASTER

KENNETH E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth E. Eschberger honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Eschberger retired from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) / Eschberger was a Fourth Degree Knight of the Fr. John Schaus Council Knights of Columbus / Kenneth E. Eschberger passed away on 25 January 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: EVANS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

GEORGE J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

8TH CAVALRY REGIMENT, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| PURPLE HEART | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL | UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL CITATION | COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE | ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL | ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

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

Service Notes:

Private George J. Evans honorably served in the United States Army / PVT George Evans was deployed to Korea as a Light Weapons Infantryman / Private George Evans was Killed in Action during combat operations in Sonbyok, North Korea on 31 October 1951

The remains of George J. Evans were returned to the United States aboard the ship, "Marquette Victory"

George J. Evans is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Evans was a graduate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and attended Canisius High School and South Park High School / Prior to entering the U.S. Army, Evans was employed by the New York Central Terminal (Buffalo) in the Baggage Department / Paul J. Evans was 22 years old at the time of his passing

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,



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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 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 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 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 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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

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The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FANTI**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

JERRY J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jerry J. Fanti honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerry J. Fanti passed away on 5 February 2014 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FEDERIO**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

ANTHONY J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Anthony J. Federio honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Federio was a retired Vice President of Production and Control at HFW Industries / Anthony J. Federio passed away on 3 August 2022 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FEDERIO**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

ANTHONY J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Anthony J. Federio honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Federio was a retired Vice President of Production and Control at HFW Industries (an industrial equipment manufacturer and machine rebuilding shop) / Anthony J. Federio passed away at the age of 89 years old on 3 August 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FEHR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

RONALD R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald R. Fehr honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald fehr was a Truck Mechanic / Ronald R. Fehr passed away on 16 February 2024 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FILIPPONE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

SALVATORE D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Salvatore D. "Sam" Filippone honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Salvatore Filippone retired from Sears where he was employed in the Plumbing & Heating Department / Salvatore Filippone was a member of the North Hill Pistol Club and several bowling leagues / Salvatore D. "Sam" Filippone passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 97 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FIX, JR.**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

NORMAN E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "C", 185TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Norman Edward Fix, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Fix was employed as a Drill Press Operator at Di Escastin Company prior to being inducted into the U.S. Army on 5 December 1952 / Norman Fix was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / Norman Edward Fix, Jr. passed away on 5 July 2024 at the age of 91 years old

An Engineer Combat Battalion (ECB) was a designation for a battalion-strength combat engineer unit in the U.S. Army / Best known for pontoon bridge construction and clearing hazards in amphibious landings, their duties also included serving as sappers deploying and deactivating explosive charges and unexploded munitions, mapmaking, camouflage, and a wide variety of construction services supporting frontline troops / They also fielded defensive .30 cal. and .50 cal. machine gun squads, anti-tank rocket and grenade launchers, and were required to fight as infantry as a secondary mission

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a mid-level unit award of the United States Armed Forces / It is awarded to units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services for at least six continuous months during a period of military operations against an armed enemy

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FORTH SR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

LEONARD P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

518TH ORDNANCE COMPANY (DIRECT SUPPORT)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Leonard P. Forth, Sr. served 15 months in Korea with the 518th Ordnance Company

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard Forth, Sr. was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 17 July 1954 / Forth was a member and past Commander of the Francis J. Donovan American Legion Post 1626 in Cheektowaga / Leonard P. Forth, Sr. passed away on 11 February 2019

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during the Korean War to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FOSTER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TONAWANDA

CHARLES A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Charles A. Foster honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Charles Foster was deployed to Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles A. Foster passed away on 27 March 2023 at the age of 91 years old

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FRANK, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

DONALD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald E. Frank, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Frank was a member of the Harvey D. Moran, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #2940 in West Seneca, New York / Donald E. Frank, Sr. passed away on 7 June 2020 and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FRECHETTE

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TOWN OF TONAWANDA

FRANCIS J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Francis Frechette honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis Frechette was a retired Ceramic Engineer who held several patents / Francis Frechette passed away on 31 August 2024 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FREDERICK, SR.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

ISAIAH

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

25 INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL W/3 BRONZE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT - RIFLE (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Isaiah Frederick, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Isaiah Frederick was deployed to Korea for a 14 month tour of duty with the 25 Infantry Division

Isaiah Frederick was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 23 June 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Isaiah Frederick, Sr. passed away on 6 January 2026 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu New York

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FRONCZAK

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

RONALD F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

1ST CALVARY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald F. Fronczak honorably served in the United States Army / Ronald Fronczak was deployed to Korea as a Radar Operator on the Demilitarized Military Zone (DMZ) / Fronczak was later assigned as a group Leader of the Radar Section

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Fronczak worked for Blue Cross & Blue Shield for nearly 30 years in Computer & Data Processing Management / Fronczak retired in 1997 as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Medicare Part B Division in Binghamton, NY for New York State / Ronald Fronczak was a longtime volunteer with Meals on Wheels in Hamburg and Angola / Ronald F. Fronczak passed away on 24 June 2025 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

Radar and sonar operators set up, operate, and perform preventive maintenance on sophisticated radar and sonar equipment / They use radar and sonar to detect, track, recognize, analyze, and identify objects

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 1st Air Cavalry refers to the



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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

Name: FRONTERA, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

THOMAS

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Thomas Frontera, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Frontera was a member of Union Fire Company, Fire Dist. #2 West Seneca / Thomas Frontera, Jr. passed away on 17 February 2020 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery in the Veteran's Field of Valor, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FROST**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

WILLIAM C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William C. "Frosty" Frost honorably served in the United States Army / William Frost was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, William Frost was employed as a draft beer specialist in the Buffalo Niagara region / William C. "Frosty" Frost passed away on 22 January 2026 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GAGNON

PERCY

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TONAWANDA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Percy "Bud" Gagnon honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Percy Gagnon was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Percy Gagnon was a Draftsman for WSF Industries in Tonawanda, New York before his retirement / Gagnon was a life member of the AMVETS Post #26 and American Legion Sikora Post #1322 / Gagnon was recognized on the Wall of Honor at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park / Percy "Bud" Gagnon passed away on 29 June 2023 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GAMBINO**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

JOSEPH A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

1965TH HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, 802ND ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph A. Gambino honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Joseph Gambino served over 4 years in the Army, including 16 months of duty in Korea with the 1965th Headquarters & Service Company, 802nd Engineer Aviation Battalion

Corporal Gambino was a talented trumpet player and played in several Military bands

CPL Joseph Gambino was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 5 May 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Gambino earned a College Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master Degree in Business / Gambino was the regional manager for Lincoln-Mercury / Joseph Gambino was the owner of Fairway RV and Fairway Dodge / Joseph A. Gambino passed away on 18 December 2018 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

In 1939 Gen. Hap Arnold negotiated with the U.S. Army Chief of Engineers for a special engineer unit to work with the Air Corps / The original concept envisioned a small group of skilled construction and engineer troops, closely trained alongside air units, with the ability to repair bomb damaged airfields, to camouflage airfields and if necessary, to defend airfields / These troops would also be capable of constructing light duty airfields in forward locations / As the possibility of American involvement in a global war grew, the planners agreed to give the air forces enough men and equipment to construct their own heavy duty bases in forward areas / Without knowing exactly what would be needed to build air



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

bases in deserts, in jungles and on coral islands, the planners devised the Engineering Aviation Battalion, a self-contained unit that became the core of aviation engineering efforts

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GARLAND

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

PAUL R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY H, 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Paul R. Garland honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Paul Garland was classified as a Heavy Weapons Trainer while stationed in New Jersey / CPL Garland was deployed to Korea for 11 months and reclassified as a Company Clerk / While delivering a message to the front lines, CPL Garland sensed imminent enemy danger from a mortar borage and jumped out of his jeep / Running faster than his moving jeep, CPL Garland threw his body over a North Korean women and her two children to protect them

Corporal Paul Garland was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 19 January 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Born in Buffalo, Paul Garland graduated from West Seneca Senior High School / Garland attended Chown Business School in Buffalo, and worked at the Ford Company, Buffalo before being drafted in the U.S. Army / Paul R. Garland passed away at the age of 94 years old on 13 January 2024 at the New York State Veterans Home, Batavia, New York

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



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Province / It was inactivated on 24 November 1992 and reflagged as the 2nd Armored Division

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GASIEWICZ

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

EUGENE

V.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Eugene V. Gasiewicz honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Eugene Gasiewicz was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Gasiewicz was a retired General Supervisor of the U.S. Postal Service / Eugene V. Gasiewicz passed away on 12 January 2021 at the age of 91 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GATES, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

RAYMOND J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond J. Gates, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Raymond Gates served during World War II and the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Gates retired from the United States Postal Service / Raymond J. Gates, Sr. passed away on 6 November 2017 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GENTRY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

BILL **E.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE SERVICE STAR

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Bill Earl Gentry honorably served in the United States Air Force / PFC Bill Gentry was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Telephone and Telegraph Equipment Repairman

Base Assignments:

Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming - shortened as F.E. Warren AFB is a United States Air Force base (AFB) located approximately 3 miles west of Cheyenne, Wyoming / It is one of three strategic-missile bases in the U.S. / It was named in honor of Francis E. Warren in 1930 / Warren AFB is home of the 90th Missile Wing (90 MW), assigned to the Twentieth Air Force, Air Force Global Strike Command / The 90 MW operates the LGM-30G Minuteman III ICBM. It is also the home of Twentieth Air Force, which commands all U.S. Air Force ICBMs / Warren AFB is the oldest continuously active military installation within the Air Force, established in 1867 by the United States Army as Fort David Allen Russell / The facility came under the control of the United States Army Air Forces on 1 June 1947, and then of the United States Air Force (USAF) on 18 September 1947 / The 389th Air Base Group was established on 1 February 1958 to take control of the former ATC facilities as part of the transfer to Strategic Air Command (SAC) / The provisional 4320th Strategic Missile Wing was established that date with responsibility for 24 Atlas missile sites under SAC / Although not the first designated missile wing, Warren became the first fully operational ICBM base in the Air Force

Miscellaneous:

Bill Gentry was a member of Harvey D. Morin, VFW Post #2940 and a member of the Color Guard / Gentry was an active member of the St. David's Episcopal Church in West Seneca / Bill Earl Gentry passed away on February 4, 2020 at the age of 89

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

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Bronze Service Stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GENTZ**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

BRUCE H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BT2

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS MIDWAY (CVB/CVA/CV-41)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Boilerman Petty Officer 2nd Class Bruce H. Gentz honorably served in the United States Navy / BT2 Bruce Gentz served aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Midway

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Gentz worked for many years in auto repair and owned Grand Island Automotive, Inc. / Gentz was a member of the Twin Cities Camera Club and past President of the Rotary Club of Grand Island / Bruce H. Gentz passed away on 23 May 2021 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York

A Navy Boilerman 2nd Class is responsible for performing tests on boiler water, fuel, and lubricating oils, as well as operating and performing preventive maintenance on boilers and boiler auxiliary equipment / Boilerman also operate distilling plants, test and calibrate gauges, and exercise environmental control procedures / Additionally, they may repair and test Fireroom (boilerroom) equipment, renew parts, repair boiler plates and brick-work of boilers, and check seams, rivets, welds, and fits pipes

USS Midway (CVB/CVA/CV-41) is an aircraft carrier, formerly of the United States Navy, the lead ship of her class / Commissioned on 10 September 1945, eight days after the end of World War II, Midway was the largest aircraft carrier in the world until 1955, as well as the first U.S. aircraft carrier too big to transit the Panama Canal / In 1952, the ship participated in Operation Mainbrace, North Sea maneuvers with NATO forces / The Midway sailed for the Far East 6 March 1965, and from mid-April flew strikes against military and logistics installations in North and South Vietnam, including the first combat use of AGM-12 Bullpup air-to-surface missiles / She operated for 47 years, during which time she saw action in the Vietnam War and served as the Persian Gulf flagship in 1991's Operation Desert Storm / Decommissioned on 11 April 1992, the Midway was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 17 March 1997 and she is now a museum ship at the USS Midway Museum, in San Diego, California



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York





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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GERLACH

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

GRANT

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY B, 420TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Grant A. Gerlach honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Grant Gerlach was deployed to Korea for 18 months with Company B, 420th Engineer Construction Battalion

SGT Grant Gerlach was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 4 August 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Grant Gerlach helped build Gerlach's Soda Bar (Wanakah Drugstore) / Grant A. Gerlach passed away on 26 April 2018 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

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The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created



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The Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a mid-level unit award of the United States Armed Forces / It is awarded to units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services for at least six continuous months during a period of military operations against an armed enemy



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GLAESER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ORCHARD PARK

MICHAEL A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: A.

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael A. Glaeser honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Glaeser was a longtime employee of Greif Buffalo, a packaging specialty company / Michael A. Glaeser passed away on 24 December 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GOEHLE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* AKRON

PAUL **F.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Paul F. Goehle honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Paul Goehle was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul F. Goehle was a graduate of Lockport High School, 1949 / A baseball catcher, he played semi-pro ball in the Niagara Suburban League and was invited to the Philadelphia Phillies training camp but elected to sign with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1950/ in 1951 Goehle enlisted in the U.S Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps, Paul F. Goehle became interested in the insurance business and in 1963 purchased the Daggett Insurance Agency in Lancaster, NY / Goehle coached Little League Baseball teams both in Lockport and Lancaster over the years, served as treasurer of the Lancaster Lions Club 1964 to 1969 and he served on the advisory board of Marine Midland Bank / Paul F. Goehle passed away on 25 March 2022 at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Glenwood Cemetery, Lockport, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GOLD**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LANCASTER

GORDON P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gordon Paul Gold honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Gordon Gold was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gordon Paul Gold passed away on 20 January 2026 at the age of 93 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GOLWITZER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

RONALD A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Ronald Anthony Golwitzer honorably served in the United States Army / SFC Ronald Golwitzer was deployed to Korea and later, during the Vietnam War, deployed to Vietnam

Sergeant First-Class Ronald Anthony Golwitzer was Killed In Action during the Vietnam War on 22 August 1968 from wounds suffered from small arms fire in Gia Dinh province, South Vietnam

Sergeant First-Class Ronald Golwitzer served nearly 19 years in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Golwitzer was a graduate of Seneca Vocational High School / Ronald Anthony Golwitzer was 39 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

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The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRAESSER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

NORMAN C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Norman C. Graesser honorably served in the United States Army / Norman Graesser was deployed to Korea and assigned to A Battery, 9th Field Artillery Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division /

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Graesser attended St. James School and St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Norman Graesser graduated from Canisius College / Norman Graesser retired as an Industrial Engineer at the Chevrolet Motor Division of GM in Tonawanda / Norman C. Graesser passed away on 27 January 2021 at the age of 91 years old

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York





Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GRANT

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

JOHN F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

2ND CHEMICAL MORTAR BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Francis Grant honorably served in the United States Army / John Grant was deployed to Korea with the 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion, better known as the "Red Dragons"

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Grant was originally from Pittsford, New York / Following graduation from High School, Grant attended Sampson College, leaving to join the Army / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, John Grant enrolled in Alfred University, earning a Masters Degree in Ceramic Engineering / Employed by Corning Glass, Grant worked on several high-tech projects, such as developing the windshield for the military's X-15 supersonic aircraft / Leaving Corning, John Grant went to work for the Ferro Corporation in Buffalo, where he became Technical Director / Following his retirement, Grant stayed active in many volunteer organizations including the Nativity Church, Boy Scouts of America and Meals on Wheels / John Francis Grant passed away on 4 March 2023 at the age of 94 years old

The 2nd Chemical Battalion is a United States Army chemical unit stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, United States, and is part of the 48th Chemical Brigade / The battalion can trace its lineage from the 30th Engineer Regiment (Gas and Flame) and has served in World War I, World War II, Korean War, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Iraqi Freedom / When the Korean War broke out on July 25, 1950, the battalion received movement orders on 7 September 1950 and moved so quickly that 47 days later, on 24 October, they fired their first combat mission / The journey. included travelling 700 miles up the Korean peninsula in four days, from Pusan South Korea to YongByon, North Korea / A week later the battalion was over run at Unsan when the Chinese made their first significant entry into the war / Many guns and vehicles were lost and 19 men were killed, some by capture and execution / On 26 November the Chinese made a major assault against the US 9th Infantry, which the Red Dragons were supporting / The Chinese over ran most of the battalion's gun positions, and men continued to fire missions for the infantry while under small arms fire. Six men were killed; two were awarded posthumous Silver Stars / On 14 February 1951, the Red dragons played a critical role in saving the US 23rd Infantry which



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was surrounded at Chipyeong-ni by 90,000 Chinese troops / When the United Nations advanced again in the spring of 1951 the battalion was moved literally from coast to coast / The Red Dragons were the only chemical mortar battalion to serve in the war, and routinely outperformed heavy mortar units of the infantry / It participated in eight of the ten United Nations campaigns of the war. Sixty-one members of the battalion were killed or missing in action / On 23 January 1953 all personnel and equipment of the 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion were transferred to the 461st Infantry Battalion (Heavy Mortar) / The Red Dragon personnel, serving as the 461st Infantry Battalion, continued in action until the Armistice, completing their ninth campaign, the tenth and last campaign of the war



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRASSO**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

LAWRENCE N.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Lawrence N. Grasso honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Lawrence Grasso was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence N. Grasso passed away in 2007 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

"national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GREGORIO**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

DANIEL M

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CMDR

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1991

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL | KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON | UNITED NATIONS KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (PISTOL) | NAVY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON |
| COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL | COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION |
| ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/HOURLASS DEVICE | NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS |

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

Service Notes:

Commander Daniel M. Gregorio honorably served in the United States Navy / Commander Daniel Gregorio was a Retired Commander with the United States Coast Guard, a United States Navy Veteran and served with the United States Marines Corps in the Korean War / Commander Gregorio served our nation during the period of 1951-1991 / His first 4 years from 1951-1955 were as an active-duty Navy Corpsman assigned to a Marine Corps Special Ops unit in Korea / Gregorio then enlisted in the Naval Reserve stationed at Naval Air Station, Niagara Falls, and in 1962 enlisted in the US Coast Guard Reserve, serving during the Vietnam War / From 1983-1985 Commander Gregorio served as Commanding Officer for the USCG Reserve Unit in Erie PA, and he was the first Commanding Officer at USCG Reserve Niagara River, which was commissioned in 1988 / CMDR Gregorio served there until his retirement on 6 October 1991

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel M. Gregorio passed away at the age of 90 years old on 15 February 2022 and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

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 Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Coast Guard Achievement Medal was established on 29 January 1964, by Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon / The award was initially established as the Coast Guard Commendation for Achievement Ribbon and was redesignated as the Coast Guard Achievement Medal on 11 June 1968 / It is awarded for any member the Armed Forces serving alongside the Coast Guard whose service goes above and beyond the bounds of regular duty performance in a non-combat situation

The Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation was established in 1973, and is awarded in the name of the Commandant of the Coast Guard / It may be awarded to any unit of the Coast Guard that has distinguished itself by either valorous or meritorious achievement or service in support of Coast Guard operations not involving combat / The Commandant may also bestow the award upon a unit of another branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, provided the unit meets the standards established for Coast Guard units / To justify the award, the service performed as a unit must be comparable to that which would meet the award of a Coast Guard Achievement Medal to an individual / Normal performance of duty or participation in a large number of operational missions does not in itself justify the award / It will not be awarded to a large unit for actions of one or more of its sub-units unless the entire unit performed as a team

The Armed Forces Reserve Medal (AFRM) is a service medal of the United States Armed Forces that has existed since 1950 / The medal recognizes service performed by members of the reserve components and is awarded to both officers and enlisted personnel / The medal is considered a successor award to the Naval Reserve Medal and the Marine Corps Reserve Ribbon, which were discontinued in 1958 and 1967, respectively / If the medal is awarded for periods of service, it is accompanied by an hourglass device / Depending on the length of service, a bronze, silver, gold, or bronze and gold hourglass are worn on the suspension ribbon and service ribbon, indicating 10, 20, 30, or 40 years of service, respectively



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

Commander Daniel M. Gregorio also was awarded the following Military Medals:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

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

COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL

The Coast Guard Commendation Medal is a mid-level United States military decoration that is presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service within the Coast Gard forces

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE MEDAL

The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOT-SM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was created through Executive Order 13289 on 12 March 2003, by President George W. Bush / The medal recognizes those military service members who have supported operations to counter terrorism in the War on Terror from 11 September 2001



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRESCH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RICHARD W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard W. Gresch honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Gresch was born on 20 October 1943 in Eyota, Minnesota / Gresch later moved to West Seneca and worked as a Social Worker at the West Seneca Developmental Center for 30 years / Richard W. Gresch passed away on 18 November 2020 at the age of 77 years old



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GULL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BOWMANSVILLE

HENRY R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Henry R. "Hank" Gull honorably served in the United States Army / Henry Gull was deployed to Korea for 18 months and assigned to the Signal Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry R. Gull served as a Scoutmaster in Bowmansville and was the owner of Gull's Garage in Lancaster / Gull was also very active in Lancaster politics / Henry R. "Hank" Gull passed away on 3 June 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Mt. Prospect Cemetery, Franklinville, New York

The United States Army Signal Corps was established in 1860 and was used in World War II to coordinate swift and accurate communication for air, ground, and naval units required more sophisticated technology and service /The Signal Corps develops, tests, provides, and manages communications and information systems support for the command and control of combined arms forces / The Signal Corps pioneered in the development of radar to detect approaching aircraft as well as mobile communications and deciphering machines / In addition to its primary role in military transmissions, the unit also played a key role in producing training films for army and civilian personnel, and documenting combat missions / During World War II, noted Hollywood producers, directors, and photographers (such as Darryl Zanuck, Frank Capra, John Huston, and George Stevens) all served in the Signal Corps



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HALLIMAN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

RONALD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "G", 2ND BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| PURPLE HEART | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL |
| UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA | REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE | MARKSMANSHIP BADGE |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE | ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Ronald Eugene Halliman honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Ronald Halliman was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman and deployed to Korea with the 8th Cavalry Regiment / PFC Halliman was classified as Missing In Action in September 1950 during heavy fighting during the defense of the Pusan & Naktong perimeter

On September 3, 1950, the 8th Cavalry Regiment and the 2nd Engineer Battalion, both elements of the 1st Cavalry Division, were holding a defensive line between Tabu-dong and Taegu at the upper end of the Naktong Perimeter / Company F of the 8th Cavalry, defending Hill 448, was attacked by elements of North Korea's 13th Infantry Division and forced to retreat to Hill 449, defended by Company G of the 8th Cavalry / The 8th Cavalry Regiment found itself cut off from its supply train and withdrew from the area to keep from being surrounded by the enemy / Upon reaching the village of Tabu-dong, members of Companies D and E of the 8th Cavalry became involved in hut-to-hut fighting before they could retreat / Meanwhile, elements of the 2nd Engineer Battalion, which had been ordered to take and hold Hill 755, were also forced to withdraw / United States forces did not re-take this territory until 21 September 1950 / Private First-Class Ronald Eugene Halliman, who joined the U.S. Army from New York, served with G Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division / Witnesses reported he was killed in action on 3 September 1950, by enemy hand grenades near the village of Igoktong in the area of Hill 449 / United States troops were forced to withdraw rapidly from the area where PFC Halliman fell, and by the time U.S. forces returned to Hill 449 on September 21, his remains had disappeared



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The Pusan Perimeter was one of the first major engagements of the Korean War with 140,000 United Nations troops pushed to the brink of defeat before making a final stand against 98,000 North Korean troops / During the battle, the First Cavalry Division suffered 770 killed, 2,613 wounded and 62 captured

Private First-Class Ronald Eugene Halliman was declared Killed in Action on 31 December 1953 / PFC Halliman is listed in the Courts of the Missing, National Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii and the National Korean War Veterans Memorial, Washington, District of Columbia

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Halliman was a 1950 graduate of South Park High School / Ronald Eugene Halliman was 18 years old at the time of his passing

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 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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HALLMARK

Killed in Action **Hometown:** JASPER, AL

JAMES C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1944

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL FOR KOREA

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

EAME CAMPAIGN MEDAL

WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant James Hallmark honorably served in the United States Army / MSGT James Hallmark served in both World War II, in the European Theater, and the Korean War / MSGT Hallmark's last military assignment was as an Army Recruiter / MSGT Hallmark earned the Bronze Star Medal for heroic action while engaged with the enemy and received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the battlefield

After twenty-one years in the Army, James C. Hallmark retired from active military service with an Honorable Discharge

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Hallmark went to work in the private sector for M&T Bank in Western New York and eventually retired / Hallmark was a longtime member of the Kiwanis Club / James C. Hallmark passed away on 25 December 1983, at the age of 64 and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The Bronze Star Medal is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military / It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, 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



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The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan or Korea / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal, which features the same ribbon with its own medallion and clasps

The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces Soldiers in the rank of Colonel and below, who personally fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of an infantry, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

The European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal was a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on 6 November 1942 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt / The medal was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa and the Middle East) and was awarded for any service performed between 7 December 1941 and 2 March 1946 / The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War

The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon" / By 1946, a full medal had been established which was referred to as the World War II Victory Medal / The medal commemorates military service during World War II and is awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The 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: HARPER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

RAYNARD

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raynard Harper honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raynard Harper was the owner of Harper's Auto Shop / Reverend Raynard Harper passed away on 14 November 2022 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HARTMAN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

KENNETH W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth Walter Hartman honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Hartman was a 35 year Buffalo retired Firefighter, Truck 12 / Hartman relocated to Georgia in 1986 / Kenneth Walter Hartman passed away on 7 June 2014 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HARTMAN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

KENNETH M

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth McKinstry Hartman honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Hartman was a retired Erie County Sheriff / Kenneth McKinstry Hartman passed away on 30 March 2018



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HARTMAN, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

KENNETH G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

823RD AIR POLICE SQUADRON, 823RD AIR BASE GROUP (SAC)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Kenneth G. Hartman, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

The 823d Air Division is an inactive United States Air Force organization / The division was first activated in June 1956 at Homestead Air Force Base / Its last assignment was with Strategic Air Command (SAC)'s Second Air Force at McCoy Air Force Base, Florida / The 823d was inactivated at the end of June 1971 and its mission, personnel and equipment were transferred to the 42d Air Division, which was simultaneously activated at McCoy

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HASTINGS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

THOMAS G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas G. Hastings honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Hastings was a retired Master Plumber of Union Local #22, Buffalo, New York / Thomas G. Hastings passed away on 26 January 2025 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HEADLEY

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

RONALD C.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: ET1

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS KEARSARGE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Electronics Technician First-Class Ronald C. Headley honorably served in the United States Navy / ET1 Ronald Headley was deployed to Korea and served aboard the USS Kearsarge as a Radar man

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Headley received a Masters Degree in Engineering from the University of Delaware / Ronald Headley was a former head Electrical Engineer at DuPont in Niagara Falls / Ronald C. Headley passed away on 15 April 2018

USS Kearsarge (CV/CVA/CVS-33) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers completed during or shortly after World War II for the United States Navy / The ship was the third US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named for a Civil War-era steam sloop / The Kearsarge was commissioned on 2 March 1946 and engaged in training operations along the East Coast and Caribbean / The Kearsarge sailed for the Far East to engage in combat missions in the Korean War / Arriving at Yokosuka on 8 September 1952, Kearsarge joined the fast carrier Task Force 77 (TF 77) off the east coast of Korea six days late / For the next five months, the carrier's planes flew nearly 6,000 sorties against Communist forces in North Korea, unleashing considerable damage on enemy positions / She completed her tour in late February 1953, returning to her home port of San Diego on 17 March 1953 / During the summer of 1958, Kearsarge was fitted out as a(n) (antisubmarine warfare) support carrier and reclassified CVS-33 / On 19 June 1964, the antisubmarine carrier was deployed on her ninth Far Eastern cruise / Arriving Yokosuka on 30 July, Kearsarge was dispatched to the South China Sea, following the Gulf of Tonkin Incident, the North Vietnamese patrol boat attack on U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin in early August 1964 / While U.S. Navy planes destroyed North Vietnam oil and supply depots, Kearsarge provided antisubmarine protection for the 7th Fleet / The USS Kearsarge was decommissioned on 13 February 1970 / Following three years in the Reserve Fleet, she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register in May 1973 and sold for scrap in February 1974



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HECK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

CLARENCE A.

Address: .

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

38TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Corporal Clarence Arthur "Art" Heck honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Clarence Heck was deployed to Korea for 12 months and assigned to the 38th Infantry Regiment

CPL Clarence Heck received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 27 January 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Clarence Heck served as a firefighter for the East Seneca Hose Fire Company for 69 years / Clarence Arthur "Art" Heck passed away on 8 April 2018 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The 38th Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Army and was established on 28 July 1866 / The 38th Infantry participated in the Korean Spring Offensive, the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, the Second Korean Winter Offensive, the Summer-Fall 1952 Offensive, the Third Korean Offensive and the Korean Summer Offensive of 1953 / Five members of the 38th Infantry Regiment were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions in the Korean War

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HENNIGAN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOSEPH D.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Donald Hennigan honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Hennigan was employed as a Conrail brakeman and later became a City of Buffalo Policeman / After his retirement from the Buffalo Police Department, Hennigan moved to Florida / Joseph Donald Hennigan passed away on 22 December 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Bay Pines National Cemetery, Pinellas County, Florida



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HENSEL

Killed in Action **Hometown:** AMHERST

ARTHUR

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Arthur A. Hensel honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Arthur Hensel was deployed to Korea as an Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Originally from Amherst, New York, Arthur Hensel moved to Surfside Beach, South Carolina / Hensel was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Arthur A. Hensel passed away at the age of 92 years old on 1 May 2023 and is interred at Germania Cemetery, Abbott, Pennsylvania

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HESLIN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

ROBERT T.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert T. Heslin honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Heslin retired from the Town of Rushford Assessor's Office / Heslin was active in the Rushford Volunteer Fire Department / Robert Heslin served as a Scoutmaster in the Allegheny Highlands Council / Robert T. Heslin passed away on 22 October 2024 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HIGGINS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

RICHARD J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard J. Higgins honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Higgins was born in Houtzdale, Pennsylvania / Richard Higgins was a member of the American Legion Post #0591 in Houtzdale, Pennsylvania and Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #5296 in Salamanca, New York / Richard Higgins retired from the Buffalo Sewer Authority after 25 years service / After his retirement, Higgins worked seasonally for Holimont Ski Resort / Richard J. Higgins passed away on 29 March 2025 at the age of 96 year old and is interred at Mount Prospect Cemetery, Franklinville, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HORNBERGER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

JOSEPH H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph H. Hornberger honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph H. Hornberger passed away on 5 December 2023 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HULIN

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

ALBERT L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert L. Hulin honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Hulin graduated from Buffalo Vocational High School and was a recipient of the Jesse Ketchum Award (The Jesse Ketchum Awards are presented annually to eighth-grade students with the highest academic average in Buffalo Public Schools / The awards have been presented for the past 152 years and honors the legacy of Jesse Ketchum, a notable figure in Buffalo history, who is credited with donating land and buildings to establish the first teacher training center in Buffalo) / Hulin retired from the Pullman Foundry in Buffalo / Albert Hulin was a member of the Depew American Legion Post #1528 / Albert L. Hulin passed away on 17 December 2023 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert Cemetery, Lancaster, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HYZIAK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

LEONARD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Leonard E. Hyziak honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard E. Hyziak passed away on 4 October 1987 at the age of 57 years old and is interred at Saint Adalberts Cemetery, Lancaster, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JAGER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

FRANK J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank J. Jager honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Jager was the House Organist for the Riviera Theater and various Roller Rinks throughout Western New York / Jager was a member of the Chopin Singing Society and served on the Buffalo School Board and as Past Vice President / Frank Jager was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Leonard Post #6521, serving on the Board of Directors / Frank J. Jager passed away on 17 December 2025 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RALPH T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ralph T. Johnson honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ralph T. Johnson passed away on 11 January 2021



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KALINOWSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

HENRY A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

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

Service Notes:

Henry A. Kalinowski honorably served in the United States Army / Henry Kalinowski was deployed to Korea as a Combat Medic and was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions during hostile conditions

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry A. "Sarge" Kalinowski passed away on 1 October 2021 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at 14 Holy Helpers Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

A combat medic is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at a point of wounding in a combat or training environment

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KASMER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

JOHN R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| BRONZE STAR MEDAL | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS (3) |
| KOREA DEFENSE MEDAL | UNITED NATIONS KOREA SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION | KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL |
| ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS (4) | COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE |
| ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL | AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

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

Service Notes:

Captain John R. Kasmer honorably served in the United States Army / Captain John Kasmer was selected to attend Officer Candidate School at Fort Dix / CPT Kasmer served in the Korean War as an Infantry Officer with the 101st Airborne Division and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service on the battlefield / Captain John Kasmer was selected to serve as a member of the "Old Guard" for 4 years at Arlington National Cemetery / Captain Kasmer become an inspector at Fort Bragg North Carolina for the remainder of his career in the Army

Captain John Kasmer later served in the US Air Force Reserve for a short time before finally retiring from military service in 1972

Captain Kasmer was a veteran of the Korean War, Cold War and Vietnam War Era

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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 / In May 2022, the Naming Commission officially recommended that Bragg be renamed Fort Liberty / On 10 February 2025, Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth issued a memorandum directing the Army to rename Fort Liberty back to Fort Bragg, but this time in honor of Private First Class Roland L. Bragg, a person other than the original namesake / Bragg was stationed at Fort Bragg during World War II and later fought with distinction in the European theater / He received the Silver Star for gallantry and the Purple Heart for wounds sustained, during the Battle of the Bulge / He was recognized for having saved a fellow soldier's life by commandeering an enemy ambulance

Miscellaneous:

John Kasmer worked as a mechanic for General Motors until his retirement in 1996 / John Kasmer was a member of the Thomas E. Tehan American Legion Post #1449, Blasdell, New York / John R. Kasmer passed away on 8 January 2024 at the age of 94 years old

An Infantry Unit Commander is a senior infantry soldier who is responsible for the care of the squad's soldiers and everything the squad does or fails to do / A Unit Commander works at all levels of command and staff and executes mission command of infantry and combined arms forces in combat

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Established in 1918, the 101st Division was first constituted as an airborne unit in 1942 / During World War II, it gained renown for its role in Operation Overlord (the D-Day landings and airborne landings on 6 June 1944, in Normandy, France); Operation Market Garden; the liberation of the Netherlands; and its action during the Battle of the Bulge / The 101st Airborne was allotted to the Regular Army in June 1948 and reactivated as a training unit at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky the following July, only to be inactivated the next year / It was reactivated in 1950 following the outbreak of the Korean War, again to serve as a Training Center at Camp Breckenridge until inactivated in December 1953 / From 1965 to 1967, the 1st Brigade operated independently as sort of a fire brigade and earned the reputation as being called the "Nomads of Vietnam" / They fought in every area of South Vietnam from the Demilitarized Zone up north all the way down the Central Highlands / The rest of the 101st was deployed to Vietnam in November 1967 and the 1st Brigade rejoined its parent division / The 101st was deployed in the northern I Corps region, operating against the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) infiltration routes through Laos and the A Shau Valley for most of the war / Notable among these were the Battle of Hamburger Hill in 1969 and Firebase Ripcord in 1970 / The division began withdrawing from South Vietnam on 15 May 1971 with the departure of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry / Most major units of the Division had redeployed by January 1972 / In the seven years that all or part of the division served in Vietnam, it suffered 4,011 killed and 18,259 wounded in action / The division, during this time, participated in 12 separate campaigns and 17 of the division's Medal of Honor recipients are from this period of time – all this giving the 101st Airborne Division a combat record unmatched by any other division

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

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of



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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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korea Defense Service Medal (KDSM) is a military service medal of the United States Armed Forces that was first created in 2002 when it was signed into law by President George W. Bush / The Korea Defense Service Medal is authorized for those members of the United States Armed Forces who have served duty in South Korea in support of the defense of the South Korean state after the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement / To qualify for the KDSM, a service member must have served at least thirty consecutive days in the South Korean theater / The medal is also granted for 60 non-consecutive days of service, which includes reservists on annual training in South Korea / Those awarded the medal are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) as well as the American Legion

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The Army Commendation Medal is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / Each branch of the United States Armed Forces issues its own version of the Commendation Medal, with a fifth version existing for acts of joint military service performed under the Department of Defense / The Commendation Medal was originally only a service ribbon and was first awarded by the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard in 1943 / An Army Commendation Ribbon followed in 1945 and in 1949 the Navy, Coast Guard, and Army Commendation ribbons were renamed the "Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant" / By 1960 the Commendation Ribbons had been authorized as full medals and were subsequently referred to as Commendation Medals / Additional awards of the Army and Air and Space Commendation Medals are denoted by bronze and silver oak leaf clusters

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

of either an Infantry, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

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

Captain John R. Kasmer was also awarded the following Military honors:

ARMY MASTER PARACHUTIST BADGE

The Master Parachutist Badge is a skill badge awarded by the US Army / It is an oxidized silver badge 1 13/64 inches in height and 1 1/2 inches in width, consisting of an open parachute on and over a pair of stylized wings displayed and curving inward / The badge requires 65 jumps, including 25 jumps with combat equipment, four night jumps, and graduation from a Jumpmaster course / The badge is awarded to individuals rated excellent in character and efficiency

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL w/1 Service Star (2)

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NEW YORK STATE CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS AWARD

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAVANAGH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOSEPH P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BATTALION, 11 MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Joseph Paul Kavanagh honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Joseph Kavanagh was deployed to Korea as a Heavy Truck Driver

Base Assignments:

Camp Pendleton, California - Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is the major West Coast base of the United States Marine Corps and is one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the US. It is on the Southern California coast in San Diego County / The base was established in 1942 to train U.S. Marines for service in World War II / By October 1944, Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent installation," and by 1946 it became the home of the 1st Marine Division / It was named after Major General Joseph Henry Pendleton (1860–1942), who had long advocated setting up a training base for the Marine Corps on the West Coast / Camp Pendleton trained the country's fighting force for the Korean and Vietnam Wars, approximately 200,000 Marines passed through the base on their way to the Far East

Miscellaneous:

1st Battalion 11th Marines (1/11) is an artillery battalion comprising four firing batteries and a Headquarters battery. The battalion is stationed at the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in California. Its primary weapon system is the M777 lightweight howitzer

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KENNGOTT

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST FALLS

KEITH

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Keith Kenngott honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Keith Kenngott was a member of the Colden Fire Company for over 20 years / Kenngott was a Lifetime member of the Leonard Pos, Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #6251 and a member of the Colden Trail Riders / Keith Kenngott passed away on 8 October 2023



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KENT**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

STEPHEN J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY C, 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/ SERVICE STAR	UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA
REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION	COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE
ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL	NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL	

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Stephen J. Kent honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Stephen Kent was assigned to the Infantry and served 15 months in Korea

SGT Stephen J. Kent was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 11 September 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

The 65th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed "The Borinqueneers" during the Korean War for the original Taíno Indian name for Puerto Rico (Borinquen), is a Puerto Rican regiment of the United States Army / The regiment's motto is Honor et Fidelitas, Latin for Honor and Fidelity / The Army Appropriation Bill created by an act of Congress on 2 March 1899, authorized the creation of the first body of native troops in Puerto Rico / On 30 June 1901, the "Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry" was organized / On 1 July 1908, Congress incorporated the regiment into the Regular Army as the Puerto Rico Regiment of Infantry, United States Army / On 14 May 1917, the regiment was activated and additional men were assigned, with the unit being sent to serve at Panama / On 4 June 1920, the regiment was renamed 65th Infantry / During World War II, the regiment saw action throughout Europe, especially France and Germany, participating in Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno and Rhine / Several Purple Hearts were awarded posthumously to members of the 65th Regiment /



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The 65th Infantry Regiment participated in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Global War on Terrorism / The men of the 65th, now attached to the Army's 3rd Infantry Division, were among the first infantrymen to meet the enemy on the battlefields of Korea / After November 1950, they fought daily against units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army after the Chinese entered the war on the North Korean side / In April 1951, the regiment participated in the Uijonbu Corridor drives and in June 1951, the 65th was the third regiment to cross the Han Ton River / The 65th took and held Chorwon and they were also instrumental in breaking the Iron Triangle of Hill 717 in July 1951 / In November 1951, the regiment fought off an attack by two regimental size enemy units / Many non-Puerto Rican Hispanics served in the 65th Infantry during the war / Among those who distinguished themselves in combat and who served in the conflict as a member of the 65th Infantry was a young first lieutenant of Mexican American descent whose name is Richard Edward Cavazos / Cavazos entered the military in Texas and served as company commander of Company E of the 2d Battalion / Cavazos, who in 1982, became the first Hispanic to become a four-star general in the United States Army, was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star Medal, and the Bronze Star Medal / On 10 June 2014, the 65th Infantry was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army



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version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The 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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Name: **KETTERER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

MILTON

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Milton A. Ketterer honorably served in the United States Army / Milton Ketterer was assigned to the U.S. Army Medical Services

Milton A. Ketterer was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 18 September 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Milton Ketterer graduated from Springville High School / Ketterer worked at Moog Inc for 39 years in the Aeronautic Division as an experimental model maker / Milton A. Ketterer passed away on 1 September 2021 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Griffins Mills Cemetery, Griffins Mills, New York

The Army Medical Department of the U.S. Army (AMEDD), formerly known as the Army Medical Service (AMS), encompasses the Army's six medical Special Branches (or "Corps") / It was established as the "Army Hospital" in July of 1775 to coordinate the medical care required by the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War / Both the AMEDD and the Army Medical Corps trace their origins back to 27 July 1775, when the Continental Congress established the "Army Hospital", which was at that time overseen by the "Director General and Chief Physician" / Congress provided an Army medical organization only in times of war or emergency until 1818, at which point it created a permanent "Medical Department" / The Army Nurse Corps originated in 1901, the Dental Corps began in 1911, the Veterinary Corps in 1916, the Medical Service Corps emerged in 1917 (during WW I the Sanitary Corps was created as a temporary organization to relieve U.S. Army physicians from a variety of duties), and the Army Medical Specialist Corps came into existence in 1947 / The Army Organization Act of 1950 renamed the Medical Department to "Army Medical Service" and on 4 June 1968 / The Army Medical Service was renamed the Army Medical Department



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILMER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOSEPH

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

8225 MASH

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Kilmer honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Kilmer was attached to the 8225 Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) in Korea as a Pharmacy Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Kilmer earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education at Buffalo State College / Kilmer became a Teacher at the Orchard Park High School, teaching for decades until his retirement in 1983 / Joseph Kilmer passed away on 30 December 2022

The 9225 Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) was a U.S. Army field hospital units conceptualized in 1946 as replacements for the World War II-era Auxiliary Surgical Group hospital units / MASH Units were in operation from the Korean War to the Gulf War before being phased out in the early 2000s / Each MASH unit had 60 beds, as well as surgical, nursing, and other enlisted and officer staff available at all times / MASH units filled a vital role in military medicine by providing support to army units upwards of 10,000 to 20,000 soldiers / The 8225 MASH unit was responsible for providing medical assistance for both US soldiers and injured Allied Forces, as well as Korean civilians / During the Korean War, a seriously wounded soldier who made it to a MASH unit alive had a greater than 97% chance of survival once he received treatment / MASH units often took 24 hours to setup at new locations once moved with armored units, trucks and airmobile / Airmobile or the early stages of what we now call helicopters was crucial to the war effort as they were fast traveling units that could pickup casualties and deliver them effectively back to MASH units / With mountainous terrain in Korea this was crucial as ground transport could compromise the patients lives and would take longer to arrive to MASH units / In 1997, the last MASH unit in South Korea was deactivated



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KILMER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

WILTON E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Wilton E. Kilmer honorably served in the United States Army / Wilton Kilmer was deployed to Korea and was awarded the Bronze Star Metal for heroic service during combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wilton E. Kilmer passed away on 12 February 2019 at the age of 91 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KINSELLA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

EDWARD L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward L. Kinsella honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward L. "Ted" Kinsella passed away on 11 September 2020 at the age of 87 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KLEIN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EDEN

RAYMOND C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond Charles Klein honorably served in the United States Army / Raymond Klein was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Radio Operator / Raymond Klien was also stationed at Fort Hood, Texas

Base Assignments:

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:

Raymond Klein was Co-Owner of the Ray-Lee Barbershop and served as Vice President of the Eden Agency Inc. / Klein was a member of the Eden Corn Festival Committee / Raymond Klein was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Gowanda Country Club, Eden Chamber of Commerce, and the Sons of the American Legion / Raymond Charles Klein passed away on 19 July 2025 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Evergreen Cemetery, Eden, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KMIDOWSKI**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

HENRY

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, 13TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Henry Kmidowski honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Henry Kmidowski was deployed to Korea for 15 months

CPL Henry Kmidowski received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 24 April 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry Kmidowski passed away on 23 August 2017

The mission of the 13th Engineer Construction Battalion was to deploy worldwide and, as directed, conduct general engineering operations in support of military operations

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Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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Erie County

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Name: **KNAISCH**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

GEORGE

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant George F. Knaisch honorably served in the United States Army / 1ST LT George Knaisch was assigned as a Combat Engineer in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, George Knaisch served as a Master Carpenter and belonged to the Carpenter's Union, retiring in 1990 / Knaisch served as an Orchard Park Village Trustee and later, as Mayor of the Village of Orchard Park from 1981-1953 / George Knaisch also served on the Orchard Park Zoning Board of Appeals, Ethics Committee and Past President of the Erie County Village Officials Association / Knaisch was a Master Carpenter and belonged to the Carpenter's Union, retiring in 1990 / George Knaisch was a life member of the Orchard Park Fire Company / Knaisch served as Post Commander for Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #6247 / George F. Knaisch passed away on 14 September 2023 at the age of 95 years old

A combat engineer (also called pioneer or sapper) is a type of soldier who performs military engineering tasks in support of land forces combat operations / Combat engineers perform a variety of military engineering, tunnel and mine warfare tasks, as well as construction and demolition duties in and out of combat zones / Combat engineers facilitate the mobility of friendly forces while impeding that of the enemy / They also work to assure the survivability of friendly forces, building fighting positions, fortifications, and roads / They conduct demolition missions and clear minefields manually or through use of specialized vehicles / Common combat engineer missions include construction and breaching of trenches, tank traps and other obstacles and fortifications; obstacle emplacement and bunker construction; route clearance and reconnaissance; bridge and road construction or destruction; emplacement and clearance of land mines; and combined arms breaching / Typically, combat engineers are also trained in infantry tactics and, when required, serve as provisional infantry



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNOBLAUCH**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LANCASTER

EDWIN

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edwin Knoblauch honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin Knoblauch was the owner and operator of the Knoblauch Dental Ceramics from 1955 to 2016 / Knoblauch was a member of the Buffalo Dental Lab Association / Edwin Knoblauch passed away on 26 October 2022 at the age of 92 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOLIS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

PETER

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Peter Kolis honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Kolis was a member of the Knights of Columbus and American Legion Post #1620 / Peter Kolis passed away on 23 December 2024



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KONOPKA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

EDWARD F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward F. Konopka honorably served in the United States Army and served in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Konopa was born in Avoca, Pennsylvania / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Edward Konopka worked as a Manager at the Neisner Brothers Department Store in Buffalo / After leaving Neisner's, Konopka went to work in new home sales for Helenbrook Homes, Inc / Konopka later formed and owned his own general contracting company, Konopka-Crescent Homes, Inc. which built dozens of homes in the greater Buffalo area / Konopka retired in 1997 and later moved to Southwest Michigan / Edward F. Konopka passed away on 6 October 2023 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOPP**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

CARL

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

7TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Carl G. Kopp honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Carl Kopp was deployed to Korea for 16 months and received multiple wounds in combat action against the enemy on 10 July 1953 / Corporal Kopp was awarded the Purple Heart Medal

Carl Kopp was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 29 September 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Kopp Kopp graduated from East Aurora High School and earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University at Buffalo, then continued his education at Ohio State University / Carl G. Kopp passed away on 16 April 2023 at the age of 90 years old

The 7th Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment in the United States Army / In its 200-year history it has participated in 12 wars, been awarded 78 campaign streamers, and 14 unit decorations / The regiment has served in more campaigns than any other infantry unit in the United States Army / The 7th Regiment was the last unit off of Pink Beach at Hungnam and withdrew by sea on 24 December 1950; they moved into position north of Seoul as part of the Eighth U.S. Army's defensive line participating in the PVA April 1951 spring offensive / During the next two years, the regiment supported 3rd Division's combat operations in the Chorwon-Kumwha area, fought at the Battle of Jackson Heights and Arrowhead outposts, and blocked a PVA push in the Kumsong Area in July 1953 / During eight campaigns on the Korean battlefield, the elements of the 7th Infantry were awarded Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations and the Third Battalion for



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bravery at Segok

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 Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KORDASIEWICZ

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

RICHARD J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard J. Kordasiewicz honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Kordasiewicz retired from the Erie County Water Authority after 32 years of employment / Richard J. Kordasiewicz passed away on 23 December 2023 at the age of 90 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOSTUSIAK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

GERALD J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gerald J. Kostusiak honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Gerald Kostusiak worked at AT&T for 35 years / Gerald Kostusiak was the owner of Sage General Contracting / Gerald J. Kostusiak passed away on 29 September 2023 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery Lackawanna, New York

The United States Army Signal Corps was established in 1860 and was used in World War II to coordinate swift and accurate communication for air, ground, and naval units required more sophisticated technology and service /The Signal Corps develops, tests, provides, and manages communications and information systems support for the command and control of combined arms forces / The Signal Corps pioneered in the development of radar to detect approaching aircraft as well as mobile communications and deciphering machines / In addition to its primary role in military transmissions, the unit also played a key role in producing training films for army and civilian personnel, and documenting combat missions / During World War II, noted Hollywood producers, directors, and photographers (such as Darryl Zanuck, Frank Capra, John Huston, and George Stevens) all served in the Signal Corps



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOSZELA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

EDWARD F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward F. Koszela honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Koszela belonged to the Leo and Ed's Sportsman Club / Edward F. Koszela passed away on 10 June 2024 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOWALSKI**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

EDGAR S.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edgar S. Kowalski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edgar Kowalski was a member of the Korean War Veterans Association and former Commander of Amvets Medallion Post #13 / Edgar S. Kowalski passed away on 15 December 2023 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOZLOWSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

DANIEL

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Daniel Kozlowski honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Daniel Kozlowski was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Kozlowski was a member and Trustee of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #8113 / Daniel Kozlowski passed away on 19 January 2024



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRENN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EPEW

ALOIS G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Alois G. Krenn honorably served with the United States Army and deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alois G. Krenn passed away on 26 March 2024 at the age of 95 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRUEGER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

ROY

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

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

Service Notes:

Roy George Krueger honorably served with the United States Army / Roy Krueger was deployed to Korea and awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic action during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Roy Krueger worked for the Bethlehem Steel Plant in Lackawanna and Athey products in Raleigh, North Carolina from 1984 to retirement / Krueger resided in Raleigh, North Carolina from 1984-2016 and in mid-retirement, moved back to Orchard Park, New York / Roy George Krueger passed away on 23 December 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LACKI**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ALDEN

STEPHEN

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/ 2 BRONZE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: RIFLE

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Stephen Lacki honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Stephen Lacki was deployed to Korea for 2 years / After serving his active duty enlistment, Stephen Lacki joined the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Lacki spoke 5 languages and after the war, became active in the Big Brother program / Stephen Lacki Stephen was a member of the Korean War Veterans Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW / Stephen Lacki passed away on 8 March 2024 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Lockport, New York

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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 CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LARUSSA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ARMY

DONALD J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: M

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART	KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS
REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION	ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL	

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Donald J. LaRussa honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Donald LaRussa was deployed to Korea for 27 months and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

SGT Donald LaRussa received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 7 May 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald J. LaRussa passed away on 24 October 2019 at the age of 88 years old

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LASKER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE

ALBERT F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert F. Lasker honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Lasker was a member of American Legion Post #838 and a member of the Holy Name Society at Our Lady of Peace Church / Albert F. Lasker passed away on 13 August 2024 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAURIA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

CHARLES T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles T. "Chick" Lauria honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles T. "Chick" Lauria passed away on 16 December 2025



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LAVENTURE

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LANCASTER

ALLEN J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Allen John Edgar LaVenture honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Allen LaVenture was deployed to Korea and assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Allen LaVenture was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #6251 / Allen John Edgar LaVenture passed away on 16 May 2023 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is an engineer formation of the United States Army that has three primary mission areas: Engineer Regiment, military construction, and civil works / The day-to-day activities of the three mission areas are administered by a lieutenant general known as the commanding general-chief of engineers / The chief of engineers commands the Engineer Regiment, comprising combat engineer, rescue, construction, dive, and other specialty units, and answers directly to the Chief of Staff of the Army / Combat engineers, sometimes called sappers, form an integral part of the Army's combined arms team and are found in all Army service components: Regular Army, National Guard, and Army Reserve / Their duties are to breach obstacles; construct fighting positions, fixed/floating bridges, and obstacles and defensive positions; place and detonate explosives; conduct route clearance operations; emplace and detect landmines; and fight as provisional infantry when require / For the military construction mission, the commanding general is directed and supervised by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for installations, environment, and energy, whom the President appoints and the Senate confirms / Military construction relates to construction on military bases and worldwide installations



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAVOCAT**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AMHERST

EDWARD F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 BRONZE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Edward F. Lavocat honorably served in the United States Army / Edward Lavocat was deployed to Korea for 1 year and 20 days

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward F. Lavocat passed away on 17 May 2024 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Locport, New York

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAWN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LAKE VIEW

BERNARD C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bernard Clyde Lawn honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bernard Lawn retired from Bell Telephone (Ma Bell) of Western New York as a Telephone-Line Repairman / Lawn was a long time volunteer at Beaver Meadows Audubon Center / Bernard "Bunzie" Clyde Lawn passed away on 26 January 2023



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LAZAROS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

DONALD J.

Address: COVINGTON DRIVE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE CORPS DIVISION, DOG COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Donald J. Lazaros honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Donald Lazaros was deployed to Korea and awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat action in Korea

Base Assignments:

Camp Lejune, North Carolina - Constructed in May 1941, Camp LeJeune is a Marine Corps amphibious assault training facility located in Jacksonville, North Carolina / The base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / The camp is also the home of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Forces in Readiness

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Established in 1917, MCB Quantico is a Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps"

Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (commonly referred to as MCRD) is a United States Marine Corps military installation in San Diego, California / The main mission of MCRD San Diego is the initial training of enlisted male recruits living west of the Mississippi River / Over 21,000 recruits are trained each year / The Depot also is the home to the Marine Corps' Recruiter School and Western Recruiting Region's Drill Instructors School.

Miscellaneous:

Donald Lazaros moved to Florida / Donald Lazaros was a long time employee of Gold Coast Fire Equipment in Riviera Beach, Florida / Donald J. Lazaros passed away on 18 January 2013 at the age of 81 years old

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LEITTEN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE

EUGENE

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL (2)

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

Service Notes:

Eugene F. Leitten honorably served in the United States Army / Eugene Leitten served in Korea as a Medic, earning two Bronze Star Medals for heroic action in a combat zone / At the age of 17 years old, Eugene Leitten enlisted in the Merchant Marine prior to entering the U.S. Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Leitten graduated from Arcade Central School in 1944 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) under the GI Bill / Leitten worked for FMC as a Research Chemist / Eugene Leitten was one of the founding members of the SOS Summer Camps, one of the first ever formed camps for children with disabilities / Eugene F. Leitten passed away on 22 March 2025 at the age of 97 years old

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

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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LESNIAK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

THADDEUS W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thaddeus W. "Teddy" Lesniak honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus Lesniak graduated from Pine Hill High School / Lesniak received his education at SUNY Brockport and the University at Buffalo / Thaddeus Lesniak was an Earth Science Teacher in the Maryvale School District for more than three decades, from the mid-1950s until the early 1990s / After his retirement, Lesniak moved to Indian Shores, Florida / Thaddeus W. "Teddy" Lesniak passed away on 22 April 2022 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LIEBLER, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

WALTER I.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Walter I. Liebler, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Liebler retired as a Letter Press Operator from Artcraft Burow Printing in Buffalo / Walter I. Liebler, Jr. passed away on 19 August 2023 and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LIS

Killed in Action Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

ROBERT M.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Robert M. Lis honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Lis joined the Cheektowaga Police Department in 1957 / Lis was appointed Chief of Police in 1987 and retired in 1990 / Chief Robert Lis taught Defensive Driving courses for the Buffalo Niagara Frontier Safety Council for over 25 years / Robert M. Lis passed away on 29 August 2023 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, NY



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LUDWIG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

JAMES

E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP3

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Third-Class James E. Ludwig honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

James E. Ludwig passed away on 23 April 2009 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Fourteen Holy Helpers, Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LUTZ**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

HOWARD W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Howard W. Lutz honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Lutz was a Machinist by trade / Howard W. Lutz passed away on 16 July 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Hillside Cemetery, Cambria, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LYONS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

GERALD R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gerald R. "Roger" Lyons honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Lyons was a longtime baseball and basketball coach and a High School teacher and DECA Coordinator at Orchard Park / Gerald R. "Roger" Lyons passed away on 5 December 2021 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAIER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

RALPH J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ralph J. Maier honorably served in the United States Army / Ralph Maier was deployed to the front lines during the Korean War to repair vehicles / Maier was also stationed in Tokyo, Japan to manage an Army Motor Pool

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Originally born in Lansing, Michigan, Ralph Maier moved to Williamsville in 1947 / In the late 1940's, Maier started his own auto repair business, Maier's garage, in Williamsville / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Ralph Maier earned a Master's Degree in teaching from Buffalo State College / Selling his auto repair business, Maier joined the faculty at the Erie 1 BOCES Career and Technical Center on Potters Road in West Seneca / Ralph J. Maier passed away on 6 January 2023 in the Wellsville Manor Care Center, Wellsville, New York after a lengthy illness / Ralph J. Maier passed away on 6 January 2023 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

DAVID G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/VALOR

PURPLE HEART - 2 MEDALS

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Sergeant David G. Male honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT David Male was deployed to Korea where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic action on the battlefield and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Male was a member of Chaine de Rotisseurs Wine & Food Society of Buffalo, a school teacher at Maryvale High School and a member of Rotary International / David G. Male passed away on 9 August 2018 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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 CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALONEY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

ALBERT

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert Allden Maloney honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Maloney was a model railroad enthusiast and a member of the Motoring & Miniatures / Albert Allden Maloney passed away on 8 January 2024 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALONEY

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

JAMES A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James A. Maloney honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James A. Maloney passed away on 9 April 2014



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAMMOSER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

EUGENE A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

28TH TRANSPORT COMPANY, FIRST ARMY

Medals / Citations:

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL W/ 2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATION SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Eugene A. Mammoser honorably served in the United States Army / Eugene Mammoser was deployed to Korea for 1 year, 10 months and 6 days

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Mammoser entered into the U.S. Army at the age of 23 years old / Eugene Mammoser was a 35 year volunteer for the Erie County Fair / Eugene A. Mammoser passed away on 27 May 2024 at the age of 95 years old

Motor transport companies provide for the transport of personnel and a variety of commodities, including petroleum products, bulk cargo, and containers / They normally operate as part of a transportation battalion, a Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) or Division Sustainment Support Battalion (DSSB)

The 28th Transportation Battalion was originally constituted in the Regular Army as the 1st Battalion, 28th Quartermaster Regiment on 10 February 1936 / Over time, it underwent several redesignations and reorganizations / During World War II, the battalion participated in various campaigns, including Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, Southern France, and Rhineland / On 1 April 1942, it was redesignated as the 1st Battalion, 28th Quartermaster Truck Regiment and on 5 December 1943, the battalion was broken up, and its elements were reorganized and redesignated / The battalion went through several changes, becoming the 28th Transportation Corps Truck Battalion, then the 28th Transportation Truck Battalion, and finally the 28th Transportation Battalion

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* EAST AURORA

RICHARD G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard G. "Dick" Mann honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Mann was the Past Commander of American Legion Post 362 (East Aurora) / Richard G. "Dick" Mann passed away on 8 January 2024 at the age of 92 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MARRANCA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TONAWANDA

CARL J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carl J. Marranca honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Marranca was the Past Commander of the M.J. Brounshidle Post #206, Commander of Chapter #63 - Korean War Veterans and a member of the Harry E. Crosby Post / Carl J. Marranca passed away on 11 July 2022 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MARTS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

CHARLES W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Charles William "Bill" Marts honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Charles Marts was deployed to Korea

Charles William Marts also served in combat action during World War II

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Marts co-founded the Marine Corps League of Lackawanna / Marts was a member of the West Seneca Auxiliary Police and a retired Bethlehem Steel Worker / Charles William "Bill" Marts passed away on 26 November 2023 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MARTS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

CHARLES

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Charles William "Bill" Marts honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Charles Marts also served in World War II

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Marts co-founded the Marine Corps League of Lackawanna and a member of the West Seneca Auxiliary Police / Charles Marts was a retired Bethlehem Steel Worker / Charles William "Bill" Marts passed away on 26 November 2013 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery and Mausoleum, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MARTZOLF

Killed in Action **Hometown:** EAST AURORA

GEORGE E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George E. Martzolf honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Martzolf was a retired Aeronautical Engineer at the Calspan Corporation / Martzolf was a Life Member of American Legion Post #362 in East Aurora / George E. Martzolf passed away on 27 December 2022 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASSET**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

WILLIAM J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant William J. Masset honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT William Masset was deployed to Korea / SSGT William Masset served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAZUR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

RICHARD

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Mazur honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Richard Mazur was employed by Westinghouse Corp and the Erie County Public Library until his retirement / Mazur was a member of the Frank L. Gierlach VFW Post #1320 and the American Legion / Richard Mazur passed away peacefully on 22 March 2024 in the Buffalo VA Hospital



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAZUROWSKI
ARTHUR

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur J. Mazurowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Mazurowski was a US Army veteran and was a member of Leonard Post VFW Post #6211, St. Martha Parish Senior Club and Cheektowaga Seniors / Arthur J. Mazurowski passed away on 18 August 2020 at the age of 91 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCARTHY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

VINCENT W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Vincent W. McCarthy honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Vincent McCarthy graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in 1951 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Vincent McCarthy entered the Columbian Missionary order, completing his religious studies in Ireland / Following his graduation and priestly ordination, Reverend McCarthy served as a Columbian missionary with assignments in the Fiji Islands, Brazil, Peru and Mexico / Reverend Vincent W. McCarthy passed away on 14 August 2024 at the age of 91 years old

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Established in 1918, the 101st Division was first constituted as an airborne unit in 1942 / During World War II, it gained renown for its role in Operation Overlord (the D-Day landings and airborne landings on 6 June 1944, in Normandy, France); Operation Market Garden; the liberation of the Netherlands; and its action during the Battle of the Bulge / The 101st Airborne was allotted to the Regular Army in June 1948 and reactivated as a training unit at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky the following July, only to be inactivated the next year / It was reactivated in 1950 following the outbreak of the Korean War, again to serve as a Training Center at Camp Breckenridge until inactivated in December 1953 / From 1965 to 1967, the 1st Brigade operated independently as sort of a fire brigade and earned the reputation as being called the "Nomads of Vietnam" / They fought in every area of South Vietnam from the Demilitarized Zone up north all the way down the Central Highlands / The rest of the 101st was deployed to Vietnam in November 1967 and the 1st Brigade rejoined its parent division / The 101st was deployed in the northern I Corps region, operating against the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) infiltration routes through Laos and the A



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

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Shau Valley for most of the war / Notable among these were the Battle of Hamburger Hill in 1969 and Firebase Ripcord in 1970 / The division began withdrawing from South Vietnam on 15 May 1971 with the departure of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry / Most major units of the Division had redeployed by January 1972 / In the seven years that all or part of the division served in Vietnam, it suffered 4,011 killed and 18,259 wounded in action / The division, during this time, participated in 12 separate campaigns and 17 of the division's Medal of Honor recipients are from this period of time – all this giving the 101st Airborne Division a combat record unmatched by any other division

Name: **MCDONALD**
THOMAS **F.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:**

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas F. McDonald honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas McDonald was an attorney for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and past President of the IRS Buffalo Credit Union / McDonald was also a member of the Blackthorn Club / Thomas F. McDonald passed away on 2 April 2024 at the age of 89 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCDONOUGH

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

PAUL J.

Address: 705 HOPKINS STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 2ND BATTALION, 23RD INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private Paul J. McDonough honorably served in the United States Army / PVT McDonough was deployed to Korea as a Light Weapons Infantryman and was Killed in Action on 16 May 1951 at Changu-Ni, South Korea

The remains of Paul McDonough were returned to the United States aboard the ship, "Maiden Voyage"

Paul McDonough is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul McDonough graduated from St. Agatha's School and attended South Park High School / McDonough worked in the Baggage Room at the New York Central Terminal (Buffalo) prior to entering the U.S. Army / Paul J. McDonough was 23 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, 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



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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 23rd Infantry Division, known as the "Americal Division," was the only U.S. Army division formed outside the United States, activated on 27 May 1942 in New Caledonia / It played a significant role during World War II and was involved in the Vietnam War / The division is recognized for its contributions to infantry tactics and logistics, and it was nicknamed "Ever Ready"

The 2nd Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment in the United States Army that has served for more than two hundred years / It was constituted on 12 April 1808 as the 6th Infantry and consolidated with 4 other regiments in 1815 to form the present unit / In September 1965 the First and Second battalions deployed to Vietnam, landing on the beach at Vung Tau in October 1965 / From there they proceeded to their assigned areas, Phuoc Vinh for the 1st Battalion and Lai Khe for the 2nd Battalion / The battalions initially fought as light infantry in the areas north and west of Saigon / On 2 January 1967 the 2nd Battalion officially became a mechanized infantry battalion / The 1st Battalion sustained its first major casualties of the war on 21 December 1965 when the enemy ambushed the command group of Company B as the company was moving out of Bien Hoa on routine patrol / On 25 August 1966 during Operation Amarillo a patrol from Company C, 1st Battalion was ambushed after stumbling into a Viet Cong base camp, losing 6 men killed of the 15-man patrol, total US losses in the operation were 41 killed, 45 Viet Cong bodies were found, while later intelligence indicated that Viet Cong losses were 171 men killed / During four and a half years the battalions were involved in major operations such as: Junction City, the largest operation conducted up to that time, Lam Son II, Paul Bunyan, Bu Dop (aka Battle of Hill 172), An Loc, and An Loc II and numerous other operations and small unit actions / Contact with the enemy was almost daily / When the 1st Infantry Division stood down in March and April 1970 the 1st and 2nd Battalion's colors were cased and the soldiers were either reassigned to other units in Vietnam or returned to the United States to be discharged

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCGRATH**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

38TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| PURPLE HEART | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL | REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL | COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE | PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class James McGrath honorably served in the United States Army / PFC James McGrath was a Light Weapons Infantryman and assigned as a member of the 38th Infantry Division / Private First-Class James J. McGrath was Killed in Action on 12 February 1951 while fighting the enemy near Chipyeong-ni, South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Private First Class James J. McGrath was 18 years of age at the time of his death and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

James McGrath is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The 38th Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Army and was established on 28 July 1866 / The 38th Infantry participated in the Korean Spring Offensive, the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, the Second Korean Winter Offensive, the Summer-Fall 1952 Offensive, the Third Korean Offensive and the Korean Summer Offensive of 1953 / Five members of the 38th Infantry Regiment were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions in the Korean War

The 2nd Infantry Division (2ID) ("Indianhead") is a formation of the United States Army / Since the 1960's, its primary mission has been the pre-emptive defense of South Korea in the event of an invasion from North Korea / Approximately 17,000 soldiers serve in the 2nd Infantry Division, with 10,000 stationed in South Korea, accounting for about 35% of the United States Forces Korea personnel / Known as the 2nd Infantry Division-ROK/U.S. Combined Division (2ID/RUCD), the division is bolstered by rotational Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs) from other U.S. Army divisions / The 2nd Infantry Division is unique as the only U.S. Army division to incorporate South Korean soldiers through the KATUSA (Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army) program, which began in 1950 with the agreement of South Korean President Syngman Rhee / By the end of the Korean War, around 27,000 KATUSAs had served with U.S. forces / As of May 2006, roughly 1,100 KATUSA soldiers are assigned to 2ID / Between 1950 and 1954, over 4,748 Dutch soldiers also served with the division

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCHUGH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LACKAWANNA

PATRICK H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Patrick H. McHugh honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick McHugh was a member of American Legion Post #63 / Patrick H. McHugh passed away on 20 May 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCNAMARA**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

RICHARD B

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Bernard McNamara honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, Richard McNamara went to work for General Motors, retiring after 32 years of service / Richard Bernard McNamara passed away on 8 March 2017 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MENCLEWICZ**

LEON

Killed in Action **Hometown:** DEPEW

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leon Menclewicz honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leon Menclewicz was a longtime employee of International Chimney / Leon Menclewicz passed away on 28 August 2025 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MENDOLIA, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JOHN J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

BRONZE STAR (2)

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

Service Notes:

Corporal John J. Mendolia, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / CPL John Mendolia was deployed to Korea with the 2nd Infantry

CPL Mendolia was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat action / Corporal Mendolia was awarded 2 Bronze Star Medals for bravery during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Mendolia was born in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania / Mendolia earned a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering from the University of Buffalo in 1959 / John Mendolia was an Engineer and Director of Technical Services for Danaher, owner of American Precision Industries / Mendolia worked for the company for 40 years / Mendolia was a member of the West Seneca Historical Society and had published several articles in engineering journals and was a member of East Aurora Country Club / John Mendolia was a member of Harvey D. Morin Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / John J. Mendolia, Sr. passed away on 8 December 2004 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The 2nd Infantry Division (2ID, 2nd ID) ("Indianhead") is a formation of the United States Army / Its current primary mission is the pre-emptive defense of South Korea in the event of an invasion from North Korea / There are approximately 17,000 soldiers in the 2nd Infantry Division, with 10,000 of them stationed in South Korea / The 2nd Infantry Division arrived in Korea, via Pusan on 23 July 1950, becoming the first unit to reach Korea directly from the United States / The first big test for the 2nd Infantry came when the North Korean Korean People's Army (KPA) struck in a human wave attack on the night of 31 August 1950 / In the 16-day battle that followed, the division's clerks, bandmen,



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

technical and supply personnel joined in the fight to defend against the attackers / The division was the first unit to break out of the Pusan Perimeter starting on 16 September 1950 and Eighth Army then began a general offensive northward against crumbling KPA opposition to establish contact with forces of the 7th Infantry Division driving southward from the Inchon beachhead / The 2nd Infantry Division was within 50 miles of the Manchurian border when the Chinese People's Volunteer Army (PVA) launched their Second Phase Offensive on 25 November 1950 / During the Battle of the Ch'ongch'on River, soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division were given the mission of protecting the rear and right flank of the Eighth Army as it retired to the south / After this battle, while surrounded and outgunned, the division had to fight its way south through what was to become known as "The Gauntlet" - a PVA roadblock 6 miles long where the 23rd Infantry Regiment fired off its stock of 3,206 artillery shells within 20 minutes, a massive barrage that prevented PVA troops from following the regiment / The 2nd Infantry suffered 4,037 casualties, and lost most of its artillery pieces, 40 percent of its signal equipment, 45 percent of its crew-served weapons and 30 percent of its vehicles were lost during the battle / In August 1951, the division was on the offensive once again, ordered to attack a series of ridges that had been designated threats to the Eighth Army's line / These actions would devolve into the battles of Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge / The division would not receive relief until October, with its infantry regiments having suffered heavy losses / The 2nd Division was withdrawn after possessing both Bloody and Heartbreak Ridges, and the damage they inflicted upon the PVA/KPA (North Korean Korean People's Army) that held the ridges was estimated at 25,000 casualties / After the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed on 27 July 1953, the 2nd Infantry Division withdrew to positions south of the Korean Demilitarized Zone / After the armistice, the division remained in Korea until 1954, when it was reduced to near zero strength, the colors were transferred to Fort Lewis, Washington, Georgia and, in October 1954, the 44th Infantry Division was reflagged as the Second / The 2nd Infantry Division formally returned to South Korea in July 1965

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 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 Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEOSKY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

PAUL R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul R. Meosky honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul R. Meosky passed away on 6 December 2015 and is interred at St. Stephen's Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MERGEL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

PHILIP A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Philip A. Mergel honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Philip Mergel was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #9249 / Philip A. Mergel passed away on 23 August 2023 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MICHAEL

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

RAYMOND

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

CHEMICAL CORPS, 31ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Raymond "Ray" Michael honorably served in the United States Army / SSG Raymond Michael was deployed to Korea with the Chemical Corps, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division / SSG Michael saw much action during the Korean War and participated in the infamous Battle for Heartbreak Ridge in September-October 1951

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond "Ray" Michael passed away 9 March 2017

The 31st Infantry Regiment has played a role in every major conflict and military operation involving the U.S. Army from World War I to the Global War on Terrorism / During the Korean War, elements of the 31st Infantry took part in operations around the Chosin Reservoir in late November as part of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) / After the armistice in July 1953, the 31st Infantry remained in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

MARVIN P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AB2

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

USS TICONDEROGA (CVA-14)

USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43)

Medals / Citations:

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

CHINA SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON (4TH AWARD)

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

Service Notes:

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Petty Officer 2nd Class Marvin P. Miller honorably served in the United States Navy / AB2 Marvin Miller was deployed to Korea and trained as a Firefighter / AB2 Miller served aboard the USS Ticonderoga and the USS Coral Sea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

USS Ticonderoga (CV/CVA/ CVS-14) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy / The ship was the fourth US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named after the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in the American Revolutionary War / Ticonderoga was commissioned in May 1944, and served in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning five battle stars / Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / She was recommissioned too late to participate in the Korean War, but was very active in the Vietnam War, earning three Navy Unit Commendations, one Meritorious Unit Commendation, and 12 battle stars / The Ticonderoga was decommissioned 1 September 1973 / Her name was struck from the Navy list on 16 November 1973 and sold for scrap 1 September 1975

USS Coral Sea (CV/CVB/CVA-43), a Midway-class aircraft carrier, was the third ship of the United States Navy to be named for the Battle of the Coral Sea / She earned the affectionate nickname "Ageless Warrior" through her long career / Initially classified as an aircraft carrier with hull classification symbol CV-43, she was reclassified as a "Large Aircraft Carrier" with



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hull classification symbol CVB-43 on 15 July 1943 / Coral Sea was one of the last U.S Navy carriers to be completed with a straight flight deck, with an angled flight deck added on during later modernizations / The Coral Sea operated in the Mediterranean for duty with the Sixth Fleet from 9 September 1950 to 1 February 1951 / Coral Sea was decommissioned at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard on 24 May 1957 to receive a major conversion (SCB 110A) / Following the Gulf of Tonkin incident in August 1963, Coral Sea departed on 7 December 1964 for duty with the Seventh Fleet / On 7 February 1965, her aircraft, along with those from Ranger and Hancock, conducted Operation Flaming Dart against the military barracks and staging areas near Đồng Hới in the southern sector of North Vietnam / The raids were in retaliation for a damaging Viet Cong attack on installations around Pleiku in South Vietnam / On 26 March, the Seventh Fleet units began their participation in Operation Rolling Thunder, a systematic bombing of military targets throughout North Vietnam / Pilots from Coral Sea struck island and coastal radar stations in the vicinity of Vinh / On 3 April Vietnam People's Air Force MiG-17s attacked aircraft from Coral Sea and Hancock in the first United States aerial combat of the Vietnam conflict / On 12 to 14 May 1975, Coral Sea participated with other Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps forces in the Mayaguez incident, the recovery of the U.S. merchant ship SS Mayaguez and her 39 crew, illegally seized on 12 May in international waters by Khmer Rouge gunboats / On 25 March 1983, Coral Sea, having been reassigned to the Atlantic Fleet, left Alameda for her new homeport of Norfolk / The Navy sent the ship on a six-month around-the-world cruise, with ports of call in five countries / After nearly 43 years of service, the Coral Sea was decommissioned on 26 April 1990 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register two days later / On 7 May 1993, she was sold for scrap, minus her electronics, weapons, and other usable equipment

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

The China Service Medal was a service medal awarded to U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard personnel / The medal was instituted by Navy Department General Order No. 176 on 1 July 1942 / The medal recognized service in and around China before and after World War II

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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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The Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon is awarded to any qualifying unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that distinguishes itself by outstanding heroism in combat against a hostile foreign force or for extremely meritorious service not involving combat but in support of military operations



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MISENER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

HARVEY J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

4.2 MORTAR COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Harvey John Misener honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Harvey Misener was deployed to Korea with the 4.2 Mortar Company / CPL Misener was wounded in combat action on 25 September 1952 in Korea from non-hostile action / CPL Misener was transported to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan and passed away on 10 November 1952

Harvey John Misener is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harvey Misener attended South Park High School / Harvey John Misener was 23 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The M2 4.2-inch mortar was a U.S. rifled 4.2-inch (107 mm) mortar used during the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War / It entered service in 1943 and was nicknamed the "Goon Gun" (from its large bullet-shaped shells, monopod, and rifled bore) or the "Four-Deuce" (from its bore size in inches) / In 1951, it began to be phased out in favor of the M30 mortar of the same caliber

1st Battalion, 1st Marines (1/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Pendleton, California, consisting of anywhere from 800 to 2,000 Marines and Sailors, but the number fluctuates depending on the battalion's mission / Falling under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division, they are



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commonly referred to as "The First of the First" / The battalion has been organized around fire and maneuver warfare in tropical, woodland, desert, or Arctic environments / 1/1 deployed to Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam in August 1965 and were reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division / They remained in Vietnam until May 1971, serving in or around Da Nang, Dong Ha, Con Thien, Quảng Trị, Hue, Phu Bai and Khe Sanh / 1st Battalion, 1st Marines returned to Camp Pendleton, California, in May 1971

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 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

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MOLEA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

NICHOLAS D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Nicholas D. Molea honorably served in the United States Army / Nicholas MoMoleakski was deployed to Korea

Nicholas Molea also served in the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Nicholas D. Molea passed away on 11 October 2006 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MONGER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

KENNETH R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO2

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS MISSOURI (BB-63)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

EUROPEAN OCCUPATION MEDAL

CHINA SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second-Class Kenneth R. Monger honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Kenneth Monger was assigned as a Metalsmith, Welder 2nd Class while serving on the battleship USS Missouri (BB-63) for 40 months

Petty Officer Second-Class Kenneth Monger was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 10 January 1956

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth R. Monger passed away on 11 March 2018 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The USS Missouri (BB-63) is an Iowa-class battleship commissioned on 11 June 1944 and was the last battleship commissioned by the United States / The Missouri was assigned to the Pacific Theater during World War II, where she participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima and Okinawa / She shelled the Japanese home islands and her quarterdeck was the site of the surrender of the Empire of Japan, which ended World War II / Nicknamed the "Mighty Mo", she has been called the most historic battleship in the world / Missouri was the first American battleship to arrive in Korean waters and served as the flagship / She took part in numerous shore bombardment operations / The Missouri was decommissioned on 31 March 1992 and became a museum ship at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii as she watches over the remains of the Arizona and those interred within the Arizona's hull



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990

The China Service Medal was a service medal awarded to U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard personnel / The medal was instituted by Navy Department General Order No. 176 on 1 July 1942 / The medal recognized service in and around China before and after World War II

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTOUR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

LEROY J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leroy Joseph Montour honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leroy Montour was a member of the Lower Cayuga Six Nations Reserve and a member of the Wolf Clan / Leroy Joseph Montour passed away on 15 October 2024 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at the Seneca Nation Cemetery, Irving, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOSSMAN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ALDEN

ROBERT W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert W. Mossman honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Robert W. Mossman joined the Cheektowaga Police Department / Mossman retired as a Police Detective after 32 years of service / Mossman also served as the Chief of Security at the Buffalo Bills Stadium / Robert W. Mossman passed away on 4 May 2022 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MOURGAS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

THOMAS L.

Address: T-5

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: T-5

Year Entered: 1947

Year Discharged: 1949

Unit / Squadron:

706TH ORDNANCE (LM) COMPANY

"A" COMPANY, 124TH ARMORED ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Technician Fifth-Grade Thomas L. Mourgas honorably served in the United States Army / T-5 Thomas Mourgas was assigned as an Ordnance Parts Clerk

Base Assignments:

Aberdeen Proving Grounds (APG) , Maryland - The Proving Grounds is a U.S. Army facility located adjacent to Aberdeen, Harford County, Maryland / APG is the U.S. Army's oldest active proving ground, established on 20 October 1917, six months after the U.S. entered World War I / Its location allowed design and testing of ordnance materiel to take place near contemporary industrial and shipping centers / At the peak of World War II, APG had billeting space for 2,348 officers and 24,189 enlisted personnel / Under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program, as announced in 2005, the APG is projected to lose the Ordnance School and associated R&D facilities with 3862 military and 290 civilian jobs moving to Fort Lee, Virginia

Camp Hillenmeyer, Kunsan, Korea - Kunsan Air Base is located on the coast of the Yellow Sea in western South Korea and falls under the command of the United States Air Force / It is one of only two United States Air Force installations in the Asian peninsula, with the other being found in Osan, nearly 6 hours away / The base was established in 1938 by occupying Japanese forces as an operating base / After the Japanese withdrawal, the United States took over the base / It first saw a limited use in 1945, and by 1949 only a small handful of US troops remained in the area / The close of 1949 saw the complete withdrawal of US troops from the Korean Peninsula, leaving the base completely vacant / The Korean War brought Kunsan Air Base back into action / When North Korean forces invaded the south in 1950, Kunsan Air Base was one of the first objectives to fall due its almost complete lack of defense / Within a few months US forces quickly regained the base and began stationing troops and assets at the location / The first resident of Kunsan Air Base, the 27th Fighter Escort Wing, became the main unit in 1951 / The 27th Fighter Escort Wing went on to become one of the most highly decorated Air Force units of the Korean War



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

The 706th Ordnance (LM) Company was activated 19 February 1943 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland / Inactivated 2 November 1945 in Germany and activated 19 January 1948 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina / Reorganized and redesignated 21 November 1949 as the 6th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squad / The broad mission of the Ordnance Corps is to supply Army combat units with weapons and ammunition, including at times their procurement and maintenance / Along with the Quartermaster Corps and Transportation Corps, it forms a critical component of the U.S. Army logistics system



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUELLER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

DONALD T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald T. Mueller honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Donald Mueller enlisted in the U.S. Army on 28 May 1946 and was Honorably Discharged on 14 May 1947

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Mueller spent his professional career working for Mobil Oil Company in Buffalo / Mueller ran the Orchard Park Recreational Badminton League / Donald T. Mueller passed away on 10 October 2025 at the age of 101 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MULLERSCHON

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ELMA

ADOLPH E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Adolph Ernst Mullerschon honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Adolph Mullerschon was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

A. Ernst Mullerschon immigrated from Raidwangen, Germany to the United States in 1949 / In 1955, Mullerschon was employed by Krug's Sausage and Meats, retiring in 1993 / Mullerschon served as president, treasurer and director of the board for the Buffalo Schwaben Vereine and Chor / Adolph Ernst Mullerschon passed away on 14 October 2022 at the age of 95 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURPHY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TOWN OF TONAWANDA

THOMAS M.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

USS WREN (DD-568)

USS BORIE (DD-704)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas M. Murphy honorably served in the United States Navy / Thomas Murphy worked in the engines rooms aboard the USS Wren and the USS Borie

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Murphy attended from Kenmore High School, later earning his GED / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Murphy worked at the Linde plant before retiring in 1992 / Murphy is credited with saving the life of a neighborhood teenager by rescuing him from the second floor of his smoke-filled house while the house was on fire / Murphy was a member of the Frontiersmen VFW Post 7545, Tonawanda, New York / Thomas M. Murphy passed away on 15 January 2023 at the age of 92 years old

USS Wren (DD-568) was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy and named after Solomon Wren, a Sergeant in the marine Corps / In February 1804, Wren volunteered for the expedition to destroy the frigate USS Philadelphia, captured by the Tripolitan pirates on October 31, 1803 after grounding on an uncharted reef off Tripoli / Under the command of Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr., Wren and 68 other sailors and marines entered Tripoli harbor on the night of February 16, in the ketch USS Intrepid and succeeded in setting fire to the former American ship during the First Barbary War / The USS Wren was commissioned on 20 May 1944 and saw duty with the Northern Pacific Force in the Aleutian Islands / Her duties there consisted largely of patrol and escort work between the islands of the Aleutian chain but did, participate in four shore bombardment missions against the Japanese Kuril Islands with Task Force 92 (TF 92) between November 1944 and April 1945 / In 1953, the Wren joined Task Force 77 (TF 77) in the Sea of Japan / While fast carriers conducted air operations there and in the Yellow Sea, the Wren provided screen and plane-guard services to them between 10 October and 26 November 1953 / Following that assignment, she joined the Australian carrier HMAS Sydney and provided similar services until mid-December 1953 when she returned to Japan / For the remainder of her

Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

active career, Wren operated out of Norfolk periodically making overseas deployments / Among her 2nd Fleet activities were midshipman summer cruises, some to northern European ports and others to West Indian and American ports / She also served with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea on several occasions / Transferred to the Naval Reserve Force, the Wren was later used by a Naval Reserve unit in Houston, Texas and based in Galveston, Texas in the early 1960s / In December 1963, after almost a decade of duty with the Atlantic Fleet, the Wren was decommissioned and placed out of commission, in reserve / She spent the next 11 years in the Reserve Fleet, berthed at the Naval Inactive Ship Facility at Naval Station Philadelphia / In 22 October 1975, she was sold to the North American Smelting Co., Wilmington, Del., for scrapping / The USS Wren earned three battle stars during World War II / The ship is seen in the movie "Operation Petticoat" (Blake Edwards, 1959) / USS Wren is also portrayed as the destroyer that first communicates with "George Ray Tweed" in the 1962 Universal Pictures film "No Man is an Island" / Also seen in TV show 'Magnum, P.I.', [Operation Silent Night] Season 4, episode 10, 1983 (archival film footage only, since Wren had already been scrapped

USS Borie (DD-704), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for Adolph E. Borie, Secretary of the Navy under President Ulysses S. Grant / The Borie was commissioned on 21 September 1944 and joined the Pacific Fleet, arriving at Pearl Harbor 4 January 1945 / She took part in the Iwo Jima bombardment (24 January) and invasion (19–23 February) / After joining TF 58, she participated in the Tokyo raids (16-17 and 25 February), Okinawa raid (1 March), and the raids in support of the occupation of Okinawa (17 March-14 May) / From 9 July-9 August, she served with TF 38 in its raids on the Japanese home islands / On 9 August, 4 kamikazes attempted to crash into Borie's, 1 achieving a hit on superstructure between the mast and the 5-inch gun director, causing extensive damage, killing 48 men, and wounding 66 / the 3 other were shot down or missed / After extensive repairs, the Borie remained in the Atlantic Fleet, except for one cruise to Korea (6 September 1950 – 9 June 1951), during which she served with TF 77 and took part in the Hungnam Evacuation / During a deployment (28 July-4 December 1956), she assisted in the evacuation of American nationals and United Nations truce teams from Haifa, Israel and Gaza, Egypt / She returned to more routine operations, with a few notable exceptions, her 1959 recovery of the Project Mercury nose cone and Sam, the space monkey and her 1960 surveillance duties with the Polaris missile submarines George Washington Carver and Robert E. Lee / In February 1968, Borie began her Vietnam deployment, serving in the Gulf of Tonkin as plane guard and completing radar picket duty / On the gun line, her gunners fired over 7,000 rounds at enemy positions at Phan Thiet and in the Mekong Delta / Returning to peacetime operations in 1969, Borie became a naval reserve training ship until June 1972, when she was decommissioned on 1 July 1972 / She was sold to the Argentine Navy and renamed Hipólito Bouchard (D-26) / She served in the Argentine navy until broken up for scrap in 1984 / The USS Borie received three battle stars for her World War II services and four battle stars for her participation in the Korean War



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: NARDOLILLO

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

CARL

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

1505TH SERVICE COMPANY, 21ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Carl Nardolillo honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Carl Nardolillo served 17 months of active duty in South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Nardolillo passed away on 15 November 2021 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The 21st Infantry Regiment ("Gimlet") Is a United States Army infantry regiment / The 1st Battalion currently exists as part of 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division and the 3rd Battalion of the 1st Infantry Brigade Combat Team 11th Airborne Division / The regiment fought in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, as well as Operation Iraqi Freedom / Task Force Smith, the first American unit to see action in the Korean War, was derived from the regiment's 1st Battalion

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NAUGHTON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ELMA

ROY C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Roy C. Naughton honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEENAN**
JAMES

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Neenan honorably served in the United States Army / James Neenan was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Neenan graduated from the University of Buffalo / Neenan was Physical Education teacher in the West Seneca school system, coaching tennis, football and track / James Neenan also coached the St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute football and tennis teams / James Neenan passed away on 30 January 2026 at the age of 96 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NELSON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

DEVERE

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

DeVere G. "Sonny" Nelson honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, DeVere Nelson worked for the B&O Railroad and retired from the Ford Stamping Plant / Nelson moved to DuBois, Pennsylvania after his retirement / DeVere G. "Sonny" Nelson passed away on 23 October 2022 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEWCOMER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

RICHARD

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Newcomer honorably served in the United States Army / Richard Newcomer was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Newcomer was employed at Buffalo Forge as a Balancer for 38 years retiring in 1991 / Richard Newcomer passed away on 8 February 2018 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: NICOSIA, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

EMANUEL N.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Emanuel N. Nicosia, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / PO Emanuel Nicosia was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Emanuel N. Nicosia, Jr. Passed away on 13 February 2024 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: NICOTRA, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** DEPEW

THOMAS J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: COAST GUARD

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas J. Nicotra, Sr. honorably served in the United States Coast Guard and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas J. Nicotra, Sr. passed away on 14 March 2023 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOSKY**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

DONALD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MA

Year Entered: 1949

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. KERMIT ROOSEVELT (ARG-16)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN DEFENSE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Machinery Repairman Second-Class Donald Edward Nosky honorably served in the United States Navy / MR2 Donald Nosky was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Naval Training Center- San Diego, California - Naval Training Center San Diego (NTC San Diego) (1923–1997) is a former United States Navy base located at the north end of San Diego Bay, commonly known as "boot camp" / Throughout its 70-year history as a military base, the mission of Naval Training Center (NTC) San Diego was to provide primary, advanced, and specialized training for members of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Naval Reserve / During World War II the base housed up to 33,000 men, of whom 25,000 were recruits / In the postwar period, the base population dropped to a low of 5,800 men; but the base reached a peak population of 40,000 during the Korean War / The end of the Cold War led to military downsizing and the need to close surplus bases / In 1993, the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission slated NTC for closure / The southernmost portion of the base was not closed but was retained by the military under the control of Naval Base Point Loma / Facilities still in military use include a medical clinic, a small Navy Exchange store and a gas station / In addition, 500 units of military housing were constructed

Miscellaneous:

Donald Edward Nosky passed away on 16 Dec 1996 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Lancaster Rural Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

USS Kermit Roosevelt (ARG-16) was a Luzon -class internal combustion engine repair ship that saw service in the United States Navy during World War II. She was the only U.S. Naval vessel to be named for Kermit Roosevelt I, the second son of President Theodore Roosevelt and a soldier who served in two world wars / Commissioned on 31 May 1945, the Kermit



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Roosevelt made four deployments to the Far East between 10 July 1950 and 23 October 1953 / Operating out of Sasebo, Japan, she repaired ships engaged in the Korean War and in the Strait of Formosa / From 10 October to 27 November 1950 she supported Task Group 95.6 at Wonsan, Korea, and during 13–23 December 1950, she performed similar duty at Hungnam for ships of Task Group 79.2 / While operating out of Pusan from 7 August to 16 September 1953, she helped salvage the SS Cornhusker Marine / The Kermit Roosevelt was decommissioned on 31 October and entered the Pacific Reserve Fleet / Her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 January 1960, and she transferred to the Maritime Administration 23 June / On 25 August 1960 she was sold to Zidell Explorations, Inc. for scrap / Kermit Roosevelt received three battle stars for Korean War service

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOVOA**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** EDEN

DAVID

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David A. Novoa honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Novoa moved to Inverness, Florida after his retirement / David A. Novoa passed away on 19 June 2019 and is interred at East Eden Cemetery, Eden, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOWORYTA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

DONALD W.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald W. Noworyta honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald W. Noworyta passed away on 11 September 2023 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Mr. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **O'DONNELL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* AKRON

WILLIAM P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William Patrick O'Donnell honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William O'Donnell was employed by Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) as a Chief Clinical Perfusionist prior to his retirement / William Patrick O'Donnell passed away on 18 May 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at St. Teresa's Cemetery, Akron, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OLEJNIK**

HENRY

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LACKAWANNA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Henry Olejnik honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry Olejnik retired from the Ford Motor Company Buffalo Stamping Plant / Henry Olejnik passed away on 19 February 2023 and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OLIVER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* KENMORE

GEORGE A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class George A Oliver honorably served in the United States Army / SFC George Oliver was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Oliver was born in Carnegie, Pennsylvania / George Oliver was a lifelong member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2472 and the American Legion / George A Oliver passed away on 21 August 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Souls Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OTTO**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

RAYMOND J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond J. Otto honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Otto worked as a Boilermaker for many years and facilitated AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) Meetings for 50 years / Otto facilitated AA meetings around the area for 50 years / Raymond J. Otto passed away on 2 July 2023



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PACHTER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

RICHARD N.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard N. Pachter honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard N. Pachter passed away on 15 August 2017 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PALASZEWSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

LEONARD A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Leonard A. "Murph" Palaszewski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Leonard Palaszewski was deployed to Korea / SSGT Palaszewski served four years in the Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard Palaszewski was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 and American Legion #735 / Leonard A. "Murph" Palaszewski passed away on 27 December 2010



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PEINKOFER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

JOSEPH S.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph S. Peinkofer honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Joseph Peinkofer was deployed to Korea as a Lineman for 19 months

CPL Joseph Peinkofer received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 3 October 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Peinkofer was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Pvt. Leonard Post VFW #6251 / Joseph S. Peinkofer passed away on 18 October 2018 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at United German & French Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The United States Army Signal Corps was established in 1860 and was used in World War II to coordinate swift and accurate communication for air, ground, and naval units required more sophisticated technology and service /The Signal Corps develops, tests, provides, and manages communications and information systems support for the command and control of combined arms forces / The Signal Corps pioneered in the development of radar to detect approaching aircraft as well as mobile communications and deciphering machines / In addition to its primary role in military transmissions, the unit also played a key role in producing training films for army and civilian personnel, and documenting combat missions / During World War II, noted Hollywood producers, directors, and photographers (such as Darryl Zanuck, Frank Capra, John Huston, and George Stevens) all served in the Signal Corps

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PETERSON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

ALBERT

N.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS GOODRICH (DD/DDR-831)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert N. Peterson honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Peterson retired from the General Motors Powertrain Plant in Tonawanda, NY / Albert N. Peterson passed away on 8 December 2022 at the age of 89 years old

USS Goodrich (DD/DDR-831) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, named for Rear Admiral Caspar F. Goodrich (1847–1925), and his son, Lieutenant Caspar Goodrich (died 1907) and commissioned on 24 April 1945 / After shakedown training in the Caribbean, Goodrich transited the Panama Canal on 12 November 1945 to support the occupation of Japan / She patrolled between principal Japanese ports until October 1946; then she based at Tsingtao, China, for patrol along the coast of Korea / Goodrich was reclassified a radar picket destroyer, DDR-831, on 18 March 1949 / When the Middle East crisis erupted in 1956, the Goodrich was sent to the Mediterranean Sea in November 1956 to protect Americans in that area / The destroyer supported the landing of Marines at Beirut, Lebanon, on 14 July 1958 / The Goodrich was on Project Mercury recovery station on 12 February 1962 as Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, USMC, made his successful orbital space flight / Goodrich went on alert again with the 6th Fleet during 24 October to 20 November 1962 when the Navy responded to President John F. Kennedy's call for a quarantine of Cuba that choked off the flow of military supplies and enforced the American demands for the withdrawal of the Soviet missile experts and equipment / Goodrich was reclassified DD-831 on 1 January 1969, and was decommissioned on 30 November 1969 / Berthed at Orange, Texas, Goodrich was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 February 1974 / The USS Goodrich was sold on 12 September 1977, and broken up for scrap



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PETRIE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

EDMUND F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

519TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| PURPLE HEART | KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL | UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION | ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL |

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

Service Notes:

Private Edmund F. Petrie honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Edmund Petrie was deployed to Korea and assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion as a Military Policeman / PVT Peterie was wounded in action during combat action on 15 September 1950 and passed away from his wounds on 16 September 1950 / Private Edmund Petrie served 15 days in Korea before being wounded

Prior to his deployment to Korea, PVT Petrie was stationed in Japan during the Spring of 1949, before being transferred to Korea in August 1950

The remains of Private Edmund F. Petrie were returned to the United States aboard the transport ship "Virginia City" and funeral services were held in Buffalo, New York

Edmund F. Petrie is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edmund Petrie attended St. Martin's School before entering South Park High School / Petrie completed his High School education after enlisting in the U.S. Army / Edmund F. Petrie was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Military Police Branch performs law enforcement duties on Army installations or operations under combat conditions / Its focus is on ensuring that Army values are upheld, laws are enforced and providing security for Army personnel and property within the Army training environment

The 519th Military Police Battalion began its service as the 15th Military Police Battalion on 18 October 1927 / In over 80 years of service, the 519th Military Police Battalion participated in 14 campaigns around the globe, providing invaluable combat support through World War II, the Korean War, and in expeditions in Panama and the Middle East / The 519th Battalion earned a Valorous Unit Award, five Meritorious Unit Commendations, three Army Superior Awards, and a Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Award

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

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



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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 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: **PETRUS** Killed in Action **Hometown:** NORTH COLLINS

ROBERT H.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert H. Petrus honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Petrus was a thirty-year retiree of General Motors / Robert H. Petrus passed away on 13 July 2025 at the age of 90 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PHALEN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

CLIFFORD P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Clifford P. Phalen honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Clifford Phalen was a member of the Knights of Columbus / Clifford P. Phalen passed away on 6 March 2025 at the age of 90 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PHILLIPS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

JAMES

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James F. Phillips honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Phillips retired from the North Tonawanda School Board where he was a Custodian for over thirty years / James F. "Doc" Phillips passed away at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



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Erie County

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Name: **PIAZZA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LACKAWANNA

PETER F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Peter F. Piazza honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Peter Piazza was employed by the United States Postal Service and retired after 33 years of service / Peter F. Piazza passed away on 2 April 2023



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PIERAKOS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

JAMES L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 19TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP, 8TH US ARMY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal James Louis Pierakos honorably served in the United States Army / CPL James Pierakos was deployed for 15 months in South Korea as a Chief Intermediate Speed Radio Operator

Corporal James Pierakos received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 22 May 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Pierakos was the former Executive Deputy Director of the Buffalo Streets Sanitation Department, President of the Abbott-South Park Business Association, Inc., President of the Men's Sustaining Society of Mercy Hospital, President of the Federation of South Buffalo Community Organizations and AFCME Local #254 / James Pierakos was member of South Buffalo Post #721 American Legion / James Louis Pierakos passed away on 9 June 2023 and is interred at WNY National Cemetery in Pembroke, New York

Intermediate Speed Radio Operators install and operate tactical field radio transmitting and receiving equipment; sends and receives messages by International Morse Code (CW, ICW, or tone) signals and by light signals / Normally operates in divisional, brigade, and equivalent radio nets

In United States Army units, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) is a company-sized military unit, found at the battalion level and higher / Considered one unit, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company is essentially two elements within one company / In identifying a specific headquarters unit, it is usually referred to by its abbreviation as an HHC / While a regular line company is formed of three or four platoons, an HHC is made up of the headquarters staff and



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headquarters support personnel of a battalion, brigade, division, or higher level unit / The Headquarters and Headquarters Company provides command, staff, administrative, supply and maintenance, communication, engineer, and medical support for the battle group

The Eighth Army is a U.S. field army which commands all United States Army forces in South Korea / It is headquartered at the Camp Humphreys in the Anjeong-ri of Pyeongtaek, South Korea / Eighth Army relocated its headquarters from Yongsan to Camp Humphreys in the summer of 2017 / It is the only field army in the U.S. Army / It is responsible to United States Forces Korea and United States Army, Pacific / The unit first activated on 10 June 1944 in the United States / The Eighth Army took part in many of the amphibious landings in the Southwest Pacific Theater of World War II, eventually participating in no less than sixty of them / The first mission of the Eighth Army, in September 1944, was to take over from the U.S. Sixth Army in New Guinea, New Britain, the Admiralty Islands and on Morotai, in order to free up the Sixth Army to engage in the Philippines Campaign (1944–45) / During the Korean War, the Eighth Army was deployed to the war zone in July 1950 / The Eighth Army was decisively defeated at the Battle of the Chongchon River and forced to retreat all the way back to South Korea / The defeat of the U.S. Eighth Army resulted in the longest retreat of any U.S. military unit in history / The Eighth Army slowed and ultimately halted the Chinese advance at the battles of Chipyong-ni and Wonju / It then counter-attacked the Chinese, re-took Seoul, and drove to the 38th parallel, where the front stabilized / During the aftermath of the Korean War, the Eighth Army remained in South Korea

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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The 19th Engineer Battalion is a United States Army combat engineering unit / This unit provides general engineering support during military operations / The 19th Engineer Battalion deploys engineer forces to provide mission command



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and general engineer support to decisive action in support of Expeditionary, Army, Joint, or Combined Military Operations world-wide / The 19th Engineer Battalion participated in World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom

Name: POWERS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** KENMORE

RAYMOND P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Raymond P. Powers honorably served in the United States Army / Raymond Powers was deployed to Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Powers was a member of Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Company for over 55 years / Powers served as Chief (1976-77), President (1982-83), Commissioner (1985-94), as well as other roles / Raymond P. Powers passed away on 5 January 2024 at the age of 90 years old

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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Name: PRICE, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CLARENCE CENTER

CHARLES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Charles James Price, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C Charles Price was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Medical Technician, working on airborne evacuations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Charles Price attended the University at Buffalo and became a car inspector for the Pennsylvania Railroad / Price owned and operated Green Acres Dry Cleaners on Niagara Falls Boulevard in the Town of Tonawanda from the mid-1960s to the early 1980s / In 1982, Price became a manager for Budget Car Rental at Buffalo Niagara International Airport in Cheektowaga, retiring in 1999 / Charles Price was a member of Charles N. DeGlopper Post 9249, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), on Grand Island / Charles James Price, Jr. passed away on 22 August 2018 at the age of 89 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **QUINN**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOSEPH M.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: HN

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

USS PARICUTIN (AE-18)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Hospitalman Joseph Michael Quinn honorably served in the United States Navy / MN Joseph Quinn was deployed to Korea and served aboard the USS Paricutin as a Ship's Hospital Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Quinn was a retired NYS Corrections Officer / Quinn was a member of the West Seneca Seniors and the St. John Vianney Seniors / Joseph Quinn was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940/ Joseph Michael Quinn passed away on 27 April 2014

USS Paricutin (AE-18) was a Wrangler Class ammunition ship, launched 30 January 1945 / After shakedown she joined the Pacific Fleet and was engaged in the transfer of excess ammunition from the forward areas in the Pacific to Bangor, Washington, and Port Chicago, California until 20 November 1947 when she was ordered to Mare Island Naval Shipyard for inactivation / On 30 April 1948, Paricutin was placed out of commission in reserve and berthed with the San Francisco Group of the Pacific Reserve Fleet / Reactivated 24 June 1950, due to the Korean War, Paricutin recommissioned 28 July 1950 and was assigned to Service Squadron 1 / She sailed for the Far East 8 October and arrived Japan 24 October / Operating from U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo, she rearmed the carrier task forces off both coasts of Korea, surface bombardment and blockading forces, and shore based Marine air groups / Paricutin spent 18 months servicing combat units before returning to the States in March 1952 / On 31 July she sailed again for operations off Korea, this time spending nearly seven months on the line rearming warships / She returned to San Francisco 19 March 1953 and was stateside when the Korean Armistice Agreement was announced in July 1953 / The USS Paricutin was commissioned on 3 March 1945 and decommissioned on 30 April 1948 / The Paricutin was stricken from Naval records on 1 June 1973



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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The 9th Infantry Division was created as the 9th Division during World War I, but never deployed overseas / In later years, it would become an important unit of the U.S. Army during World War II and the Vietnam War / 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 / Nicknamed the "Old Reliables", the division was eventually deactivated in December 1991

The Tropic Regions Test Center maintains an array of test areas in a variety of jungle and tropical open lands and coastal environments / The Tropic Regions Test Center accomplishes its mission using a combination of highly trained Army civilian personnel and support contractors / The test center's mission is to plan and conduct tropic environmental development tests on a wide variety of military electronic systems, materials, weapons, and equipment of all conceivable types, sizes, configurations and uses

The Silver Star Medal is the United States third highest military decoration for valor that can be awarded to any person serving in any capacity with the United States Armed Forces. The medal is awarded 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, or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force

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 Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RADTKE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

CARL R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Carl R. Radtke honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl R. Radtke passed away on 22 September 2013 and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REED**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

FRANKLIN J.

Address: 882 SOUTH PARK AVENUE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

5TH CAVALRY REGIMENT, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private Franklin J. Reed honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Frankin Reed was deployed to Korea at a Light Weapons Infantryman / Private Franklin Reed was Killed in Action on 30 January 1951

Franklin Reed enlisted in the Army in January 1949 but was given a dependency discharge in October 1949 and moved to Reserve status / Reed was recalled to active duty status in October 1950

Franklin J. Reed Franklin is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, District of Columbia

Base Assignments:

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, California – Camp Stoneman was a United States Army facility located in Pittsburg, California / The camp was named after George Stoneman, a cavalry commander during the American Civil War and Governor of California / The Camp served as a major troop staging area for and under the command of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation (SFPOE) / The camp operated during World War II and the Korean War / The camp opened 28 May 1942 as a staging point for units deploying to the Pacific Ocean theater of World War II / In addition to being a staging area for troops in transit, the Pacific Coast Transportation Corps Officer Training School was located at the camp / The camp also housed prisoners of war with the Italian Service Unit of the 18th Italian Quartermaster Service Company, which was based at the camp / Camp Stoneman was decommissioned as a military post in 1954

Miscellaneous:

Franklin Reed was a graduate of St. Brigid's Parochial School and a South Park High School Junior when he quit his studies to seek employment / Reed was a South Buffalo Railway Fireman, a Pressman's Apprentice for the Buffalo Courier Express newspaper and the Buffalo News / Franklin J. Reed was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holly Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, 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 5th Cavalry Regiment ("Black Knights") is a historical unit of the United States Army that began its service on 3 August 1861, when an act of Congress enacted "that the two regiments of dragoons, the regiment of mounted riflemen, and the two regiments of cavalry shall hereafter be known and recognized, as the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth regiments of cavalry respectively and continues in modified organizational format in the U.S. Army / On 3 March 1855, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment (later to be known as the 5th Cavalry Regiment) was activated in Louisville, Kentucky with troopers drawn from the states of Alabama, Maryland, Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Virginia / On 9 April 1865, the 5th Cavalry was selected to serve as the Union Honor Guard for the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Courthouse / During World War II, the 5th Cavalry fought in the battles of Los Negros, Leyte, and Luzon / After the surrender of Japanese forces, the 5th Cavalry was part of the occupation forces / The 5th Cavalry Regiment saw action in Korea during the Korean War and left the country on 7 December 1951 after 549 days of constant combat / During the Vietnam War, the 5th Cavalry Regiment was deployed to Vietnam in September 1965 / In Vietnam, 5th Cavalry units participated in twelve campaigns, including Operation Thayer, Operation Pershing, Operation Tet Offensive, Operation Jeb Stuart III, Operation Toan Thang II and Operation Cheyenne Sabre / Six 5th Cavalry Regiment Troopers received the Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War / The remaining units of the 5th Cavalry regiment left Vietnam in January 1973

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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 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 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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, 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 Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean 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



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Erie County

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REESOR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

ROLAND J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Roland J. Reesor honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roland J. Reesor passed away on 20 March 2025 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REIFORD, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

CHARLES E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles E. Reiford, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Reiford was a retired Electrician at International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local #41 / Reiford was a Eagle Scout and Scout Master / Reiford was a lifetime member of the Hamburg Moose Lodge #992; Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #1419 and American Legion Hamburg Post #527 / Charles E. Reiford, Sr. passed away on 13 May 2024 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REYNOLDS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BLASDELL

ROBERT

B.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Bruce "Cowboy Bob" Reynolds honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge, Robert Reynolds worked for 30 years at the Ford Buffalo Stamping Plant / After his retirement from Ford, Reynolds reopened the Reynolds Tool and Die Corp / Robert Reynolds was a longtime member of UAW Local #897 / Robert Bruce "Cowboy Bob" Reynolds passed away on 27 September 2022 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RINGLE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

HENRY L.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Henry Louis Ringle honorably served in the United States Air Force / Henry Ringle was deployed to Korea for one year

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry Ringle retired from National Fuel after 37 years / Ringle served as the Business Agent for IBEW 2154 for 6 years / Henry Ringle was a member of the East Aurora Moose Lodge 370 and a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 4781 in Ocala, Florida / Henry Louis Ringle passed away on 4 February 2023 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBINSON**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

RICHARD O.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Richard O. Robinson honorably served in the United States Army / 1LT Richard Robinson was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Robinson was born in Watertown, New York / Richard Robinson was a graduate of St. Bonaventure University and a 1958 graduate of University of Buffalo School of Law, where he was the Associate Editor of the Buffalo Law Review / Robinson practiced law for more than 55 years, focusing on plaintiff litigation, working for the Law Offices of William J. Flynn, and was a partner in the Law Offices of Moynihan, Scalzo and Robinson; Robinson, Wittig, and Speller; Robinson Speller / Richard Robinson formed Richard O. Robinson, P.C. and in 1987 formed Robinson & Rossi. P.C. / In 1973, Richard Robinson presented and argued a case before the Supreme Court and was also admitted to the Bar of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit / Robinson was a three-term town justice from 1962 to 1973, and served on the Town Board and Town Planning Board/ Richard Robinson was a member of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce for over 50 years / In 1969, Robinson was honored as Town of Grand Island Professional Citizen of the Year / Richard O. Robinson Passed away on 29 December 2014 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBINSON**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LANCASTER

RICHARD G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1949

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

TANK BATTALION, 2ND MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL W/5 BRONZE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Richard G. Robinson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Richard Robinson was assigned as a Tank Leader and received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat operations

Base Assignments:

Camp Lejeune - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / 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

Miscellaneous:

Richard Robinson was employed as a Cafeteria Counterman at Lancaster High School prior to joining the U.S. Marines on 29 December 1949 / Richard Robinson was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / Richard G. Robinson passed away on 9 June 1984 at the age of 52 years old and is interred at Saint Mary of the Assumption Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

The 2nd Tank Battalion (2nd Tanks) was an armored battalion of the United States Marine Corps which was based out of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / It fell under the command of the 2nd Marine Division and the II Marine Expeditionary Force / During the Korean War, most of the battalion's personnel immediately augmented the 1st Tank Battalion / It also provided the cadre for the 8th Tank Battalion, a wartime expansion force battalion / Garrison duty on the East Coast of the US involved support to routine deployments in the Mediterranean and Caribbean / 2nd Tank Battalion units became involved in two interventions in Lebanon, the Cuban Missile Crisis deployment, the Dominican



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Republic and the Guantanamo Base defense effort

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROMANCHOCK
CHARLES

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles "Chuck" Romanchock honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles "Chuck" Romanchock passed away on 18 March 2018 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSE SR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

WARREN

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Warren A. Rose, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Warren Rose was assigned as a Combat Medic with the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Warren Rose retired from Dunlop Tires after 30 years of service / Warren A. "Rosey" Rose, Sr. passed away on 27 July 2018

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 Hood, Texas / It was formed in 1921 and 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 and in Operation Freedom's Sentinel / 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 / In the summer of 1950, North Korea attacked South Korea, and the 1st Cavalry Division was rushed to Korea to help shore up the Pusan Perimeter / During the Korean War, the 1st Cavalry Division suffered 3,811 killed in action and 12,086 wounded in action



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROSENBERRY, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** SNYDER

RICHARD L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard L. "Pike" Rosenberry, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard L. "Pike" Rosenberry, Jr. passed away on 27 January 2024 and his remains were cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUCHALSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

NORMAN T.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman T. Ruchalski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman T. Ruchalski passed away on 8 July 2025 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUNO**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

ALFRED

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

NYS MEDAL FOR MERIT

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Alfred A. Runo honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Alfred Runo was assigned as a Mortar Unit Leader / Runo served on Guam from December 1948 - February 1950, and in Japan and Korea from August 1950 - July 1951

While stationed in Korea, SSgt. Runo participated in the assault and seizure of Inchon; the capture and securing of Seoul; the Wonsan-Hungnam-Chosin Campaign in Northern Korea; and operations against enemy forces in South and Central Korea. As one of the "Chosin Frozen", Runo came close to loosing his toes

SSGT Alfred Runo received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 1 August 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Runo was employed by Bell Aerospace, Wheatfield and Blaw-Knox, Buffalo before retiring / Alfred A. Runo passed away on 25 January 2023 at the age of 91 years old and interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945 and December 1991 who served on active duty for 24 consecutive months during the Cold War; were deployed outside of the continental U.S. for a period of at least 30 days during the Cold War; or were a member of a reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold 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 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 States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 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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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,



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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

The NYS Medal for Merit 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; or, a non-New York State citizen who is an active member in the New York State organized militia, and as an active member in the New York State organized militia, served with units of the New York State organized militia while on federal active duty for purposes other than training and/or annual training; whose entire service was honorable and who were recipients of a valor, achievement, commendation, or meritorious service decoration, of a lesser degree than required for the award of the Conspicuous Service Cross, or whose service was in direct support of combat operations while serving in the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard / This medal shall be awarded only to those persons whose entire service, subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation, shall have been honorable



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSELL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

JOHN

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John A. Russell honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Russell was a episcopal priest, psychotherapist and professor of social work / John A. Russell passed away on 28 December 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery , Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RYAN, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

729TH AIR CONTROL WING (AC&W)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class James Francis Ryan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / AIC James Ryan was assigned as a Senior Radio Intercept Operator / AIC Ryan was stationed in Korea, Japan and China

Base Assignments:

Air Force Training Center, Kessler Air Force Base -Biloxi, Mississippi - Keesler Air Force Base is part of the Air Education and Training Command, and its primary mission, since 1941, has been training / The emphasis is on high-technology training in a number of fields, primarily in the electronics specialties

Robins Air Firce Base - A major United States Air Force installation, Robins AFB is located in Houston County, Georgia, just east of the city of Warner Robins / The base is named in honor of Brig Gen Augustine Warner Robins, the Air Force's "father of logistics" / The host unit at Robins AFB is the 78th Air Base Wing (78 ABW) which provides services and support for the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex and its tenant organizations

Robins AFB is the home of the Air Force Materiel Command's Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC) (FLZ) which is the worldwide manager for a wide range of aircraft, engines, missiles, software and avionics and accessories components

Miscellaneous:

James Ryan attended Holy Family School and St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, James Ryan worked at Merchants Mutual Insurance Company / Ryan later formed his own insurance agency with two friends, forming Stanton, Dauer & Ryan / James Ryan retired in 1997 / James Ryan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 and active with the Troop I Post and served as commander from 1999 to 2002



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/ James Francis Ryan, Jr. passed away on 8 February 2013 at the age of 83 years old

A Radio Intercept Operator was tasked with monitoring, collecting and interpreting military voice and electronic signals from countries of interest

The 729th Air Control Squadron is a Control and Reporting Center (CRC) assigned to the 552d Air Control Group, 552d Air Control Wing / The 729th's mission is focused around providing air control (radar) services for combat air operations / Officially, the 729th provides a mobile, combat-rated, senior radar element of the Theater Air Control System for worldwide contingencies / Additionally the 729th provides combat and control of joint air operations by conducting surveillance identification, weapons control, Battle Management and theater communications data link

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SAYGER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

RONALD G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald G. Sayger honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald G. Sayger passed away on 19 December 2022 and interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCALZI**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

CARMEN F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NAVY UNIT CITATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Carmen F. Scalzi honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Carmen Scalzi was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Tank Leader

Carmen Scalzi was a Gold Star Father, losing a child who was who was killed while serving in the U.S. Military / His son, Carmen F. Scalzi, Jr., stationed with an armor division at Camp Baumholder, West Germany, died on 18 November 1975 when a vehicle that he was driving overturned

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carmen F. Scalzi passed away on 4 March 2023 at the age of 92 years old and is interred in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

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Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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

Navy Unit Citation is a formal, honorary mention by high authority of a military unit's specific and outstanding performance, notably in battle / Similar mentions can also be made for individual soldiers / Alternatively or concurrently, the unit can be awarded an honorary title, a mention on the flag or a decoration

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SCARCELLO, SR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JOSEPH J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph J. Scarcello, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph J. Scarcello was a member of American Legion Post #735 and the Monsignor Nash Council #3875 Knights of Columbus / Joseph J. Scarcello, Sr. passed away on 14 June 2022



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHACK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

HARRY N.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

71ST CHEMICAL COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Harry Norman Schack honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Harry Schack was deployed to Korea for 11 months with the 71st Chemical Company / CPL Schack participated in the infamous Battle of Pork Chop Hill / CPL Schack was also stationed in Okinawa

Harry Schack received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 1 August 1953

The Battle of Pork Chop Hill was a series of two battles during the spring and summer of 1953 / They occurred while the United Nations, North Korea and China were working on the Korean Armistice Agreement / While those forces under the UN command won the first battle, the second was lost to the People's Volunteer Army (PVA) of China / The second battle involved many more troops on both sides and was bitterly contested for five days, when the UN conceded the hill to the Chinese by withdrawing behind the main battle line/ The battle is also known as Battle of Seokhyeon-dong Northern Hill in China

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Army service, Harry Schack attended the University of Buffalo, receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Chemistry in 1959 / Following his nine years as a polymer chemist at Lucidol, Harry Schack served as Chief Chemist in several malt houses until his retirement / Schack was a member and past Commander of the Harvey D. Morin, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Post #2940 / Harry Norman Schack passed away on 14 May 2018 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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The 71st Chemical Company was constituted on 16 May 1942 and participated in the Third Korean Winter Campaign and the Korean Summer 1953 Campaign / The Company was awarded the Army Meritorious Commendation in 1953

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Name: **SCHENBACK**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

WILLIAM B.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William Bernard Schenback honorably served in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, William Schenback went to work for Niagara Mohawk, retiring after 46 years / William Bernard Schenback passed away on 26 January 2024 at the age of 93 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SCHMITT

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

RICHARD A.

Address: 2 BOURBON COURT

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "G", 350TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL
 PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL
 GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Richard A. Schmitt honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Richard Schmitt developed food poisoning on the way to the Korean front and was treated on the medical ship, USS Repose (AH-16) before continuing to his station in South Korea / Schmitt was a Browning Automatic Rifleman (BAR) while stationed on Hill 555 in South Korea

Following his tour in Korea, Coporal Schmitt was reassigned to Mannheim, Germany where he was stationed for one-and-a-half years before being discharged from active duty

Base Assignments:

Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania - Authorized in 1929, Indiantown Gap, the installation was used by the National Guard until 1940 when the reservation was leased to the Federal government / Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the post was used to train soldiers for combat / Over 250,000 soldiers passed through the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation on the way to the European battlefront / At the end of the war, Indiantown Gap converted from a staging center to a Separation Center for GIs from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan / During the Korean War, the Fifth Infantry was quartered at the Gap and trained replacement troops for assignment to Korea / During the Vietnam War and its aftermath, Indiantown Gap hosted summer camps for the Reserve Officer Training Corps, and twice served as a Refugee Resettlement Camp / In 1975, the year the Reservation officially became Fort Indiantown Gap, its barracks sheltered over 32,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees while they were processed and waiting for sponsorship / In 1980 it housed some 19,000 Cubans until they were placed with sponsors / Ownership of the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation reverted back to the commonwealth of in 1998

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Camp Devens was established on 5 September 1917 and was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / At the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in



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New England who would serve one year as draftees / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / The 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division was located at Fort Devens from 1946 to 1950 / A battalion from Fort Devens was redesignated as the Third Battalion, Eighth Cavalry Regiment, and sent to Korea to join the 1st Cavalry Division / In the 1950s or 1960s the fort was home to the 56th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, part of 1st Region, Army Air Defense Command / Fort Devens was the home of the 10th Special Forces Group (Mountain), less 1st Battalion based in (West) Germany, from 1968 until the Group's move to Fort Carson, Colorado in 1995 / It was also the home of the 39th Engineer Battalion (CBT) until the 39th was inactivated in 1992 / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

Fort Carson, Colorado - Fort Carson is a United States Army installation located near the city of Colorado Springs and was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor / Camp Carson was named in honor of the legendary Army scout, General Christopher "Kit" Carson, who explored much of the West in the 1800s / During World War II, over 100,000 soldiers trained at Camp Carson / Nurses, cooks, mule packers, tank battalions, a Greek infantry battalion, and an Italian ordnance company trained at Camp Carson during the war years / Camp Carson was also home to nearly 9,000 Axis prisoners of war – mostly Italians and Germans / Camp Carson was designated Fort Carson in 1954 and in the 1960s, mechanized units were assigned to the fort

Miscellaneous:

Richard Schmitt attended Kensington High School in Buffalo prior to enlisting in the Army / After receiving a Honorable Discharge, Schmitt worked for Sahlen's Meat Packing Company in Buffalo, New York where he retired as a supervisor after 33 years of employment / Richard Schmitt is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #8113 and American Legion Post #735

The Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) is a family of American automatic rifles and machine guns used by the United States and designed by John Browning in 1917 / The BAR was designed to be carried by infantrymen during an assault advance while supported by the sling over the shoulder, or to be fired from the hip / The BAR was used as a light machine gun, often fired from a bipod (introduced on models after 1938) / Although the weapon did see some action in World War I, the BAR did not become standard issue in the US Army until 1938, when it was issued to squads as a portable light machine gun / The BAR saw extensive service in both World War II and the Korean War and saw limited service in the Vietnam War / The US Army began phasing out the BAR in the late 1950s

The 350th Infantry Regiment was constituted in the National Army on 5 August 1917 and assigned to the 88th Division

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

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Name: SCHNEEBERGER

Killed in Action **Hometown:**

PAUL F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Paul F. Schneeberger honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Paul Schneeberger was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Schneeberger graduated from Canisius High School and from Canisius College with a bachelor's degree in accounting / Schneeberger was a district cost accountant at LTV Steel, formerly Republic Steel, in South Buffalo for 35 years / Schneeberger was a member of Council 184, Knights of Columbus; the St. John Vianney Holy Name Society; and American Legion Post #567, in Orchard Park / Paul F. Schneeberger passed away on 18 August 1998 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHNELLER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* DEPEW

EUGENE N.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene N. Schneller honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Schneller worked for the Buffalo News, retiring after 47 years / Eugene N. Schneller passed away on 25 April 2025 at the age of 94 years old



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHRUEFER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

RAYMOND J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Raymond John Schruefer honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Raymond Schruefer was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond John Schruefer was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / Raymond Schruefer was a Past Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 7525 / Raymond John Schruefer passed away on 15 June 1999 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York

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The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

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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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SCHULTZ

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

THOMAS J.

Address: 268 INDIAN CHURCH ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

1745TH COMPANY "C", 35TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 BRONZE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private Thomas Joseph Schultz honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Thomas Schultz was deployed to Korea and assigned as an Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Schultz was a Millwright Helper for Bethlehem Steel prior to military service in the U.S. Army / Schultz was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

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

The 35th Infantry Regiment was constituted on 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army / The Regiment's mission was the protection of the U.S. border with Mexico until 1919 / The 35th Regiment served in World War II at Guadalcanal, Northern Solomons and Luzon / At the end of World War II, the 35th Infantry Regiment initially took up occupation duties in the city of Nagoya and in January 1946 the 35th was transferred to the city of Otsu, where it conducted occupation duties until July 1950 / On 1 July 1950 the 24th Infantry Division was ordered to Korea / The 35th Infantry Regiment compiled a distinguished record as one of the best regiments in the Eighth Army, serving in all ten campaigns of the Korean War, receiving a Presidential Unit Citation and three Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations

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troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHWAB**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

LYLE

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Lyle P. Schwab honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Lyle Schwab was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Camp Lejeune - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / 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

Miscellaneous:

Lyle Philip Schwab was a Truck Driver for S.M. Flickinger Company prior to enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps / Schwab was a Docent at the Buffalo Naval and Military Park for many years / Schwab was a member of Marine Corp. League Detachment #239, Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940 and American Legion Post #735 / Lyle P. Schwab passed away on 17 June 2023 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

1954

Name: SCHWENK

Killed in Action

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

PAUL

J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul J. Schwenk honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Schwenk retired from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (National Grid) / Paul J. Schwenk passed away on 3 July 2025 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SHANAHAN

WILLIAM

J.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: SN

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Seaman William J. Shanahan honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Shanahan was a former Commander of American Legion Post #735, West Seneca / Shanahan was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus / William J. Shanahan passed away on 11 October 2024 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SHATZEL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

LEON

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leon F. Shatzel honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leon F. Shatzel passed away on 1 January 2023 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SIMS, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

BRUCE

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Bruce F. Sims, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Bruce Sims was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Sims was employed by the General Motors Tonawanda plant for 30 years until retiring in 1989 / Bruce Sims was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #9429 on Grand Island / Bruce F. Sims, Jr. passed away on 5 May 2025 at the age of 85 years old and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SKINDELL

Killed in Action **Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

JAMES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS MISSOURI

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James John Skindell honorably served in the United States Navy / James Skindell was deployed to Korea and served aboard the USS Missouri

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Skindell was born in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania / James Skindell was a member of the Charles N. DeGlopper Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #9249 / James John Skindell passed away on 2 June 2011 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York

The USS Missouri (BB-63) is an Iowa-class battleship commissioned on 11 June 1944 and was the last battleship commissioned by the United States / The Missouri was assigned to the Pacific Theater during World War II, where she participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima and Okinawa / She shelled the Japanese home islands and her quarterdeck was the site of the surrender of the Empire of Japan, which ended World War II / Nicknamed the "Mighty Mo", she has been called the most historic battleship in the world / Missouri was the first American battleship to arrive in Korean waters and served as the flagship / She took part in numerous shore bombardment operations / The Missouri was decommissioned on 31 March 1992 and became a museum ship at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii as she watches over the remains of the Arizona and those interred within the Arizona's hull



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SKOP**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ELMA

DONALD H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald H. Skop honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald H. Skop passed away on 3 February 2024 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SMITH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ELMA

RICHARD M.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Richard M. Smith honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Richard Smith was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard M. Smith passed away (no further details)



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SONNER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

EARL

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Earl P. Sonner honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Earl Sonner retired from the United States Postal Service after working for 30 years, resettling in Bradenton, Florida/ Sonner was a member of the Korean War Veterans, VFW #10141, Disabled Veterans and Honor Guard / Earl Paul Sonner passed away on 8 May 2023 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SONTAG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* TONAWANDA

EDWIN J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Edwin Jack J. Sontag honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin Sontag worked for Joy Manufacturing Company, retiring as Plant Manager / Sontag was a longtime member of the Niagara River Fishing Station Club on Grand Island, serving two years as Club President / Edwin Jack J. Sontag passed away on 23 November 2025 at the age of 96 years old

The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SPERDUTI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES V.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James V. Sperduti honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James V. Sperduti passed away on 20 December 2021 at the age of 87 years old and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: STACHOWICZ

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAN

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR W/COMBAT "V"

KOREAN STAR MEDAL W/ 3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL FOR KOREA

NAVY/MARINE COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Jan "John" Stachowicz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Jan Stachowicz served as an Intelligence Specialist in Korea / Corporal Stachowicz was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions during hostile conditions while serving in Korea

Jan Stachowicz was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 7 December 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jan "John" Stachowicz passed away on 24 June 2022 at the age of 93 years old

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 Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STARR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* KENMORE

DANIEL P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel P. Starr honorably served in the United States Army / Drafted into the Army in 1954, Daniel Starr was assigned as a Clerk in Korea with the support group for the United Nations Command's Military Armistice Commission

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Starr attended St. Paul's School and Holy Angels Collegiate Institute / Starr graduated from Bishop Fallon High School in 1952 / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Daniel Starr enrolled in Canisius College under the GI Bill, earning a Bachelor's Degree in History in 1958 / In 1959, Starr received his Master's Degree from Rutgers College and completed his doctorate in American History in 1967 / A Canisius College faculty member for five years, Starr became the Academic Advisor to the Athletic Department in 1970, eventually becoming Athletic Director / Upon his retirement, Daniel Starr was the second-longest tenured Athletic Director in NCAA Division I Sports in the nation / Starr helped bring the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament and the NCAA Frozen Four men's hockey tournament to Buffalo / Dr. Starr taught various history courses and served on the Canisius Faculty Senate / Retired from teaching, Starr continued as a professor emeritus / In 2009, Starr published a book, "The Golden Age of Sports in Buffalo - 1945-1950" / Daniel Starr served on the Western New York Catholic newspaper / In 2002, Starr was appointed by Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello to co-chair a study for improvements in Buffalo's high school athletic programs / Daniel Starr was inducted into the Canisius College Sports Hall of Fame in 2010 and the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame in 2010 / Starr was inducted into the College Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts / Daniel P. "Doc" Starr passed away on 11 September 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STECK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ORCHARD PARK

RAYMOND J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Raymond J. Steck honorably served in the United States Army / Raymond Steck was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond J. Steck passed away on 7 June 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Hold 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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STRUEBING**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE

NEIL **H.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Neil Henry Struebing honorably served in the United States Army / Neil Struebing was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Neil Struebing was a Managing Director of Asia and Vice president of Importing for Montgomery Ward / Struebing was also a Managing Director of Importing and Sales for FTD Florists, as well as owning his own Import Export business / Neil Struebing was a member of the board of directors of the Clarence Senior Center and served as a Commander of the Clarence American Legion Post #838 / Neil Henry Struebing passed away on 1 February 2026 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Clarence Centre Cemetery, Clarence, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SWAINE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* MARILLA

STANLEY

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stanley G. Swaine honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stanley Swaine was a longtime member and past commander of the Marilla Veterans / Stanley G. Swaine passed away on 8 November 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at Maplewood Cemetery, Marilla, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SWITALSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

CHARLES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles J. Switalski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles J. Switalski passed away on 2 January 2025



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZCZEPANSKI, JR.**

EDWARD J.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** EAST AURORA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Edward J. Szczepanski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Edward Szczepanski was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Edward Szczepanski became an Electrical Engineer for Moog, Inc. / After his retirement, Szczepanski served as a consultant to Moog for unique and special projects / Edward J. Szczepanski, Jr. passed away on 11 February 2026 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TEGLER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

LEROY H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY-AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

LeRoy H. Tegler honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

LeRoy H. Tegler passed away on 25 May 2013 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The United States Air Force was established by transfer of personnel from the Army Air Forces with the enactment of the National Security Act of 1947 / It is the second youngest branch of the United States Armed Forces and the fourth in order of precedence / The United States Air Force articulates its core missions as air supremacy, global integrated intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, rapid global mobility, global strike, and command and control



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **THILL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HOLLAND

FRANCIS A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Francis A. "Corky" Thill honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis Thill was a lifetime member of Clutch Artists, Inc. / Francis A. "Corky" Thill passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMSON
DONALD

Killed in Action **Hometown:** TOWN OF TONAWANDA

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald Thomson honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Thomson passed away on 21 February 2024 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Elmwood Memorial Park, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TRZENSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

WALTER J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Walter J. Trzenski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter J. Trzenski passed away on 6 August 2022 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TRZEPACZ

Killed in Action **Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

DANIEL J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

USS JAMES C. OWENS (DD-776)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel J. Trzepacz honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Daniel Trzepacz was assigned as a Machinist's Mate and deployed to Korea aboard the USS James C. Owens for over 38 months / While operating off Songjin, Korea on 7 May 1952, the USS James C. Owens engaged enemy shore batteries and silenced several of them, but sustained six direct hits / When his ship went to battle stations, Daniel Trzepacz, ran across the deck and an enemy shell landed at his feet / He proceeded to pick the shell up and throw it overboard / It exploded as he threw it and he suffered shrapnel injuries which remained in both his wrists until his death / He never sought any medical care outside of the corpsman on the ship or reported being injured when he returned to port as he felt he was just blessed to have survived when so many died

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Trzepacz was a highly mechanically inclined Hydraulics Engineer who served as the Chief Hydraulics Engineer for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation / In the early 1980's, Trzepacz owned Northeast Hydraulics Services, Inc. family business for eighteen years called / Trzepacz was an active member of the Western New York Gas & Steam Engine Association and the Niagara Frontier Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society / Daniel Trzepacz was a lifetime member of the Hamburg American Legion Post #527 / Daniel J. Trzepacz passed away on 21 July 2020 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery, Eden, New York

USS James C. Owens (DD-776), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, is the only ship of the United States Navy FRAM II class to be named for Lieutenant James C. Owens Jr., a member of Torpedo Squadron 8 on board USS Hornet / His entire squadron was lost in an attack against Japanese aircraft carriers 4 June during the Battle of Midway / Lt. Owens received



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

the Navy Cross and the Presidential Unit Citation (US) posthumously / The James C. Owens was commissioned on 17 February 1945 / In June 1945, the Owens operated out of Okinawa until departing 20 September for Japan as part of the Wakayama Occupation Group / Arriving on 22 September, she supported occupation landings, patrolled off southern Japanese islands, and served as courier and escort ship / With the outbreak of war in Korea, the Owens arrived in the Western Pacific on 27 February 1950 for blockade and interdiction patrols along the Korean coast / While operating off Songjin 7 May 1950, she engaged enemy shore batteries and silenced several of them, but sustained six direct hits / Departing Korea 22 June, she steamed via the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean to Norfolk arriving on 19 August 1950 / She returned to Korean waters on 10 November 1953, and patrolled coastal waters to prevent violations of the armistice signed on 27 July 1953 / She remained on this important peace-keeping duty in the Far East until she departed Yokosuka, Japan, 11 March 1954 / For almost two years James C. Owens operated out of Norfolk and Guantanamo Bay on ASW and destroyer division maneuvers / While in the Caribbean during September 1955, she provided search and rescue assistance to the citizens of Puerto Rico after a destructive hurricane / The USS James C. Owens was decommissioned on 15 July 1973 and sold to Brazil and renamed Sergipe / She was finally scrapped in 1995 / The James C. Owens received two battle stars for World War II service and two for the Korean War

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **UTZ**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CHEEKTOWAGA

EDWARD J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward J. Utz honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward J. Utz passed away on 26 December 2022 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Saint John Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VALLONE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

ORAZIO

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Orazio (Horace) "Val" Vallone honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Orazio (Horace) "Val" Vallone passed away on 8 November 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VALONE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* CLARENCE

DONALD C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A2C

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

17TH INSTALLATION SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Airman Second-Class Donald C. Valone honorably served in the United States Air Force / A2C Donald Valone was deployed to Korea for 3 months, assigned to the 17th Installation Squadron / A2C Donald Valone was assigned as a Military Police Officer stationed at the Missile Site, Nike Base in Grand Island, NY

A2C Donald Valone was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force in October 1952

Donald Valone joined the New York Army National Guard serving as a Military Police Officer and assigned to Battery-A, 2nd Missile Battalion, 209th Artillery Brigade (Nike Base) on Grand Island, New York

Donald Valone was Honorably Discharged from the NYS Army National Guard on 31 March 1970 with the rank of Specialist Four

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Valone was the owner, operator and President of TryLock Roofing Company, Tonawanda, New York / Donald C. Valone passed away on 30 April 2023 at the age of 89 years old

Military Police Branch performs law enforcement duties on Army installations or operations under combat conditions / Its focus is on ensuring that Army values are upheld, laws are enforced and providing security for Army personnel and property within the Army training environment



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: VASTOLA

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

CHARLES D.

Address: 76 INNES ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 105TH ASU

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Charles Donald Vastola honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Charles Vastola was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Machinist

Base Assignments:

Fort Wadsworth, New York - Fort Wadsworth is a former United States military installation on Staten Island in New York City, situated on The Narrows which divide New York Bay into Upper and Lower halves, a natural point for defense of the Upper Bay and Manhattan beyond / Prior to closing in 1994 it claimed to be the longest continually garrisoned military installation in the United States / It comprises several fortifications, including Fort Tompkins and Battery Weed and was given its present name in 1865 to honor Brigadier General James Wadsworth, who had been killed in the Battle of the Wilderness during the Civil War / Fort Wadsworth is now part of the Staten Island Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area, maintained by the National Park Service.

Miscellaneous:

Charles D. Vastola was employed at Vanott Machine Company prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army / Charles Vastola was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / Charles Donald Vastola passed away on 1 February 2012 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn, Buffalo, New York

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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

1954

Name: **VEANES**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CLARENCE

ANTHONY A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Anthony A. Veanes honorably served in the United States Army / Anthony Veanes was deployed to Korea as an Army Photographer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Anthony Veanes became a baby photographer, barber, electrician and a successful entrepreneur of several family businesses / Anthony A. Veanes passed away on 20 February 2024 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VIENNE SR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LANCASTER

RICHARD P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS LOWRY (DD-770)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard P. Vienne, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Richard Vienne served aboard the USS Lowry as a Fire Controlman on the destroyer's guns / Richard served with his twin brother, Robert Vienne aboard the USS Lowry

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Vienne joined the United States Navy after graduating from High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Vienne attended St. John Fisher College in Rochester, majoring in accounting and transferred to SUNY Brockport where he received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Math Education / Richard Vienne was employed by the Lancaster Central School District, spending most of his career in high school teaching algebra, advanced algebra and trigonometry / He retired from teaching in 1996 and served on the Board of New York State Retired Teachers Association-Retired Educators of New York / Vienne served for more than 20 years with the Lancaster Lions Club, including serving the organization as Treasurer and President / Richard Vienne volunteered with the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts and was a Little League Baseball Coach in the 1970's / He was a member of the Lancaster Country Club for more than 40 years and was an active member of the Rademacher Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 5861 serving Elma, Marilla and Wales / Richard P. Vienne, Sr. passed away on 7 January 2023 at the age of 90 years old and interred at the Western New York National Cemetery in Corfu, New York

USS Lowry (DD-770), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, is the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Reigart Bolivar Lowry, who served in the Mexican–American War and was a member of Commodore Matthew C. Perry's expedition to Japan in 1855 / He served with distinction in the American Civil War, capturing New Orleans and in the first attack on Vicksburg (April–June 1862) / The Lowry was commissioned on 23 July 1944 and arrived San Pedro Bay on 14 December 1944 / From 19 to 29 December, she escorted convoys between Leyte and the Mindoro Island beachhead, and was also part of a special striking force that helped protect Mindoro from enemy attack / From 2 to 10 January 1945, she



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

operated as an effective task force screen and gunfire support ship in the invasion of Luzon, then patrolled the approaches to Lingayen Gulf guarding the newly won beachhead until sailing for Ulithi on 22 January / Lowry then served as a radar picket off Okinawa and during this assignment, the ship engaged in numerous actions with enemy aircraft / The heaviest of these occurred on 28 May 1945, when accompanying the picket destroyer Drexler was hit by two kamikazes and sank with heavy loss of life / The Lowry, after fighting to prevent the loss of her companion, stood by to rescue survivors despite the continued presence of enemy aircraft in the area / From 29 June 1945 she covered minesweeping operations in the South China Sea / On 22 January 1952, Lowry sailed, via the Panama Canal, to join the 7th Fleet, arriving at Yokosuka on 27 February 1952 / With Task Force (TF) 77, Lowry served off the east coast of Korea on shore bombardment, plane guard, and screening duty until early April 1952, then had similar duty off the west coast of Korea with TF 95, the United Nations Blockading and Escort Force, through May / On 8 June 1945, she sailed to rejoin TF 77 for gun strike missions / During the Vietnam War, the USS Lowry was deployed to Vietnam, serving off the coast performing plane guard, naval gunfire support, and other duties for which the versatile destroyer was well suited / The USS Lowry was decommissioned and was struck from the Naval Registry on 31 October 1973 and transferred to the Brazilian Navy on the same day / The Lowry was scrapped October 1996 / The USS Lowry received four battle stars for World War II service and two for Korean service



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VOUROS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ORCHARD PARK

GEORGE S.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George S. Vouros honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George S. Vouros passed away on 10 December 2025 at the age of 96 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WACHALA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

LEON **A.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Leon A. Wachala honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leon Wachala was employed at E.I. DuPont in the Town of Tonawanda before retiring in 1989 / Leon A. Wachala passed away on 2 July 2016 at the age of 85 years old



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WAGNER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

JAMES

D.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

570TH ORDNANCE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

James D. Wagner honorably served in the United States Army / James Wagner was deployed to Korea for 1 year

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Wagner was born in Springville and enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1953 / James D. Wagner passed away on 12 May 2024 at the age of 91 years old

The 570th Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company was activated on 15 March 1950 in Nishinomiya, Honshu, Japan / Initially, it had 5 officers and 121 enlisted men and was assigned to the 192nd Ordnance Battalion / When the company arrived in Pusan, Korea on 8 July it became part of the Pusan Logistical Command / During its service, the 570th operated maintenance facilities and even provided an emergency mobile repair service that patrolled the main roads in the area

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material to the U.S. Army

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WAGNER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RAYMOND L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BT-3

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

USS SHIELDS (DD-596)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Boilerman Third-Class Raymond L. "Bud" Wagner honorably served in the United States Navy / BT-3 Raymond Wagner was deployed to Korea and served aboard the USS Shields

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Wagner retired in 1999 after a 44-year career with New York Telephone / Raymond Wagner was a past member of the Executive Board of the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, Local No. 1122, serving as their president in the early 1970s / Raymond L. "Bud" Wagner passed away on 22 September 2012 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Mount Hope Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

A Navy Boilerman is responsible for performing tests on boiler water, fuel, and lubricating oils, as well as operating and performing preventive maintenance on boilers and boiler auxiliary equipment / Boilerman also operate distilling plants, test and calibrate gauges, and exercise environmental control procedures / Additionally, they may repair and test Fireroom (boiler room) equipment, renew parts, repair boiler plates and brick-work of boilers, and check seams, rivets, welds, and fits pipes

USS Shields (DD-596), was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy / The ship was named for Thomas Shields, who was born in New Castle, Delaware / He was appointed Midshipman on 2 January 1804 and served on the USS Congress and USS Constitution until 1807 / While aboard Constitution, Shields sustained an injury which rendered him physically incapable of performing all the duties required of a line officer / Requesting an appointment as Purser, which he received on 14 April 1809, Shields served on the USS Nautilus until March 1811 when he was ordered to the New Orleans Naval Station / On 18 January 1815, following the Battle of New Orleans, he led a small expedition to harass the retreating British / Shields and his party succeeded in capturing numerous prisoners and destroyed several vessels Thomas Shields remained at the New Orleans Naval Station until his death on 22 May 1827 / The USS Shields was



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

commissioned on 8 February 1945 and her short period of combat service in World War II, 24 May-15 August 1945, consisted almost entirely of escort duty between and patrol duty around Eniwetok, Ulithi, Leyte, Okinawa, and Borneo / Shields saw actual combat only once during the war; she shelled Japanese shore installations at Miri, Borneo, in support of Australian ground forces, on 26 June 1945 / On 15 July 1950. Shields arrived in the Far East in September 1951 for the first of three Korean War tours / During this cruise, which lasted until February 1952, she patrolled the Korean coast in the area of the bomblines and Kojo, providing fire support for the First ROK Corps and the First Marine Division / She participated in the assault on Kojo and provided harassing and interdiction fire / Her second Korean War tour, commencing on 1 November 1952, found her again cruising off the Korean coast near the bomblines supporting the First ROK Corps and the Eighth Army / Later she took part in antisubmarine warfare exercises off the coasts of Japan and Okinawa and concluded the deployment training Chinese Nationalist naval forces at Taiwan / Stopping at Hong Kong and Japan, Shields returned to San Diego on 1 June 1953 / Between 18 July 1954 and 30 November 1963, Shields was deployed to WESTPAC seven times / On 30 November 1963, Shields ceased operations as an active fleet unit and was assigned as a Naval Reserve Training ship, part of Reserve Destroyer Squadron 27 / The USS Shields was decommissioned on 1 July 1972 and sold to the Brazilian Navy / Shields was awarded the Korean Presidential Unit Citation (Korea) and three battle stars for service in the Korean War



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WAGNER**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

THOMAS J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

4TH BATTALION, 11TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

SILVER STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Thomas "Beaver" J. Wagner honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Thomas Wagner was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Field Artillery Cannoneer and also served as a Machine Gunner while involved in several campaigns during the Korean War, including the infamous Chosin Reservoir battle

While attached to Battery K, 4th Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, on 29 November 1950 PFC Wagner performed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity during intense action against the enemy, earning him a Silver Star / The next day, he was wounded in action, earning him a Purple Heart

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Wagner received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 31 January 1952 / Wagner was a lifetime member of the International Union of Operating Engineers and worked out of Local 17, Buffalo for over 40 years / Thomas "Beaver" J. Wagner passed away on 17 March 2018 at the age of 87 years old is interred in the Forest Lawn Cemetery's "Veterans Field of Valor", Buffalo, New York

The 11th Marine Regiment is an artillery regiment of the Marine Corps and is known as the "Canon Cockers" / The 11th marine Regiment fought in many Korean combat actions from 1950 - 1952 / The 11th Marines left Korea in March 1955

The Silver Star Medal (SSM) is the United States Armed Forces' third-highest military decoration for valor in combat / The



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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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WAGNER JR

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

WILLIAM

Address: ORCHARD PARK ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION, 32ND INFANTRY REGIMENT, 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal William Wagner honorably served in the United States Army / CPL William Wagner was deployed to Japan for 18 months before being re-deployed to Korea / CPL Wagner was declared a casualty of the Korean War when while warming himself next to a fire on 3 May 1951 near Inje, Korea, a grenade exploded, taking his life

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Wagner was a graduate of West Seneca High School and joined the Army in 1951 / William Wagner passed away on 3 May 1951 and is interred at the Buffalo Cemetery, Buffalo, New York / William Wagner is honored at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

The 32nd Infantry Regiment is a battalion within the United States Army / The 32nd Regiment was first organized on 7 August 1916, on Oahu, Hawaii from elements of the 1st and 2nd Infantry Regiments / At its activation, it was known as "The Queen's Own" Regiment, a title bestowed by the last queen of Hawaii, Liliuokalani / In June 1950, the 32nd boarded troopships, departing for Inchon, Korea / The 32nd went ashore on 16 September 1950, and were immediately met by small arms, mortar, and tank fire from communist forces / The 32nd advanced north toward the Han River, the last natural barrier to Seoul / The "Buccaneers" of the 32nd, in the cold morning hours of 25 September, crossed the Han River under intense enemy fire and captured their first objective, a dominating hill mass outside Seoul / The regiment



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for their actions in relieving pressure on the Marines Corps that were battling the enemy / The division was relieved of the responsibility for the Seoul area on 30 September 1950 and moved 350 miles overland, arriving in Pusan to begin training for another landing at Riwŏn and advancing to the Korean-Manchurian border / Landing at Riwŏn on the 29th of October, the regiment moved quickly northward with the 1st Battalion on the east coast of the Chosin Reservoir and the 2nd and 3rd in the Fusan Reservoir area / On 29 November 1950, when the full force of the Chinese attack struck the UN forces, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions stood their ground until UN elements further north moved to join the battle / Together all these UN elements made an orderly withdrawal from the Fusan area / The 1st Battalion on the east coast of the Battle of Chosin Reservoir was with elements of the 31st Infantry Regiment and the 1st Marines, who were cut off by Chinese forces / Only after long and bloody fighting did these forces work their way south to Koto-ri, and then to the Hungman perimeter / Elements of the regiment were among the units that participated in the Battle of Triangle Hill from October to November 1952 / With the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement and the end of the Korean war, the regiment began defensive preparations on the Korean peninsula, in case of a resumption of hostilities / The regiment was later reorganized and activated as the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment

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 Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941



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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 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 Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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: WALKER

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

NORMAN G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RM

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS ARNOLD J. ISBELL (DD-869)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Radioman Norman Gibson Walker honorably served in the United States Navy / RM Norman Walker was trained as a Radioman and served aboard the destroyer, USS Arnold J. Isbell in the Sea of Japan during the Korean War / RM Walker sustained a disability due to the proximity of the radio room to the ship's artillery as it shelled the Korean coast

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Walker attended School 45 and attended Lafayette High School before enlisting in the Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Norman Walker earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 1958 from Buffalo State Teachers College (SUNY Buffalo State University) / Dr. Walker taught fourth to sixth grades at Parker Elementary School in Clarence and Windermere Elementary School in Amherst / Dr. Walker completed his Master's Degree in Elementary Education in 1962 at Buffalo State and joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor / In 1967, Walker was named coordinator for all student programs at Buffalo State, leaving to pursue a doctorate in education at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana / Dr. Walker returned to Buffalo State, becoming Chairman of the Department of Curriculum and Supervision (Elementary Education Department) in 1978 / Walker also did post-doctoral work at Gesell Institute at Yale University / Dr. Walker was a volunteer at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, an amateur magician, a 32nd Degree Mason and Master Mason / Walker was also a member of Occidental Lodge 766, F&AM and Worshipful Master of Master Builder Lodge 911 and the Western New York Lodge of Research 9007 / Dr. Norman Gibson Walker passed away on 1 September 2024 at the age of 92 years old

Navy Radioman (RM) was a rating for United States Navy and United States Coast Guard enlisted personnel, specializing in communications technology / The Radiomen of the US Navy were responsible for transmitting and receiving radio signals, and processing all forms of telecommunications through various transmission media aboard ships, aircraft and at shore facilities / Their duties also included message systems for generalized broadcasts and unit specific messages that were



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handled based on message priority and handling procedures / They were also responsible for the proper handling and destruction of classified material / Radiomen were also responsible for periodic maintenance of the communications equipment, to include transmitters, receivers and antennas

USS Arnold J. Isbell (DD-869), a Gearing-class destroyer, was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Arnold J. Isbell, an aircraft carrier captain during World War II / The ship was laid down on 14 March 1945 at Staten Island, New York, by Bethlehem Mariners Harbor, launched on 6 August 1945 and commissioned on 5 January 1946 / Constructed too late to see action in World War II, the vessel initially served as a training ship with the United States Atlantic Fleet, before transferring to the Pacific and deploying to Korea during the Korean War and off the Vietnam coast during the Vietnam War / In 1972, the USS Arnold J. Isbell was made part of the reserve training fleet and in 1974, sold to Greece where the ship was renamed "Satchouris" and served with the Hellenic Navy until being sold for scrap in 2002



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WALKER, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JOSEPH E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: EN3

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS AMPERE (ADG-11)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Engineman Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph Edward Walker Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / EN3 Joseph Walker was assigned as an Electrician on the USS Ampere and trained in Atomic Defense Monitoring and Radioactive Instruments

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Walker, Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

USS Ampere (PCE-919/AM-359/YDG-11/ADG-11) was originally planned as a PCE-905-class patrol craft for the United States Navy, PCE-919, and laid down as an Admirable-class minesweeper, named Drake, for the male duck / Before she was commissioned, her name was cancelled and she was reclassified as a District Degaussing Vessel (the ship's hull, made of steel, acts like a large floating magnet surrounded by an even larger magnetic field / When the ship moves through the water, the magnetic field moves along with it and produces disturbance in the earth's magnetic field / She was later renamed Ampere, after the ampere, a unit of electric current, which takes its name from the French physicist André-Marie Ampère / Drake was laid down on 24 November 1943, at Portland, Oregon by the Willamette Iron and Steel Works, and launched on 12 August 1944 / On 20 April 1945, her name was canceled, and she was re-designated as a degaussing vessel, YDG-11 / The ship was placed in service on 15 August 1945, the day after the Japanese surrender

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military



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award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WALSH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

CHRISTOPHER P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

24TH REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM (RCT)

548TH COMBAT ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (JAPAN)

NEW YORK CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Christopher P. Walsh honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Christopher Walsh was deployed to Korea

SGT Christopher Walsh was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Christopher Walsh served as the Chairman of the West Seneca Democratic Committee and elected as a two-term Town Board Councilman during the 1990's / Christopher P. Walsh passed away on 24 July 2020 at the age of 92 years old

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The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation is a military unit award of the government of South Korea that may be presented to South Korean military units, and foreign military units for outstanding performance in defense of the Republic of Korea / It is awarded for exceptional meritorious service to South Korea / The citation may be presented to units that participated in the defense of South Korea as part of the U.N. forces during the Korean War



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The Army of Occupation Medal (AOM) was awarded to US Army and Air Force personnel who served 30 consecutive days in Japan between September 3, 1945, and April 27, 1952

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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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WALTON**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

THOMAS E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BM3

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

USS VAN VALKENBURGH (DD-656)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 3rd-Class Thomas E. Walton honorably served in the United States Navy / BM3 Thomas Walton was assigned as a Boatswain's Mate aboard the USS Van Valkenburgh / BM3 Walton served on the USS Van Valkenburgh for 45 months

Thomas Walton received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy on 19 April 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Walton was a charter member and EMT with the Eden Emergency Squad / Thomas Walton was a 62-year member of the Hamburg American Legion Post #527, and a life member of the VFW Post #8647 in Mayville, New York / Thomas E. Walton passed away on 10 May 2022 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

USS Van Valkenburgh (DD-656) was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy, named for Captain Franklin Van Valkenburgh (1888–1941), captain of the battleship Arizona when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor / The Van Valkenburgh was commissioned on 2 August 1944 and operated out of Pearl Harbor, engaging in an intensive slate of training activities making practice torpedo runs, antiaircraft firings, and shore bombardments / In February 1945, the Van Valkenburgh participated in the bombardment and transport of Marines for the Battle of Iwo Jima / The Van Valkenburgh also participated in the Battle of Okinawa / In August 1951, the Van Valkenburgh commenced a period of operations in support of the I Corps, Republic of Korea (ROK) Army / Over the ensuing days, Van Valkenburgh expended over 2,400 rounds of ammunition against a variety of targets, ranging from houses to bunkers, artillery positions to sampans,



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trenches to tents and supply dumps, frequently using air spotters / On one occasion, 9 August 1952, Van Valkenburgh duelled with a communist shore battery / Taking 10 rounds of 76-millimeter projectiles from Suwan Dan, the destroyer returned immediate counterbattery and slow destructive fire, using air spotters, expending 51 rounds of 5-inch projectiles / The Van Valkenburgh was decommissioned on 26 February 1954 and transferred on loan to the Government of Turkey on 28 February 1967, Van Valkenburgh became TCG İzmir (D 341) and operated with the Turkish Navy into the early 1970s / Struck from the U.S. Navy List on 1 February 1973, the destroyer was returned to the United States on 15 February but was simultaneously sold to Turkey / The Van Valkenburgh won the Navy Unit Commendation for her service off Okinawa, was awarded three battle stars for her World War II duty and received one for Korean War operations

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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 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEBB**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

CLYDE E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

USS CABOT (CVL-28)

Medals / Citations:

NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Clyde E. Webb honorably served in the United States Navy / Clyde Webb was deployed to Korea aboard the USS Cabot as a Fireman, Machinists Mate Striker (MMFM) / Webb had 3 1/2 years of sea duty

Clyde Webb was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 16 July 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Clyde E. Webb passed away on 22 September 2021 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

Machinist's Mates (MM) perform the task of the operation and maintenance of not only steam turbines and gears for ship propulsion but also the auxiliary machinery / Additionally, they maintain refrigeration plants, desalinization plants, electrohydraulic steering engines, and air conditioning systems

USS Cabot (CVL-28/AVT-3) was an Independence-class light aircraft carrier in the United States Navy, the second ship to carry the name / Cabot was commissioned in 24 July 1943 and served until 1947 / During World War II, the Cabot participated in the battles of Palaus, Yap, Ulithi, and Woleai at the close of March 1944 / The Cabot and its Air Group 31 pounded Japanese bases on Iwo Jima, Pagan, Rota, Guam, Yap and Ulithi as the carrier continued her support of the Marianas operation until 9 August 1944 / She was recommissioned as a training carrier from 1948 to 1955 / From 1967 to 1989, she served in Spain as Dédalo / After attempts to preserve her failed, the Cabot was scrapped in 2002 / The USS Cabot earned nine Battle Stars during World War II



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The Navy Occupation Service Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was "Awarded to commemorate the services of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel in the occupation of certain territories of the enemies of the U.S. during World War II" and recognized those personnel who participated in the European and Asian occupation forces during, and following World War II / The medal was also bestowed to personnel who performed duty in West Berlin between 1945 and 1990

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEBER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

RAYMOND M.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS MCNAIR (DD-679)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond M. Weber honorably served in the United States Navy / Raymond Weber was deployed to Korea and served aboard the destroyer, USS McNair

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Weber retired to Florida / Raymond M. Weber passed away on 12 February 2023 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn, Buffalo, New York

USS McNair (DD-679) was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy and was named for Rear Admiral Frederick Valette McNair who served as Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy from 1898 to 1900 / The McNair was Commissioned on 30 December 1943 and during World War II, assigned to Destroyer Squadron 54 (DesRon 54) / On 14 June 1944, she was in the screen for the battleships that opened their guns against Japanese shore installations on Saipan and for the next 19 days, she provided fire support and carried out antisubmarine patrols / The McNair participated in the Iwo Jima offensive and the Okinawa offense / During the Korean War, the McNair served as gunfire support ship for United Nations troops and as guardian of carriers of the 7th Fleet / The USS McNair was Decommissioned on 30 December 1963 / McNair was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 December 1974 and was sold on 10 June 1976 and broken up for scrap / McNair received eight battle stars for World War II service and two for the Korean War



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Name: **WEIBEL**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ALDEN

GERALD R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gerald R. Weibel honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald R. Weibel passed away on 12 July 2023 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Saint Adalberts Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEISER**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

RAYMOND R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

187TH AIRBORNE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Raymond R. Weiser honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Raymond Weiser was wounded during combat action in Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond R. Weiser passed away at the age of 90 years old on 1 September 2022 at the age of 90 years old and his remains were cremated

The 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team (RCT) has a storied history, originally organized as a glider infantry unit in World War II / It fought in the Korean War as part of an airborne regimental combat team and is notable for being the only airborne regiment in the U.S. Army to have participated in every war since airborne tactics were introduced, including the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars / The team has utilized various modes of airborne warfare, including gliders, parachutes, and helicopters / During the Korean War, it was involved in significant operations, including Operation TOMAHAWK, where it was deployed into a blocking position near the Imjin River / In September 1950, the 187th made an airborne assault at Suncheon-Sukchon, thirty miles north of Pyongyang, to cut off an estimated 30,000 retreating North Korean soldiers and rescue U.S. POWs believed to be with those forces / The drop included a number of firsts, including the first combat drop from C-119s and the first successful heavy drop of 105mm howitzers, jeeps and other equipment / Throughout the rest of the Korean War, the 187th saw heavy fighting, particularly at Wonju in February 1951 and in March 1951, the RCT made another airborne assault at Munsan-ni / In 1952, the 187th was withdrawn to Japan as part of the U.S. Far East Command reserve / Troops of the 187th later helped subdue POW camp riots in June 1952 / For its



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service in Korea, the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team was awarded four unit citations, and three soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor / In total, the 187th suffered 2,115 casualties in Korea, including 442 killed in action

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 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 United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WHEELOCK**
ALTON **J.**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A3C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Airman Third-Class Alton John Wheelock honorably served in the United States Air Force / A3C Alton Wheelock was deployed to Korea

Alton J. Wheelock also honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alton Wheelock was a member of the Communications Workers of America (CWA) / Alton John Wheelock passed away on 18 June 1998 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WHIDDON JR**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* KENMORE

IVY

N.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ivy N. Whiddon, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ivy Whiddon worked for the United States Post Service, retiring from the William Street Post Office / Whiddon also worked as a Greeter at Walmart / Ivy N. Whiddon Jr. passed away on 10 April 2023 and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WHITNEY**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

HARVEY

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: ICFN

Year Entered: 1947

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

USS LEYTE (CV-32)

USS CURTISS (AV-4)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Fireman, Interior Communications Electrician Striker Harvey Gordon Whitney honorably served in the United States Navy / ICFN Harvey Whitney was deployed to Korea and served aboard the aircraft carrier USS Leyte for 33 months and the seaplane tender USS Curtiss for 5 months

Harvey Whitney was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 11 February 1952

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harvey Whitney was employed as a truck driver for Bethlehem Steel, Gibraltar Industries and Republic Steel / Whitney hauled the staging for the Rolling Stones "Steel Wheels" tour all over North America / Whitney drove a truck until he was 81 with price Trucking / Harvey Whitney was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders / Harvey Gordon Whitney passed away on 21 July 2020 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

USS Leyte (CV/CVA/CVS-32, AVT-10) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during and shortly after World War II for the United States Navy / The ship was the third US Navy ship to bear the name / Leyte was commissioned on 11 April 1946, too late to serve in World War II / She spent most of her career in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean, but also saw service in the Korean War, in which she earned two battle stars / She was reclassified in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), then as an Antisubmarine Aircraft Carrier (CVS), and finally (after inactivation) as an aircraft transport (AVT) / She was redesignated AVT-10 and decommissioned on 15 May 1959, and was assigned to the Philadelphia group of the Atlantic Reserve Fleet, where she remained until sold for scrap in September 1970



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

USS Curtiss (AV-4) was the first purpose-built seaplane tender constructed for the United States Navy / She was named for Glenn Curtiss, an American naval aviation pioneer that designed the Curtiss NC-4, the first aircraft to fly across the Atlantic Ocean / The Curtiss was commissioned on 15 November 1940 / Curtiss operated out of Norfolk, Virginia, and in the Caribbean for training and in fleet exercises through the spring of 1941 / On 26 May 1941, she got underway for Pearl Harbor, from which she served as local guard ship, as well as tending two patrol bomber squadrons / When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on 7 December, Curtiss was able to get underway and returned fire at the attacking Japanese aircraft / At 08:36, she sighted the periscope of a Japanese Midget Submarine and opened fire / A torpedo from this submarine missed Curtiss, running over and into a dock at Pearl City / Four minutes later, the same submarine surfaced and was further damaged by gunfire before diving again, after which the destroyer Monaghan sank the submarine with a ram and depth charge attack / After repairs the Curtiss returned to the Pacific and participated in the battles of Noumea, the Solomons and Okinawa / On 21 June 1945 while in Okinawa to serve as flagship for Commander, Fleet Air Wing 1, a kamikaze and its bomb ripped two holes in her hull and detonated on the third deck, killing 35 and wounding 21 of her crew / Damage control kept her afloat and four days later she was underway for an overhaul at Mare Island Navy Yard / Shortly after the outbreak of the Korean War, the Curtiss sailed from San Diego, to join the 7th Fleet in July 1950, on patrol in the Korea Strait / Sailing out of Iwakuni and Kure, she tended two Martin PBM Mariner squadrons and a squadron of British Short Sunderlands operating over Korean territory / The USS Curtiss was decommissioned on 24 September 1957 / The Curtiss was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 July 1963, and was sold for scrapping in February 1972

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIATROWSKI**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

VICTOR E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

27TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Victor E. Wiatrowski honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Victor Wiatrowski was deployed to Korea for 15 months with the 27th Infantry regiment

Victor Wiatrowski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 22 June 1954

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Victor Wiatrowski was life member of Amvets Post #45 / Victor E. Wiatrowski passed away on 5 April 2017

The 27th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the "Wolfhounds", is a regiment of the United States Army established in 1901, that served in the Philippine–American War, in the Siberian Intervention after World War I, and as part of the 25th Infantry Division ("Tropic Lightning") during World War II, the Korean War, and later the Vietnam War / The 27th Infantry Regiment departed for Pusan, South Korea, in July, 1950 to assist in holding the Pusan perimeter at the onset of the Korean War / The unit saw heavy action throughout the war, where they were considered the "fire brigade" for the 25th Infantry Division, in essence, making first combat contact with enemy forces / The 27th saw significant fighting at Sandbag Castle, Korea that was a 96 day defense action from July–October 1952 / The 27th Infantry Regiment earned ten campaign streamers and three Presidential Unit Citations / Upon conclusion of hostilities in Korea, the unit returned to Schofield Barracks.

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military award / 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, Ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIECZOREK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:*

DAVID R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David R. Wieczorek honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps. David Wieczorek joined National Fuel until his retirement / David R. Wieczorek passed away on 26 March 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Lancaster, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WILKES**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** EAST AURORA

KENNETH R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Kenneth R. Wilkes honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Kenneth Wilkes was deployed to Korea for 18 months and stationed with the US Army Signal Corps in Daegu, Korea

Kenneth Wilkes received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 3 April 1953

Kenneth Wilkes served in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in Buffalo, New York

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Wilkes attended the University of Bridgeport and graduated with a degree in Industrial Design / After working for General Electric, Wilkes moved to East Aurora and worked for Fisher Price designing toys / Kenneth Wilkes was a member of the East Aurora Art Society / Kenneth R. Wilkes passed away on 27 January 2020 at the age of 90 years old and his remains cremated

The United States Army Signal Corps was established in 1860 and was used in World War II to coordinate swift and accurate communication for air, ground, and naval units required more sophisticated technology and service /The Signal Corps develops, tests, provides, and manages communications and information systems support for the command and control of combined arms forces / The Signal Corps pioneered in the development of radar to detect approaching aircraft as well as mobile communications and deciphering machines / In addition to its primary role in military transmissions, the unit also played a key role in producing training films for army and civilian personnel, and documenting combat missions / During World War II, noted Hollywood producers, directors, and photographers (such as Darryl Zanuck, Frank Capra, John



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Huston, and George Stevens) all served in the Signal Corps

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The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WILLIAMS

Killed in Action **Hometown:** WEST SENECA

CLARENCE C.

Address: 4914 SENECA STREET

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT

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

Service Notes:

Private First Class Clarence C. Williams honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Clarence Williams was trained as a Basic Armament Repairman and trained on the .50 caliber Machine Gun

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Established in 1917, MCB Quantico is a Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps"

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina - Parris Island is used for the training of enlisted Marines / Marines were first stationed on Parris Island in 1891 / During the Korean War, more than 138,000 recruits were trained at Parris Island / Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report here to receive their initial training

Miscellaneous:

Clarence Williams graduated from West Seneca Senior High School / Prior to his military service, Williams worked at Bethlehem Steel Corporation and was a fireman with the Union Fire Company / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, from the military, Clarence Williams worked for the West Seneca Highway Department until his retirement in 1990

The .50 Caliber Machine Gun is also known as the M2 Browning. It is a heavy machine gun designed for use against aircraft and light armored vehicles / The prototype was developed by John M. Browning in 1918, right after WWI / It has since become one of the most widely used machine guns in the world

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

July 1954

A Marksmanship Badge is a military badge of the United States Armed Forces presented to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course or high placement in an official marksmanship competition. The U.S. Military's Marksmanship Qualification Badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman

Name: **WINTERS**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** HAMBURG

ROBERT J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Winters honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Winters was a retired electrician from the Durez Plant / Winters was a member of American Legion #246 and the Elks Lodge / Robert J. Winters passed away on 14 March 2024 at the age of 94 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIRTH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ALDEN

EDWARD G.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: KOREA

Service Notes:

Edward George Wirth honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / Edward Wirth was deployed to Korea

Edward Wirth served in the Army National Guard for 32 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Wirth worked as a welder at Westinghouse Electric, Cheektowaga and retired with 36 years of service / Edward Wirth retired as a welder from Westinghouse / Edward George Wirth passed away on 12 June 2024 at the age of 93 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIRTH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

RAYMOND E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CORPORAL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

21ST INFANTRY, 24TH DIVISION, "B" COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL KOREA

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (JAPAN)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Raymond E. Wirth honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Raymond Wirth was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division / Corporal Raymond Wirth was Killed in Action while fighting during "Operation Ripper" near Seoul, Korea on 4 April 1951

Operation Ripper, also known as the Fourth Battle of Seoul, was a United Nations military operation / Launched on 6 March 1951, Operation Ripper had two primary objectives, destroying as many units as possible of the Chinese communist People's Volunteer Army and North Korean military around Seoul, Hongch'on and Ch'unch'on / The operation also aimed to bring UN troops to the 38th parallel / Preceded by the largest artillery bombardment of the Korean War, American infantry divisions liberated Seoul on 15 March 1951 forcing the Communists northward out of the capital city / By the end of March 1951, US forces reached the 38th parallel

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond E. Wirth was Killed in Action on 4 April 1951 and was 22 years of age at the time of his death and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The 21st Infantry Regiment was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division on 26 August 1941 / After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the regiment guarded the northern shore of Oahu from Japanese attacks / The division underwent combat



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

training and departed for Australia in May 1943 / The regiment deployed to Australia with the 24th Infantry Division, where it trained for combat in the Pacific Theater and first engaged the Japanese at Tanahmerah Bay, New Guinea, on 22 April 1944 / The regiment fought in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, as well as Operation Iraqi Freedom / Task Force Smith, the first American unit to see action in the Korean War, was derived from the regiment's 1st Battalion

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The United Nations Service Medal Korea (UNSMK) is an international military decoration established by the United Nations during the Korean War / It was awarded to military service members of allied forces who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

The Army of Occupation Medal (AOM) was awarded to US Army and Air Force personnel who served 30 consecutive days in Japan between September 3, 1945, and April 27, 1952

The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea" / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WISCHMAN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ELMA

ROBERT C.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

2ND SIGNAL COMPANY, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Robert C. Wischman honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Robert Wischman was deployed to Korea for 17 months and stationed with the 2nd Signal Company, 2nd Infantry Division

Robert Wischman was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 5 August 1953

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert C. Wischman passed away on 12 October 2018 at the age of 88 years old

The 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-US Combined Division is the last remaining permanently forward-stationed division in the U.S. Army / The 2nd Infantry Division deters aggression and maintains peace on the Korean Peninsula; and if deterrence fails, "Fight Tonight" in support of the U.S.-Republic of Korea Alliance

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WOHLFEIL

Killed in Action **Hometown:** BUFFALO

HAROLD C.

Address: 116 GREENFIELD AVENUE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

7TH DIVISION, C COMPANY, HEADQUARTERS PLATOON

73RD TANK BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN OCCUPATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Harold C. Wohlfiel honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Harold Wohlfiel was deployed to Dongducheon, Korea and worked on the M46 and M47 Patton Tanks / SP4 Harold Wohlfiel was trained as a tank mechanic at Fort Knox, Kentucky

Harold Wohlfiel was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army in December 1956

Base Assignments:

Dongducheon - Located in Gyeonggi Province, South Korea, Dongducheon was strategically important for the defense of Seoul, the South Korean capital

Fort Knox, Kentucky - Located south of Louisville, Fort Knox was named after Henry Knox, the Continental Army's chief of artillery during the Revolutionary War and the country's first Secretary of War / Fort Knox was the home of the U.S. Army Armor Center and the U.S. Army Armor School / It was responsible for establishing armored formations, doctrine, and training in the use of armored vehicles

Camp Carson, Colorado - Home of the nation's oldest Army armor unit, Camp Carson is located near Colorado Springs and was established in 1942, following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor / Between 1942 and 1956, pack mules were a common sight at Camp Carson and were used by Field Artillery (Pack) battalions to carry equipment, weapons and supplies over mountainous terrain

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Harold Wohlfiel graduated from Burgard High School / Prior to enlisting in the Army in January 1955, Wohlfiel worked at Bliss & Laughlin (Cold Rolled Steel Mill) / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Harold Wohlfiel joined the International Union Of Operating Engineers Local #17 in Buffalo and was a construction equipment operator and master mechanic for several companies, including F. Darling Contractors, Higgins Erector and Haulers, Sigfried Construction, and the JW Cowper Company / Wohlfiel retired after 40 years of working in the construction field / In 1995, Harold Wohlfiel joined the West Seneca American Legion Post #735 and was appointed Post Secretary / Harold "Bud" Wohlfiel currently resides in Orchard Park, New York

Originally numbered as the 76th Tank Battalion, it was renumbered in 1949 as the 73rd Heavy Tank Battalion, under which name it served in the Korean War, with M4 Sherman and M26 Pershing tanks / It would later be redesignated the 73rd Armor Regiment and was finally disbanded in 1996

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan or Korea / The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army, but was expanded in 1948 to encompass the United States Air Force shortly after that service's creation / The Navy and Marine equivalent of the Army of Occupation Medal is the Navy Occupation Service Medal, which features the same ribbon with its own medallion and clasps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy 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 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 Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOLCOTT**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* AMHERST

DAVID P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant David Paul Wolcott honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT David Wolcott was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Cook

David P. Wolcott was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 29 July 1952

Base Assignments:

Parris Island Depot, South Carolina - Parris Island Depot is a Marine military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina and consists of 8,095 acres of land, of which only 3,262 acres are habitable / The remaining acres are primarily marsh / On 1 November 1915, Parris Island was officially designated a Recruit Depot, and United States Marine Corps Recruit Training when enlisted male training began at Parris Island in November 1915 and enlisted female training began in February 1949 / Marines have trained at the Parris Island Depot during each major conflict of the 20th and 21st century / In World War I, 41,000 enlisted Marines trained at Parris Island, 205,000 during World War II and 138,000 Marines trained during the Korean War

Miscellaneous:

David Wolcott was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / David Paul Wolcott passed away on 8 May 2022

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



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces

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Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOLFE**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BOWMANSVILLE

RAYMOND H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond H. Wolf honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Wolfe was a retired Lancaster Central School Teacher for over 30 years / Wolfe was a member of the Lancaster Historical Society and a Life Member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Raymond H. Wolf passed away on 19 February 2025 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery, Bowmansville, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOODS**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WILLIAMSVILLE

ARTHUR **E.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur E. Woods honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Woods graduated from East High School and worked at Lackawanna Steel as a template maker before he was drafted into the U.S. Army / After his Honor able Discharge from the Army, Woods got his Real Estate license and worked over 50 years as a Real Estate Broker / Woods worked for the MJ Peterson Realty Group and the Giallanza Corp / Woods was awarded the "2007 Realtor Emeritus" award for being the longest serving realtor in Western New York / Arthur E. Woods passed away on 28 July 2024 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOZNIAK**

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

FRANK J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Frank J. Wozniak honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Frank Wozniak was assigned to the Infantry and deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank J. Wozniak passed away on 17 December 2024 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WROBLEWSKI, JR.**

FELIX

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Felix T. "Phil" Wroblewski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Felix Wroblewski was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

An Apprentice employed by New York Central Railroad, Felix Wroblewski enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 8 April 1952 / Felix Wroblewski was a retired Cheektowaga Police Officer with over 35 years of service and a member of the PBA / Felix Wroblewski was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / Felix T. "Phil" Wroblewski, Jr. passed away on 7 August 2001

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YOUNG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* HAMBURG

HAROLD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Harold E. Young honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold E. Young passed away on 18 July 2022



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YOUNG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LANCASTER

RICHARD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS BUCK (DD-761)

USS MARSH (DE-699)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard E. "Dick" Young honorably served in the United States Navy

Richard Young served aboard the destroyer USS Buck (DE-761) from 1948-1949, with the mission to assist American forces with the Chinese Revolution / Young was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy

Richard Young was called back to active duty when the Korean War broke out / Young was assigned to the USS Marsh destroyer from 1950-1952 / Richard Young received his second Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Young graduated from Lancaster High School in 1948 / Before his second tour of Navy duty, Richard Young enrolled at Marietta College in Ohio / Interested in history, Young co-wrote several history books / Young founded and became President of the Young Fire Equipment Corporation, revolutionizing the way firetrucks were built / / Richard Young was elected to the Lancaster Town Board and served from 1957 through 1965 / Young was a lifetime member of the Lancaster Eagle Hose Fire Company, joining in 1961 / Richard Young was also made an honorary member of the Town Line Fire Company / Young was a lifetime member of the Royal Order of Masons and member and president of the Lancaster-Depew Rotary Club / In 1968-69, Richard Young became the President of "FAMA", Fire Apparatus Manufacturers Association / Richard E. "Dick" Young passed away on 17 March 2025 at the age of 94 years old

The third USS Buck (DD-761), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for James Buck, a Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient / The Buck was commissioned on 28 June 1946 / Buck operated with the Pacific Fleet along the west coast from Acapulco, Mexico, to Ketchikan, Alaska / Late in 1950, as a unit



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of Destroyer Division 71, Buck joined the United Nations Forces in Korea / While there she suffered considerable damage in a collision with the destroyer John W. Thomason / Between January and March 1951 she underwent repairs at Bremerton, Washington, and then returned to Korean waters arriving 30 April 1951 / She operated with United Nations Forces until July 1951 when she returned to the west coast / In January 1952 Buck, with Destroyer Division 71, departed for another tour in the Western Pacific / She operated with the shore bombardment forces and with the fast carrier task force until returning to San Diego 11 July 1952 / Buck remained with the Pacific Fleet for the next two decades, conducting periodic deployments to the Far East / During these cruises, Buck escorted aircraft carriers, conducted anti-submarine warfare exercises and carried out security patrols off China and the Formosa Strait / Following a Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization (FRAM) II conversion in 1961-62, the destroyer resumed Far East deployments, conducting her first Vietnam cruise in 1965, during which she carried out Market Time maritime interdiction patrols / The USS Buck was decommissioned at San Diego on 16 July 1973 and transferred to the government of Brazil that same day / The destroyer served in the Brazilian Navy as Alagoas (D 36) until retired on 30 June 1995 and broken up for scrap / The USS Buck received six battle stars for her Korean service and six battle stars for Vietnam service

USS Marsh (DE-699) was a Buckley-class destroyer escort of the United States Navy / The ship was named after Benjamin Raymond Marsh Jr., who was born on 11 October 1916 in Lansing, Michigan / He enlisted in the Naval Reserve on 17 August 1940 at Detroit, Michigan / His enlistment terminated 13 February 1941, and he was appointed midshipman in the Reserve the following day, receiving his commission as ensign on 15 May 1941 / Initially assigned to the seaplane tender USS Tangier, he was transferred on 4 November 1941 to USS Arizona / Ensign Marsh was declared dead following the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 / The USS marsh was commissioned on 12 January 1944 and conducted training exercises and escorted convoys along the northeast coast / Entering the Mediterranean through the Strait of Gibraltar on 9 July 1944, Marsh escorted convoys between North Africa, Malta, and southern Italy until mid-August 1944 / On 14 August 1944, she sailed from Naples with the assault forces for "Operation Dragoon", the invasion of Southern France / She remained in the Mediterranean for the next month providing gunfire support and conveying supplies in the area / The USS Marsh was reassigned to the Pacific in December 1944 and for the next five months, she escorted convoys to Guam, Saipan, Ulithi, and Iwo Jima / In May 1945, Marsh joined in the active pacification of bypassed islands in the Marianas / Broadcasting propaganda messages in Japanese and Okinawan, she sailed among the various islands of that group, including Asuncion, Anatahan, Alamagan, Sarigan, Maug, and Agrihan, taking on prisoners as they surrendered / Where the broadcasts were not successful, she escorted landing parties and provided gunfire support for the completion of their missions / The destroyer-escort returned to the United States in early 1946 for shipyard overhaul at San Pedro, Los Angeles / Marsh returned to her home port, Pearl Harbor, on 31 March 1947, and for the next three years, operated in the Hawaiian Islands and off the coast of California, deploying in 1948 for two months duty at Eniwetok / Her next Pacific deployment came after the invasion of South Korea by the Communists in June 1950 / Marsh arrived at Yokosuka, Japan on 7 September 1950, and departed on the 14th for Pusan, where she supplied power to the city for two weeks / On 9 October 1950, she entered Inchon Harbor, and remained as support for that area's defense until the end of the month / She supplied power at Masan, a seaport on Chosen Strait, for a month starting on 9 November 1950, then returned to Pusan where she remained as a ship-to-shore power unit for the remainder of her tour / On 8 February 1951, at Pusan, several of her crew were credited with heroic actions in fighting fires which had broken out in the Army gasoline dump adjacent to the pier where the ship lay / Returning to the West Coast on 26 March, the USS Marsh remained at San Francisco for three months before reporting to the Fleet Sonar School at San Diego / Until April 1952, she conducted training exercises for the school and with other units of the fleet off the southern coast of California / On 15 May 1952, Marsh once again joined the battle line off the Korean coast / She patrolled the west coast, operating primarily in the Sochon-Do area, until the end of May / She then steamed to Okinawa for hunter-killer exercises, returning to Korea on 21 June 1952 / Taking up aircraft carrier screen duties, she operated with Bataan (CVL-29) and HMS Ocean in the Yellow Sea / In July 1952, she again headed south, this time to serve with the Formosa Patrol, then on 22 August 1952, returned to the battle line / She patrolled off the west Korean coast initially, but was moved to the east coast in late September 1952 to blockade / She participated periodically in the shelling of troop and transportation centers in the Songin and Wonsan areas / On 22 October 1952, she sailed again to the Korean coast where she conducted patrols until steaming for



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Yokosuka and the United States on 14 November 1952 / For the next five years, Marsh operated out of San Diego primarily with the Fleet Sonar School for six months, and served in the western Pacific for the remainder of each year / During these WestPac cruises, she conducted oceanographic survey tests concerned with the temperature and content of the waters of the Marianas, and the Marshalls in addition to her regular duties / On 10 September 1957, Marsh entered the San Francisco Naval Shipyard for overhaul, then went in reserve / Before decommissioning, she conducted two cruises, one to Mexico and one to Hawaii / On 16 August 1958, she was decommissioned in San Diego, but remained in service as an anti-submarine training ship of the Selected Reserve Forces / During the summer of 1961, Marsh and her reserve crew were ordered activated for a one-year period / She was recommissioned on 15 December 1961, and on 6 January 1962, she sailed for her new home port, Pearl Harbor / On 10 February 1962, she departed Hawaii for deployment in the western Pacific / Operating out of Subic Bay, Marsh conducted training exercises for and patrolled with units of the South Vietnamese Navy, from 18 March to 21 May 1962 / She returned to Long Beach on 17 July 1962, and on 1 August 1962, she was again placed in service, in reserve / Reassigned as a Naval Reserve training ship at the same time, she continued this duty into 1969 / The USS Marsh was decommissioned on 1 August 1962 and sold for scrap on 20 February 1974 / The USS Marsh was honored with 1 battle star for World War II service and one 4 battle stars for Korea



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YOUNG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* WEST SENECA

ROGER

K.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Roger K. Young honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Young was a lifetime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #8113 / Roger K. Young passed away on 21 January 2018 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YUNG**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* BUFFALO

DONALD E.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

"K" COMPANY, 38TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Donald Eugene Yung honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Donald Yung was deployed to Korea as an Infantryman / Corporal Donald Yung was wounded in action on 18 September 1952 during combat operations / Corporal Yung was awarded the Purple Heart Medal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Yung retired from Bethlehem Steel / Donald Yung was a member of the Harvey D. Morin Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 and a member of the Knights of St. John / Donald Eugene Yung passed away on 22 May 2009 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, 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

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) was a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950, by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area during the Korean War between 27 June 1950, and 27 July 1954

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

Name: ZACCONI

Killed in Action

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

CARMINE

J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carmine J. Zacconi honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carmine J. Zacconi passed away on 22 December 2023 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZARCONE, JR.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

AMILCARE

Address: NORTH BUFFALO ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: EMPFEN

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

USS SANDOVAL (APA-194)

USS BROWNSON (DD-868)

USS KYNE (DE-744)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Electrician's Mate (Power & Light) Fireman Amilcare Zarccone, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea / EMPFEN Amilcare Zarccone serviced generators on a transport ship and took part in the invasion of Inchon and Busan

EMPFEN Zarccone helped liberated Korean prisoners from an island and returned them to shore

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Amilcare Zarccone went to work at the steel plant as an Electrician and later became a Machinist / Zarccone was Past Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #6264 / Amilcare Zarccone, Jr. passed away on 24 Jan 2020 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York

USS Sandoval (APA-194/LPA-194) was a Haskell-class attack transport in service with the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946, from 1951 to 1955 and from 1961 to 1970 / The Sandoval was originally commissioned on 7 October 1944 / Five years later, after war had again broken out in the Far East, Sandoval was ordered activated to support the United Nations effort in Korea / Recommissioned on 22 September 1951, she joined the Pacific Fleet's Amphibious Force in mid-October; and, after operations off the U.S. West Coast, she sailed west on 3 March 1952 / On 24 March 1952, she arrived in Japan; and, in mid-April, she carried cargo to Inchon, whence she moved troops to Koje Do to assist in stemming the prisoner of war (POW) riots on that island / In May and early June, she conducted amphibious training exercises; and, at mid-month, she headed south to the Philippines and Hong Kong / In July, she returned to Japan, where she resumed cargo and



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

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amphibious training operations / In 1953, she completed inactivation overhaul and was decommissioned at Mare Island, California, on 22 June 1955 / Four and one-half years later, on 10 December 1959, she was transferred to the Maritime Administration's National Defense Reserve Fleet; and, on 1 July 1960, her name was struck from the Navy list/ She was scrapped in 1983

USS Brownson (DD-868) was a Gearing-class destroyer and the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for Rear Admiral Willard H. Brownson, USN (1845–1935) / in February 1951 she joined the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean / The period between October 1951 and August 1952 was spent in the vicinity of Newport / In August 1952 she went to the North Atlantic with the 2nd Fleet for NATO's Operation Mainbrace / In October 1952 she rejoined the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean / Returning to Newport in February 1953, she operated along the Atlantic seaboard and in the Caribbean until August 1954, with the exception of one Midshipmen cruise and participation in Operation Springboard / Brownson was decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 September 1976 and sold for scrap on 10 June 1977

USS Kyne (DE-744) was a Cannon-class destroyer escort built for the United States Navy during World War II / She was commissioned on 4 April 1944 and served in the Pacific Ocean and provided escort service against submarine and air attack for Navy vessels and convoys / She returned home after the war with a very commendable accumulation of six battle stars / The Kyne was decommissioned at Green Cove Springs, Florida, on 14 June 1946 and operated as a reserve training ship out of Fort Schuyler, New York / She was recommissioned on 21 November 1950 and was assigned to the 3rd Naval District as a reserve training ship / For the next nine years, Kyne provided the training necessary to maintain a well-drilled reserve, ready to defend the nation during any crisis / The Kyne was decommissioned on 17 June 1960, at New York and she remained in the Atlantic Reserve Fleet at Philadelphia until she was sold for scrapping on 1 November 1973



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



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Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZAWODZINSKI, JR.

FRANCIS L.

Killed in Action **Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Francis L. Zawodzinski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea / After his enlistment with the Navy was up, Francis Zawodzinski joined the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis L. Zawodzinski, Jr. passed away on 20 October 2022 and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZIELINSKI

Killed in Action **Hometown:** AKRON

JOHN

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Zielinski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Zielinski came to the US in 1949 as a Polish refugee, eventually arriving and settling in Buffalo / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corp., Zielinski was employed in a number of professions, including a machinist, diesel mechanic, and truck driver / John Zielinski passed away on 9 October 2022 at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZIKA**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* LANCASTER

PAUL J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1949

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

407TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/5 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Paul J. Zika honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Paul Zika was deployed to Korea for 13 months and was assigned as a Power Shovel Operator with the 407th Engineer Combat Battalion

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Zika received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 19 September 1952 / Zika was a life member of the Pvt. Leonard Post, Jr., Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #6251, Cheektowaga, NY / Paul J. Zika passed away on 11 March 2019

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

The Korean Service Medal (KSM) is a military award for service in the United States Armed Forces and was established November 8, 1950 by executive order of President Harry Truman / The Korean Service Medal is the primary US military award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The United Nations Service Medal for Korea is an international military decoration established by the United Nations on 15 December 1950 as the United Nations Service Medal / The decoration was the first international award ever created by the United Nations and recognized the multi-national defense forces which participated in the Korean War / The



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

United Nations Service Medal (Korea) is awarded to any military service member, of an Armed Force allied with South Korea, who participated in the defense of South Korea from North Korea between the dates of 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954

The Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) was first intended to be a "blanket campaign medal" awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a "national emergency" had been declared during a time of war or conflict / It may also be issued to active military members for any other period that the Secretary of Defense designates / Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal (as opposed to decorations for particular achievements such as valor or meritorious service and Good Conduct Medals) currently awarded by all branches of the United States Armed Forces



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZIMMERMAN

Killed in Action **Hometown:** ELMA

JOSEPH R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph R. Zimmerman honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph R. Zimmerman passed away on 28 August 2023 and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZIOMEK**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* GRAND ISLAND

STANLEY A.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stanley A. Ziomek honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stanley Ziomek was employed as a Maintenance Technician with Rural/Metro Ambulance until his retirement / Ziomek was as a member of the Niagara River Yacht Club serving as a past Commodore, member of the Wheatfield Senior Citizens and an Exempt member of the St. Johnsburg Fire Company and Fire Police serving as past Secretary and President / Ziomek moved to Wheatfield, New York / Stanley A. Ziomek passed away on 29 May 2011 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Korean War Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Erie County

Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZOSH**

Killed in Action *Hometown:* ALDEN

JOHN **L.**

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Major John Lucas Zosh honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Zosh was a member of American Legion Post #1377 in Alden, NY / John Lucas Zosh passed away on 29 November 2022 at the age of 77 years old and is interred in the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

