



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ABENDSCHEIN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

DAVID

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

2ND MARINE DIVISION

1ST MARINE AIR WING, AIR FLEET MARINE FORCE PACIFIC

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal David F. Abendschein honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL David Abendschein served 3 1/2 years active duty as a Repair Shop Machinist

David Abendschein received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 10 August 1960

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

David F. Abendschein passed away on 19 February 2017 at 81 years old

The 2nd Marine Division (2nd MARDIV) is a division of the United States Marine Corps, which forms the ground combat element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) / The division is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / During World War II, the 2nd Marine Division (Headquarters) participated in operations in the Pacific Theater of Operations: the Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign, the Battle of Tarawa, the Gilbert Islands campaign, the Battle of Saipan, the Battle of Tinian and the Battle of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Okinawa / The Division didn't take part in a major action again until 1958 when elements participated in the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958 / 2nd Marine Division units helped to reinforce Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965 as part of Operation Power Pack / Other peacekeeping operations carried on by the Division include being part of the Multi National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984 / The Division suffered the loss of 238 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing, plus 3 U.S. Army personnel attached to the unit

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ACKERMAN**
MAURICE D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Maurice D. Ackerman honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Maurice D. Ackerman passed away on 1 June 2023

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ADAMS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

STEPHEN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stephen James Adams honorably served in the United States Army / Stephen Adams served for three years and was stationed in Korea as an Air Traffic Controller

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Adams grew up in Lewiston, NY and graduated from Lewiston-Porter Central Schools / Adams continued his education at Niagara University, earning both his Bachelor and Master Degrees / Stephen Adams retired from the Real Estate Division of the New York State Department of Transportation after 30 years / Stephen James Adams passed away on 24 September 2021 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lewiston, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALBERT**

JACOB

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address: SCHWARTZ ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Jacob Phillips Albert honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jacob Albert was a 1959 graduate of St. Mary's High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Albert worked as an Aircraft Mechanic at Four Winds Services at National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center (NAFEC) in Egg Harbor, New Jersey and previously at Eastern Airlines in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Miami, Florida until his retirement / Jacob Albert moved to Hammonton, New Jersey in 1974 / Jacob Phillips Albert passed away on 19 June 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Annunciation Cemetery, Elma, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALESSI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: NORTH COLLINS

ANTHONY

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private Anthony M. Alessi honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Anthony Alessi was stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a Clerk

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Alessi graduated from North Collins Central High School in 1956 / Following his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Anthony Alessi worked for the Alessi Agency on Main Street in North Collins, becoming owner after the passing of his father in 1969 / Alessi was a North Collins village trustee from 1973 to 1977 / Anthony Alessi was also the North Collins Police Commissioner and President of the North Collins Volunteer Fire Company / Alessi was a longtime member of the Eden-North Collins Rotary Club and Disaster Chairman for the American Red Cross, as well as town Chairman for the United Fund / Anthony Alessi was a member of the Holy Name Society and a member of North Collins American Legion Post #1640 / Anthony M. "Tony" Alessi passed away on 20 August 2024 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALFIERI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

82ND AIRBORNE, FIELD OPERATIONS COMPANY, 50TH SIGNAL BATTALION (AIRBORNE)

Medals / Citations:

ARMY PARACHUTIST BADGE

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert J. Alfieri honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Robert Alfieri was assigned as a Low Speed Radio Operator, assigned to the Field Operations Company, 50th Signal Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Robert Alfieri received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 12 April 1962

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Alfieri passed away on 25 October 2023

A Low Speed Radio Operator Installs and operates 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 radio nets below the level of a division / Performs First echelon maintenance by keeping equipment clean, inspecting cords, plugs, antenna mast, receiver, transmitter, and calibration charts, making minor repairs or adjustments, such as changing tubes, adjusting frequencies, and adjusting key, using small hand



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

tools

Airborne forces are military units, usually light infantry with non-armored vehicles and guns, set up to be moved by aircraft and "dropped" into battle. They can be placed behind enemy lines, and have the capability to deploy almost anywhere with little warning / The basic premise of airborne forces is that they can arrive with such speed that a coherent defense cannot be mounted quickly / The paratroopers must either use the supplies of the enemy, be continuously resupplied by air or wait to be relieved by ground troops

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / Based at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division / The division was constituted, originally as the 82nd Division, in the National Army on 5 August 1917, shortly after the American entry into World War I / It was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia, and later served with distinction on the Western Front in the final months of World War I / Since its initial members came from all 48 states, the division acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its "AA" on the shoulder patch / The division later served in World War II where, in August 1942, it was reconstituted as the first airborne division of the U.S. Army and fought in numerous campaigns during the war / In April 1965, the "All-Americans" entered the civil war in the Dominican Republic / Spearheaded by the 3rd Brigade, the 82nd deployed in Operation Power Pack / During the Tet Offensive, which swept across South Vietnam in January/February 1968, the 3rd Brigade was enroute to Chu Lai within 24 hours of receiving its orders / The 3rd Brigade performed combat duties in the Huế – Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector / Later the brigade moved south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months

The Army's Basic Parachutist Badge is awarded to all military personnel of any service who complete the US Army Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia / It signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALLEIN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Allein honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Allein was Past Commander of American Legion Post #64 and a member of several veteran organizations / Richard Allein passed away on 20 January 2024 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AMANTIA SR**
PHILIP J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Philip J. Amantia, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force for 4 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Philip Amantia was a 1962 graduate of Aquinas Institute in Rochester, New York / Amantia received a Bachelors Degree in accounting from Trine University, Angola, Indiana and his MBA from SUNY Binghamton, New York / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Philip Amantia worked for the Bendix Corporation in Sidney, New York / Moving back to Buffalo, Amantia went to work for Delaware North in 1984 / Philip Amantia later opened his own Accounting firm in Williamsville, retiring in 2006 / Amantia was an ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Buffalo and performed ministry work at the Wende Correctional Facility and Milliard Fillmore Suburban Hospital / Philip J. Amantia, Sr. passed away on 29 July 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AMENTA, JR.**
PETER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3RD BATTALION, 32ND ARMOR REGIMENT, 3RD ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Peter Amenta, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Peter Amenta was classified as a Track Vehicle Mechanic and had 10 months of foreign duty in Germany, assigned to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor Regiment, 3rd Armored Division

SP4 Peter Amenta, Jr. Amenta was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 4 January 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Amenta, Jr. passed away on 9 November 2023 at the age of 72 years old

The 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor ("Iron Dukes") was constituted 13 January 1941 in the Regular Army as Company C, 2d Armored Regiment, an element of the 3d Armored Division / Activated 15 April 1941 at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana / Redesignated 8 May 1941 as Company C, 32d Armored Regiment / Transferred 26 June 1944 from 1st Battalion, 32d Armored Regiment, to 3d Battalion, 32d Armored Regiment / Inactivated 10 November 1945 in Germany and disbanded 7 July 1947 / Reconstituted 28 May 1948 in the Regular Army and redesignated as Company C, 61st Heavy Tank Battalion, an element of the 9th Infantry Division. Activated 12 July 1948 at Ft. Dix, New Jersey / Redesignated 25 May 1954 as Company C, 61st Tank Battalion / Inactivated 1 December 1957 at Ft. Carson, Colorado; concurrently, redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Medium Tank Battalion (Patton), 32d Armor, Relieved from assignment to 9th Infantry Division / Activated 25 June 1958 at Ft. Stewart, Georgia / Redesignated 1 September 1963 as 3d Battalion, 32d Armor; concurrently, transferred (less



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

personnel and equipment) from Ft. Stewart, Georgia, to Germany, assigned to 3d Armored Division, and reorganized / The Battalion was deactivated 16 June 1986 in Germany and with all personal and equipment being transferred to the 2d Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment / The Battalion was activated 16 October 1986 at Fort Hood Texas using personal and equipment from the 2d Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division / Deployed to Southwest Asia and served in Desert Storm combat operations / The Battalion was deactivated 16 December 1992 at Fort Hood Texas with all personal and equipment being assigned to the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment

The 32nd Armored Regiment was activated 15 April, 1941 at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana as the 2nd Armored Regiment and assigned to the 3rd Armored Division / The unit was Redesignated 8 May 1941 as the 32nd Armored Regiment / During Mid July of 1942, the Division moved to the Mohave Desert for training in desert warfare / The Battalion arrived in England in September – October 1943 and set up camp in Wiltshire-Codford, spending their time training and preparing for D-Day / The Battalion moved to Normandy in mid-June of 1944 / On 29 June 1944, the Battalion entered combat as part of Combat Command A at Villiers-Fossard / The Battalion fought on until 24 April 1945

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDERSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

RICHARD

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard C. "Dick" Anderson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Richard Anderson was a veteran of World War II and honorably served during the Korean War era and the Vietnam War era, serving in the United States Marine Corps for 37 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard C. "Dick" Anderson passed away on 26 February 2024 at the age of 97 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDERSON, JR.**

JOHN

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIOR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John P. Anderson, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John P. Anderson, Jr. passed away on 4 march 2025 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDING, JR.**
MEREDITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Meredith Coleman Anding, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Meredith Anding was stationed in Turkey and San Antonio, Texas

SSGT Meredith Anding was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force in 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Meredith Anding was born in Myles, Mississippi / Meredith Anding enrolled in Jackson State University after graduating from high school in 1958, then transferred to Tougaloo College, earning a Master's Degree in Math / Anding was one of the Tougaloo Nine, a group of students from historically Black Tougaloo College arrested for staging a read-in at the all-white main library in Jackson, Mississippi, in March 1961 / Meredith Anding taught freshman and sophomore math courses at Niagara University, then joined the University of Buffalo faculty / Meredith Anding was the Director of Mathematics at the University of Buffalo Learning Center, then was an instructor and Associate Academic Coordinator at the Educational Opportunity Center, retiring in 2007 / Meredith Coleman Anding, Jr. passed away on 8 January 2021 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDREWS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ALDEN

CHARLES

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CPOC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS GATO (SS-212)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles L. "Andy" Andrews honorably served in the United States Navy / CPOC Charles Andrews served aboard the submarine, USS Gato and was in charge of the Torpedo Room and all weapons on the ship / CPOC Charles Andrews was deployed to Vietnam

CPOC Charles Andrews was a 20 year veteran of the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles L. "Andy" Andrews passed away on 20 August 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The USS Gato (SS-212) was the lead ship of her class of submarine in the United States Navy. She was the first Navy ship named for the common name used for a number of species of catshark / She was commissioned only days after the declaration of war and made thirteen combat patrols during World War II / The Gato was decommissioned on 16 March 1946 and served for a number of years as a United States Naval Reserve training vessel at New York City and later at Baltimore, Maryland, until she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 March 1960 / She was sold to the Northern Metals Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 25 July 1960 for scrapping



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANTICOLA**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James E. (Colt) Anticola honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / After his Marine Corps enlistment was completed, James Anticola enlisted in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James E. (Colt) Anticola passed away on 26 April 2025 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARKINS**

JAMES

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James M. Arkins honorably served in the United States Army / James Arkins was assigned as a paratrooper

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Arkins became a Middle School Teacher and had a career with the United States Government / James M. Arkins passed away on 21 January 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARMBRUSTER**
JAMES A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "A", 2ND AIRBORNE BATTALION, 506TH INFANTRY, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PARACHUTIST BADGE

EXPERT BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Anthony Armbruster honorably served in the United States Army / SGT James Armbruster was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman / Sgt Armbruster attended Airborne School and the 7th Army Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Academy / Sgt James Armbruster served three enlistments in the U.S. Army

James Armbruster also served on the United States Coast Guard at Buffalo in Port Security and retired after 32 years in the military as Chief Petty Officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Armbruster attended Hilbert College majoring in Criminal Justice / James Armbruster was a Detective with the West Seneca Police Department retiring in 1991 / During his tenure, Jimmy served as the President of the West Seneca Red Jacket Police Club (PBA) / Armbruster opened and operated several businesses including 16 South Restaurant, Donna Marie's Garden Restaurant, The Big Dipper Ice Cream Parlor, Island Park Catering, and The Slip Aweigh Restaurant on the waterfront and the Slip Aweigh Café / James Armbruster was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / James Anthony Armbruster passed away on 28 January 2015

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 506th Infantry Regiment, originally designated the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment (506th PIR) during World War II, is an airborne light infantry regiment of the United States Army / The regiment served with the 101st Airborne Division in World War II / Regimental elements have served with the 101st in Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan / The 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry was deployed to Vietnam from late 1967 to 1971 / The 2nd Battalion was recognized for its role during the battle of FSB Ripcord

The Army's Basic Parachutist Badge is awarded to all military personnel of any service who complete the US Army Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. It signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ASKEY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

JOHN

B.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Third-Class John B. Askey honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 John Askey was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Askey graduated from Kenmore High School / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Askey joined the Amherst Police Department as a Patrolman in 1963 and was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant in 1969 and Patrol Captain in 1972 / John Askey enrolled in SUNY Buffalo State University and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice / Askey was also a graduate of the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program / As the Amherst Police Head Planner, Askey played a key role in the construction of the new Police Headquarters in 1979 and established a Computer-Aided Dispatch System / In December 1988, John Askey was appointed as the Amherst Chief of Police / Askey was a longtime member of the Users Committee of the Erie County Central Police Services and a member of the State Division of Criminal Justice Planning Committee / John Askey retired from the Amherst Police Department in January 1999 / Askey was a member of the Amherst Township Post 416, Veterans of Foreign Wars / John B. Askey passed away on 20 May 2023 at the age of 84 years old

Aviation Electronics Technicians are carefully trained to maintain all aviation electronic systems, from navigation and radar to tactical displays and warfare sensors / Aviation Electronics Technicians maintain, troubleshoot, repair and test complex electronic systems related to aviation on tactical jets, fixed wing aircraft or rotary winged helicopter systems / Technicians work with systems including digital computers, fiber optics, infrared detection, radar, laser electronics, navigation, pressure indication, and electrical power generation and distribution



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ATKINSON, SR.

JIHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John R. Atkinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Atkinson worked for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (National Grid) for over 30 years / After retirement, Atkinson worked for Home Depot in the Tool Rental Department / John R. Atkinson, Sr. passed away on 23 January 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ATTEA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOHN

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John M. Attea honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Attea was a 1954 graduate of St. Joe's Collegiate Institute where he earned All-Catholic honors in basketball / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, John Attea worked as a Manufacturer Representative for many high-end furniture lines / Attea played in two LPGA Pro AM Golf classics at River Oaks Golf Course / John Attea retired to Naples, Florida / John M. Attea passed away on 6 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BACON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

THOMAS

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

96TH SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Thomas J. Bacon honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Thomas Bacon attended the US Intelligence School, Fort Holabird, Maryland and trained as a Security Police Officer / SSGT Thomas Bacon was assigned to the 96th Security Police Squadron, Dyess Air Force Base where he was entrusted with protecting nuclear weapons

Staff Sergeant Thomas Bacon was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 1 November 1973

Base Assignments:

Fort Holabird, Maryland - Fort Holabird was located in the southeast corner of Baltimore and northwest of the suburban developments of Dundalk, Maryland / In 1918 Camp Holabird was established on 96 acres of marsh near Colgate Creek, Maryland and was the U.S. Army's first motor transport training center and depot in southeastern Baltimore / The camp was named for Army Quartermaster General and West Point graduate Samuel B. Holabird (1826-1907) / During World War I, Holabird supplied the American Expeditionary Forces in France with Detroit-made vehicles / Thousands of military personnel were trained there to drive and repair automobiles and trucks / From 1941 until the end of World War II, the military installation grew to include approximately 350 acres and 286 buildings / After the Second World War, activities at Fort Holabird were curtailed and portions of the property were transferred from the Army / In 1950 the camp was renamed as Fort Holabird / The U.S. Army Intelligence School and Counter Intelligence Records Facility was based here until transferred to Fort Huachuca, Arizona in 1972 / It was also used as an Armed Forces Examining & Entrance Station (induction facility) / In 1973, Fort Holabird was closed and the area was redeveloped into an industrial park



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Dyess Air Force Base, Texas - Dyess AFB is a United States Air Force (USAF) base located about 7 miles southwest of downtown Abilene, Texas, and 150 miles west of Fort Worth, Texas / Dyess AFB was established in 1942 as Abilene Army Air Base / The base is named after Lt Col William Edwin Dyess, a native of Albany, Texas, who was captured by the Japanese on Bataan in April 1942 / Dyess escaped in April 1943 and fought with guerilla forces on Mindanao until evacuated by submarine in July 1943 / During retraining in the United States, his P-38 Lightning caught fire in flight on 23 December 1943 near Burbank, California / He refused to bail out over a populated area and died in the crash of his P-38 in a vacant lot / Dyess' first active combat unit was the 341st Bombardment Wing, which activated on 1 September 1955 / The 341st was part of the Strategic Air Command (SAC), flying the B-47 Stratojet, which it continued to operate until its inactivation on 25 June 1961 / The host unit at Dyess is the 7th Bomb Wing assigned to the Global Strike Command Eighth Air Force / The wing is one of only two B-1B Lancer strategic bomber wings in the USAF, the other being the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Bacon worked at Ford Stamping Plant in Buffalo N.Y., retiring after 34 dedicated years / Thomas J. Bacon passed away on 1 July 2025 at the age of 75 years old

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAERWALT**
MICHAEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael W. Baerwalt honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Baerwalt had a career with the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority / Michael W. Baerwalt passed away on 11 February 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAETZOLD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

JEFFREY

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jeffrey L. Baetzhold honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jeffrey L. Baetzhold passed away on 14 November 2024 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAGER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

JOHN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

205TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (GRENADE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class John Joseph Bager honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 John Bager was deployed to Europe for 29 months with Military Intelligence as an Image Interpreter

John Bager received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 18 September 1974

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Joseph Bager passed away in 2017

An Army Image Interpreter supervises intelligence surveillance, collection, analysis, processing, and distribution activities at group, division, corps, Army, and comparable or higher echelons; supervises activities pertaining to organization and training of tactical and technical operations; supervises intelligence, operations and training; coordinates operating requirements of subordinate units with major supported units; supervises intelligence operations in Corps and echelon above corps analysis and control elements; provides advice and makes recommendations to the commander and staff on all matters pertaining to enlisted soldiers and their families

The mission of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade was to rapidly deploy and conduct IEW operations in support of V Corps throughout the full spectrum of military operations / The 205th Military Intelligence Brigade had a proud and distinguished history dating back to World War II / The unit had been in a continuous active service since 1944 / The 205th Military Intelligence Brigade was first constituted on 12 July 1944 in the Army of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the United States as the 205th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment / The unit was activated on 6 August 1944 in France and served during World War II in Northern France, the Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe / The 205th was deployed to Vietnam and participated in 8 campaigns: Counteroffensive Phase II, Counteroffensive Phase III, Tet Counteroffensive, Counteroffensive Phase IV, Counteroffensive Phase V, Counteroffensive Phase VI, Tet 69/Counteroffensive, and Summer-Fall 1969 / The 205th Military Intelligence Brigade 'cased its colors' on 21 June 2007 and was inactivated in Wiesbaden, Germany / Its remaining battalions, the 1st and 302nd Military Intelligence Battalions, were reassigned to the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade, US Army Europe

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAINBRIDGE**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gary Bainbridge honorably served in the United States Army as a Tank Engine Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Bainbridge was born in North Tonawanda and raised in Amherst / Bainbridge graduated from Sweet Home School in 1960 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Bainbridge received his Associate's Degree from Erie County Technical Institute (later renamed Erie Community College) / Gary Bainbridge became Vice President of Operation at McGard LLC in Orchard Park, transforming the company from a small Buffalo plant into a successful international company / After retiring in 2001, Bainbridge volunteered his expertise at Roswell Park Cancer Center / Bainbridge moved to Boerne, Texas / Gary Bainbridge passed away on 16 November 2024 at the age of 82 years old after a long battle with dementia



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BALDAUF**
ALWIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP3

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

9TH RECON COMPANY 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Third-Class Alwin M. Baldauf honorably served in the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve / SP3 Baldauf joined the Army Reserve from 1954 to 1961 and served in active duty for 11 months and seven days during 1955 and 1956 / SP3 Alwin Baldauf was stationed in Illesheim, Germany where he was deployed as an armored tank operator with the Army's 9th Reconnaissance Company

SP3 Alwin Baldauf received his Honorable Discharge in October 1961

Base Assignments:

Storck Barracks/Illesheim Kaserne is a United States Army facility adjacent to Illesheim, Germany, located about 15 miles northwest of Ansbach (Bavaria), about 240 miles south-southwest of Berlin / Storck Barracks is part of the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Franconia / It is named after Colonel Louis J. Storck, who served as Executive Officer for the 4th Armored Division, Commander of Combat Command A and the 37th Armor Regiment, and S-3 and Commander of the 704th Tank Destroyer Battalion in World War II / Colonel Storck was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for his gallantry in action near Raids, France from July 17 to 25, 1944 / It is the home of the 2nd Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, and the 3rd Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, both equipped with the Boeing AH-64 Apache; D Co 412th Aviation Support Battalion (all units part of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade) and the 3rd of the 58th Airfield Operations Battalion (AOB) / Fliegerhorst Illesheim was built by the German Luftwaffe beginning in 1934, with construction completing in 1936 / This construction was in conjunction with the Hohenfels Maneuver Training Area (MTA) and in violation of post-World War I agreements / In 1936, the airfield went into operation as a supply, maintenance and repair facility for the Luftwaffe / The Castle Berlichingen in Illesheim was used for the Headquarters / Illesheim Airfield was only



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

lightly damaged during World War II by Allied air attacks, and on 13 April 1945 elements of the United States Army 101st Cavalry Group moved into the village and airfield unopposed by the retreating Wehrmacht / The USAAF IX Engineering Command 819th and 831st Engineering Aviation Brigades moved in on 16 April 1945 to repair operational facilities and clear unexploded mines and other dangerous munitions from the field / On 17 April the airfield was declared operationally ready for transport use, being designated as Advanced Landing Ground "R-10 Illesheim" / In May 1947, the Air Force units began moving out of Illesheim, the facility being turned over to Army units who used the airfield as a garrison post as part of the American Zone of Occupation, renaming the facility Storck Barracks / Storck Barracks/Illesheim Kaserne has been a major Army garrison for over 70 years, being a key NATO post in the defense of Western Europe during the Cold War, and today, as part of the continuing U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) mission in Europe

Miscellaneous:

Alwin Baldauf was born in Offingen, Germany on 15 June 1931 and came to America when he was a teenager / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Baldauf found employment at Barcolo in Buffalo's First Ward and then at Trico's Buffalo Washington and Elk Street plants / After getting laid off from Trico, in 1958, he landed a job with MOOG in Elma / Starting in the maintenance department, Baldauf became a machinist in MOOG's model shop / He spent the next 35 years at Moog, specializing in the creation of prototype devices necessary in countless aeronautical projects, including NASA's moon and space shuttle missions / Baldauf was also a musician, playing drums, mandolin, and accordion in several different German bands, such as The Happy Wanderers, The Sauerkrauts, The Edelweiss Trio, and the German American Musicians / Alwin M. Baldauf passed away on 21 April 2024 at the age of 92 years old

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II / Because of the legal status of West Berlin as an occupied territory, the Army of Occupation Medal was issued for forty-five years until the unification of Germany in 1990, making it one of the longest active military awards of both the Second World War and the Cold War / To be awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, a service member was required to have performed at least thirty consecutive days of military duty within a designated geographical area of military occupation

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BALEN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

MARK

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Mark L. Balen honorably served in the United States Army Reserve / Mark Balen was a commissioned officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mark Balen graduated from Lackawanna High School in 1952, where he was a Niagara Frontier basketball all-star / Balen graduated from Niagara University and later received his Master's Degree in Education from Canisius College / Mark Balen taught business classes in Lackawanna and coached Varsity Basketball at Baker Victor and Lackawanna High School / Balen was elected Councilman of Lackawanna's Third Ward in 1963 and later became the Council President / Mark Balen was elected the mayor of Lackawanna in 1967, serving four years / In December 1975, Balen was named Acting Lackawanna School Superintendent / Balen later served as an Assistant Principal at Seneca Vocational High School and then as Principal at Kensington High School / After two years at Burgard Vocational, Mark Balen returned to Seneca Vocational in 1992 / in 1997, Balen was elected to an unexpired term on the Lackawanna School Board / Mark Balen administered Teacher Certification Exams for National Evaluation Systems, before moving to Michigan / Mark L. Balen passed away on 25 August 2024 at the age of 89 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BALK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

THOMAS

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas W. Balk honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Balk was a Buffalo Police Officer and served at Tonawanda High School for 17 years as a Security Guard / Balk was an Instructor at the Police Academy / Thomas Balk was a former President of the Tonawanda Board of Education / Thomas W. Balk passed away on 27 September 2024 at the age of 75 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARNHARD**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ALDEN

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald F. Barnhard honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Barnhard was a former Assistant Fire Chief for the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company / Ronald F. Barnhard passed away on 2 August 2024 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARREN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

MICHAEL J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael J. Barren honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Michael Barren was a self-employed carpenter in home remodeling / Michael James Barren passed away on 19 May 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARRICK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

CONRAD

L.

Address: 39 WALTERCREST TERRACE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

B BATTERY 3RD MISSILE BATTALION 1ST ARTILLERY

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Conrad Barrick honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Conrad Barrick was assigned as a driver and mechanic during his service years

Base Assignments:

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

Nike Site PI-37, Herminie, Pa - Air Defense site PI-37 was officially activated in 1957 / PI-37 was part of ARAACOM (Army Anti-Aircraft Command), and its designation was B Battery, 1st AAA Msl Bn / B Battery was one of 12 Nike Air Defense sites defending Pittsburgh / It was armed with the Nike Ajax, the worlds first operational, guided Surface to Air Missile / This missile carried high explosive warheads and had a range of around 30 miles with a ceiling of 70,000 feet / Beginning in 1962, the Improved Nike Hercules System with its greater range and accuracy was introduced to B Battery / On 1 September 1971, the 1st Artillery was renamed 1st Air Defense Artillery / The Herminie Nike site was deactivated in mid 1974.

During its operational years, from 1956 to 1974, the Herminie Nike site was manned by an estimated 1,200 Regular Army personnel.

Miscellaneous:

Conrad Barrick graduated from West Seneca West High School prior to military service / After his Honorable



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Discharge, Barrick went to work for the Westinghouse Electric Corp in Cheektowaga until 1964 / Conrad Barrick became a correction officer at Wende Correctional Facility until his retirement / Barrick was a member of the West Seneca Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for many years / Conrad L. Barrick passed away at the age of 78 years old on 9 January 2022

The "B" Battery, 3rd Missile Battalion, 1st ADA Regiment was one of the Nike missile batteries that made up the Pittsburgh Air Defense / These batteries were armed with the Nike Ajax, the world's first operational guided Surface-to-Air Missile / The Nike Ajax had a range of around 30 miles and a ceiling of 70,000 feet



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARRY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DENNIS

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dennis J. Barry honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis J. Barry passed away on 12 December 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARTLETT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DERBY

FREDERICK

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1999

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frederick A. Bartlett honorably served in the United States Army Air Force / Frederick Bartlett started his stellar military career with the Army National Guard in 1965, then joined the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1999

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frederick Bartlett was the founding father of the Evans Youth Soccer and coached for the Evan Little League Football / Bartlett worked for the Sturgeon Point marina after his retirement / Frederick A. Bartlett passed away on 7 January 2024

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BARTON, SR.**
ROBERT J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Barton, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Barton, Sr. passed away on 2 August 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BASTIAN**

CARL

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carl E. Bastian honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Bastian was a member of the Free Masons and the Big Timers Club / Carl E. Bastian passed away on 19 March 2025 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BASTIAN SR**
JOSEPH

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles Joseph Bastian, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was Honorably Discharged

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Bastian worked for DuPont, Ashland and Marathon Oil for 40 years before his retirement / Charles Joseph Bastian, Sr. passed away on 22 November 2023 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Mary of the Assumption Cemetery, Lancaster, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAUER**

PAUL

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul W. Bauer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Bauer graduated from Canisius High School in 1955 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Bauer became the owner of the Raymond A. Bauer Insurance Agency for 58 years / Paul Bauer was a member of the National Skeet Shooting Association and inducted into the NYS Skeet Shooting Hall of Fame / Bauer was also a lifetime member of the Grand Island Rod & Gun Club and the Niagara River Station Fishing Club / Paul W. Bauer passed away on 13 January 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAUMAN, JR.**

NORMAN

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman C. Bauman, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman C. Bauman, Jr. passed away on 2 January 2014 and is interred at St. Stephen's Cemetery



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BAUMANN, JR.**
CLAYTON J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DERBY

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

2ND BRIDGE COMPANY, FLEET MARINE FORCE

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Clayton J. Baumann, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Clayton Baumann was assigned as a Combat Engineer and attached to the 2nd Bridge Company, Fleet Marine Force at Camp Lejeune, NC, and had 17 months of foreign service

Corporal Clayton Baumann was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 11 January 1963

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Clayton J. "Butch" Baumann, Jr. passed away on 1 March 2024 at the age of 82 years old

A combat engineer 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,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The Fleet Marine Force is a term used by the United States Marine Corps to describe its general population, with an emphasis on forward-deployed units / The United States Fleet Marine Forces are combined general and special-purpose forces within the United States Department of the Navy that perform offensive amphibious or expeditionary warfare and defensive maritime employment / The Fleet Marine Forces make up a reservoir of ground and air organizations, along with specialized enablers from which forces can be drawn to form any size MAGTF or conduct any assigned task / It is headquartered at Naval Station Norfolk and directs and commands all the subordinate elements of the Navy Expeditionary Strike Force and Marine Air-Ground Task Force components

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BEAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DE ALTON

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

De Alton C. Bean honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

De Alton C. Bean passed away on 27 October 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BEDARD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert D. Bedard honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert Bedard was assigned as a Supply Specialist / Bedard also attended Light Weapons Infantry school at Fort Dix, and Drill Sergeant school at Fort Jackson / In addition to serving as a Drill Instructor, Robert Bedard served with the 1st Military Police & POW Command at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Robert Bedard was Honorably Discharged from active duty with the US Army on 15 April 2019

Base Assignments:

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

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade was used as a World War II recruit training post / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at Fort Meade

Miscellaneous:

Robert D. Bedard passed away on 14 April 2019 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BEITER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROGER

J.

Address: 136 WESTCLIFF DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Roger J. Beiter honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Roger Beiter died in the crash of an Air Force Military Transport on 25 June 1965

A westbound military flight, utilizing a Boeing C-135A Stratolifter transport (60-0373), originated at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey and was bound for the island of Okinawa, via El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in Santa Ana, Orange County, California, and Hickam Air Force Base near Honolulu, Hawaii / Carrying 72 U.S. Marines Corps members and manned by a crew of 12 Air Force servicemen, the aircraft, the military derivative of the four-engine Boeing B707 jetliner, took off at 1:35 a.m. into thick fog and light drizzle from Runway 34R at El Toro / The aircraft had reached an altitude of about 1,000 feet when it failed to make a prescribed left turn and continued on its northward course, smashing into Loma Ridge while flying at an estimated 300 mph / The jet impacted the 1,300-foot hill at a point approximately 150 feet below its crest and disintegrated into flames, scattering wreckage and bodies over a mile-wide portion of the 93,000-acre Irvine Ranch / All 84 persons, including Private First-Class Roger J. Beiter, aboard were killed / Due to the heavy fog and low overcast, the crash site wasn't located by search and rescue members until over four hours after the plane went down / The exact cause of the crash remains undetermined

Base Assignments:

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

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Constructed in May 1941, Camp LeJeune is a Marine Corps. amphibious assault training facility located in Jacksonville, North Carolina. The camps is also the home of the Marine Corps



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Expeditionary Forces in Readiness.

Miscellaneous:

Roger Beiter was a graduate of Queen of Heaven School and was enrolled as a Freshman at Canisius College at the time of his enlistment / Rodger J. Beiter passed away on 25 June 1965 at the age of 18 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The Boeing C-135 Stratolifter is a transport aircraft derived from the prototype Boeing 367-80 jet airliner in the early 1950s / It has a narrower fuselage and is shorter than the commercial 707 airliner / Since the first one was built in August 1956, the C-135 and its variants have been a fixture of the United States Air Force / The C-135A had seating for 126 passengers and powered by four J-57-P-59W engines



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BELASIC**

DAVID

S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David Steven Frank Belasic honorably served in the United States Army / David Belasic served as a Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Belasic was a graduate of Racine Lutheran High School, Racine, Wisconsin, and Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana / Belasic was a graduate of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary (1963), Springfield, Illinois, Whitman College (MA), Spokane, Washington, and earned his Doctor of Ministry from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary / David Belasic served as pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Spokane, Washington, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; staff member and then President of the Eastern District Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in Buffalo, New York, until his retirement in 2000 / David Steven Frank Belasic passed away on 15 June 2025 at the age of 90 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BENKELMAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

JAMES

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James E. "Nerve" Benkelman honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Benkelman was a member of the Steamfitters Local Union #22 / Benkelman retired to Florida / James E. "Nerve" Benkelman passed away on 19 February 2024 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BENNS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

HOWARD

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1946

Year Discharged: 1948

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Howard W. "Howie" Benns honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Benns started a hydroplane boat racing career in 1957 that spanned 40 years / Benns won his first national championship in 1968 / Howie went on to win 3 title events in his rookie year, a record that stood for years, and was recognized as "Rookie of the Year" by the Unlimited Racing Commission / In 1988 Howard Benns was the American, Canadian and World champion / Benns was also the triple crown winner at Valleyfield, Quebec, taking home the Grand Prix World Championship, as well as the Canadian and American championship titles in the hydroplane "Lebeouf" GP-1001 / Howard Benns won the 1991 Griffin Cup in New Zealand / Howard Benns retired at the age of 55 after piloting some of the famous hydroplanes such as the Miss Budweiser, Sudden Seven, Miss Gangway, Lebeouf and Miss Dinomite / Benns retired to Fort Myers, Florida / Howard W. "Howie" Benns passed away on 12 March 2018 at the age of 78 years old and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BERG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

DANIEL

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel G. Berg honorably served in the United States Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel G. Berg passed away on 16 November 2019 at the age of 67 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BETTINGER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JAMES

J.

Address: COVINGTON DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

DAVID GRANT MEDICAL CENTER

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James J. Bettinger honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT James Bettinger was stationed at the David Grant Medical Center, Travis Air Force Base where he worked in a laboratory involved in blood testing and microbiology

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Sheppard AFB, Texas - The base, located near Wichita Falls, was named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941. Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / It was officially opened as a United States Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941, following the arrival of the first military members on 14 June. As the Army Air Corps became the Army Air Forces, facilities were completed sufficiently to allow the first class of 22 aviation mechanics to enter training that October; the class graduated 23 February 1942 / Sheppard Field reached its peak strength of 46,340 people while serving as a separation center for troops being discharged following World War II from September through November 1945 / Communications, refrigeration, air conditioning, and power production operator and repairman training were transferred to Sheppard in 1959



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Travis AFB, Fairfield, California - Originally named Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Base, construction began on Travis in 1942 / In October 1942, the War Department assigned the base to the Air Transport Command with the primary mission during World War II to ferry aircraft and supplies to the Pacific Theater / On 1 May 1949, the Strategic Air Command (SAC) became the parent major command for Travis AFB with the Military Air Transport Service (MATS) resuming command of Travis AFB on 1 July 1958 / In 1992, with the reorganization of the Air Force following the end of the Cold War, Military Airlift Command (MAC) was inactivated and Travis came under the control of the newly-established Air Mobility Command (AMC)

Miscellaneous:

James J. Bettinger graduated from West Seneca West Senior High School and attended Canisius College in Buffalo prior to enlisting in the Air Force / After his Honorable Discharge from the military, Bettinger remained in California, attending Fresno State University from 1977 thru 1979 receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree in the field of Microbiology / From 1980 until his retirement in 2010, Bettinger was a Clinical Laboratory Scientist and Microbiologist at Fresno Veterans Medical Center in California

David Grant USAF Medical Center (DGMC) - 60th Medical Group, Travis AFB is the U.S. Air Force's largest medical center in the continental United States and serves military beneficiaries throughout eight western states / It is a fully accredited hospital with a National Quality Approval gold seal by the Joint Commission, and serves more than 500,000 Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs Northern California Health Care System eligible beneficiaries in the immediate San Francisco-Sacramento vicinity from 17 counties covering 40,000 square miles / DGMC is named in honor of Dr. (Maj. Gen.) David Norvell Walker Grant, USAAF, MC (1891-1964), the first Surgeon General of the U.S. Army Air Corps and U.S. Army Air Forces / The medical center first opened its doors to patients on 1 July 1943 as the 4167th Station Hospital at Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Field / After V-J Day, the primary mission of the AAF Station Hospital was to provide medical care for the station complement and transient personnel, and to perform routine examinations prior to the transfer to separation centers / On 1 July 1966, the USAF Hospital at Travis AFB was designated David Grant USAF Medical Center in honor of the late Major General (Dr.) David Norvell Walker Grant / DGMC encompasses 808,475 net square feet with 3,662 rooms and is staffed to operate 84 inpatient beds (expandable to 176), 16 aeromedical staging facility beds (expandable to 40) and 52 dental treatment rooms in the adjacent Arthur J. Sachsel Dental Clinic / DGMC operates one of six Air Force Clinical Investigation Facilities, working on medical innovation to improve care for the warfighter and the nation / Summaries from the DGMC research focus on critical care, trauma resuscitation, long-term health after combat and the cardiac effects of energy drinks are posted for viewing by the Air Force Medical Service

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BETZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

CARL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carl J. Betz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, Carl Betz went to work for Quad/Quebecor/Arcata, retiring with over 40 years with the company / Carl J. Betz passed away on 2 August 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BEYER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: MARYSVILLE, PA

FREDERICK J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: HN

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

USS LONG BEACH (CGN-9)

Medals / Citations:

GOLDEN SHELLBACK

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

Service Notes:

Hospitalman Frederick J. Beyer honorably served in the United States Navy / HN Frederick Beyer attended Operating Room School at Bethesda Naval Hospital and was enrolled in the Hospital Corpsman School at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Illinois

Base Assignments:

Great Lakes Training Center, Illinois - Home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Naval Station Great Lakes is the second largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Bethesda Naval Hospital, Maryland - The Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC), formerly known as the National Naval Medical Center and referred to as the Bethesda Naval Hospital Bethesda, Walter Reed, or Navy Med, is a tri-service military medical center located in the community of Bethesda, Maryland, near the headquarters of the National Institutes of Health / It is one of the most prominent U.S. military medical centers in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and the United States, having served numerous U.S. presidents since the 20th century / In 1938, the United States Congress appropriated funds for the acquisition of land for the construction of a new Naval medical center, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt selected the present site in Bethesda, Maryland, on 5 July 1938 / In 2011, the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), named after yellow fever researcher Walter Reed, was combined with the National Naval Medical Center to form the tri-service Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Miscellaneous:

Prior to his enlistment in the Navy, Frederick Beyer graduated from Susquenita High School in Duncannon,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Pennsylvania / After his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Beyer attended and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts Degree from Manahath Bible College in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania / Beyer continued his education enrolled at the Liberty University Baptist Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Virginia where he received his Master of Divinity (M. Div.) degree and the Grace Theological Seminary, located in Winona Lake, Indiana, where Beyer earned his Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) degree (religious equivalent of the Ph.D.) / After completing his education, Frederick Beyer started his career as a Chaplain serving his community and performing his duties at Millard Fillmore Gates Hospital, Children's Hospital of Buffalo and also at Hospice Buffalo

The USS Long Beach (CLGN-160/CGN-160/CGN-9) was a nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser in the United States Navy / She was the only ship of her class and the third Navy ship named after the city of Long Beach, California and was the first nuclear-power surface warship in history / The Long Beach was commissioned on 9 September 1961 / The Long Beach served with the 6th Fleet in the early 1960's providing peacekeeping in the Mediterranean and in the later 1960's was deployed to the Gulf of Tonkin to support naval operations during the Vietnam War / The Long Beach was again deployed to the Mediterranean Sea in the 1990's, serving as an escort for the USS Missouri task force and providing aircraft carrier escort support after the Gulf War / The USS Long Beach was decommissioned on 1 May 1995 and sold as scrap in July 2012

The Golden Shellback - The ceremony of Crossing the Line is an initiation rite in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Marine Corps that commemorates a sailor's first crossing of the Equator / The ceremony observes a mariner's transformation from a slimy Pollywog (a seaman who hasn't crossed the equator), to a trusted Shellback (also called a Son or Daughter of Neptune) / It was a way for sailors to be tested for their seaworthiness / The tradition may have originated with ceremonies to ensure a ship's newest mates were capable of handling long rough times at sea



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIALASIK JR.**
MICHAEL S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS DAVIS (DD-937)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael S. Bialasik, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Michael Bialasik was assigned to the destroyer, USS Davis from 1963-1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Bialasik graduated from Seneca Vocational High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Michael Bialasik was employed by the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Buffalo, retiring in 2010 after 25 years of service / Bialasik was an electrician and was a lifetime member of I.B.E.W. Local 41/ Michael S. Bialasik, Jr. passed away at the age of 78 years old on 29 October 2022

USS Davis (DD-937) was a Forest Sherman-class destroyer and named for Commander George Fleming Davis, commander of the USS Walke (DD-723), killed in action at Lingayen Gulf on Luzon in the Philippine Islands on 6 January 1945 / The Davis was commissioned on 6 March 1957 and patrolled the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, attached to the Sixth Fleet / During the Vietnam War, the USS Davis patrolled the southernmost region of South Vietnam, providing gunfire support for South Vietnamese forces and their American advisors / The Davis left the Vietnamese waters in June 1966, returning to the Mediterranean / The Davis returned to South Vietnam in 1968, operating in support of the 1st Air Cavalry Division, below the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) / during the 1970's, the Davis patrolled the North Atlantic / The Davis was decommissioned on 20 December 1982 and sold for scrap to the Fore River Shipyard and Iron Works in Quincy, Massachusetts on 11 December 1992, eventually being scrapped by Wilmington Resources of Wilmington, North Carolina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BICKELMAN**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AURORA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 127TH ARMOR, 3RD BRIGADE,
27TH ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class (E-4) James "Jim" Bickelman honorably served in the Army National Guard / SP4 James Bickelman served for 6 years as a Motor Transport Operator / Bickelman also served as a Driver Instructor and driver for his commanding officer

SP4 James Bickelman received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army National Guard on 25 August 1969

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

Buffalo Masten Avenue Armory , Best Street & Masten Avenue, Buffalo - The Buffalo Armory was built in 1902 and in 1931 a fire started in the basement of the Masten Avenue Armory / The fire destroyed the armory and spread and destroyed a church and many nearby homes / It has been called one of the worst fires in the history of the city of Buffalo / The Armory was rebuilt in 1933 and was the home of the the 106th Field Artillery unit and later home to other units including the 127th Artillery, Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 127th Artillery, and the 105th Military Police Company

Miscellaneous:

James "Jim" Bickelman passed away on 5 January 2023 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



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

The 27th Armored Division was a United States Army formation. It was part of the New York Army National Guard in the 1950s and 1960s / In February, 1955 a reorganization of the Army National Guard included reorganizing the 27th Infantry Division as the 27th Armored Division / In 1955, the composition of the 27th Armored Division included the Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 27th Armored Division / The 27th Armored Division was inactivated in February, 1968 during another reorganization of the Army National Guard / During its existence the 27th Armored Division was not activated for federal service and saw no combat / It was activated for state service, including the response to the 1964 Rochester riot / The division was reorganized in 1968 as the 27th Armored Brigade, a unit of the 50th Armored Division / The 27th Armored Brigade was reorganized as an Infantry brigade in 1975 and aligned with the 42nd Infantry Division / In 1985 the 27th Infantry Brigade was activated as part of the New York Army National Guard, and assigned as the "roundout" brigade of the Army's 10th Mountain Division / The 27th Infantry Brigade carries on the lineage and history of the 27th Infantry Division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIEHUNIK**
JOSEPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

65TH DIVISION ENGINEER BATTALION, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph F. Biehunik honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Biehunik served for 36 months and was trained as a Combat Engineer, serving with the 65th Engineers at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

Joseph F. Biehunik was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 18 November 1958

Base Assignments:

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii – Schofield Barracks is a United States Army installation and census-designated place (CDP) located in the City and County of Honolulu and in the Wahiawa District of the Hawaiian island of Oahu, Hawaii / Schofield Barracks is named after Lieutenant General John McAllister Schofield, who was the Commanding General of the United States Army from August 1888 to September 1895 / He had been sent to Hawaii in 1872 and had recommended the establishment of a naval base at Pearl Harbor / The post was established in 1908 to provide mobile defense of Pearl Harbor and the entire island / It has been the home of the 25th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Tropic Lightning" division, since 1941, as well as the headquarters for United States Army Hawaii (USARHAW)

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Biehunik worked for the Buffalo Police Department for 41 years, retiring as a Detective / Joseph F. Biehunik passed away on 25 June 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

A combat engineer 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The 65th Division Engineer Battalion was constituted in the Regular Army on 18 October 1927 as the 65th Engineer Battalion / The Battalion remained inactive until assigned to the 25th Infantry Division as a combat engineer battalion at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii on 1 October 1941 / In the Pacific Campaigns of World War II and in the Korean War, the 65th Engineers were called on to clear mines and booby traps and to assist combat elements in emplacing friendly and reducing enemy obstacles and fortifications / The Battalion also performed missions to improve roads and trails and built bridges to facilitate the resupply of the front lines and speed the evacuation of casualties / The 65th earned distinction in direct ground combat with the enemy / In World War II, Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie Companies each earned a Presidential Unit Citation for Gallantry on Luzon / In Korea, Alpha Company earned the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) for their support to Wolfhounds defending the Pusan Perimeter. Bravo Company earned a PUC fighting alongside the 35th Regimental Combat Team's during their heroic stand at the Nam River. Charlie Company earned a PUC in support of the 25th Infantry Division's tough combat operations near the city of Taegu / The 65th Engineer Battalion participated in all ten campaigns of the Korean Conflict, receiving a Meritorious Unit Commendation and two awards of the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation / In 1954, after more than 12 years and 800 days in battle, the Battalion finally returned to Schofield Barracks / The first element of the 65th to depart for Vietnam was Charlie Company, which lived up to the Battalion's motto by being "first in," deploying ahead of the 25th Infantry Division to help develop the port at Cam Ranh Bay / The Battalion participated in twelve Vietnam campaigns, receiving a Meritorious Unit Commendation, two awards of the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, and the Civil Action Honor Medal / The Battalion departed Vietnam on 8 December 1970, after nearly three years engaged in combat / Before standing down in 2005 to be reorganized as the Special Troops Battalion for the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 25th Infantry Division, the Battalion was engaged in every major operation our Army undertook, including Uphold Democracy, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Iraq

The 25th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Tropic Lightning") is a United States Army division based at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii / The division, which was activated on 1 October 1941 in Hawaii, conducted military operations primarily in the Asia-Pacific region / When the Korean War began in June 1950, the division was deployed to South Korea, where it fought in the defense of and the breakout from the Pusan Perimeter in mid-1950, with elements advancing as far as the Amnok River in November 1950 / The division defended Seoul against Chinese Communist attack from May 1953 to the July armistice, returning to Hawaii in late 1954 / After undergoing major reorganizations in 1957 and 1963 to adapt to changing tactics, the division deployed to South Vietnam to fight in the Vietnam War between late 1965 and early 1966 / The 25th served in Vietnam until its withdrawal back to Hawaii in 1970–1971, participating in Operation Attleboro, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Junction City, the Battle of Saigon during the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive, and the Cambodian Incursion / It was reorganized as a light infantry division in 1985, and elements have participated in the Iraq War and the War in Afghanistan / Its present deployment is composed of light infantry and aviation units / Tropic Lightning soldiers regularly train with other U.S. military branches to practice and maintain joint operations capabilities



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIERON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

JOSEPH

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Joseph F. Bieron honorably served in the United States Army / Captain Joseph Bieron was stationed at the Redstone Arsenal, Alabama as a Chemist

Base Assignments:

Redstone Arsenal, Alabama - Redstone Arsenal (RSA) is a United States Army post adjacent to Huntsville in Madison County, Alabama, United States and is part of the Huntsville-Decatur Combined Statistical Area / The Arsenal is a garrison for various tenants across the Department of Defense, Department of Justice, and NASA / Established during World War II as a chemical manufacturing facility / Following the immediate post-war era, the Arsenal was used for research and development by German weapons rocket scientists who were brought to the U.S. as part of Operation Paperclip / The team first worked on ballistic missiles, starting with V-2 rocket derivatives, before moving on to a series of ever larger designs / Many of their tests were carried out at White Sands Missile Range and flights between the two locations were common / In late 1956 the Army was relieved of most of its ballistic missiles in favor of similar weapons operated by the US Air Force / The German design team was spun off to become part of the newly founded National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) / The Arsenal served as the primary site for space launch vehicle design into the 1960s

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Bieron graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, Canisius College and the University of Buffalo, where he earned his Doctorate in Chemistry / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Bieron was employed by Canisius College where he taught Chemistry and spent eight years as the Dean of Arts and Sciences / After 40 years at Canisius, Joseph Bieron retired from full-time teaching in 2004, continuing to serve as Professor Emeritus / Bieron founded the Canisius College Press in 1995, which published many local interest books, including history books / Joseph Bieron served on the Orchard Park School Board for many years during the 2000's / During sabbaticals from Canisius College, Bieron worked for Occidental Chemical Corp where he



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

developed several patents and also worked with the Smithsonian Institute to develop an exhibit called "Science in American Life", which opened in Washington, D.C. in 1993 / Joseph F. Bieron passed away on 14 December 2023 at the age of 86 years old

Redstone Arsenal is a United States Army base adjacent to Huntsville, Alabama in the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge / The Arsenal is a host to over 75 tenant agencies, including the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and NASA's largest field center, the Marshall Space Flight Center / Established during World War II as a chemical manufacturing facility, in the immediate post-war era the Arsenal was used for research and development by German rocket scientists who were brought to the United States as part of Operation Paperclip / The team first worked on ballistic missiles, starting with derivatives of the V-2 rocket, before moving on to a series of ever larger designs / In 1956 the Army was relieved of most of its ballistic missiles in favor of similar weapons operated by the US Air Force / The Arsenal served as the primary site for space launch vehicle design and testing into the 1960s



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIGGIE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

KENNETH

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth J. Biggie honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Biggie worked as the Community Development Officer with the Town of West Seneca for many years and was a longtime substitute teacher throughout the West Seneca and Orchard Park School Districts / Kenneth J. Biggie passed away on 17 December 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BINNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

GEORGE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George Binner honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Binner was a College Administrator at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo State, Canisius College and Hilbert College / George "Bud" Binner passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIONDO, SR.**
JOSEPH J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

USS YOSEMITE (AD-19)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph J. Biondo, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Joseph Biondo served aboard the USS Yosemite

Base Assignments:

Naval Station, Newport, Rhode Island - The Naval Station Newport (NAVSTA Newport) is a United States Navy base located in the city of Newport and the town of Middletown, Rhode Island / Naval Station Newport is home to the Naval War College and the Naval Justice School / The Newport Training Station was founded in 1883 and was intended to provide education for young men and boys for a ten month period / Naval Station Newport hosts approximately 50 Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and US Army Reserve commands and activities; it is one of the Navy's most important stateside training facilities and includes Officer Training School

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Biondo was employed by Fisher Price as a Designer Packaging Engineer / Joseph J. Biondo, Sr. passed away on 29 July 2024 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Assumption Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York

USS Yosemite (AD-19) (nicknamed the "Yo Yo") was a Dixie-class destroyer tender built during World War II for the U.S. Navy / Her mission was to service destroyers in, or near, battle areas and to keep them fit for duty / The fourth U.S. Navy ship to bear the name, Yosemite was commissioned on 26 March 1944 / On 29 August 1944, the USS Yosemite arrived in Pearl Harbor and for the next six months made repairs on over 200 ships / With the end of World War II, the destroyer tender arrived in Sasebo, Japan on 22 September 1945 and began tending ships assigned to the occupation forces in the Far East, lasting until March 1946 / During the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, the Yosemite headed south via Norfolk to Kingston, Jamaica, where she tended the ships engaged in Missile Crisis operation / During 1969, the USS Yosemite had a tour of duty in the Mediterranean, serving as



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

flagship for the Commander, Service Force, 6th Fleet / Her final deployment was to the Persian Gulf as part of the ongoing Operation Desert Storm campaign, departing Mayport in October, 1991, with stops in Bahrain and the U.A.E., returning in March, 1992 / The USS Yosemite was decommissioned on 27 January 1994 and sunk on 18 November 2003 / During her 50-year service, USS Yosemite earned the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (2), Battle "E" Ribbon (5), Navy Expeditionary Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal (with Asia clasp), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and Philippines Liberation Medal



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BIZUB**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

STEVEN

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

77TH FIELD ARTILLERY, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

61ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY, EIGHTH US ARMY

Medals / Citations:

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL W/1 OAK LEAF

OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

ARMY SERVICE RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: VARIOUS WEAPONS

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Steven Michael Bizub honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Steven Bizub was assigned as an Airplane Electrician and as a Man Portable Air Defense System (MANPADS) Crewmember / Sgt. Bizub served in the Army for 5 years during 2 different periods: 1973 - 1975 and 1983 - 1985

Steven Bizub was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 18 December 1985

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Steven Michael Bizub passed away on 26 February 2022 at the age of 65 years old and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

Man-portable air-defense systems (MANPADS or MPADS) are portable shoulder-launched surface-to-air missiles / They are guided weapons and are a threat to low-flying aircraft, especially helicopters and also used against low-flying cruise missiles / These short-range missiles can also be fired from vehicles, tripods, weapon platforms, and warships / MANPADS were developed in the 1950s to provide military ground forces with protection from jet aircraft

The 77th Field Artillery Regiment is a field artillery regiment of the United States Army. First constituted 1916 in the Regular Army as a cavalry regiment. Reorganized in 1917 as field artillery and given its current designation /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Regiment fought in World War I, World War II, the Vietnam War and the Global War on Terrorism

The 61st Artillery (CAC) is an air defense artillery regiment in the United States Army and was activated at Fort Moultrie on 9 March 1918 and fought in France in July 1918 / The Regiment also fought in World War II and Korea

The Army Achievement Medal is the lesser of the U.S. military's meritorious service medals and was first introduced as a means to recognize the contributions of enlisted personnel and junior officers who were not qualified to receive the higher Commendation Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal / Additional awards are denoted by oak leaf clusters

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon

The Army Service Ribbon (ASR) is a military award of the United States Army and is awarded to all members of the Regular (Active) Army, and Army National Guard and United States Army Reserve in an active reserve status, for successful completion of initial-entry training, which for officers is considered to be successful completion of their basic/orientation or higher-level course / Enlisted soldiers will be awarded the ribbon upon successful completion of their initial military occupational specialty (MOS)-producing course

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLACHOWIAK**
THADDEUS P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thaddeus P. Blachowiak honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus P. Blachowiak passed away on 26 October 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLACK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

WILLIAM

K.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William Kenneth "Kenny" Black honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Black was a retired New York State Trooper / William Kenneth "Kenny" Black passed away on 16 July 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLAMOWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

EUGENE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene M. Blamowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Blamowski was a member of American Legion Post #567 in Orchard Park / Eugene M. Blamowski passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BLEYLE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

DWIGHT

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dwight Richard Bleyle honorably served in the United States Army / Dwight Bleyle was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Dwight Bleyle attended the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo earning undergraduate degrees in mathematics, science and economics and earning a Master's Degree in Mathematics / Bleyle taught in the Kenmore-Tonawanda School System from 1971 until his retirement in 2000 / Dwight Bleyle was a member of the Buffalo Bicycle Club and a member of the SUNY Buffalo Ski Club / Bleyle was a certified SCUBA Diver / After his retirement, Bleyle moved to Park City, Utah / Dwight Richard Bleyle passed away on 26 April 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BLOWERS**
TIMOTHY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: NORTH COLLINS

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Timothy C. Blowers honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy C. Blowers passed away on 1 March 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOBINSKI**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas Henry Bobinski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Bobinski was employed by Bethlehem Steel Manufacturing, Pyron Metalworking Institute, Covenant Transport and finally the United States Postal Service, retiring in 2013 / Thomas Henry Bobinski pass away on 25 July 2024 at the age of 75 years of age and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BODECKER**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James A. Bodecker honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James A. Bodecker passed away on 27 October 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOERSCHIG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

GARY

L.

Address: 884 MILL ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO2

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

USS INDEPENDENCE (CV/CVA-62)

ELECTRONIC ATTACK SQUADRON 133 (VAQ-133)

Medals / Citations:

AIRCREWMAN WINGS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

SQUADRON UNIT CITATION

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second Class Gary L. Boerschig honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Gary Boerschig was assigned to the flight crew aboard a Grumman HU-16 Albatross as a radioman and flew rescue and goodwill missions to the Marianna and Marshall Island chains / PO2 Boerschig also flew Air-Sea Rescue missions while stationed at NAS Agana / As an Aviation Electronics Technician (AT-2), Petty Officer Boerschig perform maintenance on aviation electronics systems, which included: communications, radar, navigation, antisubmarine warfare sensors, electronic warfare, data link, fire control and tactical displays

Base Assignments:

Naval Air Station (N.A.S.) Agana, Guam - Former Japanese Military Field recaptured by American forces in 1944 and renamed Agana Airfield / After being repaired in October 1944, the United States Army Air Forces Seventh Air Force used the airfield as a base for the 11th Bombardment Group, which flew B-24 Liberator bombers from the station / In 1947, the USAAF turned over the airfield to the United States Navy / Naval Air Station Agana was closed in 1993

Naval Air Station Alameda, California - Naval air station facilities were constructed in 1940 for two carrier air wings, five seaplane squadrons and two utility squadrons / In April 1942, the USS Hornet (CV-8) loaded at Alameda the 16 B-25 aircraft that would take part in the Doolittle Raid on Japan / The base was the focus for northern California United States Navy Reserve drill after 1961 / Runways were lengthened for jet aircraft, and the airport was renamed Nimitz Field in 1967 following the death of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz / Nuclear powered aircraft carriers were home ported at Alameda into the 1990s / NAS Alameda was closed on 25 April



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

1997

Miscellaneous:

Gary Boerschig was a graduate of West Seneca West Senior High School / Prior to military service, Boerschig attended Roberts Wesleyan College for three years and worked at Hanna Furnace during the summer breaks / After an honorable discharge, Gary Boerschig went to work at Allied Chemical as a Chemical Operator and Welder until his retirement in 1982 / Gary retrained and received his Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree as an Electrical Engineer Technician from Erie Community College

The fifth USS Independence (CV/CVA-62) was an aircraft carrier of the United States Navy and entered service in 1959 as the fourth and final member of the Forrestal class of conventionally powered supercarriers / Independence made a single tour off the coast of Vietnam in 1965 during the Vietnam War, and also carried out airstrikes against Syrian forces during the Lebanese Civil War and operations over Iraq during Operation Southern Watch, the enforcement of the no-fly zone over southern Iraq / The USS Independence was decommissioned in 1998 after 39 years of active service.

Electronic Attack Squadron 133 (VAQ-133) was established 4 March 1969 at Naval Air Station Alameda, California. The squadron originally flew the EKA-3B Skywarrior / Following the 2012-2013 deployment of Carrier Air Wing 9 onboard USS John C. Stennis, VAQ-133 was reassigned to Carrier Air Wing Eight based aboard USS George H.W. Bush

The Grumman HU-16 Albatross is a large twin-radial engine amphibious flying boat that was used by the United States Air Force (USAF), the U.S. Navy (USN) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), primarily as a search and rescue aircraft / It was also employed as an operational support aircraft worldwide and for missions from the former NAS Agana, Guam during the Vietnam War / Goodwill flights were also common to the surrounding Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in the early 1970s

The Aircrewman Badge, commonly known as Wings, is a qualification badge of the United States military that is awarded by all five branches of armed services to personnel who serve as crew members on board military aircraft / The badge is intended to recognize the training and qualifications required by aircrew of military aircraft / In order to qualify as an aircrew member and receive the Aircrew Badge, such personnel typically undergo advanced training in aircraft in-flight support roles

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

A 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOGENRIEDER**
ERNEST J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ernest J. Bogenrieder honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ernest Bogenrieder was a member of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. Nash Council / Ernest J. Bogenrieder passed away on 5 November 2025 at the age of 86 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOGOLD SR**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William C. Bogold, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Bogold graduated from Kenmore High School before entering the U.S. Navy / After his Honorable Discharge, Bogold began a career as an Electrician, working for Niagara Mohawk / After his retirement, Bogold moved to Mishawaka, Indiana / William C. Bogold, Sr. passed away on 14 September 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOLLMAN**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE COMPANY, MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 2ND FORCE TROOPS, FLEET
MARINE FORCE

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal David W. Bollman honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL David Bollman was assigned as a Tracked Vehicle Repairman

David Bollman was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps. On 18 July 1975

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

David Bollman was a member of Project Healing Waters and Trout Unlimited / David W. Bollman passed away on 4 May 2021 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The Tracked Vehicle Repairman performs maintenance and repair on tanks and all other tracked vehicles

The broad mission of the Ordnance Corps is to supply combat units with weapons and ammunition, including at



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

times their procurement and maintenance

The mission of Ordnance Maintenance Company, Maintenance Battalion, 2nd Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force is to provide general support, intermediate (3rd and 4th echelon) maintenance support and Tracked Vehicle Recovery for Marine Corps -furnished ordnance equipment of a Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF)

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BORCZYNSKI**
CHESTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Chester E. Borczynski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Chester Borczynski graduated from Canisius College / Borczynski was a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and was a partner in the firm of Arcara and Borczynski, LLP / Chester E. Borczynski passed away on 31 May 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Cemetery, Elma, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BORCZYNSKI**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address: 265 EST MEADOWLAWN ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Borczynski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

The brother of John Borczynski, Army Sergeant Frederick Earl Borczynski, was Killed In Action on 26 September 1968 from hostile mortar fire while defending his position in Kien Tuong Province, South Vietnam

Two other brothers of John Borczynski, Wayne and John Borczynski served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Borczynski was an original member of St. Christopher's Knights of Columbus / John Borczynski passed away on 13 July 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BORCZYNSKI**
WAYNE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address: 265 EST MEADOWLAWN ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Wayne Borczynski honorably served in the United States Army / Wayne Borczynski was stationed at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey

The brother of Wayne Borczynski, Army Sergeant Frederick Earl Borczynski, was Killed In Action on 26 September 1968 from hostile mortar fire while defending his position in Kien Tuong Province, South Vietnam

Two other brothers of Wayne Borczynski, James Borczynski served in the United States Army and John Borczynski served in the Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Fort Monmouth, New Jersey - Fort Monmouth is a former installation of the Department of the Army in Monmouth County, New Jersey / Originally called Camp Alfred Vail, in 1925 the Fort was renamed Fort Monmouth / It was named in honor of the soldiers of the American Revolutionary War who died in the Battle of Monmouth / At its peak during World War II, Fort Monmouth measured 1,713 acres and had billeting space for 1,559 officers and 19,786 enlisted personnel / The Eastern Signal Corps Training Center and other communication units, including the Pigeon Breeding and Training Center, were consolidated into Fort Monmouth after World War II ended / The pigeon service was discontinued in 1957; the birds were either sold at auction or donated to zoos / Slated by the Pentagon for closure, Fort Monmouth was officially closed on 15 September 2011

Miscellaneous:

Wayne Borczynski passed away on 3 April 2022 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BORLAND**
GREGG

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **AIR FORCE**

Rank: **CAP**

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Gregg R. Borland honorably served in the United States Air Force / Captain Gregg Borland served as a high-altitude Radar Intercept Controller / Captain Borland was based in Sacramento, California

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gregg Borland was born in Clay Center Kansas and was a graduate of Clay County Community High School and Kansas State University, earning a Bachelor's Degree in the Humanities / Borland was an Information Specialist for two years at the Central Intelligence Agency's Foreign Broadcast Information Service in Washington, D.C. / For three years, Borland was a civilian employee for the United States Air Force, organizing and producing educational plays for the military in England, France and Germany / Gregg Borland joined WNED-TV, Channel 17 in Buffalo at the Lafayette Hotel, editing the station's newsletter and handled public relations / After working many years at WNED, Borland left in 1980 to become the publicist for Artpark and client relations representative for Four Corners Abstract, Buffalo / Gregg R. Borland passed away on 2 October 2024 after a long illness at the age of 92 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BORYSEWICZ**
WESLEY **M.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Wesley M. Borysewicz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wesley Borysewicz worked for the Ascension Industries in North Tonawanda, New York retiring as the Sales Manager / Wesley M. Borysewicz passed away on 25 April 2024 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOSSO, JR.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ANDREW

V.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Andrew Victor Bosso, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Andrew Bosso also served in the United States Naval Reserve until 1990

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Andrew Bosso was born in Niagara Falls and graduated from Bishop Duffy High School in 1958 / Bosso graduated from Niagara County Community College in 1971 / Moving to Buffalo, Andrew Bosso was a Computer Technician and was employed by the Merchants Mutual Insurance Company, Buffalo and the Marine Midland Bank, Buffalo prior to retiring in 1995 / Bosso became a School Bus Driver for the Niagara Wheatfield School District, retiring due to ill health in early 2010 / Andrew Victor Bosso, Jr. passed away on 22 May 2010 at the age of 69 years old and is interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lewiston, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOTH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

HERBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Herbert E. Both honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Herbert Both was Past Commander of the American Legion Post #721 in South Buffalo / Herbert E. Both passed away on 11 March 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BOZER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

EDWARD

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward Francis Bozer honorably served in the United States Army / Edward Bozer underwent Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood / Bozer served in the Army Signal Corps and was stationed in Nuremberg, Germany

Base Assignments:

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - Fort Leonard Wood is a U.S. Army training installation located in the Missouri Ozarks / The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood, a distinguished American Soldier who served for 40 years (later became Military Chief of Staff) / Originally intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center / During World War II Italian and German POWs were interned at the fort / In 1984, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, most of the U.S. Army Engineer School's operations were consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood / Before that, officer training was conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Miscellaneous:

Edward Bozer graduated from Williamsville Central High School, where he played football / Bozer graduated from the University of Buffalo, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Edward Bozer began a career in the Aerospace Industry, becoming a Program Manager on numerous projects that included pioneering work on advanced equipment for the Space Shuttle, commercial aviation and defense systems for the United States and allied forces / After his retirement, Bozer moved to Mesa, Arizona in 2012 / Edward Francis Bozer passed away on 24 November 2023 at the age of 85 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

/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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRACIAK**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Braciak honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT James Braciak was stationed at Cape Cod Air Force Station, Massachusetts

Base Assignments:

Cape Cod Air Force Station - Located in Flatrock Hill, Massachusetts, the facility's primary mission is controlling and maintaining the Raytheon AN/FPS-123 PAVE PAWS installation to track space debris, intercontinental ballistic missiles, and submarine-launched ballistic missiles / Its secondary mission is tracking Earth-orbiting objects such as the International Space Station, any object that deviates from its known orbit, or any new orbiting objects.

Miscellaneous:

James Braciak was an accountant working for several firms, before joining Northrup Grumman until his retirement / On 1 April 2021, James Braciak passed away at the age of 75 years



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRADY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

EDWARD

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward Patrick "Eddie" Brady honorably served in the United States Air Force National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Brady graduated from Cardinal Dougherty High School and was an outstanding football player / Brady managed Mulligan's Brick Bar, the Pierce Arrow Bar and Hemmingway's Bar / In 1990, Edward Brady opened Eddie Brady's Tavern / Edward Patrick "Eddie" Brady passed away at the age of 70 on 12 June 2022

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRATEK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

EUGENE

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene J. Bratek honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene J. Bratek passed away on 4 May 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRATEK**

JAMES

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James F. Bratek honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Bratek worked for Erie County and the Veterans Administration (VA) Buffalo Regional Office / Bratek was a member of American Legion Post #63 / James F. Bratek passed away on 18 May 2024 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRAWN**

PAUL

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul R. Brawn honorably served in the United States Air Force / Paul Brawn was stationed in Libya and Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Brawn worked as a sheet metal mechanic at Ruslander and Sons / Paul R. Brawn passed away on 4 April 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRENNAN**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class James A. Brennan honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C James Brennan attended Instructor School at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Virginia / A1C Brennan was an Air-to-Air Missile Instructor

Base Assignments:

Langley Air Force Base, Virginia - Langley Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Hampton, Virginia, adjacent to Newport News / Langley Air Force Base, originally known as Langley Field, is named after Samuel Pierpont Langley, an aerodynamic pioneer and a former Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution / It was one of thirty-two Air Service training camps established after the entry of the United States into World War I in April 1917 / The Air Force mission at Langley is to sustain the ability for fast global deployment and air superiority for the United States or allied armed forces / The base is one of the oldest facilities of the Air Force / On 25 May 1946 the headquarters of the newly formed Tactical Air Command were established at Langley / The command's mission was to organize, train, equip and maintain combat-ready forces capable of rapid deployment to meet the challenges of peacetime air sovereignty and wartime air defense / The arrival of Tactical Air Command and jet aircraft marked the beginning of a new era in the history of the field, and in January 1948 Langley Field officially became Langley Air Force Base

Miscellaneous:

James Brennan graduated from Kensington High School and enlisted in the Air Force / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, Brennan attended and graduated from Erie Community College and the University of Buffalo, earning a bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences / James Brennan joined the Depew Police Force in 1970 and was appointed as a Detective in 1974, becoming a Patrol Lieutenant in 1977 and promoted to Captain in 1982 / In 1974 Brennan was promoted to Chief of Police, heading a department of 31 Police Officers and eight civilians / Brennan retired from the Depew Police Department in 2002 and became an



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Investigator for the US Treasury Department and the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) until 2013
/ James A. Brennan passed away on 2 June 2023 at the age of 79 years old

Name: BRESE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

STANLEY

Address: 348 MARLOWE AVENUE

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Stanley Brese honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed in Korea

The brother of Stanley Brese, Army Specialist Fourth-Class Anthony Arthur Brese, died from non-hostile wounds on 26 December 1970 while serving on Firebase Bastogne (also known as Firebase Phu Xuan) in Thua Thien province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BRETON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

WILLIAM

K.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William K. Breton honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Breton worked for various contractors as a laborer / William K. Breton Passed away on 29 July 2023 and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery in Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BROMSTEAD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

JIM

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

1ST PROVISIONAL ARMORED MAINTENANCE DETACHMENT, SEVENTH US ARMY

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-1 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Jim R. Bromstead honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Jim Bromstead was assigned as a Armor Communication Specialist

Specialist Fifth-Class Jim Bromstead received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 11 February 1964

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jim Bronstead served as a Detective with the Erie County Sheriff's Department/ Bronstead was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #5260 in Springville, New York / Jim R. Bromstead passed away on 27 May 2022

The 7th Armored Division ("Lucky Seventh") was an armored division of the United States Army that saw distinguished service on the Western Front, from August 1944 until May 1945, during World War II / The division was reactivated in the early 1950s, but was not sent to Korea. It was stationed at Camp Roberts, California for the duration of the conflict

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 /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BROOKS, SR.**

RICHARD

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

316TH FIELD MAINTENANCE SQUADRON, 316TH AIR WING

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Richard C. Brooks, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C Richard Brooks was assigned as an Aircraft Electronics Navigation Equipment Repairman and served 11 months of active duty in Vietnam

A1C Richard C. Brooks was Honorably Discharged from from the US Air Force on 9 June 1967

Base Assignments:

Langley Air Force Base, Virginia - Langley Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Hampton, Virginia, adjacent to Newport News / Langley Air Force Base, originally known as Langley Field, is named after Samuel Pierpont Langley, an aerodynamic pioneer and a former Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution / It was one of thirty-two Air Service training camps established after the entry of the United States into World War I in April 1917 / The Air Force mission at Langley is to sustain the ability for fast global deployment and air superiority for the United States or allied armed forces / The base is one of the oldest facilities of the Air Force / On 25 May 1946 the headquarters of the newly formed Tactical Air Command were established at Langley / The command's mission was to organize, train, equip and maintain combat-ready forces capable of rapid deployment to meet the challenges of peacetime air sovereignty and wartime air defense / The arrival of Tactical Air Command and jet aircraft marked the beginning of a new era in the history of the field, and in January 1948 Langley Field officially became Langley Air Force Base

Miscellaneous:

Richard Brooks was a long time Eucharistic Minister and President of the St. Philip's Men's Club / Richard C.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Brooks, Sr. passed away on 25 June 2021 at the age of 78 years old

The 316th Field Maintenance Squadron (FMS) was a component of the 316th Fighter Wing while the Wing was at Langley AFB 1965-75

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

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BROWN**

DENNIS

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dennis P. Brown honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis P. Brown passed away on 10 August 2025 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRUDZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DANIEL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

BRAVO COMPANY, 304TH SIGNAL BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Daniel John Brudz honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Daniel Brudz was deployed to South Korea for 16 months active duty and served as a Radio Relay and Carrier Attendant

SP4 Daniel Brudz received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 8 February 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel John Brudz passed away on 21 November 2020

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 304th Signal Battalion was constituted on 29 July 1921 and allotted to the IV Corps Area / It was organized



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

in March 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia / In 1945, the 304th, with augmentation from the 2201st, operated the Army Signal Center for all operations in the Philippines controlled by the 8th Army / In 1950, during the Korean War, the 304th Expeditionary Signal Battalion-Enhanced was deployed to the Republic of Korea / The unit's mission provided tactical communications support to United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea, Eighth Army, and non-DOD U.S. Government organizations within the Korean peninsula / The battalion is currently located at USAG Humphreys 45 miles south of Seoul / Serving proudly in the Republic of Korea since the start of the Korean War in 1950, the unit served in all ten campaigns of the war and received three Meritorious Unit Commendations / The battalion's motto is "Pret, Toujours Pret!" or "Ready, Always Ready!"

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRUSINO**
FRANK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: BG

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

4TH BRIGADE, NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

MASTER PARACHUTIST BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

NYS LONG AND FAITHFUL SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

SPECIAL FORCES TAB

NYS MILITARY COMMENDATION MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Brigadier General Frank B. Brusino honorably served in the United States Army / The military career of BG Frank Brusino spanned ROTC years at Niagara University 1950-54 with active duty following his commission in Germany and stateside to 1957 / BG Frank Brusino joined the U.S. Army Reserve after serving his active duty in the regular Army / Brigadier General Frank Brusino completed many military schools including, 11th Airborne Basic and Advanced Airborne Course (Jumpmaster), Infantry Officer Advanced Course, US Army JFK Center, Special Warfare Course, US Army Counter-Insurgency Course, Command and General Staff College all during the 1950's and 1960's / BG Frank Brusino became the Battalion Commander of 19th Special Forces Group out of White Plains, New York / Brigadier General Frank B. Brusino retired in 1991, joining the NYS Army National Guard / During the 1990's, BG Brusino became commander of Headquarters 4th Brigade, New York National Guard, achieving the rank of Brigadier General

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

The Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is a special type of recognition for service members / The Army Commendation Medal is considered a "mid-level" military decoration / The commendation is generally awarded for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / It's usually granted to U.S. Army personnel that are not general officers / All in all, there are Commendation Medals for each service branch (Army, Naval Service, Air and Space Forces, and U.S. Coast Guard)

The Army Achievement Medal (AAM) is the lesser of the U.S. military's meritorious service medals and was first introduced as a means to recognize the contributions of enlisted personnel and junior officers who were not qualified to receive the higher Commendation Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal / Additional awards are denoted by oak leaf clusters

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon

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

The Special Forces Tab is a service school qualification tab of the United States Army / It is awarded to any soldier completing either the Special Forces Qualification Course or the Special Forces Detachment Officer Qualification Course at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina / Soldiers who are awarded the Special Forces Tab are authorized to wear it and the green beret for the remainder of their military careers, even when not serving in a Special Forces command

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 Military Commendation Medal is an award given to any member of the New York State Organized Militia who, while serving in any capacity, distinguished themselves by heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service / Awards may be made to individuals who are members of the Armed Forces of the United



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

States, but only under exceptional circumstances and with the approval of The Adjutant General / The medal is blue and in the shape of a shield with the outline of New York state in the center in yellow and text reading "MILITARY" on the upper portion and "COMMENDATION" on the lower portion / The ribbon features a dark blue central section flanked on either side by a yellow stripe / The Medal for Merit is another award that may be given to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty

New York National Guard Long and Faithful Service Medal is an award of the state of New York / This is given to all Military personnel who have completed the specified periods of honorable and satisfactory active service in the New York Army National Guard, New York Naval Militia and New York Guard



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRUTCHER**

RICHARD

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard E. Brutcher honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Brutcher retired from General Motors after 30 years / Richard Brutcher was a past chief and member of the U-Crest Volunteer Fire Company for 48 years / Richard E. Brutcher passed away on 25 October 2024 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BRYK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DAVID

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

USS INTREPID (CV-11)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David E. Bryk honorably served in the United States Navy / David Bryk served aboard the USS Intrepid (CV-11), an Essex Class Aircraft Carrier as an Ordnance Specialist for 23 months

David Bryk received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy on 31 October 1957 with reserve obligation ending 25 August 1962

Base Assignments:

Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia - Naval Air Station is located in Virginia Beach, Virginia / It is the sole east coast master jet base in the entire US Navy / The air station supports the operations of the US Navy's Atlantic and Pacific Fleet strike fighter aircraft / It has a total of 250 aircraft deployed and buildings valued at \$800 million in plant replacement value / The base has about 10,500 active Navy personnel, about 10,000 family members and 4,500 civilian personnel

Miscellaneous:

David Byrk was employed as a Pressman at Holling Press before moving on to the Courier-Express and later The Buffalo News / Byrk went to work at Tops Markets, in the Security and Transportation Department, until his retirement in 2010 / David E. Byrk passed away on 3 March 2025

Aviation Ordnancemen (AO) are weapons specialists charged with managing all types of ammunition carried on Navy aircraft / Navy AOs perform their duties at sea on flight decks and ashore in hangars, air station flight lines or in shops

USS Intrepid (CV/CVA/CVS-11), also known as The Fighting "I", is one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

during World War II for the United States Navy / She is the fourth US Navy ship to bear the name / Commissioned in August 1943, Intrepid participated in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, including the Battle of Leyte Gulf / Decommissioned shortly after the end of World War II, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / In her second career, she served mainly in the Atlantic, but also participated in the Vietnam War / She was the recovery ship for a Mercury and a Gemini space mission / Because of her prominent role in battle, she was nicknamed "the Fighting I", while her frequent bad luck and time spent in dry dock for repairs, she was torpedoed once and hit in separate attacks by four Japanese kamikaze aircraft, earned her the nicknames "Decrepit" and "the Dry I" / Decommissioned for the second time in 1974, she was put into service as a museum ship in 1982 as the foundation of the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum Complex in New York City



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRZEZICKI**

JAMES

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Richard Brzezicki honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Brzezicki retired from General Motors / James Richard Brzezicki passed away on 16 July 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BRZYSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

STANLEY

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stanley Thomas Brzyski honorably served in the United States Air Force / Stanley Brzyski was stationed in Okinawa, Japan

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stanley Brzyski attended Depew High School from 1959-1962 / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Stanley Brzyski went to work for the Ford Motor Company in 1969 as a Machine Operator and retired in 1999 after thirty years of employment / Brzyski moved to Ponte Vedra, Florida after his retirement / Stanley Thomas Brzyski passed away on 22 August 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUCHHOLZ**
JOSEPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph "Joe" Buchholz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Buchholz was a member of U.A. Steamfitters and Plumbers Local 22 for over 30 years / Joseph "Joe" Buchholz passed away on 28 October 2022 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUCIERKA**
RAYMOND

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam 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:**

Service Notes:

Raymond Bucierka honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Bucierka retired from the Niagara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA) Metro Rail / Raymond Bucierka passed away on 22 April 2024 and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

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 / 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUETTNER**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James P. Buettner honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Buettner went to work for Arcada Graphics after his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, retiring after 35 years of employment / James P. Buettner passed away at the age of 71 years old on 10 February 2023

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division / The division was constituted, originally as the 82nd Division, in the National Army on 5 August 1917, shortly after the American entry into World War I / It was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia and later served with distinction on the Western Front in the final months of World War I / Since its initial members came from all 48 states, the division acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its "AA" on the shoulder patch / The division later served in World War II where, in August 1942, it was reconstituted as the first airborne division of the U.S. Army and fought in numerous campaigns during the war / During the Vietnamese Tet Offensive, which swept across South Vietnam in January/February 1968, the 3rd Brigade was enroute to Chu Lai within 24 hours of receiving its orders / The 3rd Brigade performed combat duties in the Huế – Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector / Later the brigade moved south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months / While the 3rd



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Brigade was deployed, the division created a provisional 4th Brigade, consisting of 4th Battalion, 325th Infantry; 3d Battalion, 504th Infantry; and 3d Battalion, 505th Infantry / An additional unit, the 3d Battalion, 320th Artillery, was activated under Division Artillery to support the 4th Brigade



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUGELSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PAUL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CMDR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS TAUSSIG (DD-746)

USS FORT SNELLING (LSD-30)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Commander Paul Joseph Bugelski honorably served in the United States Navy / CMDR Paul Bugelski was commissioned in June 1969 as part of the Naval Academy Class of 1969, Ninth Company / CMDR Bugelski served aboard the USS Taussig and the USS Fort Snelling / Commander Bugelski served land duty at Newport, Rhode Island and at the Brooklyn Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn, New York

Base Assignments:

Naval Station, Newport, Rhode Island - The Naval Station Newport (NAVSTA Newport) is a United States Navy base located in the city of Newport and the town of Middletown, Rhode Island / Naval Station Newport is home to the Naval War College and the Naval Justice School / The Newport Training Station was founded in 1883 and was intended to provide education for young men and boys for a ten month period / Naval Station Newport hosts approximately 50 Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and US Army Reserve commands and activities; it is one of the Navy's most important stateside training facilities and includes Officer Training School

Brooklyn Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn, New York - The Brooklyn Navy Yard (originally known as the New York Navy Yard) is a shipyard and industrial complex in northwest Brooklyn in New York City, New York / The Brooklyn Navy Yard was established in 1801 / From the early 1810s through the 1960s, it was an active shipyard for the United States Navy, and was also known as the United States Naval Shipyard, Brooklyn and New York Naval Shipyard at various points in its history / The Brooklyn Navy Yard produced wooden ships for the U.S. Navy through the 1870s / The shipyard built the USS Monitor, the Navy's first ironclad warship, in 1862, and it transitioned to producing iron vessels after the American Civil War in the mid-1860s / It produced some of the Navy's last pre-dreadnought battleships just prior to World War I, and it performed major repairs and overhauls of its dreadnought and post-dreadnought battleships during World War II / The efforts of its 75,000 workers during



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

World War II earned the yard the nickname "The Can-Do Shipyard" / The Navy Yard was deactivated as a military installation in 1966, but continued to be used by private industries / The facility now houses an industrial and commercial complex run by the New York City government, both related to shipping repairs and maintenance and as office and manufacturing space for non-maritime industries

Miscellaneous:

Paul Joseph Bugelski passed away on 18 September 2022 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia

USS Taussig (DD-746) was an American Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer. It was named for Edward D. Taussig, a rear admiral of the United States Navy whose career spanned over 50 years / Adm. Taussig is remembered for claiming Wake Island for the United States on 17 January 1899 while commanding the gunboat Bennington and for accepting the physical relinquishment of Guam from Spain, ending 300 years of Spanish colonial rule / The USS Taussig was commissioned on 20 May 1944 and conducted a five-week shakedown cruise near Bermuda / In October 1944, the Taussig joined the Pacific Fleet and searched the area just off the Philippines for pilots downed in sweeps of the archipelago during the Leyte invasion / In February 1945, the Taussig screened Task Group 58.1 (TG 58.1) as it headed north to participate in the first carrier-based aerial attack on the Japanese home islands since the Doolittle raid of April 1942 / In April 1945, the Taussig supported the invasion of Okinawa by screening the aircraft carriers from Japanese submarines and planes / On the night of 15 and 16 April 1945, Taussig gunners brought down two bombers and, the following day, claimed credit for downing two suicide planes as well as for assisting in the destruction of a Yokosuka P1Y "Frances" finished off by a combat air patrol / Taussig remained in the Far East until shortly after the formal surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay on 2 September 1945 / In October 1945, she returned to the United States / In June 1950, with the outbreak of the Korean War, the Taussig saw duty in the Sea of Japan screening TF 77 carriers while their planes joined South Korean ground forces in an attempt to stem the communist tide / Taussig joined the United Nations Blockading and Escort Force, TF 95, off Korea on 20 September 1950 / During ensuing operations with that force until 2 October 1950, the destroyer visited Pusan and conducted shore bombardments near the Han River and near Songjin, Korea / Taussig began her last tour of combat duty of the deployment on 7 February 1952 / For the remainder of this assignment, she screened TF 77 while the carriers conducted air operations / On 24 April 1952, the destroyer completed her second Korean War deployment in the Orient and headed back to the United States In 1965, the warship saw her first tour of duty off the coast of Vietnam, where civil strife was growing steadily in intensity / On 1 June 1965, she took up station off the coast of Vietnam to provide naval gunfire support for operations ashore / From then until early October 1965, Taussig alternated naval gunfire support with plane guard duty for the Task Force on the southern SAR station off Vietnam / On 1 December 1970, Taussig was placed out of commission at San Diego and berthed with the San Diego Group, Pacific Reserve Fleet / On 1 September 1973, Taussig was struck from the Navy List and on 6 May 1974, the USS Taussig was sold to Taiwan / On 26 May 1975, the Republic of China commissioned the ship as ROCS Lo Yang (DD-14) / She was decommissioned on 15 February 2000 and sold and scrapped in November 2013 / The bow of the ship is on display at the Taipei Navy Command Headquarters / The USS Taussig earned six battle stars during World War II, eight battle stars during the Korean War, and six battle stars during the Vietnam War

USS Fort Snelling has been assigned to two dock landing ships of the United States Navy, in honor of Fort Snelling, a fort at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, for many years the northernmost military post in the land of the Sioux and Chippewa / The name Fort Snelling was assigned to LSD-23, a Casa



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Grande-class dock landing ship in 1944 but construction was canceled in 1945, due to the end of World War II / The second USS Fort Snelling (LSD-30), a Thomaston-class dock landing ship, was commissioned on 24 January 1955 / The USS Fort Snelling was homeported at Little Creek, Virginia and spent her entire service career as an East Coast "Gator Freighter" / Fort Snelling routinely deployed to the Caribbean and Mediterranean, as well as contingency operations in Beirut, the Dominican Republic, the search for the lost atomic bomb off of Palomares, Spain and the Invasion of Grenada / USS Fort Snelling served her country for 29 years, 8 months and 4 days, until decommissioned on 28 September 1984 and transferred to the Maritime Administration on 7 September 1989 / Her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 24 February 1992 and she was sold for scrap on 25 August 1995



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUGMAN, JR.**

ROBERT

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert E. Bugman, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Bugman was a member of the Union Branch #3 of the Letter Carriers of America / Bugman was inducted into the W.N.Y. Fast Pitch and the Figure 8 Hall of Fame / Robert E. Bugman, Jr. passed away on 18 October 2025 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUKOLT**

THOMAS

D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas D. Bukolt honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas D. Bukolt passed away on 23 February 2025 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BUKOWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOHN

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John L. Bukowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Bukowski was a member of the American Legion Post #0721 in South Buffalo / Bukowski worked for Republic Steel / John L. Bukowski passed away on 13 April 2020



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **BURGIO**

ARNOLD

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arnold J. Burgio honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arnold Burgio was a member of American Legion B. Leo Dolan Post #410 / Arnold J. Burgio passed away on 28 March 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: BUTLER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

RICHARD

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard A. Butler honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard A. Butler passed away on 15 January 2025 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CALIERI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

PETER

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Peter D. Calieri honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Peter Calieri was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Calieri was born in Buffalo and was a graduate of West Seneca West Senior High School / After his military service, Calieri sold insurance and officiated at ball games, catching the attention of a scout from the Cincinnati Reds and went to umpire school / Peter Calieri went on to work for nine years in the Carolina League, the Eastern League and the International League, as well as the Caribbean League in the winter, where he was named Umpire of the Year / He also helped bring minor league baseball back to Buffalo in the late 1970s / Calieri was inducted into the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame in 2012 / Peter Calieri served as executive producer and co-host of a weekly sports talk program, "Officially Yours," on radio station WECK / Calieri worked in sales for several companies and was a trade show and event consultant for Superior Promotions / Calieri was a member of the National League of Umpires, the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, the Western New York Soccer Association and the Italian Club of Buffalo / Peter D. Calieri passed away on 20 December 2014 at the age of 66 years old

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 /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAMPBELL**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-8

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1981

Unit / Squadron:

USS SAIPAN (LHA-2)

Medals / Citations:

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON

NAVY "E" RIBBON (2 AWARDS)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/1 GOLD STAR (6 AWARDS)

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

Service Notes:

Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles A. Campbell honorably served in the United States Navy / SCPO Charles Campbell was assigned as an Electrician's Mate / SCPO Campbell served in the US Navy from 1959 through 1981

Charles A. Campbell was Honorably Discharged and retired from the US Navy after 24 years of active duty

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles A. Campbell passed away on 28 November 2021 at the age of 81 years old

Electrician's Mates are responsible for the operation and repair of a ship's or station's electrical power plant and electrical equipment / They also maintain and repair power and lighting circuits, distribution switchboards, generators, motors and other electrical equipment / Specially qualified electrician's mates are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to maintain the control subsystems in nuclear reactors

USS Saipan (LHA-2) was a Tarawa-class amphibious assault ship, the second United States Navy ship named in honor of the World War II Battle of Saipan / From February to April 1980, Saipan was involved in Anorak Express 80 / The Navy crew of around 800 and an entire Marine battalion of over 2,000 sailed from Norfolk to Norway / In September 1983, while undergoing Refresher Training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Saipan was diverted to participate in Operation Urgent Fury off Grenada / From September 1991 to March 1992, Saipan deployed to the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Persian Gulf in support of Operation Desert Storm / In 1999, Saipan became the developmental and operational test platform for the V-22 Osprey aircraft / In January 2003, the Saipan was deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the War on Terrorism / The USS Saipan was commissioned on 15 October 1977 / Saipan was decommissioned on 20 April 2007 at her home port in Naval Station Norfolk / She was used for weapons effect testing, providing vital information on structural integrity and survivability which will assist in the designing and planning of future ships / The USS Saipan was scrapped on 15 October 1977 / Saipan's awards include the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal (two awards), Humanitarian Service Medal, Battle Efficiency "E" (four awards), the Admiral Flatley Safety Award (two awards), the Sledge Award, the Atlantic Fleet Surface Force "Admiral's Cup" in 1985, COMPHIBRON Twelve's "Bronze Anchor" for retention excellence, and the 1993 COMNAVSURFLANT Command Excellence Award for Command and Control, Maritime Warfare and Logistics Management

The Navy Achievement Medal is awarded to recognize outstanding achievement or meritorious service of military personnel who were not eligible to receive the higher Commendation Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal / The Navy Achievement Medal (NAM), is the United States Navy version of the Achievement Medal / The U.S. Navy was the first branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to award such a medal, doing so in 1961, when it was dubbed the "Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement Medal" / This title was shortened in 1967 to simply, the "Navy Achievement Medal"

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units / The award is presented for service that is performed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal / The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation / To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual / Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon

The Navy "E" Ribbon denotes the wearer was on permanent duty aboard a U.S. Navy ship or in a unit that won a battle efficiency competition after July 1, 1974

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAMPBELL**
GEORGE T.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George T. Campbell honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George T. Campbell passed away on 6 November 2024 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAMPBELL**
TERRANCE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

A. Terrance Campbell honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed in South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, A. Terrance Campbell worked as the Tax Assessor for both the Town and Village of Orchard Park for 28 years / A. Terrance Campbell was an executive board member of the Erie County Assessors Association / Campbell was a member of Father Baker Council #2243 (3rd Degree Knight), Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #6247 AND American Legion Post #567 / A. Terrance "Panda" Campbell passed away on 6 November 2023 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAMPBELL**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William E. Campbell honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William E. Campbell passed away on 26 February 2025 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CANNON

MICHAEL

B.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Michael B. Cannon honorably served in the United States Air Force / Michael Cannon was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Cannon graduated from Hamburg High School in 1965 / Cannon worked for Chromate Industrial Corp as an Executive Industrial Sales Representative for 30 years / Michael B. Cannon passed away on 13 September 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAPELL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WALES CENTER

BRUCE

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bruce Joseph Capell honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Capell graduated from Riverside High School prior to enlisting in the Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Capell went to work for Carborundum Abrasives / Bruce Capell was a lifetime member and volunteer at the American Legion Post 362 in East Aurora, NY / Bruce Joseph Capell passed away on 28 September 2018 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CARBONE**
VICTOR

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Victor T. Carbone honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Victor Carbone received his MSEE degree from the University of Buffalo and was a member of Alpha Phi Delta fraternity / Carbone retired as Vice President of Engineering at Strippit in Akron, New York / Victor T. Carbone passed away on 15 October 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CARNCROSS**
CLIFFORD L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

100TH ARMY DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Clifford L. Carncross honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Clifford Carncross was assigned as a Powerman and attached to 100th Army Detachment, White Sands, New Mexico / Corporal Carncross served 1 year and 3 months with 29 days foreign service in South Korea

Base Assignments:

White Sands, New Mexico - White Sands Missile Range is the widest and largest military base in the United States of America and covers almost 3205 miles and spreads over five different counties / It is located in the southern part of New Mexico, close to Fort Bliss and its 926 mile range forms a huge area exclusively used for military tests / The base is operated by the United States Army and its primary mission is testing weapons for the Army / NASA also used White Sands for a landing site during the Space Shuttle operation / Some of the most popular operations that take place at White Sands include satellite tests before launching, flight tests and missile testing / The primary mission of the site is to support the Army regardless of the actions it is involved in

Miscellaneous:

Clifford L. Carncross passed away on 4 April 2024

A Powerman is responsible for of powering electricity to the Army / Powerman build, install, and maintain electrical distribution systems like utility poles, power lines, and electrical hardware that supply power for all operations



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CARTER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

THOMAS

C

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CPO

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS NIMITZ (CVAN-68)

USS ANTRIM (FFG-20)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Chief Petty Officer Thomas C. Carter honorably served in the United States Navy / CPO Thomas Carter was trained as an Electronic Technician and served aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVAN-68) and Guided Missile Frigate USS Antrim (FFG-20)

Chief Petty Officer Thomas C. Carter retired in 1994 after 24 of service in the U.S. Navy retired as a Chief Petty Officer in 1994

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Carter completed elementary and high school education on Grand Island / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Thomas Carter moved to Jacksonville, Florida and was employed in electronic repair of maritime vessels / Thomas C. Carter passed away on 24 September 2019 at the age of 69 years old and is interred at Jacksonville National Cemetery, Jacksonville, Florida

An Electronics Technician, Submarine, Navigation (ETV) is a Navy enlisted Sailor who operates and maintains electronic equipment used for detection, tracking, recognition, and identification of maritime vessels and navigational aids aboard naval submarine vessels / They repair and maintain naval electronics equipment including navigation, radar, and communications equipment

USS Nimitz (CVN-68) is an aircraft carrier of the United States Navy, and the lead ship of her class / One of the largest warships in the world, she was laid down, launched, and commissioned as CVAN-68, "aircraft carrier,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

attack, nuclear powered", but she was later redesignated as CVN-68, "aircraft carrier, multi-mission, nuclear-powered", on 30 June 1975 / The ship was named after World War II Pacific fleet commander Chester W. Nimitz, USN, (1885–1966), who was the Navy's third fleet admiral / USS Nimitz first deployed to the Mediterranean Sea on 7 July 1976, with Carrier Air Wing 8 embarked in company with the nuclear-powered cruisers USS South Carolina and USS California / In November 1976, Nimitz was awarded the Battle "E" from Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet, for being the most efficient and foremost aircraft carrier in the Atlantic Fleet / In November 1979 the ship moved to the Indian Ocean in response to the Iran hostage crisis in which the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran, was overtaken and 52 hostages were held / Prior to this trip, the ship took part in the shooting of the 1980 film "The Final Countdown", whose story was specifically set aboard the Nimitz / After four months on station, Operation Evening Light was launched from Nimitz's decks in an attempt to rescue the U.S. Embassy staff / The mission was aborted after a helicopter crashed at a refueling point in the Iranian desert / The ship returned home 26 May 1980, having spent 144 days at sea / On 1 September 1997, Nimitz began an around the world cruise, again supporting Southern Watch, which ended in Newport News, Virginia on 2 March 1998 / In January 2010, while in the Persian Gulf, the ship was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for back-to-back deployments in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in 2007 and 2008 / The USS Nimitz is scheduled for retirement in 2027

USS Antrim (FFG-20) was the twelfth ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry class of guided-missile frigates / She was named for Rear Admiral Richard Nott Antrim (1907–1969) / The Antrim was commissioned on 26 September 1981 / She entered the Mediterranean, on 9 May 1983, and joined the 6th Fleet / On 1 August 1983, the guided-missile frigate passed through the Suez Canal and set a course for the Persian Gulf / Following a brief stop at Djibouti, on 3 August 1983, she began duty as a radar picket ship on 4 August 1983 / Except for a port call at Karachi, Pakistan, from 27 September 1983 to 4 October 1983, Antrim served in the Persian Gulf for almost three months / On 30 January 1987, Antrim was assigned to the Naval Reserve Force, Atlantic, at Mayport / Decommissioned on 8 May 1996, she was transferred to Turkey, on 27 August 1997 / She was stricken from the U.S. Naval Vessel Register on 4 September 1997



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CASSIOL

CARL

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carl A. Cassiol honorably served in the United States Army Reserves/National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Cassiol was a retired United Auto Worker (UAW) from Delphi / Carl A. "Sonny" Cassiol passed away on 17 October 2024 and is interred at Calvary Churchyard Cemetery, Williamsville, 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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAUSSAIN**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GETZVILLE

O.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles Otto Caussain honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Caussain owned and operated Charlie's Barber Shop on Hertel Avenue in Buffalo for 52 years / Charles Otto Caussain passed away on 3 July 2025 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CAVANAUGH**

PATRICK

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Patrick F. Cavanaugh honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Cavanaugh was a retired Lackawanna Firefighter and a retired supervisor with the Erie County Water Authority / Cavanaugh was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Colonel Weber Post and Amvets Post #898 / Patrick F. Cavanaugh passed away on 16 March 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CERA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

ABLE COMPANY, 4TH BATTALION, 69TH ARMOR REGIMENT, 197TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (PISTOL)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (TANK WEAPONS)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Richard J. Cera honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Richard Cera was assigned as an Armor Crewman during 13 months of foreign service with US Army Pacific

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Cera retired from the United States Postal Service after 41 years / Richard J. Cera passed away on 27 May 2023 at the age of 76 years old

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

The 69th Armor is an armored (tank) regiment of the United States Army / The 69th Armor Regiment is part of the U.S. Army Regimental System / The 1st Battalion was deployed to South Vietnam on 25 January 1966 with the Battalion laying over in Okinawa to take over 52 new M48A3 tanks and familiarize crews with the new series, AN-GRC 12 radios / "A" Company was committed within two hours of its disembarking from LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank) in Saigon as a reaction force to combat in the Filhol Rubber Plantation west of Saigon / The battalion's first major combat operation took place in April 1966 in the tangled jungle growth of the Ho Bo Woods and along the trails of the Filhol Rubber plantation northwest of Saigon / This operation proved the value of armor in reducing



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

friendly casualties while significantly increasing losses to the enemy / 69th Armor tankers learned on-the-job the importance of rear and flank security, the effect of canister in dense jungle, the exaggerated needs for constant maintenance halts / "A" Company completed its mission with the 1st Cavalry in October 1967 and returned to Camp Enari with Battalion HQ / "A" Company was charged with the security of Highway 19 between An Khe and Mang Yang Pass, and on 10 April 1968, routed a regimental size ambush attempt on a convoy by the 95B Regiment killing 45 Viet Cong and capturing seven crew-served weapons; U.S. losses were one killed / The battalion continued operations west of Pleiku and along the coastal plain during 1969 with both the 4th Division and the 173rd Airborne Brigade / The 1st Battalion stood down with the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division and returned to the U.S. in mid-1970 / The unit and its component line companies were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Valorous Unit Award, the Meritorious Award, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm and the Vietnam Civic Action Award First Class

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

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

The 69th Armor is an armored (tank) regiment of the United States Army / The battalion shipped from Okinawa to Vietnam in December 1965 / The battalion's first major combat operation took place in April 1966 in the tangled jungle growth of the Ho Bo Woods and along the trails of the Filhol Rubber plantation again, northwest of Saigon / Able Company was charged with the security of Highway 19 between An Khe and Mang Yang Pass, and on 10 April, routed a regimental size ambush attempt on a convoy by the 95B Regiment killing 45 VC and capturing seven crew-served weapons; U.S. losses were one killed / The battalion continued operations west of Pleiku and along the coastal plain during 1969 with both the 4th Division and the 173rd Airborne Brigade / The 197th Infantry Brigade is an active Infantry brigade of the United States Army / In late 1965 an infantry battalion of the 197th Infantry Brigade was inactivated at Fort Benning to provide personnel for expanding the Army in Vietnam / In early 1973, to provide personnel needed for the Infantry School, Continental Army Command directed that the school support troops be reorganized and the 197th be restructured as a unit in the Strategic Army Force



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHERNETSKY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

MICHAEL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael J. Chernetsky honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Michael Chernetsky joined the Buffalo Police Department where he worked for 34 years until his retirement in 1995, rising to the rank of Detective Sergeant / Chernetsky authored two books: One was his memoir "Sergeant: My 34 Years Behind the Badge," which tells the story of his years in the Buffalo Police Department / Michael J. Chernetsky passed away on 28 November 2024 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CHESIRE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

THOMAS

O.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas O. Cheshire honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Cheshire was employed by the Moog Corporation as a Senior Designer / Thomas O. Cheshire passed away on 7 March 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHIMERA, JR.**

JOHN

V.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

3RD ARMORED CALVARY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John V. Chimera, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John V. Chimera, Jr. passed away on 31 October 2023 at the age of 77 years old

The 3rd Cavalry Regiment, formerly 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Brave Rifles") is a regiment of the United States Army currently stationed at Fort Cavazos, Texas / The regiment has a history in the United States Army that dates back to 19 May 1846, when it was constituted in the Regular Army as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri / This unit was reorganized at the start of the American Civil War as the 3rd U.S. Cavalry Regiment on 3 August 1861 / In January 1943, the regiment was re-designated as the 3rd Cavalry Group (Mechanized) / Today they are equipped with Stryker vehicles / The 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment was the last heavy armored cavalry regiment in the U.S. Army until it officially became a Stryker regiment on 16 November 2011 / It will retain its lineage as the 3rd Cavalry Regiment / The Regiment saw combat action in World War I and World War II / During the 1960's, the 3rd Cavalry Armored Regiment was deployed to Germany in response to the Soviet threat during the Berlin Crisis



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHISM**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

LARRY

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS DES MOINES (CA-134)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Larry M. Chism honorably served in the United States Navy / Larry Chism served aboard the USS Des Moines

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Larry Chism was born in Charleston, Illinois / Larry Chism worked for Moore Business Forms in Charleston before being transferred to the company's facility in Grand Island in March 1961 / Larry M. Chism passed away on 12 March 2015 at the age of 73 years old

USS Des Moines (CA-134) was the lead ship of the class of United States Navy (USN) heavy cruisers / She was the first USN ship to mount the auto-loading 8-inch (203 mm) Mark 16 guns, the first large-caliber auto-loading guns in the world / She was the second ship of the USN to be commissioned with the name of the city of Des Moines, capital of Iowa / Launched 1946, she was commissioned in 1948 / Annually between 1949 and 1957, she deployed to the Mediterranean, during the first seven years serving as flagship for the 6th Task Fleet (known as the 6th Fleet from 1950) / In 1952, and each year from 1954 to 1957, she carried midshipmen for summer training cruises, crossing to Northern European ports on the first four cruises / She also sailed to Northern Europe on NATO exercises in 1952, 1953, and 1955 / She saw duty around the world until her decommissioning in 1961 when she was permanently mothballed



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHLUDZINSKI**

JOHN

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John F. Chludzinski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Chludzinski worked for the United States Postal Service as a Maintenance Manager / John F. Chludzinski passed away on 29 August 2022 at the age of 72 years old.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHRIST**

DONALD

G.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald George Christ honorably served in the United States Military

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald George Christ passed away on 6 October 2024 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHRISTIANO, SR.**
FRANCIS J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GETZVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Francis J. "Frank" Christiano Sr. honorably served in the Army National Guard / Francis Christiano served for six years as a Medical Corpsman while stationed at a military hospital in San Antonio, Texas

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis Christiano graduated from Burgard Vocational High School in 1959 where he lettered in baseball, basketball and cross country / Christiano was a talented baseball catcher with many amateur baseball teams in Buffalo / In 1998, Christiano was selected for the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame / Francis Christiano became a union plumber with Local 22 of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Steamfitters, retiring as a Master Plumber in the early 1990s / Christiano was a part owner of the Park Lane Restaurant in Buffalo and with his brother, started the Fil-Flora Realty property management company in 1979, retiring after 30 years / Francis J. "Frank" Christiano Sr. passed away at the age of 82 years old on 27 November 2022

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CHURCH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SLOAN

JANET

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Janet M. Church honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Janet Church moved to Fort Worth, Texas / Janet M. Church (nee Steffen) passed away on 5 April 2024 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CISLO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

STEPHEN

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Stephen A. Cislo honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Stephen Cislo was stationed in Okinawa for two years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Cislo attended St. John Kanty School and Buffalo Technical High School (Clinton Junior High School) / Cislo worked as a Draftsman for Ernst Steel Corp before enlisting in the Marine Corps and returned to Ernst Steel after his honorable discharge / Stephen enrolled at the University of Buffalo School of Engineering, completing a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1964 / Cislo worked for a year designing infrastructure for a chemical plant in Niagara Falls before moving to the John W. Cowper Company / Employed by Cowper, Stephen Cislo worked on the construction of the Seneca One Tower and several projects on the UB North Campus / Stephen Cislo went to work for the Ciminelli firm as a project manager on the Metrorail construction / Cislo then went to work for Siegfried Construction, becoming Project Manager in 1984 where he worked on the Somerset Power Plant in Niagara County / Leaving Siegfried in 1990, Cislo became the Public Works Engineer for the Town of Niagara / Later in the 1990's, Cislo went to work for the Town of Clarence as an Engineer until his resignation in 1998 / Stephen Cislo went on to work for Kistner Concrete Products in Pendleton, retiring in the mid-2000's / Stephen Cislo was a past President of the Buffalo Section, American Society of Civil Engineers and a Director of the Erie-Niagara Chapter of the New York States Society of Professional Engineers / Stephen A. Cislo passed away on 17 February 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CLARK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ARTHUR

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur J. Clark honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur J. Clark passed away on 30 October 2025 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CLARK, SR.**
RANDALL

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Randall E. Clark, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / Randall Clark was assigned as a Cooling System Specialist at Niagara Falls Air Force Base, New York

Randall Clark and his twin brother, Wendell, both entered the Air Force on 12 October 12, 1966

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

Miscellaneous:

Randall Clark was born in Kansas City, Missouri and lived in Kansas, Wisconsin and Illinois Randall / Clark stayed in Western New York after his military service / Clark worked at Dunlop in Tonawanda for 34 years / Randall E. Clark, Sr. passed away on 12 January 2024 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

Cooling System Specialists are responsible for maintaining the mechanical systems that keep surroundings temperature-controlled / Cooling System Specialists ensure that every space at their respective base is



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

functioning correctly / Specialists install, maintain and repair the different HVAC/R systems necessary to complete operations in a variety of climates all over the world

Name: **CLINTON**
LEMUEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lemuel A. Clinton honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Lemuel Clinton was employed by General Motors where he worked for 35 years until his retirement / Lemuel A. Clinton passed away on 29 March 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COFRODE**
WILLIAM J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William J. Cofrode honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. Cofrode passed away on 18 December 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: COLAFRANCESCHI
ALBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Albert Colafranceschi honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Colafranceschi retired from the Ford Motor Company where he had been employed as a Machine Repairman / Colafranceschi also served as a volunteer Fireman / Albert "Al Cola" Colafranceschi passed away on 26 March 2019



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COLEMAN**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David L. Coleman honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Coleman was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Father Baker Council #2243 / David L. Coleman passed away on 20 May 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COLLARD JR.**

RICHARD

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard W. Collard, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Collard, Jr. was a longtime salesman for RWC Enterprises and an employee of Tops Markets / Richard W. Collard, Jr. passed away on 18 August 2021 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COLLINS**

JAMES

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James M. Collins honorably served in the United States Navy and the United States Naval Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Collins worked for the South Buffalo Railway as a Car Inspector for 25 years / Collins was the Vice President of the Homeowners' Association (HOA) at the Rock Oak Community and resident liaison to management / James M. Collins passed away on 3 November 2025 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Ridge Lawn Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: COLLINS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

MICHAEL

D.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Michael D. Collins honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Collins attended Grammer school at S.S. Peter and Paul Church in Hamburg, New York / After battling Dementia for 11 years, Collins was transferred to the U.S. Veterans Home in Batavia, New York where he passed away on 18 October 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COLLINS**

PHILIP

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO1

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1994

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

NAVY-MARINE CORPS OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON (11 AWARDS)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (5)

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON (2)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (PISTOL)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (2)

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer First-Class Philip A. Collins honorably served in the United States Navy / PO1 Philip Collins served during the Vietnam Era and the Gulf War Era as a Cryptologic Technician-Maintenance

Petty Officer First-Class Philip A. Collins served our nation for over 20 years on active duty in the US Navy from 1974-1994 / PO1 Collins had a total of over 14 years of foreign and sea service, including deployments to Spain and Italy / Collins received his honorable retirement in 1994

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Philip A. Collins passed away on 1 March 2024 and is interred at St Adalbert's Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Cryptologic Technicians Maintenance (CTM) perform preventive and corrective maintenance on electrical and electronic cryptologic and ancillary systems used for communications, analysis, monitoring, tracking, recognition and identification, electronic attack, and physical security; install, test, troubleshoot, repair or replace cryptologic networks, physical security systems, electronic equipment, antennas, personal computers, auxiliary equipment, digital and optical interfaces, and data systems; configure, monitor, and evaluate Information Operations (IO), Information Warfare (IW) systems, and Information Assurance (IA) in support of national and fleet tasking; manage mission organizational level maintenance; coordinate repair of command, control, communications, computer and intelligence systems; and prepare reports and inventories of equipment



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Navy Achievement Medal is awarded to recognize outstanding achievement or meritorious service of military personnel who were not eligible to receive the higher Commendation Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal / The Navy Achievement Medal (NAM), is the United States Navy version of the Achievement Medal / The U.S. Navy was the first branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to award such a medal, doing so in 1961, when it was dubbed the "Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement Medal" / This title was shortened in 1967 to simply, the "Navy Achievement Medal" / On August 19, 1994, to recognize those of the United States Marine Corps who had received the Navy Achievement Medal, the name of the decoration was officially changed to the "Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal" / The award is still often referred to in shorthand speech as the "Navy Achievement Medal" or "NAM" for short

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units / The award is presented for service that is performed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal / The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation / To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual / Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon

The Navy and Marine Corps Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (SSDR)[5] is a service award of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps / The Sea Service Deployment Ribbon is granted to any member of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps assigned to a deployable unit (e.g., a ship (including submarines), aircraft squadron, air wing or air group, detachment, battalion, Marine Expeditionary Unit, Marine Air Ground Task Force, or other unit type that operates away from its assigned homeport) and is forward-deployed for a period of either 90 consecutive days or two periods of at least 80 days each within a given 12-month period; or 6 months stationed overseas in a forward deployed location / When a ship's crew qualifies for the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the ship is authorized to paint and display the ribbon and award stars on the port and starboard side of the bulwark aft to designate the number of deployments conducted throughout the commissioned life of the ship since August 1974

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

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COLOSI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE CENTER

RUSSELL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Russell J. Colosi honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Russell Colosi was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Fr. Justin Council, baseball coach of the U-Crest Little League Babe Ruth Division and the MUNY AA League for St. Barnabas Athletic Association / Russell J. "Sonny" Colosi passed away on 17 September 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONBOY**

JAMES

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James P. Conboy honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Conboy retired to Seminole, Florida / James P. Conboy passed away on 21 February 2025 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONCIALDI**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Albert Concialdi honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Concialdi graduated from Lafayette High School in 1955 / Concialdi was a Computer Programmer and worked at Merchants Insurance Group and the Erie County Police Central Services / James Albert Concialdi passed away on 28 March 2025 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONIGLIO**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

V.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas V. Coniglio honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas V. Coniglio passed away on 25 March 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONNORS**
JAMES J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James J. Connors honorably served in the United States Navy for 4 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Connors graduated from Bishop Timon St. Jude / Connors earned a Bachelor of Sciences Degree / James Connors retired after a career with the Erie County Water Authority / Connors was a member of the Cursillo Movement and the American Legion / James Connors moved to Daytona Beach, Florida after retirement / James J. Connors passed away on 3 December 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONNORS**

PAUL

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul J. Connors honorably served in the United States Navy / Paul Connors served in the U.S. Submarine Service sailing to many world ports

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Connors was a graduate of McKinley High School and Erie Community College / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Paul Connors was employed by General Motors, retiring in 1999 after 37 years of service / Connors was a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and Mercy Hospital of Buffalo / Paul J. Connors passed away on 25 February 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CONTA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

ROBERT

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert A. Conta honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert A. Conta passed away on 26 June 2022 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CONTI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

JOHN

C.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant John C. Conti honorably served in the United States Army / SSG John Conti was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John C. Conti passed away on 16 April 2025 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COOK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AURORA

TIMOTHY J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Timothy J. Cook honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy J. Cook passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Nativity Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CORBRAN**
PAUL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul Corbran honorably served in the United States Air Force / Paul Corbran was assigned as a Military Policeman while stationed at Bentwaters Air Force Base in England

Base Assignments:

Bentwaters Air Force Base, England - Royal Air Force Bentwaters (RAF Bentwaters), now known as Bentwaters Parks, is a former Royal Air Force station about 80 miles northeast of London and 10 miles east-northeast of Ipswich, near Woodbridge, Suffolk in England / Its name was taken from two cottages ('Bentwaters Cottages') that had stood on the site of the main runway during its construction in 1943 / The station was used by the Royal Air Force (RAF) during the Second World War, and by the United States Air Force (USAF) during the Cold War, being the primary home for the 81st Fighter Wing under various designations from 1951 to 1993 / For many years the 81st Fighter Wing also operated RAF Woodbridge, with Bentwaters and Woodbridge airfields being known by the Americans as the "Twin Bases"

Miscellaneous:

Paul Corbran was an Union Ironworker for Local #6 in Buffalo for over 30 years / Paul Corbran passed away on 14 December 2022

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CORDES**

JOHN

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John William Cordes honorably served in the United States Air Force Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John William Cordes passed away on 13 January 2025 at the age of 80 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CORSON

JOHN

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 235 NEWFIELD STREET

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Richard P. Corson honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Richard Corson was stationed in Germany

The brother of John H. Corson, Army Private First-Class Richard P. Corson, was Killed In Action on 4 March 1966 from multiple gunshot wounds suffered during a 7-hour battle with Viet Cong forces during the battle of Battle at My Phu, Phu Yen province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COTTER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DANIEL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

2ND MARINE DIVISION, FLEET MARINE FORCE

Medals / Citations:

MARINE CORPS GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Daniel Edward Cotter honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Daniel Cotter was stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and assigned as a Radio Telegraph Operator

LCPL Daniel Cotter was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 5 February 1960, with reserve obligations ending 6 February 1963

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Cotter was born in the Bronx, New York City, New York / Daniel Cotter worked at Worthington Compressor for over 27 years before taking a job at Dupont as a Tedlar Division Specialist, retiring in 2003 / Cotter was a member and Captain of the West Seneca Auxiliary Police for 40 years / Daniel Cotter was a member and former Commandant of the Marine Corps League, Detachment 239 / Daniel Edward Cotter passed away on 13 April 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca

A Radio Telegraph Operator operates and keeps in repair equipment used in radiotelegraph communications /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Listens to telegraph signal, types message on form, and relays it to addressee by telephone or teletype / Manipulates key to call ships or stations by code, and to send messages after acknowledgment / Monitors emergency frequency for distress calls / Performs routine repairs and maintenance, such as changing tubes, resistors, and transmitters

The 2nd Marine Division (2nd MARDIV) is a division of the United States Marine Corps, which forms the ground combat element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) / The division is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / During World War II, the 2nd Marine Division (Headquarters) participated in operations in the Pacific Theater of Operations: the Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign, the Battle of Tarawa, the Gilbert Islands campaign, the Battle of Saipan, the Battle of Tinian and the Battle of Okinawa / The Division didn't take part in a major action again until 1958 when elements participated in the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958 / 2nd Marine Division units helped to reinforce Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965 as part of Operation Power Pack / Other peacekeeping operations carried on by the Division include being part of the Multi National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984 / The Division suffered the loss of 238 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing, plus 3 U.S. Army personnel attached to the unit

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COUGHENOUR**

JOHN

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

4TH BATTALION, 76TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT, 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class John Edward Coughenour honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 John Coughenour was deployed for 13 months with the US Armed Services Pacific in Korea as a General Vehicle Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John E. Coughenour received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 21 March 1968 / John Edward Coughenour passed away in March 2018

The 76th Field Artillery Regiment is a field artillery regiment of the United States Army / First formed as a cavalry regiment in 1916, the regiment was converted to field artillery in 1917, and served in Europe during World War I with the 3rd Division and as a separate battalion during World War II, as well as in peacetime at Fort Knox, KY, and Fort Devens, MA / Since 1959, the regiment has been a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System and the U.S. Army Regimental System, with regimental elements serving with the 3rd Infantry Division in Germany and Operation Iraqi Freedom, with the 7th Infantry Division in Korea, and in the Army Reserve

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,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COUGHLIN**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer William R. Coughlin honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **COUHIG**

DENNIS

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RS

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Retail Service Specialist (RS) Dennis M. Couhig honorably served in the United States Navy / RS Dennis Couhig was stationed on the USS Newport News, a Des Moines class Heavy Cruiser, for 3 years active sea duty service

Dennis M. Couhig was honorably discharged as 3rd Class Petty Officer on 2 May 1963 at Naval Reserve Manpower Center, Bainbridge, MD with reserve obligations ending 16 September 1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Dennis Couhig worked for Erie County Sheriff's Department / Dennis M. Couhig passed away on 4 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

A Retail Services Specialist (RS) is a rating in the United States Navy / RSeS are responsible for managing and operating all shipboard retail and service activities, including the ship's store, vending machines, coffee kiosks (on aircraft carriers), barber shops, and laundry operations

USS Newport News (CA-148) was the third and last ship of the Des Moines-class of heavy cruisers in the United States Navy / She was the first fully air-conditioned surface ship and the last active all-gun heavy cruiser in the United States Navy / Newport News was commissioned on 29 January 1949 and deployed to the Mediterranean from 1950 to 1961 for duty with the Sixth Fleet, and she participated in major fleet exercises and midshipman training cruises in the Caribbean and Western Atlantic / In August 1962, she participated in NATO Exercise RIPTIDE III, and upon the end of the exercise, made a month-long tour of Northern European ports as flagship of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic (COMSTRIKFLTANT), the NATO role of the Commander of the Second Fleet / Operations from 1963 through 1967 consisted primarily of NATO exercises in the North Atlantic, gunnery and amphibious exercises off the Eastern seaboard and Caribbean, and midshipman cruises / When the Dominican Republic crisis of 1965 developed, Newport News sortied from Norfolk on 29 April 1965 for Santo Domingo, where she was flagship for Commander Joint Task Force 122 / Newport News remained on station off Santo Domingo until 7 May 1965 / In September 1967, the Newport News departed Norfolk for a six-month deployment to Southeast Asia / Arriving in Da Nang, South Vietnam, on the morning of 9 October 1967, she became the flagship of ComCruDesFlot 3 (Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla Three) / That night, at 2300, she fired her eight-inch guns for the first time against shore targets in North Vietnam as part of Operation Sea Dragon / The Newport News spent 50 days patrolling the coast of North Vietnam as part of Operation Sea Dragon, the Navy's effort to destroy waterborne logistics craft, military supply routes and installations in North Vietnam / During this period, the ship conducted 156 strikes with 325 North Vietnamese coastal defense sites taken under fire / According to spotters, Newport News sank 17 waterborne logistics craft, damaged another 14 and destroyed several enemy bunkers and radar sites, bridges, barges, trucks and roads / The ship was subjected to return fire on several occasions, but each time countered enemy batteries / On 19 December 1967, Newport News exchanged fire with 20–28 separate shore batteries, simultaneously, off the coast of North Vietnam / During this engagement, over 300 enemy rounds bracketed the cruiser's position, but she suffered no direct hits / This encounter led to forward observers to nickname Newport News "The Gray Ghost from the East Coast," a moniker she retained throughout her three Vietnam deployments / Subsequent to the end of Operation Sea Dragon and for the remaining several months of this deployment, Newport News participated in Naval Gunfire Support operations near the DMZ supporting the Third Marine Division forces on the coastal area, firing around the clock for periods sometimes lasting several weeks / During this deployment, Newport News expended 59,241 rounds of high-explosive ammunition, while conducting 239 observed and 602 unobserved missions / She came under fire of enemy coastal defense batteries on seventeen separate occasions, hit by shrapnel but never suffered a direct hit / The Newport News departed Subic Bay on 21 April and arrived at her homeport of Norfolk, Virginia, on 13 May 1968 / In May 1972, Newport News returned for her third and final Vietnam combat tour / Along with the guided missile cruisers USS Oklahoma City and USS Providence, as well as several screening destroyers, the ship took part in a high-speed night bombardment of Haiphong harbor known as Operation Custom Tailor / Along with 64 other aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers and supply ships of the Seventh Fleet, the mission of the biggest armada organized since World War II, was to prevent North Vietnamese supplies from getting to South Vietnam / On 27 August 1972, Newport News, USS Providence, USS Robison and USS Rowan made a night raid into Haiphong Harbor shelling the port area from a distance of 2 miles / After leaving the harbor two Vietnam People's Navy torpedo boats engaged the ships 27 miles southeast of Haiphong with one sunk by the Newport News and the other set on fire by the Rowan and then sunk by a Navy A-7 jet / At 1 a.m. on 1 October 1972, while in action off the Demilitarized Zone, Newport News sustained an in-bore explosion in her center 8-inch gun of number two turret / A total of 20 sailors were killed and another 36 suffered serious injuries from toxic gas inhalation / The barrel proper was blown forward from the gun / After making its way to Subic Bay in the Philippines, the ship was out of commission for several weeks as its damaged gun was removed and its port plated over / The explosion had caused extensive damage to the center gun mount / It was proposed to replace the damaged mount with one from sister ships Des Moines (CA-134) or Salem (CA-139), both of which had been decommissioned, but this was rejected as being too expensive / As a result, the damage was not repaired and the turret was simply closed off for the remainder of the ship's career / Operations near Vietnam resumed 21 October and continued until December 1972 when the ship was recalled to Norfolk / Newport News was decommissioned on 27 June 1975 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

31 July 1978 / She spent her later years as a member of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard's Mothball Fleet and was sold for scrap in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 25 February 1993 / The museum ship, USS Salem in Quincy, Massachusetts contains her bell and other items dedicated to Newport News and her crew



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: COX, JR.

C.

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: TSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY MEDAL (5)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (5)

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant C. C. Cox, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force for 20 years active duty / TSgt. Cox was deployed to Okinawa, Japan for two years as an Administration Supervisor

TSgt. C. C. Cox was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 31 May 1975 at Harve Montana Air Force Station

Base Assignments:

Havre Air Force Station is a formerly used Defense Site that was used as a Cold War general surveillance radar station / In late 1951 Air Defense Command selected Simpson, Montana as a site for one of twenty-eight radar stations built as part of the second segment of the permanent radar surveillance network / Havre AFS closed on 1 July 1979

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, C. C. Cox became a Pastor, serving his community until his passing / Emeritus C. C. Cox, Jr. passed away on 13 January 2025 at the age of 88 years old

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRACI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

LIBORIO

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Liborio J. Graci honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Liborio J. Graci passed away on 4 April 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRAMER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

CLAYTON

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Clayton A. Cramer honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

The brother of Sergeant Clayton Cramer, Paul J. Cramer, honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRANCE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

ROBERT

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert C. Crance honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Crance retired from the South Buffalo Railway / Crance was the owner of Crance's Superette in Langford, New York for many years / Robert C. Crance passed away on 11 April 2025 at the age of 89 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRAPO**

DONALD

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald M. Crapo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald M. Crapo passed away on 5 December 2024 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRISP**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

CHARLES

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (HAND GRENADE)

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Charles E. Crisp honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Charles Crisp was assigned as an Equipment Storage Specialist during his deployment to Okinawa for two years

SP4 Charles Crisp was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 14 January 1974

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles E. Crisp passed away on 31 May 2018

An Equipment Storage Specialist establishes and maintains stock records and other documents such as inventory, materiel control, accounting and supply reports; establishes and maintains automated and manual accounting records, posts receipts and turn-ins, and performs dues-ins and dues-outs accounting; operates materiel handling equipment (MHE); performs property disposal storage functions; ensures application of special procedures for handling, storing, packaging and shipping retrograde material; retrieves and analyzes history and activity files pertinent to system rejected documents; recommends additions and deletions to authorized stockage list; maintains accounting records of property disposal activity; determines current and projected repair requirements; directs lateral redistribution of stock

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRITOPH**
DON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Don R. Critoph honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Don Critoph was a 1963 graduate of Amherst High School and graduated from the University of Buffalo in 1982 with a Bachelor Of Science in Mechanical Engineering / Critoph worked in the Aerospace Industry / Don R. Critoph passed away on 12 March 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CROMBIE

GARY

D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Gary D. Crombie honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Crombie was a retiree of American Axle / Gary D. Crombie passed away on 26 August 2023 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRUM**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

RAYMOND

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond L. Crum honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond L. Crum passed away on 2 March 2024 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CRUSAN**

RICHARD

B.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard B. Crusan honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Crusan retired from the Catholic Health System / Richard B. Crusan passed away on 13 May 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CULLINAN, JR.**
RAYMOND L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond T. Cullinan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Cullinan was a retired Police Detective with the Buffalo Police Department / Raymond T. Cullinan, Jr. passed away on 8 July 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CULVER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

ROBERT

O.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: EM3

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CVA-39)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Electricians Mate Third-Class Robert O. Culver honorably served in the United States Navy / EM3 Robert Culver served 13 months of sea service aboard the USS Lake Champlain (CVA-39), an Essex-class Aircraft Carrier

Robert Culver received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy on 7 May 1956

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert O. Culver passed away on 4 November 2025 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Forest Avenue Cemetery, Angola, New York

Electrician's Mates are responsible for the operation and repair of a ship's or station's electrical power plant and electrical equipment / They also maintain and repair power and lighting circuits, distribution switchboards, generators, motors and other electrical equipment / Specially qualified electrician's mates are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to maintain the control subsystems in nuclear reactors

USS Lake Champlain (CV/CVA/CVS-39) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers completed during or shortly after World War II for the United States Navy / She was the second US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named for the Battle of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812 and commissioned on 3 June 1945 / Lake Champlain did not participate in World War II, but did serve as a transport, bringing troops home from Europe as part of Operation Magic Carpet / Like many of her sister ships, she was decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, but was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s, and redesignated as an attack carrier (CVA) / She participated in the Korean War but spent the rest of her career in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Mediterranean / In the late 1950s, she was redesignated as an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / As flagship of Carrier Task Force 77 (TF 77), the Champlain sailed from Yokosuka on 11 June 1953 and arrived off western Korea on 14 June 1953 / The carrier's air group immediately launched sorties cratering runways; assaulting enemy troops; attacking trenches, bunkers, gun positions; and giving close air support to hard pressed ground forces / Her planes also escorted B-29 Superfortress heavy bombers on their way to enemy targets / Lake Champlain continued to strike at the enemy until the truce was signed on 27 July 1953 / Relieved by Kearsarge on 11 October 1953, Lake Champlain headed toward the South China Sea arriving Singapore on 24 October / Bidding farewell to the Pacific Ocean on 27 October 1953, she steamed toward home, touching at Colombo, Port Said, Cannes, and Lisbon before arriving Mayport, Florida, on 4 December 1953 / Lake Champlain completed her last major duty on 29 August 1965 when she served as the primary recovery ship for Gemini 5 / Shortly afterward, she sailed to Philadelphia Navy Yard, where she commenced inactivation / She was decommissioned on 2 May 1966 and was laid up in the Reserve Fleet / The 24-year-old Lake Champlain was stricken from the Navy List on 1 December 1969, and sold by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) for scrapping on 28 April 1972



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CUMMINGS, JR.

TIMOTHY

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Timothy Joseph Cummings, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy Cummings was employed for 50 years by the Asbestos Workers Local No 4 / Timothy Joseph Cummings, Jr. passed away on 27 February 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CURRY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

MARVIN

Address: 154 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Marvin Curry honorably served in the United States Navy

The brother of Marvin Curry, Army Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr., served as a Light Weapons Infantryman in Vietnam / 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 / Another brother of Marvin Curry, Richard Curry, also served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CURRY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD

Address: 154 PENNSYLVANIA STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Curry honorably served in the United States Navy

The brother of Richard Curry, Army Staff Sergeant Wilbur Curry, Jr., served as a Light Weapons Infantryman in Vietnam / 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 / Another brother of Richard Curry, Marvin Curry, also served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CURTIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

PATRICK

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant Patrick Curtin honorably served in the United States Army and assigned to the Special Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Curtin graduated from Buffalo Elementary School #29 / Curtin graduated from South Park High School in 1966 / Patrick Curtin is a member of American Legion Post 735 and past Color Guard Captain



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CURTIS**
PETER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **AIR FORCE**

Rank: **1LT**

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Peter Stewart Curtis honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Stewart received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bucknell University and a Masters Degree and an ABD (All but dissertation) from the State University at Buffalo in the Political Science Department / Peter Stewart was the Assistant Commissioner, Policy and Planning in the Erie County Department of Mental Health for 25 years, working in children's mental health services / Peter Stewart Curtis passed away on 2 May 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CYMBROWSKI**
STANLEY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stanley Cymbrowski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **CYMERMAN**

ROGER

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Roger A. Cymerman honorably served in the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Cymerman was a graduate of Iroquois High School and Erie Community College (SUNY) / Cymerman was a lifelong industrial salesman in Buffalo / Roger A. Cymerman passed away on 11 October 2025 at the age of 75 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: CZAPLA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ANDREW

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-8

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Senior Chief Petty Officer Andrew J. Czapla honorably served in the United States Navy, retiring after thirty years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Andrew J. Czapla passed away on 6 August 2023 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DAFCHIK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

STEPHEN

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stephen E. Dafchik honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **D'AGOSTINO**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 122 RUHLAND AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAHN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

DAVID

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAILY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PATRICK

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DALFONSE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RAYMOND

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAVID**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

PATRICIA

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Patricia B. David honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DAVIES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

JAMES

B.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAVIES**

JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAVIS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/2ND CLASP

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAYER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROGER

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **DE LUCA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

FREDERICK J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DEAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

GARY

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Gary P. Dean honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

RAYMOND

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond P. Dean honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEBOTH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEBOTTIS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

CHARLES

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEGANIS**
GIULIANO

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEGENER**
GEORGE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-9

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEGLOPPER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JOHN

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Robert DeGlopper honorably served in the United States Army

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DELAHANTY**
CHARLES J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DELANO

ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DELECKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

THOMAS

R.

Address: 74 WINDMILL ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

III MARINE, FLEET MARINE FORCE (FMF)

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DELZER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert E. Delzer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEMPSEY**
EDWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward M. Dempsey honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEMPSEY**
JACK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DETAMPLE**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gary A. DeTample honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEVLIN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

PATRICK

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEWANE**
EUGENE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address: 13 SHIRLEY AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene Dewane honorably served in the United States Navy

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIBENEDETTO**
VINCENT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Vincent A. DiBenedetto honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DIGIULIO, JR.
ALBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIPALMA**
MICHEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIPASQUA, JR.**
LOUIS A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIRINGER**
WALTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DISANTE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

NORBERTO

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norberto F. DiSante honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DISANTO**
RICHARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard DiSanto honorably served in the United States Navy

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DOBSTAFF**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DOMKOWSKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

KENNETH

L.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Kenneth L. Domkowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DONLEY**

WILLIAM

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DOYLE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

ROBERT

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DRONEY**

DANIEL

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel Patrick Droney honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DUBOIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AKRON

FERNALD

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RM3

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUCETTE**
GERALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DUGAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

MARTIN

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AO3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

PATROL SQUADRON 56

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUKARM**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

PAUL

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS ALBEMARIE (AV-5)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **DUPREE**

ROBERT

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Dupree honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DURAND**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

EDWARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EBERLE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

RAYMOND

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4-T

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

HONORABLE DISCHARGE COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Technical Specialist 4 Class Raymond F. Eberle honorably served in the United States Army / SP4-T Raymond Eberle was assigned as a Quartermaster Supply Specialist and served at Headquarters Company, Fort Richardson, Alaska

Base Assignments:

Ft. Richardson, Alaska - Fort Richardson is a United States Army installation in the U.S. State of Alaska, adjacent to the city of Anchorage / Fort Richardson was named for the military pioneer explorer, Brig. Gen. Wilds P. Richardson, who served three tours of duty in the rugged Alaska territory between 1897 and 1917 / Richardson, a native Texan and an 1884 West Point graduate, commanded troops along the Yukon River and supervised construction of Fort Egbert near Eagle, and Fort William H. Seward (Chilkoot Barracks) near Haines / As head of the War Department's Alaska Road Commission from 1905 to 1917, he was responsible for much of the surveying and building of early railroads, roads and bridges that helped the state's settlement and growth / The Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, surveyed under his direction in 1904, was named the Richardson Highway in his honor / During World War II, Fort Richardson was used briefly as a holding center for several family members of Alaskan Japanese Americans arrested after Pearl Harbor / Fifteen Japanese Americans and two German Americans were interned here before being transferred to other camps / Built during 1940–1941 on the site of what is now Elmendorf Air Force Base and established as the headquarters of the United States Army, Alaska (USARAK) in 1947, the post moved to its present location five miles northeast of Anchorage in 1950 / The post then had barracks for 500 soldiers, a rifle range, a few warehouses, a hospital, and bachelor officer quarters / From 1986 to 1994 the fort was headquarters of the 6th Infantry Division (Light) / In 2010, it was merged with nearby Elmendorf Air Force Base to form Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Eberle was employed by the Hamburg Village Public Works Department as an Equipment Operator for over 30 years / Eberle was a member of the Hamburg Volunteer Fire Department, earning Firemen of the Year, and the American Legion Post #527 / Raymond F. Eberle passed away on 8 December 2022 at the age of 79 years old

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons , etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world / More than 32,000 officers, officer cadets and key enlisted personnel received their training at the Quartermaster School between 1 July 1940 and 3 December 1945 / The physical conditioning of entrants was emphasized from the beginning of the training program / In addition, the rigorous military training entailed learning to use all armed methods of protection, crawling through simulated battlefields, taking refuge in foxholes (of their own digging), making technical decisions regarding rations, and learning every aspect of ammunition supply points (ASPs)

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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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

The Honorable Discharge Commemorative Medal, although unofficial and usually struck by private mints or associations, commemorative medals, provide a very tangible memento to honor all veterans and families for their service and sacrifice



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EDWARDS**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas E. Edwards honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Edwards graduated from Timon High School / Edwards worked at the grain mills in South Buffalo / Edwards became the leading salesman for West Herr Ford with Scott Bieler and Brad Hafner / Thomas Edwards was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a volunteer with the Hamburg Little League / Thomas E. Edwards passed away on 13 February 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EGRESSY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST CONCORD

ANDREW

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Andrew S. Egressy honorably served in the United States Navy / Andrew Egressy also served as a Mariner for the United States Merchant Marine

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Andrew Egressy was a Firefighter and a Master Mason / Andrew S. Egressy passed away on 4 March 2025 at the age of 87 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: EHDE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

TIMOTHY

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN-601)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Timothy R. Ehde honorably served in the United States Navy / Timothy Ehde served in the Submarine Service for 10 years and was stationed aboard the USS Robert E. Lee

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy R. Ehde passed away on 29 May 2018 at the age of 70 years old

The U.S. Navy Submarine Service is a critical component of the Navy, comprising over 70 submarines, including 53 fast attack submarines, 14 ballistic missile submarines, and 4 guided-missile submarines / These submarines are all nuclear-powered and play vital roles in national defense, including strategic deterrence and maritime security / The submarine force is recognized as the most capable in the world, with a history that dates back to World War II, evolving to meet modern challenges and technological advancements

USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN-601), a George Washington-class fleet ballistic missile submarine, was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Robert E. Lee (1807–1870), the commanding general of the Confederate forces during the American Civil War / The Lee was commissioned on 16 September 1960 / The third nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine to join the fleet, and the first nuclear-powered submarine built in the southern United States, Robert E. Lee operated in and out of Newport News, Virginia, until 2 December 1960 / Following the successful firing of five torpedoes on 6 December 1960, Robert E. Lee departed for Cape Canaveral, Florida, arriving on 12 December 1960 / She then loaded Polaris test missiles and on 22 December 1960 conducted her first missile launch / In January 1961, Robert E. Lee conducted additional simulated missile launches and on 15 January 1961 departed for the Bermuda Operating Area / Robert E. Lee conducted "special



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

operations" out of Cape Canaveral during May and June 1961, and in late June departed for Holy Loch, Scotland, where she joined Submarine Squadron 14 on 10 July 1961 / By 4 October 1967, Robert E. Lee had completed three more patrols / After drydocking in Los Alamos for minor repairs and hull surveillance, she resumed her patrol schedule on 1 November 1967 and completed her 21st patrol / Robert E. Lee was decommissioned on 1 December 1983, and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 April 1986 / Her hulk was stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard until it entered the Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program and scrapped on 30 September 1991



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EHLERS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard C. Ehlers honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Ehlers retired from the Ken-Ton School District / Richard C. Ehlers passed away on 24 April 2025 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EINSTEIN, JR.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert D. Einstein, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Einstein retired as the Plant Manager from Norampac in Niagara Falls / Robert D. "Irv" Einstein, Jr. passed away on 20 January 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ELMES**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROBERT

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Elmes honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Elmes was a Machinist and Millwright / Robert Elmes passed away on 26 September 2025 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ELY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

WAYNE

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Wayne R. Ely honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wayne R. Ely passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ENGLEHARDT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

ROBERT

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert F. Englehardt honorably served in the United States Army and the United States Coast Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Englehardt passed away on 5 July 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ERTEL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

THOMAS

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas Allen Ertel honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Ertel was employed by Bristol Myers Squibb for thirty-five years / Ertel was a New York City Marathon finisher / Thomas Allen Ertel passed away on 28 July 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ESS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Edward Ess honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Ess was a longtime employee of Bethlehem Steel in Lackawanna, New York and C.S. Behler Company, Lancaster, New York, a company specializing in Insulation and Cold Storage / Ess was a Mason and Shriner and a member of the Valley of Buffalo / Robert Edward Ess passed away on 25 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EVANS**

PAUL

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul R. Evans honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul R. Evans passed away on 21 May 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **EXUM**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JIMMIE

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jimmie R. Exum honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jimmie Exum was born in Memphis, Tennessee and moved to Buffalo / Deacon Jimmie R. Exum passed away on 5 February 2023 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FAHRENHOLZ**
HOLGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Holger "Butch" Fahrenholz honorably served in the United States Navy / Holger Fahrenholz was stationed in Rota, Spain

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Holger Fahrenholz retired from the Louis Freyfus Corporation in 1998 / Fahrenholz retired to Port Charlotte, Florida / Holger "Butch" Fahrenholz passed away on 27 November 2015 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FALCONE**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Dennis Falcone honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Falcone graduated from Burgard Vocational High School / Robert Falcone was a licensed commercial pilot, flight instructor, ground school instructor and corporate pilot / Falcone was also was an accomplished stunt flyer / Robert Falcone established an aircraft maintenance and restoration service in Hangar 5 at Niagara Falls International Airport, which he operated for more than 40 years / In 2008, the Federal Aviation Administration recognized Robert Falcone with its prestigious Charles M. Taylor Master Mechanics Award, named after the mechanic for the Wright Brothers / Robert Dennis Falcone passed away on 2 April 2016 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FALTISCO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

184TH CHEMICAL PLATOON (COMBAT SUPPORT)

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (CARBINE)

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert T. Faltisco honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert Faltisco was assigned as an Ammunition Storage Helper / SP4 Faltisco was attached to the US Army Ordnance Corps and served 2 years of foreign duty

SP-4 Robert Faltisco was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 14 February 1963

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert T. Faltisco passed away on 14 July 2021

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 184th Chemical Platoon was activated 22 August 1960 / The Platoon's mission was two-fold / Firstly, to conduct Army Training Program and secondly, to operate the Fort Meade Chemical Field Maintenance Shop

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FAUST**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

NORMAN

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norman H. Faust honorably served in the United States Navy Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Faust was a graduate of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / Faust was employed by New York Telephone (later Verizon) for over 32 years, serving as the Shop Steward for his union, the Communications Workers of America / After his retirement, Norman Faust moved to Stanfield, North Carolina / Norman H. Faust passed away on 24 February 2025 at the age of 89 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FAWCETT**
LESTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lester L. Fawcett honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lester Fawcett was originally from Cherry Valley, California where he worked at Jayar Manufacturing in El Monte, California / Lester L. Fawcett passed away on 18 January 2023 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FEDERICE**

JOHN

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank: **CMC**

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Command Master-Chief John M. Federice honorably served in the United States Navy / CMC Federice enrolled in flight-engineer school and became a crew member on the P-3 Orion / CMC Federice was deployed to Iceland, Spain and Italy to oversee flight operations tracking Russian submarines

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Federice graduated from Seneca Vocational High School before enlisting in the United States Navy / Federice retired from the Navy after thirty-one years of service / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, John Federice earned his Master Degree in Aviation Safety, ultimately teaching at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Cincinnati, Ohio / Federice eventually moved to Jacksonville, Florida / John M. Federice passed away on 11 February 2023

The Lockheed P-3 Orion is a four-engined, turboprop anti-submarine and maritime surveillance aircraft developed for the United States Navy and introduced in the 1960s / Over the years, the P-3 has seen numerous design developments, most notably in its electronics packages / Numerous navies and air forces around the world continue to use the type primarily for maritime patrol, reconnaissance, anti-surface warfare and anti-submarine warfare / A total of 757 P-3 Orion's have been built



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FEELEY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

PATRICK

T.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 2LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant Patrick T Feeley honorably served in the United States Army / Lt Feeley served six years as an Air Defense Artillery Officer and was stationed in Germany, Texas, Florida and North Carolina / After active duty, Lt Patrick Feeley joined the Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Feeley graduated from Lockport Senior High School and attended Niagara University on a ROTC scholarship / Feeley worked for Prolift Material Handling in Buffalo and retired from Buffalo Materials Handling in Depew / Patrick feeley was a salesman and trainer, working with many busin

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / The Army Reserve is meant to augment the needs of the active-duty force in times of conflict or declared war / Army Reserve soldiers can complete part-time service alongside civilian life / The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is responsible for all of the operational tasks involved in training, equipping, managing, supporting, mobilizing and retaining Soldiers under its commandesses in Western New York / Patrick T. Feeley passed away on 23 December 2024 at the age of 72 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FEGLEY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SANBORN

RAYMOND

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond E. Fegley honorably served in the United States Air Force / Raymond Fegley was assigned as a Cable Splicer on the Minuteman Missileman Program in Cheyenne, Wyoming

Base Assignments:

Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, 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:

Raymond E. Fegley graduated from Trott Vocational High School (Niagara Falls) in 1963, prior to his enlistment into the Air Force / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Raymond Fegley became a member of Carpenters Local #280 for over 30 years, retiring in 2000 / Fegley was a member of the Sanborn Historical Society / Raymond E. Fegley passed away on 1 June 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FENNIE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

PATRICK

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY A, 1ST BATTALION, 76TH FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (GRENADE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (FLAME THROWER)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Patrick J. "Pat" Fennie honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Patrick Fennie was stationed for 15 months active duty in Germany, Europe / SP4 Fennie finished his military service career in the Army National Guard Reserves

SP4 Patrick Fennie received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 1 September 1973

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Fennie was a graduate of Lackawanna High School / Fennie was a property manager throughout his full-time career and continued seasonal employment after retirement / Patrick J. "Pat" Fennie passed away on 13 March 2019 at the age of 66 years old battle after a battle with cancer

The 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment (1-76th FAR) is an inactive field artillery battalion of the United States Army / The battalion has been assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division, 7th Infantry Division, 2nd Infantry Brigade, and as a separate field artillery battalion / The battalion has participated in World War I, World War II, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom / The battalion inactivated in 2015 as part of Army force reductions

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FERRERI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

SALVATORE

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Salvatore L. Ferreri honorably served in the Army Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Salvatore Ferreri graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute and attended Niagara University / Ferreri operated nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Western New York / Salvatore Ferreri was a longtime Board Member of Empire State Association of Assisted Living Facilities / Ferreri helped develop New York State's Assisted Living Program, shaping the policies and regulations / Until his passing, Salvatore Ferreri was the owner and operator of the Briarwood Manor / Salvatore L. Ferreri passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 84 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FILSINGER**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William Filsinger honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Filsinger served as a Boy Scout leader and was a member of the New York Walleye Association / William Filsinger passed away on 7 October 2024 at the age of 84 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FIORELLA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

SALVATORE

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND-SIGNAL PLATOON

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Salvatore Frank Fiorella honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Salvatore Frank "Sam" Fiorella passed away on 5 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old

The 1st Logistical Command was activated during the Korean War and arrived in Saigon, South Vietnam on 1 April 1965 / No unit was more critical to the buildup of American forces in Vietnam than the 1st Logistical Command / Prior to 1965, the U.S. Army in Vietnam was supplied by the Army's Pacific Command through the small U.S. Army Support Group, Vietnam, which served under the 9th Logistical Command in Okinawa / In mid-1965, the 1st Log Command, as it was commonly called, could process 70,000 tons of incoming material per month through Cam Ranh Bay, Qui Nhon, and Saigon / One year later, that figure had risen tenfold, to 700,000 tons a month, not counting critical items brought in by air / Under its command were truck units, boat companies, railroad facilities, and airlift and airdrop capabilities / Almost every piece of Army equipment sent to Vietnam was processed, transported, issued, and maintained by the 1st Log / Not only was the 1st Log responsible for providing the Army troops with the basic weapons of war, but it also clothed and fed them and supplied them with virtually every amenity available in Post Exchanges / The 1st Logistical Command was redeployed to Fort Hood on 7 December 1970



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FISCHER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

CHARLES

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Charles P. Fischer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles P. "Chuck" Fischer passed away on 19 December 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FISCUS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MR3

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS TIDEWATER (AD-31) / USS HARRY E. YARNELL (DLG-17)

USS PARKER (DE-369)

USS PURDY (DD-734)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Machinery Repairman Petty Officer Third-Class Robert E. Fiscus honorably served in the United States Navy / MR3 Robert Fiscus was assigned to the Naval Reserve Surface Division (NRSD 3-60 (L))

Base Assignments:

Great Lakes Training Center, Illinois - Home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Naval Station Great Lakes is the second largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Brooklyn Ship Yard, New York - Purchased in 1801, and the property became an active US Navy shipyard five years later, in 1806 / The USS Ohio was the first ship built at Brooklyn Navy Yard and was launched on 30 May 1820 / In 1937, the battleship North Carolina was laid down / In 1938, the yard employed about 10,000 men, of whom one-third were Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers / The battleship Iowa was completed in 1942, followed by Missouri, which became the site of the Surrender of Japan on 2 September 1945 / On 12 January 1953, test operations began on Antietam, which emerged in December 1952, from the yard as America's first angled-deck aircraft carrier / At its peak, during World War II, the yard employed 70,000 people, 24 hours a day / The Brooklyn Naval Hospital, constructed 1830–1838, and rebuilt 1841–1843, was decommissioned in the mid-1970s and was one of the oldest naval hospitals in the United States / The Navy decommissioned the Brooklyn Ship Yard in 1966, but has become an area of private manufacturing and commercial activity

Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia - Norfolk Naval Base supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Command, operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / In 1917 the Fifth Naval Headquarters was constructed at Norfolk and the Naval Operating Base (NOB) and other facilities were established / On 1 January 1953, the name of the naval base was officially changed to Naval Station Norfolk (NS Norfolk), after being known as the NOB / On 26 January 2017, NS Norfolk celebrated its one hundredth year of service

Miscellaneous:

After graduating from Bennett High School, Robert E. Fiscus enrolled at Erie County Technical Institute / Fiscus joined the Navy after graduation / After receiving an Honorable Discharge, Fiscus joined the West Seneca Police Department as a Police Officer / Fiscus retired after 31 years of service on the police force, attaining the rank of Detective / Robert Fiscus is a member of American Legion Post #735

USS Tidewater (AD-31) was a Shenandoah-class destroyer tender named for the Tidewater region of Virginia and was commissioned on 19 February 1946 / Between late 1951 and early 1954, the Tidewater operated exclusively along the eastern seaboard of the United States / In 1954, she headed across the Atlantic for her first deployment with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean / Over the next 13 years, the Tidewater made 10 deployments to the Mediterranean, alternating that service with 2nd Fleet duty along the Atlantic coast of the United States / Tidewater completed her tenth Mediterranean deployment on 2 May 1969 and resumed tender duty with the warships of the Atlantic Fleet out of Norfolk and remained so occupied through the end of the year and into 1970 / On 20 February 1971, The USS Tidewater was decommissioned and leased to the Indonesian Navy

USS Harry E. Yarnell (DLG/CG-17), a Leahy-class guided missile cruiser, named in honor of Admiral Harry E. Yarnell (1875–1959) / Commissioned on 2 February 1963, the Yarnell was originally called a "destroyer leader" or frigate and in 1975 she was designated a cruiser in the Navy's ship reclassification / She was the second of the "double-end" Leahy-class guided missile frigates to join the fleet / In April 1963, the Yarnell participated in the search for the USS Thresher (SSN-593), the nuclear submarine later found 8,000 feet down on the Atlantic Ocean bottom / She made her first Atlantic crossing on 8 September 1964 and crossed the Arctic circle on 21 September 1964 / The Yarnell served in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean before being deployed back to the Mediterranean in early 1967 / From 1973 through 1980, the Yarnell operated off of Western Europe and the Mediterranean / The USS Harry E. Yarnell was decommissioned 20 October 1993, and sold 14 April 1995 for scrapping at Quonset Point, RI, but the scrap contract was terminated 1 December 1996 and the hulk returned to Philadelphia for storage / Scrapping was ultimately completed in April 2002

USS Thaddeus Parker (DE-369) was a John C. Butler-class destroyer escort acquired by the U.S. Navy during World War II / Commissioned on 25 October 1944, the ship was named in honor of Thaddeus Parker who was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart medal and the Silver Star Medal for his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign / The primary purpose of the destroyer escort was to escort and protect ships in convoy, in addition to other tasks as assigned, such as patrol or radar picket / During World War II, Thaddeus Parker was assigned to an antisubmarine screen in the vicinity of Peleliu and served as an air-sea rescue ship in Kossol Roads in the Palaus / She rescued a Marine pilot on 19 May and saved another on 18 July / On 27 June 1945, she shelled enemy installations at the Koror Naval Base / Thaddeus Parker was at Okinawa when hostilities with Japan ceased and placed out of commission, in reserve, on 31 May 1946 / Post-war, she returned home proudly with one battle star to her credit / In March 1951, during the Korean War, Thaddeus Parker was placed back on active duty /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Between 1953 and 1957, the Thaddeus Parker operated in Europe and the Atlantic seaboard / Thaddeus Parker was activated for the Cuban crisis, operating off Cuba from 2 October 1961 to 1 August 1962, before being decommissioned again and returning to the Reserve fleet at Port Newark, New Jersey / Almost a decade later, the Thaddeus Parker was decommissioned and struck from the Navy list on 1 September 1967 / The USS Thaddeus Parker was sold for scrap on 9 July 1968

The USS Purdy (DD-734), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was commissioned on 18 July 1944 and is the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Lieutenant Commander Frederick Warren Purdy, who was awarded the Silver Star for his rescue efforts while the destroyer USS Strong was sinking on 5 July 1943 / During World War II, The Purdy arrived at Leyte 17 March 1945 to rehearse the invasion of Okinawa / The Purdy helped screen transports during the Okinawa invasion / A bomb from a downed Japanese plane pierced the plating of the USS Purdy and exploded to kill 15, seriously wound 25, and cause extensive damage / After extensive repairs, the Purdy sailed in European waters from September 1948 to January 1949 / During October 1951 and January 1952, the Purdy operated off the coast of Korea / In 1957, the Purdy was deployed to Chile and to Europe in 1958 before sailing to the Dominican Republic in 1961 to support U.S. efforts to maintain stability in the Caribbean / In 1962, she helped implement the Cuban Quarantine during the Cuban Missile Crisis / From 1965 to 1970, the Purdy trained naval reservists, served as a school ship for Naval Destroyer School officer students, and tested and evaluated new equipment / The Purdy was decommissioned on 1 July 1973 and sold as scrap in June 1974 / The USS Purdy earned one battle star during World War II and 3 during the Korean War

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FIX**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

EUGENE

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

3RD MARINE AIR WING, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Eugene E. "Gino" Fix honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Eugene Fix was assigned as a Supply Administrative Man with the 3rd Marine Air Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California

Corporal Eugene Fix was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 27 August 1970

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California - Marine Corps Air Station El Toro was a United States Marine Corps Air Station located near Irvine, California / The Air Station was 4,682 acres and home of Marine Corps aviation on the West Coast / The base headquarters was established on 4 November 1942 and the first landing occurred in late November / By the end of 1944, the base would be home to 1,248 officers and 6,831 enlisted personnel / Four parcels of land comprising the former MCAS El Toro was sold in February 2005 ending the use of the Air Station by the Marine Corps / While it was active, all U.S. Presidents in the post-World War II era landed in Air Force One at this airfield

Miscellaneous:

Eugene E. "Gino" Fix passed away at the age of 69 years old on 16 March 2017

A Supply Specialist is responsible for supervising and maintaining all Marine Corps supplies and equipment / Specialists operate an automated supply system and perform functions in property accountability, supply chain management, and procurement / Supply Specialists also safely secure and control weapons and ammunition in security areas



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (abbreviated as 3rd MAW) is the major west coast aviation unit of the United States Marine Corps / It is headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, in San Diego, California and provides the aviation combat element for I Marine Expeditionary Force / The wing is made up of a headquarters squadron, four flying groups, an aviation command and control group and an aviation engineering group /The mission of the 3rd Wing is to provide combat ready expeditionary aviation forces capable of short notice worldwide deployment to Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF), fleet and unified commanders

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FLATTERY, SR.**

WALTER

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Walter John Flattery, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter John Flattery, Sr. passed away on 25 January 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FORMAN**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Clark Forman honorably served in the United States Army and assigned to the Infantry

Base Assignments:

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

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort Devens is a United States Army Reserve military installation in Worcester County in Massachusetts and was established on 5 September 1917 / It was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / The 1st, 32nd, and 45th Divisions trained at Devens during World War II / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / It was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

Miscellaneous:

James Forman graduated from Nichols High Scholl in 1956 and graduated from Trinity College, Connecticut in 1960 where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish and Finance / Forman managed the Janney Montgomery Scott Financial office in Williamsville before retiring in 2019 / James Clark Forman passed away at the age of 85 on 1 November 2022

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

grenades, mortars, etc

Name: **FORSTER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JOSEPH

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Donald Forster honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Forster was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Mary Star of the Sea Council 4752, Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, Trinity Assembly / Joseph Donald Forster passed away on 19 January 2014 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FOSER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROGER

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Roger A. Foser honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Foser was the owner of Foser's Florist in Buffalo / Roger A. Foser passed away on 14 June 2024 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FOX**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

ROBERT

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert C. Fox honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert C. Fox passed away on 10 February 2022 and his remains were cremated



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FRAMPTON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

EARL

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT (CVB/CVA/CV-42)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Earl A. Frampton honorably served in the Navy Reserves / Earl Frampton served aboard the USS Franklin Roosevelt in the Atlantic ocean

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Earl Frampton graduated from Burgard Vocational School in 1956 as an Electrical Major / Frampton went to work for New York Telephone (later NYNEX, Bell Atlantic and Verizon) as a lineman, cable splicer and business installer for 35 years, retiring in 1991 / While at New York Telephone, Frampton became a Communications Workers of America (CWA) union organizer and served as Vice President and President of CWA Local 1115 and was CWA Western New York Council President for 11 years / Earl Frampton was an Executive Director for the Western New York AFL/CIO Area Labor Federation until retiring in 2007 / Frampton was named the AFL/CIO Council Labor Man of the Year in 1994 / Frampton was an Officer of the Eden 39ers Social Club and a Director of the Eden Corn Festival / Frampton ran unsuccessfully for the Eden Town Board in 1983 / Earl Frampton was a member of the Newell-Falkner American Legion Post #880 / Earl A. Frampton passed away on 8 October 2024 at the age of 86 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVB/CVA/CV-42) was the second of three Midway-class aircraft carriers / Roosevelt was commissioned on Navy Day, 27 October 1945, at the New York Naval Shipyard / The Roosevelt spent most of her active deployed career operating in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the United States Sixth Fleet / From September 1948 to January 1949, Roosevelt undertook a second tour of duty with U.S. Naval Forces, Mediterranean / In 1950, Roosevelt became the first carrier to take nuclear weapons to sea / In September and October 1952, she participated in Operation Mainbrace, the first major NATO exercise in the North Atlantic / Roosevelt operated with other major fleet units, including the aircraft carriers USS Midway, USS Wasp, and HMS Eagle, as well as the battleships USS Wisconsin and HMS Vanguard / The ship was decommissioned on 30 September 1977 and was scrapped shortly afterward / She was the first aircraft carrier of the United States Navy to be named in honor of a president of the United States



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FRANKLIN**
LEROY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

LeRoy (Ben) Franklin honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LeRoy Franklin was deployed to the Lebanon crisis in 1958

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

LeRoy Franklin lifetime member of the Grand Island Fire Company / Franklin retired to Arizona for health reasons / LeRoy (Ben) Franklin passed away on 18 January 2023 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FRAWLEY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

MICHAEL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael J. "Mike" Frawley honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Frawley was a graduate of Bishop Timon High School, where he is enshrined in the Athletic Hall of Fame / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Frawley joined the Buffalo Fire Department where he worked for 35 years / Michael J. "Mike" Frawley passed away on 7 March 2024 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FREDENBURG**

JAMES

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **MARINE CORPS**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James W. Fredenburg honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James W. Fredenburg passed away on 2 October 2024 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FREEMAN**
DONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald P. Freeman honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Freeman was a longtime employee of the Nigara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA) Metro Bus and Rail / Donald P. Freeman passed away on 30 June 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FREEMAN, JR.**

DONALD

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald E. Freeman, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Freeman was past Treasurer of Finger Lakes and WNY Waterfowl Association and a lifetime member of Ducks Unlimited / Donald E. Freeman, Jr. passed away on 6 February 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FREER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

MICHAEL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Michael E. Freer honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / MSGT Michael Freer was deployed to Vietnam

MSGT Michael Freer an instructor at the rifle range at Parris Island Marine Corps Recruiting Station / MSGT Freer taught at the NCO School at Fort Chaffee

MSGT joined the New Army National Guard in 1973 and retired in 1993 / During his time in the guard, Freer was called to active duty for the Prison Guard Strike, the Blizzard of '77, the Connecticut St. Armory Fire and Desert Storm

Base Assignments:

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

Fort Chaffee, Ft. Smith, Arkansas - Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, also known as Fort Chaffee, is an



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Arkansas Army National Guard installation located in western Arkansas, adjacent to the city of Fort Smith / Established as Camp Chaffee in 1941, renamed to Fort Chaffee in 1956, it has served as a U.S. Army base, training camp, prisoner-of-war camp, and refugee camp / Fort Chaffee was originally named Camp Chaffee / The camp was named after Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr., an artillery officer who, in Europe during World War I, determined that the cavalry was outmoded and, unlike other cavalry officers, advocated for the use of tanks / The general objectives of the camp during World War II were not just to train soldiers, but also to host the war prisoners and the refugees / It hosted over 3,000 German prisoners during World War II / After the end of the war, the camp hosted the Fifth Armored Division, until 1957 / The base is more famous for the few days Elvis Presley spent at Ft. Chaffee and where he got his first military haircut, in building 803 / As a refugee camp, the fort played a major role during the Vietnam and Cambodia wars, hosting around 51,000 refugees from 1975 to 1976 / In 1980, it was the home of 23,000 Cuban refugees, after the Cuban government allowed the American boats to pick up the refugees from a local port

Miscellaneous:

Michael Freer attended Holy Spirit Elementary School and graduated from Hutch-Tech Vocational High School / Freer received his undergraduate degree in Vocational Technology from SUNY Buffalo and his graduate degree from Canisius College / Michael Freer taught at Hutch-Tech Vocational High School for 36 years / Michael Freer was a member of the National Educational Association, NYS United Teachers, Buffalo Teachers Federation, Mohawk Gun Club, American Legion Post #0721, Marine Corps Association and Foundation, 74/174 Veterans Association and the WNY Shelby and Mustang Club / / Michael E. Freer passed away on 6 September 2017 at the age of 75 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FRITSCH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

HOWARD

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Howard E. Fritsch honorably served in the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Fritsch studied photography at Seneca Vocational High School, graduating in 1952 / Howard Fritsch was a railroad engineer, working for 37 years with New York Central, Penn Central and Conrail railroads / Fritsch also worked part time as a deputy for the Marin Division of the Erie County Sheriff's Office and retired from both positions in 1997 / Howard Fritsch was a member of the Erie County Deputy Sheriff's Badge and Shield Club and the Judges and Police Conference / Fritsch served as master of Parish United Lodge 292, F&AM, Eggertsville, in 1975, and was past district deputy grand master in 1983 / Howard Fritsch was a longtime member of the Ismailia Shrine and Scottish Rite / Howard E. Fritsch passed away on 16 September 2014 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FROEWISS**
GEOFFERY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Geoffery A. Froewiss honorably served in the United States Army / Geoffery Froewiss was assigned as a Missile Crewman at Fort Hamilton, New York

Geoffery Froewiss was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 21 June 1976

Base Assignments:

Fort Hamilton, New York - Fort Hamilton is a United States Army installation in the southwestern corner of the New York City borough of Brooklyn / Its mission is to provide the New York metropolitan area with military installation support for the Army National Guard and the United States Army Reserve / The original fort was completed in 1831, with major additions made in the 1870s and 1900s, however, all defenses except about half of the original fort have been demolished or buried / At present, U.S. Army Fort Hamilton Garrison is the home of the New York City Recruiting Battalion, the Military Entrance Processing Station, the North Atlantic Division Headquarters of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the 1179th Transportation Brigade and the 722nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Miscellaneous:

Geoffery Froewiss was born in Long Island, New York / Froewiss was a graduate of Bay Shore High School class of 1971 and Buffalo State University, class of 1979 / Geoffery Froewiss retired from the New York State Department of Social Services / Geoffery A. Froewiss passed away on 25 May 2023 at the age of 69 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FULLONE**
ANTHONY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY C, 2ND BATTALION, 36TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Anthony "Tony" Fullone honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Anthony Fullone was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman and assigned duty in Germany for 19 months with the 36th Infantry

SP4 Anthony Fullone was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 18 June 1962

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony "Tony" Fullone passed away on 10 April 2022

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 36th Infantry Division ("Arrowhead", also known as the "Panther Division", "Lone Star Division", "The Texas Army", or the "T-patchers", is an infantry division of the United States Army and part of the Texas Army National Guard / It was organized during World War I from units of the Texas and Oklahoma National Guard / The division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

first saw action in World War II during the Italian campaign on 9 September 1943 / It was the first U.S. combat unit to fight on the European continent when it landed by sea at Paestum and fought in the Battle of Salerno against intense German opposition / On 15 August 1944, as part of the U.S. 6th Army Group, the division made another amphibious assault landing, against light opposition in the Saint-Raphaël-Fréjus area of southern France as part of Operation Dragoon, the Allied invasion of Southern France / The 36th Infantry Division suffered significant losses during World War II, twice earning the distinction of having "lost" a battalion during the war / In 2005 approximately 100 soldiers of the 36th Infantry Division deployed to Bosnia for Enduring Mission 3 / During the Global War on Terror, the 36th Infantry Division was involved in numerous military operations including Operation New Dawn, Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel, and Jump Start

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FURMAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

LESLIE

R

Address: EMPORIUM AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

7TH COMMUNICATIONS BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (E-4) Leslie R. Furman honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Leslie Furman was assigned as a Radio Operator trained in Mobile Radio Communications (MRC) / Corporal Furman also served in the Reserves from 1963 through 1966

Base Assignments:

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

Camp Geiger, South Carolina - Camp Geiger is part of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune complex, and is home to the United States Marine Corps School of Infantry East for all Marines recruited through the Eastern Recruiting Region / Located about 10 miles south of Camp Lejeune, Camp Geiger was named in honor of General Roy Geiger, who was a Marine aviator and commander of the I Amphibious Corps, III Amphibious Corps, and the Tenth United States Army during World War II / Camp Geiger is one of two School of Infantry (SOI) locations where new Marines are instructed on modern Marine Corps infantry tactics in order to conduct expeditionary combat operations

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Located in Jacksonville, North Carolina, construction on Camp Lejeune was begun in 1941 and named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / As a military training facility, the Camp's 14 miles of beaches make it a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Camp Pendleton, California - Located in San Diego County, Camp Pendleton was established in September 1942 to meet the immediate need for additional amphibious force training facilities during World War II / Camp Pendleton was named in honor of World War I Major General Joseph H. Pendleton who had long advocated the establishment of a West Coast training base / The camp provides year-round training for Marines in addition to all other branches of the U.S. military

Twentynine Palms, California - The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), also known as 29 Palms, is a United States Marine Corps base located adjacent to the city of Twentynine Palms in southern San Bernardino County, California / During World War II, 29 Palms served as a naval auxiliary air station and redesignated on 6 February 1953 as a Marine Corps Training Center

Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii - Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), formerly Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay and originally Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay, is a U.S. Marine Corps facility and air station located on the Mokapu Peninsula of windward O'ahu in the City & County of Honolulu / Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay was built by the Navy in 1939 and in 1951, the Marines assumed control of the air station activities when naval aviation moved to Barbers Point Naval Air Station / The Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay was commissioned on 15 January 1952

Miscellaneous:

Leslie Furman graduated from Eden High School and prior to joining the Marine Corps, Furman worked at Loblaw's in Hamburg as a Meat Cutter Apprentice / After his Honorable Discharge, Furman was employed by Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Class A Welder until the plant closed in 1983 / Les Furman later went to work for Eastern Railway Services, repairing locomotive cranes until his retirement / Furman is a Life Member of the Marine Corps League - Detachment 239 and a member of American Legion Post 735 / Furman is also a member of ABATE of New York which promotes Motorcycle Safety, Awareness, & Education and an adviser with the Erie County Sheriff's Explorer Post #505

The Marine Corps Radio Operator is a versatile specialty that allows Marines to be assigned to a variety of units / These Marines are responsible for setting up radio communication equipment so that units can maintain contact with others / Duties include: Setting up and tuning radio equipment, including antennas and power sources / Establishing contact with distant stations / Processing and logging of messages / Marine Radio Operators can be assigned to any unit in the Marine Corps, including: Engineering, Artillery, Infantry, Tanks, Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV), Headquarters, Communications, RECON/MarSOC / The most experienced radiomen are usually assigned to battalion command and communication

The 7th Communication Battalion, activated in 1957 at Camp Pendleton, California with the mission to establish, maintain, and defend communication networks and services simultaneously for Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) command elements (CE), Marine component headquarters, and/or a Combined/Joint Task Force headquarters (C/JTF HQ) in order to facilitate a commander's ability to command and control forces / The 7th participated in the Vietnam War from 1966-1969 operating first from Chu Lai and later Da Nang and assigned to the 1st Marine Division until 1972 / The 7th Communications Battalion also participated in operations Eagle Pull and Frequent Wind at the official conclusion of the Vietnam conflict from December 1974 to May 1975 / The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GAIK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PAUL

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS MOUNT MCKINLEY (AGC-7/LCC-7)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul Francis Gaik honorably served in the United States Navy / Paul Gaik served as the Quartermaster aboard the USS McKinley during the Cuban Missile Crisis (16–28 October 1962)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Gaik retired from Northwest Airlines / Paul Francis Gaik passed away in February 2025 at the age of 81 years old

A Navy Quartermaster is a person on a military ship responsible for navigating the vessel / They control the ship's wheel, consult the navigation charts and maintain the functionality of all navigation-related equipment and tools / They also assist the ship's chief navigator and can serve as helmsman if called upon / The Quartermaster maintains the ship's deck log, observes current weather conditions and forecasts and planning routes accordingly / Quartermasters take regular turns to patrol a ship to ensure its safety

USS Mount McKinley (AGC-7/LCC-7) was the lead ship of the Mount McKinley class of amphibious force command ships / She was named after the highest mountain in North America / She was designed as an amphibious force flagship, a floating command post with advanced communications equipment and extensive combat information spaces to be used by the amphibious force's commander and landing force commander during large-scale operations / The USS Mount McKinley was commissioned on 1 May 1944 / On 28 September 1944, the Mount McKinley joined the Pacific Fleet and sailed to proceeded to Ngesebus Island to provide shore bombardment coordination / Mount McKinley left the area 14 October 1944 after Peleliu and the chain's other main islands were secure / After a stop at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, the ship sailed to San Pedro Bay, Leyte



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Gulf, for the assault on Leyte and Ormoc / While in San Pedro Bay, the force was under constant air attack, but Mount McKinley was not hit / On 15 December 1944, the ship participated in the invasion of Mindoro and proceeded to Lingayen Gulf to direct shore bombardment on 9 January 1945 / On 21 March 1945, Mount McKinley proceeded to Kerama Retto off the southern coast of Okinawa / Six days prior to the last major assault of the war, Mount McKinley directed the landing of the 77th Infantry Division / For the next two months, she remained at anchorage at Kerama Retto, threatened by constant air attacks, before returning to Pearl Harbor / Returning to the United States 12 February 1946, she sailed in the early summer for Bikini Atoll where she was flagship for Operation Crossroads, during the atomic tests. Following the atomic bomb tests in July 1946, the ship operated out of San Diego for the next 18 months / In early 1948, she was the command ship for the atomic bomb test at Eniwetok / Upon completion of these tests, she returned to San Diego to resume coastal operations / On 26 June 1950, the ship proceeded from Japan to direct the landing of American reinforcements at Pohang at the beginning of the Korean War / In early September 1950, General Douglas MacArthur was aboard, directing the amphibious assault at Inchon which forced the North Koreans to retreat north / The Mount McKinley participated in three tours of duty in the Korean War area / On 3 June 1956, the ship returned to San Diego and on 9 January 1957, the ship deployed to the Mediterranean / In October 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Mount McKinley served at flagship for ComPhibLant and ComPhibGru / Following the Cuban quarantine, she sailed for the Mediterranean 10 January 1963 to act as command flagship for the Amphibious Strike Force / During the Vietnam War, the USS Mount McKinley was the flagship of the Commander, 7th Fleet Amphibious Force / She provided communications support for search and destroy operations against the Vietcong and People's Army of Vietnam forces / Relieved in mid-January 1968, the ship sailed east for CONUS and home, arriving San Diego 10 February 1968 / The ship's designation was changed from AGC-7 to LCC-7 on 1 January 1969 / Following her arrival back in CONUS, she was engaged in type training and amphibious exercises on the west coast as flagship of ComPhibGru 3 into 1969 / Mount McKinley was decommissioned on 26 March 1970 and stricken on 30 July 1976 / She was sold for disposal in 1976 / Mount McKinley received four battle stars for World War II service, eight stars for Korean service, and a Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GAJ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

THOMAS

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

91ST ENGINEER BATTALION

US ARMY TRANSPORTATION CORPS

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Thomas Leonard Gaj honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Thomas Gaj was deployed for 18 months in Alaska as a U1-A Aircraft Repairman

SP5 Thomas Gaj was received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 19 May 1971

Base Assignments:

Fort Belvoir, Virginia - Fort Belvoir is a United States Army installation in Fairfax County, Virginia, United States / The post was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for American Civil War Union Army general Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed Fort Belvoir in the 1930s / Camp Humphreys was established in World War I as the U.S. Army Engineers Training School / It served as the post-graduate institution for U.S. Military Academy engineers and a finishing school for engineering troops headed to war

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Leonard Gaj passed away on 14 May 2022 at the age of 73 years old

The Transportation Corps is a combat service support branch of the U.S. Army / It is responsible for the movement of personnel and material by truck, rail, air, and sea. It is one of three U.S. Army logistics branches, the others being the Quartermaster Corps and the Ordnance Corps / The Vietnam War saw the most diversified assortment of transportation units ever assembled / For over a decade the Transportation Corps provided continuous support for American and allied forces through an unimproved tropical environment using



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

watercraft, amphibians, motor trucks and Transportation Corps aircraft

The 91st Engineer Battalion was a military engineer unit in the United States Army / The Battalion served in World War II, mainly in the Pacific region and also served in Bosnia and Kuwait as part of Operation Enduring Freedom / The 91st Engineer Battalion was deactivated at Fort Hood on 8 July 2005 as a result of the transformation of the United States Army / On 16 October 2013, it was assigned to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and activated at Fort Hood, Texas

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GASIEWICZ**

JAMES

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James R. Gasiewicz honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James R. Gasiewicz passed away on 27 May 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GAWLAK, JR.**

ALBERT

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert Anthony Gawlak, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert Anthony Gawlak, Jr. passed away on 15 November 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GEHRING**
RICHARD J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard John Gehring honorably served in the United States Army as a Medical Corpsman in 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Gehring received his Master's of Social Work (MEW) Degree from the University of Chicago / For nearly 57 years, Gehring was a teacher, Field Work Supervisor for the University of Buffalo, Daemen University, Erie County Community College and the New York State Prison System / Gehring also worked for the New York State Department of Health and was the Executive Director of Meals on Wheels (FeedMore WNY) for 30 years / Richard Gehring was a Board Member for the Amherst Senior Transportation Services and CMH Counseling Services / Gehring also volunteered at the Canopy of Neighbors and the Little Portion Friary / Richard John Gehring passed away on 27 June 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GELYON**

PETER

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Peter A. Gelyon honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter A. Gelyon passed away on 31 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GELZ, SR.**
FREDERICK J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frederick J. Gelz, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frederick J. Gelz, Sr. passed away on 15 January 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GENNUSO**
FRANK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank Gennuso honorably served in the United States Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Gennuso graduated from Holy Angels Grammar School, Bishop Fallon High School, and Gannon University / Gennuso worked in the food service equipment and design industry / Frank Gennuso passed away on 22 February 2025 at the age of 80 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GEORGE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: MARILLA

WILLIAM

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William B. George honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William George was a member of the Marilla Veteran's Club and a lifetime member of the Marilla Volunteer Fire Company / William B. George passed away on 11 March 2025 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GERACI, JR.

PHILIP

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Philip H. Geraci, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Philip H. Geraci, Jr. passed away on 15 September 2024 at the age of 79 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GETTY**

DONALD

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald C. Getty honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Getty retired from the University of Buffalo / Donald C. Getty passed away on 2 August 2024 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GIES, JR.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

CHARLES

G

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles G. Gies, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Gies was a retired Foreman with the Town of Cheektowaga Facilities Department / Charles G. Gies, Jr. passed away on 25 June 2024 at the age of 78 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GITTERE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

WILLIAM

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William J. Gittere honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Gittere was a lifelong HAM (Amateur Radio) Radio Operator / Gittere was a member of American Legion Post #838 / William J. Gittere passed away on 23 July 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GLASS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

JERRY

D.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

64TH ARMORED REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Jerry Douglas Glass honorably served in the United States Army / Jerry Douglas was deployed for 18 months with the 64th Armored Division in Europe

Jerry Douglas was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 19 February 1969 with reserve obligation concluding 8 March 1973

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Jerry Glass was born in Biggers, Arkansas / Jerry Douglas Glass passed away on 13 November 2024 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The 64th Armor Regiment is an armor regiment of the United States Army, organized under the United States Army Regimental System / It is descended from the 758th Tank Battalion (Light) that served in the Italian campaign during World War II. Redesignated as the 64th Tank Battalion, it was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division during the Korean War and it spent most of the Cold War stationed in West Germany before elements were transferred to Ft. Stewart, Georgia in the late 1990s / The regiment participated in Desert Shield, Desert



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Storm, Desert Fox, Desert Spring, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GLAVIN**

JOHN

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John C. Glavin honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Glavin was a Meals on Wheels Volunteer / John C. "Jack" Glavin passed away on 10 April 2023 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GLOR**

DANIEL

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel A. Glor honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Glor retired from General Motors / Glor was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #5260, Springville, New York / Daniel A. Glor passed away on 19 May 2026 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GLOR**

JAMES

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James H. Glor honorably served in the United States Navy, Army and Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Glor was Past President of the Lancaster Amateur Radio Club and member of the Town of Lancaster Office of Emergency Services / James H. Glor passed away on 27 December 2023 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GONZALES**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David C. "Gunner" Gonzales honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David C. "Gunner" Gonzales passed away on 23 October 2025 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GOODMAN
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John Goodman honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, John Goodman had a career with American Airlines as an aircraft mechanic-inspector / John Goodman passed away on 24 March 2024 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GOODSPEED**

GARY

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gary A. Goodspeed honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary A. Goodspeed passed away on 8 October 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GORDON, SR.**
JAMES D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: FN

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Fireman James D. Gordon, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James D. Gordon, Sr. passed away on 23 January 2023 at the age of 74 years old

Naval Fireman stand power plant and ship security watches both while in port and underway / While performing watches, they will ensure all safety standards are being met with any associated engineering machinery / They are responsible for working with safety and fire suppression equipment / A Fireman preserves, maintains, and repairs the safety equipment and any other associated equipment to prepare for underway operations / Firefighters in the Navy assist putting out fires on ships, rescuing service members and their families and providing emergency medical care / In addition to performing maintenance on the equipment, they will also perform any emergency equipment repair



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GORE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LTCOL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Emmett Gore honorably served in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War / Lt. Colonel Gore also served with the National Guard and Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Gore was a member of the Korean War Memorial Committee / Gore served the Buffalo Public School System for 30 years as an Attendance Teacher / Robert Emmett Gore passed away on 26 November 2023 at the age of 94 years old, after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease / Robert Gore is interred at Elmwood Cemetery, Buffalo, 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 United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / The Army Reserve is meant to augment the needs of the active duty force in times of conflict or declared war / Army Reserve soldiers can complete part-time service alongside civilian life / The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is responsible for all of the operational tasks involved in training, equipping, managing, supporting, mobilizing and retaining Soldiers under its command



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GORMAN**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William "Bill" Gorman honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Europe

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Gorman graduated from Timon High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, William Gorman joined the Buffalo Fire Company and assigned to Engine 32, Ladder 5 at the firehouse on Seneca & Swan Streets / William "Bill" Gorman passed away on 29 August 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GORRELL**

BILLY

J

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address: STONY POINT ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Billy J. Gorrell honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Billy J. Gorrell passed away on 31 March 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GOURLAY**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William G. Gourlay honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Gourlay retired from the Erie County Sheriff's Office / William G. Gourlay passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRAHAM, SR.**
DAVID **W.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **AIR FORCE**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David W. Graham, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / David Graham was a veteran of the Berlin Crisis and retired from the Army Reserves after 29 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Graham retired from the Roswell Park Cancer Institute after 36 years where he was employed as a Senior Cancer Research Technician / Graham was a member of the American Society of Clinical Pathologist / David Graham was a member of American Legion Post #205 / David W. Graham, Sr. passed away on 20 September 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRAMZA**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald Leonard "Ron" Gramza honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Gramza made a career in carpentry and cabinetry / Ronald Leonard "Ron" Gramza passed away on 18 July 2021 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRANDE**

DONALD

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald R. Grande honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald R. Grande passed away on 10 June 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRANDY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

GERALD

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION, SCHOOL BRIGADE, U.S. ARMY SOUTH EASTERN SIGNAL SCHOOL

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth Class Gerald "Bootsie" Grandy honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Gerald Grandy was assigned as a Radio and Teletype Operator attached to the US Army Signal Corps

SP4 Gerald Grandy was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 21 May 1970

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

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Gerald Grandy retired from National Fuel after 35 years / Grandy was a former Vice President of Local #2154 / Gerald "Bootsie" Grandy passed away on 13 May 2021

Radio and Teletype Operators are proficient operating radioteletype, facsimile, and data intercept and recording equipment, as well as non-Morse intercept and associated equipment / The operator also assists in the establishment of operational sites and maintains the technical data base in support of collection operations / Operators supervise non-Morse intercept activities and allocate collection resources per mission priorities

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

In June 1962, all activities of the Signal Corps Training Center were reorganized under the U.S. Army Southeastern Signal School. Designating the installation the U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon, the Army consolidated all communications training at Fort Gordon on October 1, 1974

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GREENAUER**

RICHARD

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard F. Greenauer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Richard Greenauer went to work for American Precision as a Machinist, retiring in 2017 / Greenauer was a member of Slowroll Buffalo and Slow Spokes biking clubs / Richard F. Greenauer passed away on 23 April 2024 at the age of 71 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRONDAHL**
WILLIAM J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

3RD INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William J. Grondahl honorably served in the United States Army for 3 years on active duty and 3 years reserve / William Grondahl served 1 year 4 months in Europe as part of a field communication crew responsible for directing US Army operations throughout US Europe Command and US Africa Command Theater

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. Grondahl passed away on 4 September 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The 3rd Infantry Division (3ID) (nicknamed Rock of the Marne), is a combined arms division of the United States Army based at Fort Stewart, Georgia / It is a subordinate unit of the XVIII Airborne Corps under U.S. Army Forces Command / Its current organization includes a division headquarters and headquarters battalion, two armored brigade combat teams, one aviation brigade, a division artillery, a sustainment brigade and a combat sustainment support battalion along with a maneuver enhancement brigade / The division has a distinguished history, having seen active service in World War I, World War II, the Korean 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 and 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

in West Germany

Name: **GROSS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

RICHARD

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard W. Gross honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard W. Gross passed away on 11 March 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GRZECHOWIAK**

EDWARD

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **MARINE CORPS**

Rank: **PFC**

Year Entered: **1956**

Year Discharged: **1958**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Edward Anthony Grzechowiak honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as a Baker

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Grzechowiak held many positions in Buffalo city government, including City Clerk / Grzechowiak acted as a confidante to judges, elected officials and several notable celebrities / Grzechowiak owned Eddie G's, a tavern he owned / Edward Grzechowiak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940 / Grzechowiak moved to St. Petersburg, Florida / Edward Anthony Grzechowiak passed away on 9 March 2021 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GULLO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

ANTHONY

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Anthony Thomas "Tony" Gullo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Thomas "Tony" Gullo passed away on 16 September 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GUTEKUNST**
LERROY J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURY

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

LeRoy J. "Goodie" Gutekunst honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

LeRoy Gutekunst worked at Bethlehem Steel in the mailroom, on the pneumatic tube mail system / After being laid off, Gutekunst made a living as a talented Woodworker / v passed away on 19 June 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAAS, JR.**
WILLIAM L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William L. "Bill" Haas, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / William Haas volunteered at the Coast Guard Auxiliary

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Haas retired from Verizon Communications after more than 35 years / Haas was a volunteer from Mission Nicaragua / William L. "Bill" Haas, Jr. passed away on 15 February 2025 at the age of 89 years old

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAUX) is the uniformed, non-military volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard / Established by an Act of Congress in 1939, it comprises over 26,000 members who volunteer their time to support Coast Guard operations, promote boating safety, and enhance the safety and security of US ports, waterways, and coastal regions



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAFFNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

CHARLES

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 225 (VIKING MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON)

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Charles G. Haffner honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Charles Haffner was classified as a Jet Engine Mechanic with the Viking Marine Attack Squadron at Cherry Point, North Carolina

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Charles Hafner was a first responder with the Big Tree Fire Dept in Hamburg, New York / Charles G. Haffner passed away on 20 January 2024, at the age of 84 years old and interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 225 (VMFA-225) is a United States Marine Corps fighter attack squadron flying the F-35B Lightning II / The squadron, known as the "Vikings", is based at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma in Arizona and falls under the command of Marine Aircraft Group 13 (MAG-13) and the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (3d MAW) / Marine Fighting Squadron 225 (VMF-225) was commissioned 1 January 1943, at Marine Corps Air Station Mojave, California / From August 1944 to January 1945, the F4U Corsairs of VMF-225 participated in numerous combat operations in the New Hebrides Islands / Returning to the United States in February 1945, VMF-225 was eventually stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina / In the early 1960s the squadron had been trained for "special weapons" delivery / This meant they were certified to deliver nuclear weapons / On 1 June 1965, Skyhawks from VMA-225 were the first tactical fixed-wing aircraft to land at Chu Lai Air Base for participation in combat operations against Viet Cong forces in South Vietnam / In January 1969, VMA(AW)-225 deployed to Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam / The primary mission of Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 225 was to provide close air support and direct air support for ground elements for allied forces in the I Corp area of South Vietnam / The squadron attacked and destroyed surface targets day and night, and in all weather conditions / During May 1971, VMA(AW)-225 returned to MCAS El Toro, California, and the squadron was deactivated on 15 June 1972 / The squadron was reactivated on 1 July 1991, at MCAS El Toro, California, and redesignated as Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 (VMFA(AW)-225) / VMFA(AW)-225 was the first Marine Corps fighter squadron deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom / The squadron was deployed in January 2003



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAGEN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

PATRICK

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Patrick D. Hagen honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Hagen retired from the Buffalo News / Patrick D. Hagen passed away on 25 January 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAGER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: COLLINS

JEROME

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jerome "Jerry" Hager honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerome Hager graduated from Gowanda High School in 1969 and enlisted in the United States Air Force / After his Honorable Discharge from the service, Hager attended college, eventually working at several nuclear plants in the Northeast as an instrument technician / Before his retirement in 2013, Hager was employed at West Valley Demonstration Project / Jerome "Jerry" Hager passed away at the age of 72 years old on 23 January 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAGLER**

KARL

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

1st Lieutenant Karl J. Hagler honorably served in the United States Army / 1st LT Karl Hagler was assigned as an Administrative Officer at the U.S. Army Security Training Center and School

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl Hagler was commissioned through ROTC at Canisius College in 1962 / Karl Hagler was a research chemist at the University of Chicago / Hagler operated Park Edge Cleaners in Cheektowaga for 22 years until his retirement / Karl Hagler was a member of the American Chemist Society and a member of American Legion Post 735 / Karl J. Hagler passed away on 17 February 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Mt. Cavalry Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) are a group of college-based officer training programs for training commissioned officers of the United States Armed Forces / ROTC students attend college like other students, but also receive basic military training and officer training for their chosen branch of service through the ROTC unit at or nearby the college / The students participate in regular drills during the school year, and extended training activities during the summer / The student applicant must agree to accept a commission and serve in the Army on Active Duty or in a Reserve Component (U.S. Army Reserve or Army National Guard)



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAHIN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROBERT

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert H. Hahin honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Hahin was a Pistol Director for New York State, avid competition shooter with Allied Sportsman Club and past Knights of Columbus Member / Robert H. Hahin passed away on 26 June 2025 and is interred at Fourteen Holy Helpers Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAHN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

PHILIP

N.

Address: CROFTON DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

USS SAM HOUSTON (SSBN-609)

USS SKIPJACK (SSN-585)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second-Class Philip Hahn honorably served in the United States Navy / Hahn earned submarine "dolphins" in recognition of becoming qualified in submarines on the Sam Houston and the Skipjack / While stationed aboard the Sam Houston, Hahn was classified as a Missile Technician 2nd class MT2(SS) and changed rating to Electronic Technician - Navigation 2nd class, ETN2(SS) while serving on the Skipjack / As an Electronic Technician, Hahn was qualified to operate and maintain Naval Nuclear propulsion plants on the Skipjack submarine / Operational areas included North Atlantic Ocean out of Holy Loch, Scotland / Hahn received the "bluenose" designation because of operations north of the Arctic Circle; Mediterranean Sea out of Rota, Spain; Caribbean Sea out of Norfolk, Va.

Base Assignments:

Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia - Norfolk Naval Base supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces Command, operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / In 1917 the Fifth Naval Headquarters was constructed at Norfolk and the Naval Operating Base (NOB) and other facilities were established / On 1 January 1953, the name of the naval base was officially changed to Naval Station Norfolk (NS Norfolk), after being known as the NOB / On 26 January 2017, NS Norfolk celebrated its one hundredth year of service

New London Submarine Base, Groton, Connecticut - Naval Submarine Base New London is the United States Navy's primary East Coast submarine base, also known as the "Home of the Submarine Force" / Located along the Thames River in Groton, two brick buildings and a "T" shaped pier were constructed and officially declared a Navy Yard in 1872 / The Base property expanded during the latter part of World War I and the second largest



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

expansion of Submarine Base New London occurred during World War II, when it grew from 112 acres to 497 acres / The Submarine Force leaped in size, and the Base accommodated thousands of men to service the growing combat fleet / On 21 January 1954 the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS Nautilus, was launched from Groton / Nautilus became the first vessel to transit the North Pole during an historic trip across the Arctic in 1958 / New London is homeport to sixteen attack submarines and neighbor to a major submarine construction yard, General Dynamics' Electric Boat Division

Miscellaneous:

Philip Hahn attended Riverside High School and Bishop Fallon High School prior to enlisting in the Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from military service, Hahn enrolled at the University of Buffalo where he received a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Electrical Engineering / Hahn then received a Master Of Business Administration (MBA) degree from St. Bonaventure University / Philip Hahn was employed by Verizon where he served in Engineering and Management capacities until his retirement in 2003 / Hahn continues to be active in Town of West Seneca community service groups

An Electronics Technician, Submarine, Navigation (ETV) is a Navy enlisted Sailor who operates and maintains electronic equipment used for detection, tracking, recognition, and identification of maritime vessels and navigational aids aboard naval submarine vessels / They repair and maintain naval electronics equipment including navigation, radar, and communications equipment

USS Sam Houston (SSBN-609/SSN-609), an Ethan Allen-class submarine, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named after Sam Houston (1793–1863), president (1836–1838, 1841–1844) of the Republic of Texas / Sam Houston was the US Navy's seventh ballistic missile submarine / Commissioned on 6 March 1962, the USS Sam Houston completed ten deterrent missions to the Atlantic and Mediterranean by the end of 1964 / Between 1975 and 1979, the Sam Houston operated out of Guam and made mid-patrol stops in South Korea and Hawaii / On 29 April 1988, the USS Sam Houston ran aground on Fox Island, Washington and was decommissioned on 6 September 1991 / The submarine was officially scrapped in February 1992

USS Skipjack (SSN-585), the lead ship of her class of nuclear-powered attack submarine, was the third ship of the United States Navy to be named after the Skipjack tuna and was commissioned on 15 April 1959 / After being launched, the Skipjack was soon dubbed the "world's fastest submarine", after setting the speed record on sea trials in March of the following year / It was designed to have a speed in excess of 20 knots, but its actual speed was a guarded secret / During her shakedown cruise in August 1959, she became the first nuclear ship to pass through the Straits of Gibraltar and operate in the Mediterranean / Following post-shakedown availability at Groton, Connecticut, the nuclear submarine conducted type training and participated in an advanced Atlantic submarine exercise from May through July 1960, which earned the submarine a Navy Unit Commendation, and also a Battle Efficiency "E" award, an award it would receive three more times / During the 1960's and 1970's, the Skipjack conducted exercises in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea / On 19 April 1990, the USS Skipjack was decommissioned and officially scrapped in 1998

The insignia of the U.S. submarine service is a submarine flanked by two dolphins / Dolphins, attendants to the Poseidon, Greek god of the sea and patron deity to sailors, is sometimes referred to as the sailor's friend / They were also chosen to represent the Submarine Service because of the characteristic way in which dolphins dive and surface / Enlisted Sailors and Naval Officers wear a dolphins uniform breast pin to indicate that they are



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

qualified in submarines / Once an enlisted sailor has earned the right to wear the “dolphins”, (SS) is added after his rate of rank that stands for “Submarine Specialist”

A “Bluenose” is a sailor who goes through an initiation ceremony that commemorates a sailor’s first crossing of the Arctic Circle / Sailors who have gone through the initiation may wear the Blue Nose Submarine Arctic Circle Patch

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units / The award is presented for service that is performed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal / The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation / To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual / Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HALL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

ROBERT

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert W. Hall honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Hall was a member of the Patriots Club of Lackawanna / Robert W. Hall passed away on 2 August 2024 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HALL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

TERRENCE

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Terrence E. Hall honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Terrence Hall was a counselor with the Erie County Mental Health Group / Terrence E. Hall passed away on 8 February 2021



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAMILTON**
ROGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SOUTH WALES

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Roger Hamilton honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Hamilton was a New York State Trooper for over 30 years / Roger Hamilton retired to Jupiter, Florida and passed away on 29 January 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAMMOND**
TONI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Toni Gene Hammond honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Toni Hammond was born in Van Nuys, California / Hammond worked as a Legal System Analyst at Pillsbury in Minnesota, later moving to Cheektowaga / Toni Gene Hammond (nee Largent) passed away on 7 November at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HARMON, JR.**

KEVIN

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: GREENBRANCH ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS FORRESTAL (CVA-59)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kevin C. "KC" Harmon, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Kevin Harmon served aboard the USS Forrestal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kevin Harmon retired after 25 years of service with the New York State Department of Corrections, with the rank of Sergeant / Kevin C. "KC" Harmon, Jr. passed away on 13 July 2024 at the age of 79 years old

USS Forrestal (CVA-59) (later CV-59, then AVT-59), was a supercarrier named after the first United States Secretary of Defense James Forrestal / Commissioned in 1955, she was the United States' first completed supercarrier, and was the lead ship of her class / The other carriers of her class were USS Saratoga, USS Ranger and USS Independence / She surpassed the World War II Japanese carrier Shinano as the largest carrier yet built, and was the first designed to support jet aircraft / The ship was affectionately called "The FID", because her namesake was the first Secretary of Defense, FID standing for "First In Defense" / This is also the slogan on the ship's insignia and patch / In June 1967, the USS Forrestal departed Norfolk for duty in waters off Vietnam / Once in the Gulf of Tonkin, Forrestal began four days of sorties / The planes of Attack Carrier Air Wing 17 flew about 150 missions against targets in North Vietnam from the ship / On 29 July 1967, during preparation for another strike, a Zuni rocket installed on an F-4 Phantom (#110), misfired, impacting an armed A-4 Skyhawk (#405)'s side, parked on the port side / The rocket's impact dislodged and ruptured the Skyhawk's 400-gallon external fuel tank / Fuel from the leaking tank caught fire, creating a serious conflagration that burned for hours, killing 134, injuring 161, destroying 21 aircraft and costing the Navy \$72 million / On the flight deck that day was Lieutenant Commander (later Senator) John McCain, who was wounded by an exploding bomb / Forrestal was



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

deployed to Mediterranean waters four times between 1968 and 1973 / She also sped to Tunisia for rescue operations in the flooded Medjerda River Valley near Tunis / The ship logged three more Mediterranean deployments between 1973 and 1975 / On 22 July 1974, as a result of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, the U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Roger Davies requested the evacuation of U.S. citizens from that island nation / In a joint Navy-Marine Corps effort, HMM-162 from the 6th Fleet amphibious assault ship USS Inchon evacuated 466 people, 384 of them U.S. citizens, in only five hours / The USS Forrestal provided air cover for that operation / Forrestal served for nearly four decades in the Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Pacific before being decommissioned on 11 September 1993 / In February 2014 she was towed to Brownsville, Texas, to be scrapped / Scrapping was completed in December 2014



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HART, JR.**
EUGENE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

P.

Address: 66 MAPLEWOOD ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Eugene P. Hart, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Hart was a former Councilman for the Town of West Seneca for 8 years / Hart was a member and President of the West Seneca Historical Society and Museum / Hart was a member of the Lion's Club / Eugene Hart was a member of the Veterans/Military Banner Committee and a member of American Legion Post #735



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HARTMAN**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

503RD ENGINEER COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER BRIGADE, US ARMY EUROPE

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Ronald M. Hartman honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Ronald Hartman was assigned as a Personnel Specialist and had 2-1/2 years of foreign service, assigned to the 503rd Engineer Company, 7th Engineer Brigade, US Army Europe in Germany

SP5 Ronald Hartman was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 18 December 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Hartman graduated from St. Francis High School and attended Alfred University / Hartman enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1966 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Hartman joined the Computer Task Group as a Programmer, retiring as a Recruitment Manager after 28 years with the company / Hartman was an Umpire for local baseball and softball games with the Western New York Umpire Association / Ronald M. Hartman passed away on 3 August 2022 from ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was authorized on 16 March 1802 and is a direct reporting unit and 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 chief of engineers/commanding general / The chief of engineers commands the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 required / For the military construction mission, the chief of engineers 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

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

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HASTIE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JAMES

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

TRAINING SQUADRON THREE (TRARON THREE)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 3rd Class James R. Hastie honorably served in the United States Navy as an Aviation Machinist's Mate (Reciprocating Engine Mechanic)

PO3 James Hastie was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 12 November 1969

Base Assignments:

Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Florida - Naval Air Station Whiting Field is a United States Navy base located near Milton, Florida, with some outlying fields near Navarre, Florida, in south and central Santa Rosa County, and is one of the Navy's two primary pilot training bases (the other being NAS Corpus Christi, Texas) / NAS Whiting Field provides training for U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force student pilots, as well as those of several allied nations / NAS Whiting Field is home to Training Air Wing Five (TRAWING 5) / Naval Auxiliary Air Station (NAAS) Whiting Field was commissioned on July 16, 1943 and is named for Kenneth Whiting, who was commissioned from the United States Naval Academy on 25 February 1908 / Whiting qualified in submarines, commanding USS Porpoise (SS-7), USS Shark (SS-8), USS Tarpon (SS-175), and USS Seal (SS-183) / In 1914 he learned to fly under Orville Wright and was designated Naval Aviator number 16 / He assumed command of the 1st Naval Air Unit in France following America's entry into World War I and was subsequently assigned to command Naval Air Stations 14 and 15 at RNAS Killingholme, England / He was awarded the Navy Cross "for exceptionally meritorious service in a duty of great responsibility"

Miscellaneous:

James R. Hastie passed away on 28 May 2022 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

West Seneca, New York

Training Squadron Three (VT-3) was commissioned on May 1, 1960, at South Whiting Field / Its primary mission at the time was to instruct student Naval Aviators in radio instruments, air-to-air gunnery and formation flying / Air-to-air gunnery was discontinued in January 1965 and familiarization and basic instrument training was added in its place / In 1973, VT-3 moved to its present location at North Whiting Field / Today, VT-3 continues its legacy of joint training with a ready-room of Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force instructor pilots

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAUSER**

EUGENE

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene Patrick Hauser honorably served in the United States Air Force / Eugene Hauser was assigned as a Sentry Guard while deployed in South East Asia during the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Patrick Hauser passed away on 13 June 2020 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery and Mausoleum, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAVENS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

ROBERT

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert F. Havens honorably served in the United States Air Force for 8 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Havens passed away on 18 July 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HAYDEN**

BRUCE

S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bruce Stanwood Hayden honorably served in the United States Navy and the United States Marine Corps as a Hospital Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, Bruce Hayden became a Lieutenant with the Buffalo Fire Department / Bruce Hayden was an accomplished hiker, hiking the Appalachian Trail, the High Sierras and completing the entire Camino de Santiago four times / Bruce Stanwood Hayden passed away on 18 July 2024 at the age of 89 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HEATH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

BENJAMIN

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Benjamin C. Heath Thomas M. Hayes honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Benjamin C. Heath passed away on 6 September 2023 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HEFFLEY

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: COLDEN

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Ross Heffley honorably served in the United States Navy as a Nurse stationed in Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Heffley owned multiple harness race horses that competed at Buffalo Raceway and Batavia Downs / Heffley owned the Harness Shop located at Buffalo Raceway / John Heffley was a member of the WNY Horseman's Association and the United States Trotting Association / Heffley was also a member of the Mastiff Club of America / John Ross Heffley passed away on 4 January 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HEHR

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

JAMES

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James W. Hehr honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Hehr was a long term fire fighter for the Hy-View Volunteer Fire Dept and past Fire Chief / James W. Hehr passed away on 24 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Lancaster, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HEINEMAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHAFFEE

RALPH

N.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, 1ST BATTALION, 19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (BERLIN)

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Ralph Norman Heineman honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Ralph Heineman was assigned as a Heavy Weapons Infantryman / SGT Heineman had over 2-1/2 years of foreign service in Germany, and was assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, US Army Europe

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ralph Norman Heineman passed away on 25 December 2021 and donated his body to the University of Buffalo

Heavy Weapons Infantryman employ, engage, and eliminate threats with a variety of heavy weapons, in an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) and Heavy Weapons Company / Heavy Weapons Infantryman support Battalion Commanders mission with the versatility of the Weapons Company capabilities providing close and long-range missile and heavy machine gun fires and provides anti-armor tactics

The 19th Infantry Regiment ("Rock of Chickamauga"[1]) is a United States Army infantry regiment which is assigned to the US Army Training and Doctrine Command, with the assignment of conducting Basic and Advanced Infantry Training / 2nd Battalion, 19th Regiment was part of the 24th Infantry Division and fought in the Geum River line during the Korean War / Withdrawn 1989-06-16 from the Combat Arms Regimental System, reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System, transferred to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command, and assigned to Basic and Advanced Infantry Training duty at Fort Moore (then Fort Benning), Georgia



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II / Because of the legal status of West Berlin as an occupied territory, the Army of Occupation Medal was issued for forty-five years until the unification of Germany in 1990, making it one of the longest active military awards of both the Second World War and the Cold War / To be awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, a service member was required to have performed at least thirty consecutive days of military duty within a designated geographical area of military occupation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HEININGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert J. Heininger honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Heininger passed away on 21 October 2024 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HENDRICKS**

PAUL

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul F. Hendricks honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Hendricks was a member of the Edsel Car Club / Paul F. Hendricks passed away on 7 September 2025 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HENNESSEY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PAUL

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul J. Hennessey honorably served in the United States Army / Paul Hennessey was stationed in Germany for 2 years and 5 months as a Field Communications Crewman

Paul Hennessey was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 5 February 1963 with reserve obligations ending 16 February 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Hennessey worked for the United States Postal Service until his retirement / Paul J. Hennessey passed away on 7 January 2025 at the age of 84 years old and interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The Army Communications Field Specialist serves as a person that deals with both hardware and software systems / These systems include radio, Teletype, computer networks, telephone switching systems, cryptographic equipment and other various network systems / It is a position that uses various computers, radios and other communication type gear / It can include working on the design, operation, installation, and connection of different types of communications networks / These are the Army communications networks that receive, transmit and process information and data.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HERKEY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

KENNETH

L.

Address: MAIN STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

410TH BOMBARDMENT WING , CIVIL ENGINEERING

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth L. Herkey honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

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

Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas - Sheppard AFB, located near Wichita Falls, was is named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941 / Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / It was officially opened as a United States Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941, following the arrival of the first military members on 14 June 1941 / As the Army Air Corps became the Army Air Forces, facilities were completed sufficiently to allow the first class of 22 aviation mechanics to enter training that October; the class graduated 23 February 1942 / Sheppard Field reached its peak strength of 46,340 people while serving as a separation center for troops being discharged following World War II from September through November 1945 / Communications, refrigeration, air conditioning, and power production operator and repairman training were transferred to Sheppard in 1959



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan - K.I. Sawyer AFB was located south of the city of Marquette, near the center of Michigan's Upper Peninsula / The base was first established as K.I. Sawyer County Airport in 1949, as Marquette County's municipal airport / It was named in honor of Kenneth Ingalls Sawyer, a former County Highway Department employee / On January 24, 1955, the U.S. Government signed a 99-year lease establishing K.I. Sawyer AFB at the site of the County Airport and agreed to joint use / However, the site was transferred to total Air Force control in 1956 and non-military operations ended in 1957 / In January 1956, K.I. Sawyer AFB became the home of the 473rd Fighter Group, a unit of the Eastern Air Defense Command, but in 1959, the 473rd FG became the 56th Fighter Group and was host for the Sault Ste. Marie Air Defense Sector and the 4042nd Strategic Wing, a Strategic Air Command unit / In February 1963, the 4042nd SW was discontinued and the 410th Bombardment Wing or 410th Bomb Wing was activated / In 1963, the Wing began conducting flying operations with the B-52H Stratofortress and the KC- 135 Stratotanker / With the disestablishment of SAC, the base came under control of the Air Combat Command in June 1992 / In 1993 the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission announced K.I. Sawyer was on the closure list, and in September 1995, K.I. Sawyer AFB officially closed

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Herkey graduated from West Seneca Seneca High School / Herkey worked a variety of jobs prior to entering the military / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Kenneth Herkey worked in the HVAC (Heating and Air Conditioning) field / Kenneth Herkey is a long time member and former Chaplain of American Legion Post #735 and is part of the Color Guard



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HEROD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

NANCIE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Nancie M.(nee Lehnus) Herod honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Nancie M.(nee Lehnus) Herod passed away on 18 August 2025 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HERTEL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

LAWRENCE

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lawrence A. Hertel honorably served in the United States Air Force / Hertel served in the Air Force Office of Security Investigations in South Korea, England and Washington, D.C.

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence Hertel graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Lawrence Hertel earned degrees from Erie Community College and the University at Buffalo / Hertel worked for Niagara Mohawk Power Corp (National Grid) for 28 years before retiring as a Customer Service Representative / Hertel later worked for several golf courses, including the Rothland Golf Course in Clarence Center / Lawrence A. Hertel passed away on 17 March 2024 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HESS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DONALD

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald W. Hess honorably served in the United States Army / Donald Hess was a paratrooper assigned to the 82nd Airborne

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Hess graduated from Kenmore High School and enlisted in the Army after graduation / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Hess was a successful Sales Engineer working in Buffalo and Rochester / Donald W. Hess passed away at the age of 87 years old on 18 March 2023

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HETZEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

WAYNE

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Wayne Hetzel honorably served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War and the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wayne Hetzel was employed by the United States Postal Service / Wayne Hetzel passed away on 26 September 2022 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HIAM**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DANIEL

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel C. Hiam honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Hiam was a Steamfitter with Local 22 / Hiam was a member of the Monsignor Nash Knights of Columbus / Daniel C. Hiam passed away on 13 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HILLMAN**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert L. Hillman honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Hillman retired from the Carborundum company / Robert L. Hillman passed away on 25 September at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOADLEY**
RICHARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard M. "Dick" Hoadley honorably served in the United States Navy / Richard Hoadley served aboard a submarine

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Hoadley worked at General Motors (GM) for over 40 years / Richard M. "Dick" Hoadley passed away on 9 February 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: HOCHADEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HOLLAND

JOHN

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John W. Hochadel honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / During his military career, Hochadel served as a Sharpshooter, Track Vehicle Mechanic and Cook

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Hochadel was employed by the Town of Holland Highway Department and was elected as the Town of Holland Highway Superintendent from 1982 through 1986 / Hochadel was a member of the Holland Fire Company / John W. Hochadel passed away on 26 April 2023 at the age of 87 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HODGES**

CHARLES

B.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles B. Hodges honorably served in the United States Air Force and the Air Force Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Hodges was a 1955 graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute / Hodges was employed by Cornell Aeronautical, followed by Wilson, Klaes, Brucker & Worden Mechanical/Electrical Engineering Consultants where he served as partner and President / Charles Hodges was named Engineer of the Year in 2005 by the New York State Society of Professional Engineers, Erie-Niagara Chapter / Charles Hodges was a member and Past President of the Board of Directors at the Ronald McDonald House of Buffalo / Charles B. Hodges passed away on 26 December 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOFFMAN**
THOMAS J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Thomas John Hoffman honorably served in the United States Army / Captain Thomas Hoffman was assigned as an Artillery Officer

After his Honorable Discharge from the regular U.S. Army, Captain Thomas Hoffman joined the U.S. Army Reserve from 1965 through 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Hoffman graduated from Bishop Fallon High School and Canisius College / Hoffman joined the Big E (Empire of America Bank) and became Senior Vice President / In 1992, Thomas Hoffman moved to Richmond, Virginia joining the Martin Agency as a Senior Vice President, returning to Amherst in 2000 / Thomas Hoffman was a charter member of the Glen Oak Golf Club / Thomas John Hoffman passed away on 20 March 2025 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The Field Artillery Unit Commander is a position in the U.S. Army that plans, coordinates, and directs field artillery activities / The Field Artillery branch traces its origins to 1775 when the Continental Congress elected Henry Knox as "Colonel of the Regiment of Artillery" / The Field Artillery officers serve in various Army formations and have diverse assignment opportunities

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOLLOWOOD**

RICHARD

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, 4TH BATTALION, 37TH ARMOR REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Richard A. Hollowood honorably served in the United States Army as a Armor Crewman

Richard Hollowood was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 28 May 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard A. Hollowood passed away on 1 April 2019

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

The 37th Armor is an armor (tank) regiment of the United States Army / It is remembered as the successor to the 37th Tank Battalion, 4th Armored Division, commanded by then Lieutenant Colonel Creighton Abrams (the namesake of the M1 Abrams) during World War II / The 37th Armor regiment landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, France on 13 July 1944 / The 37th fought in Brittany and the Battle of the Bulge / By April 1945 the 37th had driven deep into central Germany then marched south and drove into Czechoslovakia, where they were when the war ended on 6 May 1945 / During 1990 and 1991, the 37th Armor was alerted for deployment to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and deployed all of its personnel and equipment over 3,000 miles from an already forward deployed location, fought a major battle against a well equipped enemy over terrain they had never



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

trained on and then redeployed the unit to its home station / In response to the Global War on Terror 37th Armor deployed to Iraq in 2003 and again in 2006 / During those deployments the unit was instrumental in the Battle of Karbala in 2004 and the Battle of Ramadi in 2006 / Additionally the unit was involved in direct combat action in Baghdad, Falluja, and the Ninewa Province / The 37th Armor was awarded the Presidential and Navy Unit citations due to these deployments

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HONSBERGER**

GEORGE

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE CENTER

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George W. Honsberger honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Honsberger retired from the Continental Can Company after 39 years of employment / Honsberger was a baseball player and baseball coach for the Town of Clarence for 38 years / George Honsberger was President of The Erie Niagara Baseball Association for 16 years / Honsberger is on the Clarence High School Baseball Wall of Fame, and is a member of the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame / The baseball field in his home town of Clarence Center bears his name-"GEORGE W. HONSBERGER FIELD" / George W. Honsberger passed away on 22 May 2025 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Clarence Center Cemetery, Clarence, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOOLIHAN**

JON

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jon P. Hoolihan honorably served in the United States Air Force / Jon Hoolihan was assigned as a Heavy Equipment Operator and Teacher

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jon Hoolihan graduated from our Lady of Victory and Lackawanna High School / Jon Hoolihan later moved to Las Vegas where he built a successful construction excavator business in Nevada / Jon P. Hoolihan passed away on 12 January 2023 at the age of 78 years of age



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOOPER**

THOMAS

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Thomas P. Hooper honorably served in the United States Air Force / CPT Thomas Hooper retired from the Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Hooper graduated from St. Francis High School in 1966 / Thomas P. Hooper passed away on 18 March 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOPCUS**

CONRAD

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Conrad J. Hopcus honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Conrad J. Hopcus passed away on 26 July 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOPKINS**
VERNON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST FALLS

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Vernon Merle Hopkins honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Vernon Hopkins was an employee of New York Telephone for 29 years / Hopkins was a 43-year member of Mt. Vernon Lodge #263 / Vernon Merle Hopkins passed away on 11 October 2025 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HORAN, JR.**
THOMAS J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: COLDEN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas J. Horan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas J. Horan, Jr. passed away on 8 November 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HOUCK**

KENNETH

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Kenneth F. Houck honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Kenneth Houck was assigned to the U.S. Army Ordnance Branch as an Engine & Powertrain Repairman / SP5 Houck had 12 months of foreign service in Korea in support of operations in Vietnam

Specialist Fifth-Class Kenneth F. Houck was honorably discharged from active duty on 2 March 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Houck was a longtime member of the former Harvey D. Morin Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 in West Seneca / Kenneth F. Houck passed away on 24 March 2023 at the age of 73 years old

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility materiel during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

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

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

Name: **HOUT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ALBERT

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Albert R. Hout honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Albert R. Hout passed away on 3 April 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HUBERT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SPRINGVILLE

RAYMOND

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond Richard Hubert honorably served in the United States Air Force / Raymond Hubert was stationed in Korea and Japan

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Hubert was a member of American Legion Post #431 / Raymond Richard Hubert passed away on 29 September 2025 at the age of 93 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HUGHES**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

DONALD

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald Edward Hughes honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Hughes was a guidance counselor for Grand Island School for many years before his retirement in 1996 / Hughes retired to Tampa Bay, Florida in 1997 / Donald Edward Hughes passed away 3 December 2015 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HUGHES, SR.**
KENNETH S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth D. Hughes, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Kenneth Hughes performed the duties of a Medic during his enlistment

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth D. Hughes, Sr. passed away on 8 May 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HUNLEY, JR.**

WILLIE

L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION RIBBON

SEA SERVICE DEPLOYMENT RIBBON

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

LETTER OF RECOGNITION

MERITORIOUS MAST (3 AWARDS)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (PISTOL)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (2 AWARDS)

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Willie L. Hunley, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps for 10 years / SSGT Willie Hunley was stationed in Okinawa

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Willie L. Hunley, Jr. passed away on 28 August 2024 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a mid-level unit award of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Army awards units the Army MUC for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding achievement or service in combat or non-combat, the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps award units the Navy MUC for valorous or meritorious achievement or service in combat or non-combat, and the U.S. Coast Guard awards units the Coast Guard MUC for valorous or meritorious achievement or service not involving combat

The Meritorious Mast is a formal and ceremonial acknowledgment recognizing an enlisted person being awarded a Letter of Appreciation, Certificate of Commendation, or a personal decoration whenever personal performance is considered noteworthy or commendable beyond the usual requirements of duty by a demonstration of exceptional industry, judgment, or initiative



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Navy and Marine Corps Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (SSDR)[5] is a service award of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps / The Sea Service Deployment Ribbon is granted to any member of the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps assigned to a deployable unit (e.g., a ship (including submarines), aircraft squadron, air wing or air group, detachment, battalion, Marine Expeditionary Unit, Marine Air Ground Task Force, or other unit type that operates away from its assigned homeport) and is forward-deployed for a period of either 90 consecutive days or two periods of at least 80 days each within a given 12-month period; or 6 months stationed overseas in a forward deployed location / When a ship's crew qualifies for the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the ship is authorized to paint and display the ribbon and award stars on the port and starboard side of the bulwark aft to designate the number of deployments conducted throughout the commissioned life of the ship since August 1974

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HUNTER**

TIMOTHY

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second Class Timothy J. Hunter honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy Hunter retired from the Social Security Administration as a Systems Analyst / Timothy J. Hunter passed away on 31 October 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **HURD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

PETER

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: QM3

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

USS DAMATO (DD 871)

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Quartermaster 3rd Class Petty Officer Peter Grant Hurd honorably served in the United States Navy and assigned to the Dominican Republic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Hurd was the former owner and president of EPCO Manufacturing / Peter Hurd was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 and former American Legion Commander of Erie County / Peter Grant Hurd passed away on 12 July 2022 at the age of 77 years old

USS Damato (DD-871) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy / She was named for Corporal Anthony P. Damato USMC (1922–1944), who was killed in action during the Battle of Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor / The Damato was commissioned on 27 April 1946 / From September to November 1950, Damato had her first tour of duty with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea, and during the next year joined in hunter-killer operations in the South Atlantic / Damato served with the Pacific Fleet from June 1967 until February 1968 / On 12 and 13 December 1967, Damato conducted naval gunfire support (NGFS) missions while in the Saigon River, Vietnam / The USS Damato was decommissioned on 30 September 1980 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register / Damato was transferred to Pakistan as Tippu Sultan, on 1 October 1980 and scrapped in 1994

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **IGOE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DENNIS

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dennis Patrick Igoe honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Igoe graduated from Bishop Timon High School in 1962 and attended Canisius College, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in History and English and a Master of Science Degree in Education / Igoe taught in the Holland Central School System and the Orchard Park Central School System / With the Orchard Park Central School District, Igoe served as a 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher, an Assistant Principal, Director of Pupil Services and Assistant Superintendent / Igoe retired in 2001, after 32 years of service to teaching / Dennis Patrick Igoe passed away on 2 October 2023 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **INCORVAIA**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class James Incorvaia honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 James Incorvaia was assigned as a Company Clerk with the 101st Airborne Division and stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Base Assignments:

Fort Campbell, Kentucky – Fort Campbell is a United States Army installation located astride the Kentucky–Tennessee border / Opened in 1942, the base is named in honor of Union Army Brigadier General William Bowen Campbell, the last Whig Governor of Tennessee / From that time until the end of World War II, Camp Campbell was the training ground for the 12th, 14th and 20th Armored divisions, Headquarters IV Armored Corps and the 26th Infantry Division / From 1950 to 1962, the post operated an Airborne Course which trained nearly 30,000 soldiers as paratroopers / The 1st Brigade was sent for duty in Vietnam in July 1965 / With the escalation of hostilities in Southeast Asia, the rest of the division was sent to Vietnam / Also in response to the military buildup, the 6th Infantry Division was reactivated at Fort Campbell on 24 November 1966, and inactivated 25 July 1968 / The Sabalauski Air Assault School, named after Command Sergeant Major Walter James Sabalauski is located on Fort Campbell / Courses taught include Air Assault, Pathfinder, Pre-Ranger, Jumpmaster Refresher, and Rappel Master / The school is also home to the Division's Parachute Demonstration Team

Miscellaneous:

James Incorvaia attended Holy Cross School and was a 1965 graduate of Cardinal Dougherty High School / James Incorvaia helped in the family store, Charlie's Del-West Food Market at West and West Delavan Avenues and later, worked at Bethlehem Steel before being drafted / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Incorvaia sold policies for Prudential Insurance Co. and worked in restaurants / James Incorvaia owned and operated Rigatoni's, an Italian restaurant in Kenmore, for 10 years / In 1981, Incorvaia opened the first Jim's



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

SteakOut on Elmwood, near West Delavan Avenue, eventually have 10 shops in the city and suburbs / James Incorvaia passed away on 5 October 2025 at the age of 78 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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ISAACS, JR.**
CHESTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: EM2

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

USS LLOYD THOMAS (DD-764)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Electrician's Mate Petty Officer 2nd Class Chester M. Isaacs, Jr. honorably served in the United States / EM2 Chester Issacs was stationed aboard the USS Lloyd Thomas (DD-764) as an Electrician's Mate

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Chester M. Isaacs, Jr. passed away on 29 June 2022

A Navy Electrician's Mate performs electrical work for Navy facilities and equipment / They are responsible for operating a ship's electrical equipment, including electrical power generation systems, lighting systems, electrical equipment, and electrical appliances / They may perform their work aboard ships or submarines or on equipment onshore installations / Electrician's Mates monitor and maintain various electrical equipment, including generators, switchboards, and control equipment

The USS Lloyd Thomas (DD/DDE-764) was a Gearing-class destroyer in the United States Navy during the Korean War and the Vietnam War / The ship was named after Lieutenant, Junior Grade Lloyd Thomas who died while piloting a Douglas TBD Devastator torpedo bomber on 4 June 1942 during the Battle of Midway / During the 1960's the Lloyd Thomas participated in naval activities in the Mediterranean Sea, including from 10 October to 19 November 1964, when the Lloyd Thomas escorted 28,000 Marines from Little Creek, Va. to the coast of Spain during "Operation Steel Pike I", the largest peacetime amphibious operation ever conducted / On 19 April 1972, in what would later be called the Battle of Đồng Hới, the Lloyd Thomas with three other US Navy warships were engaged in a naval strike just below the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone against North Vietnamese coast artillery



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

when attacked by artillery, MIGs and automatic weapons fire / Among other minor damage, the Lloyd Thomas was struck by a single artillery shell on the port bow above the waterline / Three sailors had minor injuries and the Lloyd Thomas remained on the firing line / The USS Lloyd Thomas was commissioned on 21 March 1947 and decommissioned on 12 March 1972 / The Lloyd Thomas was sold to Taiwan on 12 October 1972, and renamed ROCS Dang Yang (DD-911) / She was later decommissioned and stricken on 16 March 1999 and sunk as an artificial reef on 31 October 2002

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ISAACS, JR.**
CHESTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

USS LLOYD THOMAS (DD764)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Chester M. Isaacs, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy as an Electricians Mate onboard the USS Lloyd Ythomas

PO2 Chester Isaacs, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Chester M. Isaacs, Jr. passed away on 29 June 2022

Electrician's Mates are responsible for the operation and repair of a ship's or station's electrical power plant and electrical equipment / They also maintain and repair power and lighting circuits, distribution switchboards, generators, motors and other electrical equipment / Specially qualified electrician's mates are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to maintain the control subsystems in nuclear reactors

The third USS Lloyd Thomas (DD/DDE-764) was a Gearing-class destroyer in the United States Navy during the Korean War and the Vietnam War / The ship was named after Lloyd Thomas who was born on 10 March 1912 in Nelsonville, Ohio and became an Aviator Ensign / During World War II, Thomas was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise and promoted to Lieutenant, Junior Grade / Lieutenant Thomas, piloting a Douglas TBD Devastator torpedo bomber on 4 June 1942, died in his squadron's attack during the Battle of Midway / He was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross / The ship was commissioned on 21 March 1947 and conducted antisubmarine operations in the Caribbean and made yearly voyages to the Mediterranean / The 1952 voyage



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

included a NATO amphibious landing on the coast of Denmark (Operation "Mainbrace") and port calls in Scotland in England / During 1953 she again operated with NATO, this time in the Mediterranean, and visited Cannes and Naples / In April 1972, in what would later be called the Battle of Đồng Hới, the Lloyd Thomas with three other US Navy warships were engaged in a naval strike just below the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone against North Vietnamese coast artillery when attacked by artillery, MIGs and automatic weapons fire / Among other minor damage, the Lloyd Thomas was struck by a single artillery shell on the port bow above the waterline / Three sailors had minor injuries and the Lloyd Thomas remained on the firing line / She was decommissioned on 12 October 1972 and struck from the Naval Vessel Register on the same day / The Lloyd Thomas was sold to Taiwan on 12 October 1972, and renamed ROCS Dang Yang (DD-911) / The ship was sunk as artificial reef on 31 October 2002

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JACOBSON, SR.

MICHAEL

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Michael J. Jacobson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael J. Jacobson, Sr. passed away on 24 October 2025 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JANICKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

MARK

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1975

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

USS SAM RAYBURN (SSBN-635)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Mark Wayne Janicki honorably served in the United States Navy / Mark Janicki was trained as an Infantry Gun Crew/Seaman Specialist and served 3 months Sea Service on the submarine, USS Sam Rayburn

Mark Janicki was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 2 April 1976

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mark Janicki entered military service at the age of 18 years old / Mark Janicki was a member of local Labor Union #210 of Buffalo, NY, and a volunteer fireman for the Elma Fire Department / EMT Dept / Mark Wayne Janicki was tragically struck and killed by a motor vehicle on 29 June 2025 at the age of 77 years old

USS Sam Rayburn (SSBN-635) was a James Madison-class fleet ballistic missile submarine named for Sam Rayburn (1882–1961), Speaker of the United States House of Representatives (1940–1947, 1949–1953, and 1955–1961) / Sam Rayburn was commissioned on 2 December 1964 and carried the Polaris missiles and later the Poseidon missiles / In August 1965, she joined Submarine Squadron 16 and made seven deterrent patrols out of Rota, Spain / The USS Sam Rayburn was decommissioned on 31 July 1989 / Following decommissioning, ex-Sam Rayburn was converted into a moored training ship for use at the Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit at Goose Creek, South Carolina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JANISZESKI**
MICHAEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Michael E. Janiszeski honorably served in the United States Air Force / MSGT Janiszeski retired from the United States Air Force and also served in the US Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Janiszeski served as a Deacon at the Winchester Community Church / Michael E. Janiszeski passed away at the age of 72 years old on 3 November 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JARVIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

RONALD

H.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LT.

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Ronald H. Jarvis honorably served in the United States Navy and assigned to the Dental Corps at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Base Assignments:

Guantanamo Bay Naval Base (Spanish: Base Naval de la Bahía de Guantánamo), officially known as Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba - Guantanamo Bay or NSGB, (also called GTMO, pronounced Gitmo as jargon by members of the U.S. military is a United States military base located on 45 square miles of land and water[2] on the shore of Guantánamo Bay at the southeastern end of Cuba / It has been permanently leased to the United States since 1903 as a coaling station and naval base, making it the oldest overseas U.S. naval base in the world / Since 2002, the naval base has contained a military prison, for alleged unlawful combatants captured in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other places during the War on Terror / The 1903 lease has no fixed expiration date, and as such it can only be ended if the US Navy decided to abandon the area or both countries agreed mutually to end the lease

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Jarvis graduated from Lackawanna High School in 1955 / Jarvis attended the University of Buffalo, receiving his Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S) in 1959 and 1963 respectively / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Ronald Jarvis attended the University of Indiana, receiving his Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) in 1965 / Jarvis was Past President of the Eighth District Dental Society, the Erie County Dental Society and the American Prosthodontic Society / Jarvis was also a past member of the teaching facility at the University of Buffalo School of Dentistry and the Eastman Dental Center in Rochester, New York / James H. Jarvis, D.D.S., M.S.D passed away on 26 May 2023 after a brief illness



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JAYES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ARTHUR

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Arthur R. Jayes honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur R. Jayes passed away on 11 October 2025 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**
EDWIN J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Machinist's Mate Third-Class Edwin J. Johnson honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Machinist's Mate (Surface) (MM) Machinist's Mates operate and maintain steam turbines and reduction gears used for ship propulsion and auxiliary machinery such as turbogenerators, pumps and oil purifiers / They also maintain auxiliary machinery outside of main machinery spaces, such as electrohydraulic steering engines and elevators, refrigeration plants, air conditioning systems and desalinization plants / They may also operate and maintain compressed gas producing plants / The duties performed by MM's include: aligning piping systems for oil, water, air and steam, and controlling the operation of ship boilers and steam turbines used for ship propulsion and service systems; controlling operation of turbogenerators used to produce electrical power; leaning, adjusting, testing and performing other preventive maintenance on a ship's boilers, main engines, turbogenerators and other auxiliary machinery including steering engines, elevators, winches, pumps and associated valves; operating and maintaining desalinization plants (distilling plants) to make fresh water from sea water; maintaining refrigeration plants, air conditioning systems and galley equipment; repairing or replacing valves, pumps, heat exchangers, compressors, steam turbines and hydraulic or pneumatic control devices; making entries in and analyzing machinery operating records and reports / Machinist's mates work within the hull of a ship in fire rooms, boiler rooms, engine rooms or shops



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James A. "JJ" Johnson honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Johnson graduated from Burgard High School and drafted into the United States Army / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Johnson went to work For Dunlop Tire in Tonawanda, New York / James Johnson retired after 32 years with Dunlop and held various positions for the 135 URW / James A. "JJ" Johnson passed away on 2 March 2023 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

RAYMOND

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

384TH REPLACEMENT COMPANY

15TH SUPPLY & TRANSPORT BATTALION, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Raymond H. Johnson honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Johnson was deployed to Korea with the Army Chemical Corp for 13 months of active duty assigned as an Equipment Operator

SP4 Raymond Johnson was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 29 July 1966

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Raymond H. Johnson passed away on 15 February 2019 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Army Chemical Corps is the branch of the United States Army tasked with defending against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons / The Chemical Warfare Service was established on 28 June 1918, combining activities that until then had been dispersed among five separate agencies of the United States federal government / It was made a permanent branch of the Regular Army by the National Defense Act of 1920 and in 1945, it was redesignated the Chemical Corps

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 and was formed in 1921. serving in 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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **JOHNSON**

ROBERT

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. "Bob" Johnson honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / Robert Johnson served for six years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Johnson was a builder by trade and owned A&A Tile and Linoleum in West Seneca until his retirement in 2024 / Robert J. "Bob" Johnson passed away on 9 May 2025 at the age of 80 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JONES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

RICHARD

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Richard F. Jones honorably served in the United States Air Force / Richard Jones was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Jones was a lector and past chairman of the HMRC Parish Church Committee / Richard F. Jones passed away on 2 October 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JONES JR
CLIFFORD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: COL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Colonel Clifford Jones, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / Colonel Clifford Jones was a West Point graduate and served in the U.S. Army for 30 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Clifford Jones worked for M&T Bank and Calspan before retiring in 1994 / Clifford Jones, Jr. passed away on 1 March 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: JUSKO

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

TOM

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Tom A. Jusko honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi and at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Base Assignments:

Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi - Keesler Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Biloxi, a city along the Gulf Coast in Harrison County, Mississippi, United States / The base is named in honor of aviator 2nd Lieutenant Samuel Reeves Keesler Jr., a Mississippi native killed in France during the First World War and was activated in June 1941 / The base is home of Headquarters, Second Air Force (2 AF) and the 81st Training Wing (81 TW) of the Air Education and Training Command / The Tuskegee Airmen were trained at Keesler. More than 7,000 Black soldiers were stationed at Keesler Field by the autumn of 1943 / These soldiers included pre-aviation cadets, radio operators, aviation technicians, bombardiers, and aviation mechanics / Keesler is also home to CNATTU Keesler (Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit), a training unit for U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps enlisted personnel receiving training at Keesler, such as enlisted meteorology training, with their Air Force counterparts

Miscellaneous:

Tom Jusko graduated from the George Washington University and the University of Buffalo / Jusko retired as the Principal Probation Officer for Erie County, New York / Tom A. Jusko passed away on 23 September 2022 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KACZKOWSKI**
PAUL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul Kaczowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Kaczowski was employed by Metro Community News as an Advertising Salesman / Paul Kaczowski passed away on 7 March 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KALEJTA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RICHARD

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private Richard J. "Dicko" Kalejta honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard J. "Dicko" Kalejta passed away on 10 October 1998 at the age of 63 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAMINSKI, SR.**
GERALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gerald Kaminski honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Kaminski established his family's Buffalo-based truck equipment business, Kaminski and Sons, in 1971 / Gerald Kaminski was elected to the Cheektowaga Town Board in 2011 and was on his fourth term / Kaminski previously served as deputy town supervisor under multiple Cheektowaga leaders / In 2023, Kaminski was named the Western New York Polish American Business Owner of the Year from the General Pulaski Association / Gerald "Jerry" Kaminski, Sr. passed away on 28 January 2025 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The Air National Guard (ANG) is a federal military reserve force of the United States Air Force, as well as the air militia of each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands / Its federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and provide assistance during national emergencies / In the Air National Guard, you can serve your country and community, with career and leadership opportunities, healthcare and education benefits, and the freedom to choose how you serve



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KANAVEL**
MICHAEL D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

17TH BOMBARDMENT WING

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael D. Kanavel honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Kanavel was born in Houston, Texas and lived in Buffalo / Kanavel graduated from Grand Island High School in 1967 / Michael Kanavel worked at several different area companies retiring from Tapecon in Buffalo as an Estimator / Kanavel moved to Niagara Falls, New York / Michael D. Kanavel passed away on 2 October 2014 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Niagara Falls Memorial Park Cemetery, Lewiston, New York

The 17th Bombardment Wing was established as the 17th Bombardment Wing, Light on 8 May 1952 and activated two days later at Pusan-East Air Base, Korea, where it replaced the 452nd Bombardment Wing Light / It was attached the 5th Air Force, Tactical Air Command and equipped with B-26s from World War II / During the Korean War, from 10 May 1952 until 27 July 1953, the 17th Bombardment Wing conducted combat operations that included light bombardment, interdiction and armed reconnaissance / It moved to Miho Air Base, Japan on 10 October 1954, where it maintained operational proficiency for light bombardment / It returned to the United States and was assigned to Eglin AFB, Florida on 1 April 1955 / On 1 October 1955, it was redesignated the 17th Bombardment Wing, Tactical and flew B-57s in 1956 and 1957, and B-66s from 1956 until 1958 / The Wing was inactivated on 25 June 1958 / Redesignated the 17th Bombardment Wing, Heavy and activated on 15 November 1962 and replaced the 4043rd Strategic Wing in February 1963 at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio / It trained to maintain proficiency in strategic bombing and aerial refueling on a global basis / It furnished B-52s KC-135 aircraft and crews to SAC units in Vietnam from 1966 to 1975 / The 17th Bombardment Wing was inactivated on September 30, 1976



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KANE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DENNIS

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dennis Joseph Kane honorably served in the United States Air Force

Joining the Air Force Reserves, Dennis Kane became a Intelligence Photo Interpreter / Dennis Kane was called to active duty in the 1968 Pueblo crisis with the 107th Tactical Fighter group in Niagara Falls, New York

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Kane was employed by the Erie County Savings Bank / Dennis Kane moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1976, becoming the Safety Director at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport / Dennis Joseph Kane passed away on 12 January 2025 at the age of 83 years old

The 107th Tactical Fighter Group was initially formed in 1946 as the 107th Fighter Group, consisting of 14 officers and 100 enlisted members / Over the years, the unit operated various fighter aircraft, including the F-47 Thunderbolt, P-51H Mustang, F-4C/D Phantom, and F-16A Falcon / In March 1994, it transitioned to its current



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

mission as the 107th Air Refueling Wing (ARW), flying the KC-135R Strato Tanker / The 107th ARW primarily supports worldwide air refueling missions and can also transport cargo and passengers when needed / Additionally, the unit has a state mission to provide equipment and personnel as directed by the Governor and Division of Military and Naval Affairs / In 2017, it was re-designated as the 107th Attack Wing (ATKW), focusing on operating the MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft / The 107th ATKW is based at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and plays a crucial role in both federal and state missions

Name: **KANE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

GARY

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gary Kane honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Kane was a retired Senior Highway Maintenance Engineer for Erie County / Gary E. Kane passed away on 25 May 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KANTENWEIN**

WILLIAM

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William R. Kantenwein honorably served in the United States Army Reserve for six years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Kantenwein graduated from Niagara County Community College with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science / William Kantenwein was the owner of KNK Remodeling from 1967 to 2017 / William R. Kantenwein passed away on 2 July 2018 at the age of 67 years old and his remains were cremated



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KANTOR**
LEON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Leon T. Kantor honorably served in the United States Air Force / Captain Kantor served as a Dentist during his service time

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leon Kantor was a graduate of Hamilton College and University of Buffalo Dental School where he received his Doctorate Degree / Leon Kantor practiced Dentistry in Hamburg, New York and was a member of the Wanakah Country Club / Kantor was a two-time NYS Junior Golfing Champion / Leon T. Kantor, DDS passed away on 9 October 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAPUS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JOHN

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John S. Kapus honorably served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Kapus attended Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College and was a chiropractor for 40 years at Riverside Chiropractic / Kapus was a member of the NY Chiropractic Association and received the Chiropractor of the Year award in 1974 / John Kapus was also a member and former President of the Riverside Business Association / John S. Kapus passed away on 7 May 2018 at the age of 79 years old and his remains cremated

The Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES or MFR), also known as the United States Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR) and the U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve, is the reserve force of the United States Marine Corps / The Marine Corps Reserve is an expeditionary, warfighting organization and primarily designed to augment and reinforce the active duty units of the Marine Corps in their expeditionary role / It is the largest command, by assigned personnel, in the U.S. Marine Corps / Marines in the Reserve go through the same training and work in the same Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) as their active-duty counterparts / The United States Marine Corps Reserve was established when Congress passed the Naval Appropriations Act of 29 August 1916, and is responsible for providing trained units and qualified individuals to be mobilized for active duty in time of war, national emergency, or contingency operations / Reserve Marines are ready to supplement the active-duty troops when needed



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KARB**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

JOSEPH

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph G. Karb honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Karb was a graduate of Kensington High School, Bryant and Stratton and the University of Buffalo / Karb spent many years as a Controller in the retail industry and was a retiree of Blue Cross of Western New York / Joseph G. Karb passed away on 15 October 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAUDERER**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AURORA

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class James Earl Kauderer honorably served in the United States Air Force as a Air Traffic Controller assigned to Clark Air Base in the Philippines Islands for 11 months

A1C James Kauderer was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 15 December 1964

Base Assignments:

Clark Air Base, Philippines - Clark Air Base is a Philippine Air Force base on Luzon Island in the Philippines, located 3 miles west of Angeles City, about 40 miles northwest of Metro Manila / Clark Air Base was previously a United States military facility, operated by the U.S. Air Force under the aegis of Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and their predecessor organizations from 1903 to 1991 / The base was a stronghold of the combined Philippine and American forces during the final months of World War II and a backbone of logistical support during the Vietnam War until 1975 / In April 2016, an Air Contingent of USAF A-10s and HH-60s was deployed from U.S. air bases in Pyeongtaek and Okinawa to Clark / The primary mission of the contingent appears to be to patrol disputed South China Sea islands, "to provide greater and more transparent air and maritime domain awareness to ensure safety for military and civilian activities in international waters and airspace"

Miscellaneous:

James Earl Kauderer passed away on 22 May 2017

In the 1960s and early 70s, Air Force communications played a critical role in Southeast Asia / Communication support to the massive operations involved a host of specialists performing every then-known communications-electronics function and devising new ones as situations dictated / The war in Vietnam dramatically tested the responsiveness of communications operators to the various demands of tactical combat as well as counter-



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

insurgency operations / On Jan 14, 1962, a detachment of AFCS' 1st Mobile Communications Group installed a tactical air control system in South Vietnam / Also, the group installed voice and teletype services at Tan Son Nhut, Pleiku, DaNang, and Nha Trang / From April 23 to May 1, 1975, during the evacuation of Saigon, South Vietnam, four Air Force Communication Specialists with a radio-equipped jeep, provided communications for the US Defense Attache Office / By April 28, attacks on Saigon had become so heavy that the team was ordered to evacuate / Two of the men volunteered to stay to support the US Marine guards / When the two airmen were airlifted out by helicopter shortly after midnight on 1 May 1975, they were the last Air Force personnel evacuated from South Vietnam



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAWCZYNSKI**

MATTHEW

D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Matthew D. Kawczynski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Matthew Kawczynski was a 50 year active member of the Cleveland Hill Fire Department #6 / Kawczynski was Past Chief and Fire Commissioner for the Fire Department / Matthew Kawczynski was a retired Fire Inspector for the Town of Cheektowaga / Matthew D. Kawczynski passed away on 9 May 2024 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAWINSKI**
BOHDAN J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bohdan J. Kawinski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bohdan Kawinski graduated from medical school in 1982 and had 47 years of experience in Internal Medicine /
Bohdan J. Kawinski, MD. Passed away on 29 July 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KAZMIERSKI**
EDWIN **M.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edwin M. Kazmierski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin Kazmierski was a life member of the AMVETS Hank Nowak Post #45 / Edwin M. Kazmierski passed away on 29 February 2024 at the age of 83 and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KELLY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

BRIAN

F.

Address: 1751 ORCHARD PARK ROAD

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

KOREAN MILITARY ADVISORY GROUP (KMAG)

NIKE ARTILLERY BATTERY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Brian F. Kelly honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Brian Kelly was attached to the Korean Military Advisory group (KMAG) near Busan, Korea / SP4 Brian Kelly spent 13 months in Korea as a Classified Document Specialist and Ration Card Administrator

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 1915 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

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

Miscellaneous:

Brian Kelly attended Orchard Park High School, graduating in 1958 / Kelly attended the State University of New York at Buffalo from 1958 through 1963 prior to military service / Before entering the Army, Brian Kelly went to work for the Chevrolet Tonawanda Foundry in 1961 and returned to the Foundry after his discharge, employed



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

as a Clerk, Safety Inspector and Safety Engineer / Kelly became a Safety Manager at Dunlop Tire Corp in 1982 and remained there until 1991 / Kelly went to work as a Safety Engineer for the West Valley Nuclear Service from 1991 until his retirement in 2002

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

Nike batteries were part of ARADCOM, the U.S. Army Air Defense Command / Placed strategically near cities throughout the country to prevent, "destruction of the centers of America's great retaliatory and productive might," the batteries defended against Soviet aggression / From 1954 until 1974, during the height of the Cold War, Nike Missiles guarded the New York area / The missiles were able to intercept long range Soviet Bear Bombers and destroy them while still over the ocean / Nineteen Nike Missile sites ringed New York City / Two of the missile sites and the Headquarters unit were located in what is now Gateway NRA / Fort Hancock (NY-56) and Fort Tilden (NY-49) operated from 1954 to 1974, while Fort Wadsworth was the Headquarters of the 52nd Anti-Aircraft Brigade from 1954 to 1960 / Soldiers assigned to the Nike Missile defenses worked in one of two locations within a site / They worked at the Missile Launch Area or the radar area, known as the Integrated Fire Control Area (IFC) / These soldiers lived at these locations in ready barracks when they were on 24-hour duty shifts / Fort Tilden and Fort Hancock were both considered double battery sites as they each had two missile batteries / Each battery had two underground storage rooms for a total of 4 magazines at each site / Each magazine room had a large elevator that raised and lowered missiles

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KELLY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

THOMAS

G.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Thomas G. Kelly honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Kelly was a member of American Legion Brounshidle Post #205 for 40 years / Thomas G. Kelly passed away on 24 March 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KENNUTH**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Ronald W. Kennuth honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / Sgt Kennuth was assigned to the 206th Military Police Company

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Kennuth was a retiree of the Town of Cheektowaga Parks Department / Kennuth was a member of the early Ford V8 Club, retired drummer with the Nickel City Band and was a Civil War Reenactor / Ronald W. Kennuth passed away on 27 October 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at St. John's Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The 206th Military Police Company is a subordinate unit of 102nd Military Police Battalion

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KENYON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BOSTON

ROBERT

L.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert L. Kenyon honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert L. Kenyon passed away on 8 August 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KEOHANE**

JOSEPH

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph J. Keohane honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Keohane also served in the U.S. Army Reserve until 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Keohane attended St. Margaret's Elementary School and graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / Keohane graduated from Canisius College, majoring in Economics, and was a sports reporter for the college newspaper / Joseph Keohane later earned a Master's Degree in Education at Buffalo State College / Keohane taught in the North Tonawanda School District for 35 years / Joseph Keohane was a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Buffalo and the Buffalo Club in The Villages / Joseph J. Keohane passed away on 31 March 2015 at the age of 78 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KERNEN**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

USS INTREPID (CVS-11)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Gary L. Kernen honorably served in the United States Navy / Gary Kernen was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician and served aboard the USS Intrepid (CVS-11), an Essex-class Aircraft Carrier, for one year

Gary Kernen was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 23 January 1973

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Gary Kernen was a member and retired from IBEW Union #41 in Orchard Park, NY / Gary L. Kernen passed away on 3 October 2025 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Aviation Electronics Technicians are carefully trained to maintain all aviation electronic systems, from navigation and radar to tactical displays and warfare sensors / Aviation Electronics Technicians maintain, troubleshoot, repair and test complex electronic systems related to aviation on tactical jets, fixed wing aircraft or rotary winged helicopter systems / Technicians work with systems including digital computers, fiber optics, infrared detection, radar, laser electronics, navigation, pressure indication, and electrical power generation and distribution

USS Intrepid (CV/CVA/CVS-11), also known as The Fighting "I", is one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy / She is the fourth US Navy ship to bear the name / Commissioned in August 1943, Intrepid participated in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, including the Battle of Leyte Gulf / Decommissioned shortly after the end of World War II, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / In her second career, she served mainly in the Atlantic, but also participated in the Vietnam War / She was the recovery ship for a Mercury and a Gemini space mission / Because of her prominent role in battle, she was nicknamed "the Fighting I", while her frequent bad luck and time spent in dry dock for repairs, she was torpedoed once and hit in separate attacks by four Japanese kamikaze aircraft, earned her the nicknames "Decrepit" and "the Dry I" / Decommissioned for the second time in 1974, she was put into service as a museum ship in 1982 as the foundation of the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum Complex in New York City

A 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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KESTER**

ROGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address: 1079 CHURCH ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Roger Kester honorably served in the United States Air Force

The bother of Roger Kester, SP4 Richard Kester, was killed in action on 3 June 1970 from enemy artillery fire during combat operations in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KIELICH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

ALBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: O-3

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Captain Albert J. Kielich honorably served in the United States Army / Captain Albert Kielich served as a Dental Officer at Fort Gordon, Georgia

Captain Albert Kielich was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 10 August 1957

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Albert Kielich, DDS ran a successful dental practice in Kenmore, New York, for over 35 years / Albert J. Kielich passed away on 27 July 2022 at the age of 92 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KING

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

LERROY

E.

Address: RYAN STREET

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

6910TH SECURITY WING

6970TH SUPPORT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Leroy E. King honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and it was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Created in 1917, Ft. Meade was named for George G. Meade, a general from the U.S. Civil War, who served as commander of the Army of the Potomac / Although a United States Army installation, it is also the home to the National Security Agency / The Fort also houses the Defense Information School, the Defense Media Activity, the United States Army Field Band, and the headquarters of United States Cyber Command, the Defense Courier Service, and Defense Information Systems Agency headquarters / The 6970th Support Group was transferred from Washington, DC to Ft. Meade in 1956

Cambrai Fritsch Kaserne, Darmstadt, Germany - Cambrai Fritsch Kaserne (CFK) was built in 1936 and was originally two kasernes / The western part called Cambrai Kaserne named after a tank battle which took place in Cambrai, France during World War I / The eastern part was Fritsch Kaserne named after General Werner von Fritsch, the commanding general of the German Army in 1935 / In March 1945, the US Army took over the kaserne and the US Army Quartermaster school was housed here until 1950 / Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne is home



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

to Headquarters, 233rd Base Support Battalion, Headquarters, 22nd Signal Brigade and 440th Signal Battalion and the 6910th Support Group / Cambrai-Fritsch-Kaserne was shut down in 2008

Miscellaneous:

Leroy E. King graduated from Lackawanna Senior High School in 1965 / King worked at the Bethlehem Steel Plant in Lackawanna, New York prior to entering the United States Air Force in 1967 / After his Honorable Discharge, King returned to Bethlehem Steel and enrolled in the State University College of Buffalo / After working for several companies as a computer analyst and programmer, Leroy King founded his own computer programming business, King Consultants / Leroy King retired from his programming company and is currently a member of American Legion Post #735

Initially established as the Air Force (USAF) Security Group in June, 1948, the USAF Security Service (USAFSS) was activated as a major command on 20 October 1948 / The USAFSS was a secretive branch of the Air Force tasked with monitoring, collecting and interpreting military voice and electronic signals of countries of interest (primarily Soviet and their satellite Eastern bloc countries) / USAFSS intelligence was often analyzed in the field, and the results transmitted to the National Security Agency for further analysis and distribution to other intelligence recipients / USAFSS was tasked to carry out a cryptologic mission and to provide communications security for the newly-established Air Force

The USAFSS gained its first two units above squadron level, the 6910th Security Group (SG) at Brooks AFB, Tex., on 23 May 1951 and the 6920 SG on 1 September at Johnson AB, Japan / The 6910th moved to Germany later in July with its headquarters stationed at Wiesbaden and group operations stationed at Darmstadt in 1951 / Another era in USAFSS mission operations ended on 30 June when the 6910 SG at Augsburg, Germany, and the 6994 SS at Ubon, AFS, Thailand, inactivated / The 6910 SG had served as the command's main operator in Europe since December 1953 / The 6940 SS played a similar role for USAFSS in Vietnam during the war / At one time, the 6994 SS and its detachments operated the mission equipment on some 48 EC-47 aircraft in South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand / The 6910 SG moved from Darmstadt to Augsburg in Germany in 1972

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KLEIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Klein honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Klein passed away on 19 August 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KLISZAK**
CASIMER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Casimer Kliszak honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Casimer Kliszak played the concertina in several bands and was a member of the Buffalo Polka Boosters Club / Kliszak was an inductee of the World Concertina Congress Hall of Fame / Casimer "Casey" Kliszak passed away on 15 January 2025 at the age of 85 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KLUCK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOSEPH

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Joseph D. Kluck honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KNOWLES**
RONALD J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald J. Knowles honorably served in the United States Army and Army Reserve / Knowles served in an Infantry Unit

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Knowles was a 1956 graduate of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in Buffalo and graduated from the University of Buffalo School of Management in 1960 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S Army, Knowles began his career with the Bell System in 1962 at the Western Electric Company Buffalo Works in Tonawanda, New York / After the Tonawanda plant closed, Ronald Knowles transferred to the AT&T Teletype facility in Little Rock, Arizona, serving as a Manufacturing Manager until retirement in 1995 with over 34 years of service / Ronald J. Knowles passed away on 29 September 2024 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Pinecrest Memorial Park, Alexander, Arkansas

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOCH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DONALD

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

"B" BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 32ND FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Donald E. Koch honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Donald Koch was deployed for 19 months of foreign service in Germany as a Cannon Fire Direction Specialist/Intelligence Assistant

SP4 Donald Koch was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 21 May 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Koch graduated from Riverside High School in 1967 / Koch worked in maintenance for Kittinger Furniture and Comptek and later in customer service for Frontier Glass / Donald E. Koch passed away on 28 February 2023 at the age of 74 years old

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 32nd Field Artillery Regiment is a distinguished and highly decorated field artillery regiment of the United States Army, first Constituted in 1918 / The 2nd Battery, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, the "Proud Americans", has existed, off and on, since 1918 / It has participated in World War II, Vietnam, and the current War on Terrorism

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOCZKOWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

CARLTON

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Carlton J. Kuczkowski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Carlton Kuczkowski was employed by General Motors for 43 years / Carlton J. Kuczkowski passed away on 19 July 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOLBAS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

RICHARD

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

USS FRANCIS MARION (LPA-249)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second- Class Richard B. Kolbas honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Richard Kolbas was assigned as a Radioman onboard the USS Francis Marion

Petty Officer Second- Class Richard Kolbas was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 3 April 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Kolbas was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 3 April 1972 / Richard B. Kolbas passed away on 14 September 2021

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 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 Francis Marion (APA-249) was a Paul Revere-class attack transport of the United States Navy / The Francis Marion was named after the Revolutionary hero Francis Marion, also known as the Swamp Fox and was



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

commissioned 6 July 1961 / In October – November 1962, she served as part of the U.S. naval blockade of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis with units of the 8th Marine Regiment aboard / From 1969 through 1975 Francis Marion participated in numerous amphibious assault exercises in the Mediterranean and Caribbean / In November 1975, the ship's status was changed to a Naval Reserve Forces Ship and manned with a mix of USN and Naval Reserve personnel / On 16 May 1978 she carried 1,100 Marines to participate in Solid Shield 78 / In 1979 the Navy determined the Francis Marion was excess to the Navy's needs and she was decommissioned on 14 September 1979 / On 11 July 1980, the USS Francis Marion was sold to Spain under the Security Assistance Program and renamed Aragón (L-22)

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOPACZ**

RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald Kopacz honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Kopacz passed away on 31 March 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KORHUMMEL

ROSS

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ross J. Korhummel honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ross Korhummel was the owner of Korey Sales and Service in Cheektowaga for over 40 years / Ross J. Korhummel passed away on 3 October 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOSINSKI**
RALPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ralph M. Kosinski honorably served in the United States Navy / Ralph Kosinski flew missions with a VP-93 crew

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Ralph Kosinski attended Purdue University and became a Chemical Engineer, working for DuPont until his retirement / Ralph M. Kosinski passed away on 15 February 2025 at the age of 76 years old

VP-93 was a squadron of fixed wing Patrol Seaplanes



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOSTEK**
EDWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Edward Kostek honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Edward Kostek was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOTANSKY**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AKRON

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William A. Kotansky honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William A. Kotansky passed away on 9 September 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KOWAL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

FRANK

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank F. Kowal honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Kowal was an active member of Unity Church, Buffalo / Frank F. Kowal passed away on 15 October 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOZA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROBERT

C.

Address: 76 NASH STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RM3

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY COMMENDATION RIBBON

SEA SERVICE DEPLOYMENT RIBBON

NAVY COLD WAR MEDAL

HONORABLE SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Radioman Third-Class Robert C. Koza honorably served in the United States Navy / RM3 Koza handled telecommunications for the 2nd Fleet while serving on the Flag Ship, USS Newport News / Radioman Koza's ship patrolled the Atlantic Ocean, safeguarding the eastern seaboard of the United States and the Caribbean Sea area, including a stop at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba / Radioman Third-Class Koza served six years in the Navy / RM3 Koza also served as a Drummer in the ship's Band

Radioman Third-Class Robert C. Koza was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 27 August 1974

Base Assignments:

Naval Station Norfolk (Norfolk, Virginia) - Naval Station Norfolk is the headquarters and home port of the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet / In April 1917, shortly after the United States entered World War I, a bill was passed for the purchase of land at Norfolk, and money was set aside in the amount of \$1.6 million to develop the Naval Operating Base (NOB) and other facilities / When World War II began in Europe in 1939, new facilities were built, including new runways for aircraft and ramps to be used by seaplanes during the war / About 400 acres was acquired and, by 1943, the air station had become a central airfield for operations / On 1 January 1953, the name of the naval base was officially changed to Naval Station Norfolk (NS Norfolk), after being known as the NOB / In 1968, the Naval Air Station was given a major role in John F. Kennedy's vision of putting a man on the moon / The air station became Recovery Control Center Atlantic, which provided command, control, and communications for the ships and aircraft that participated in the recovery operations of Apollo 7 / Naval Station Norfolk is home port of four carrier strike groups and their assigned ships



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Robert C. Koza graduated from Canisius High School prior to entering the United States Navy / After receiving his Honorable Discharge, Koza attended Bryant and Stratton College / Koza worked at Westinghouse as an Armature Winder until moving to TW Truck Equippers before obtaining employment in 1989 at Blue Cross & Blue Shield as a Control Clerk, where he worked until retirement / Robert Koza served as an Assistant Chaplain at Veterans Hospital, Buffalo as a Communion Minister and also served as Assistant Chaplain for the Navy League (A.O.S. Bryant & Stratton) / Koza also received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Buffalo and the California Coast University (combination degree) / Robert Koza has been a member of St. John Kanty Parish in Buffalo for more than 40 years serving as a Choir member, Lector and Boy Scout Leader for Troop 107, earning the Vigil Honor, Wood Badge and the St. George Medal / Robert Koza was the American Legion Scouter of the year in 2011 and the Square Knot Award Winner in 2016 / Koza was awarded the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award in 2017 / Robert Koza has been a member of American Legion Matthew Glab Post 1477 in Lackawanna for over 40 years, serving the post as Vice Commander and Boys State Chairman / Bob Koza also is a member of AMVETS Post 8113 where he serves as Chaplain

Radiomen 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 handled based on message priority and handling procedures / Radiomen 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

The USS Newport News (CA-148) was a Des Moines-class heavy cruiser commissioned on 29 January 1949 and launched on 6 March 1948 by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Newport News, Virginia/ The Newport News was the first fully air-conditioned surface ship in the United States Navy and the last of her age, as well as the last all-gun heavy cruiser in commission in US naval history / In addition to annual deployments to the Mediterranean from 1950 to 1961 for duty with the Sixth Fleet, she participated in major fleet exercises and midshipman training cruises in the Caribbean and Western Atlantic / Operations from 1963 through 1967 consisted primarily of NATO exercises in the North Atlantic, gunnery and amphibious exercises off the Eastern seaboard and Caribbean, and midshipman cruises / The USS Newport News was decommissioned on 27 June 1975 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 31 July 1978 / She spent her twilight years as a member of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard's "Mothball Fleet" and was sold for scrap in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 25 February 1993

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / The National Defense Service Medal is 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 / As the NDSM has been awarded to all military personnel during four wartime periods, it has millions of recipients and is probably the most widely awarded medal in the history of the United States military, with the possible exception of World War II Victory Medal

The Navy Commendation Ribbon may be awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Navy (or Marine Corps, including foreign military personnel), distinguishes himself/herself by heroic or



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

meritorious achievement or service / To merit this award, the acts or services must be accomplished or performed in a manner above that normally expected and sufficient to distinguish the individual above those performing similar services

The Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (NSSDR) is presented to any member of the United States Navy after they complete a deployment at sea / A standard deployment is considered 90 consecutive days or two periods of at least 80 days within a 12 month period

The Navy Cold War Medal recognizes all service members and federal employees who faithfully served in the U.S. military during the Cold War era / That era is the end of World War II, 2 September 1945, to the collapse of the Soviet Union, 26 December 1991



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KOZLOWSKI JR.

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PARACHUTIST BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (LIGHT MACHINE GUN (LMG))

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: BROWNING AUTOMATIC RIFLE (BAR)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class John R. Kozlowski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / PFC John Kozlowski was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman and was deployed to an Infantry Unit at Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Base Assignments:

Fort Campbell, Kentucky - Fort Campbell is a United States Army installation located astride the Kentucky-Tennessee border / Opened in 1942, the base is named in honor of Union Army Brigadier General William Bowen Campbell, the last Whig Governor of Tennessee / From that time until the end of World War II, Camp Campbell was the training ground for the 12th, 14th and 20th Armored divisions, Headquarters IV Armored Corps and the 26th Infantry Division / From 1950 to 1962, the post operated an Airborne Course which trained nearly 30,000 soldiers as paratroopers / The 1st Brigade was sent for duty in Vietnam in July 1965 / With the escalation of hostilities in Southeast Asia, the rest of the division was sent to Vietnam / Also in response to the military buildup, the 6th Infantry Division was reactivated at Fort Campbell on 24 November 1966, and inactivated 25 July 1968 / The Sabalauski Air Assault School, named after Command Sergeant Major Walter James Sabalauski is located on Fort Campbell / Courses taught include Air Assault, Pathfinder, Pre-Ranger, Jumpmaster Refresher, and Rappel Master / The school is also home to the Division's Parachute Demonstration Team

Miscellaneous:

John Kozlowski, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 26 October 1966 / John R. Kozlowski, Jr.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

passed away on 20 September 2021

The Army's Basic Parachutist Badge is awarded to all military personnel of any service who complete the US Army Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia / It signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAFT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DONALD

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 4TH BATTALION, 3RD ARTILLERY REGIMENT, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant (E-5) Donald M. Kraft honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Donald Kraft served as a Food Service Specialist while stationed at Fort Hood, Texas

Donald Kraft was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 12 January 1968

Base Assignments:

Fort. Hood (Killeen, Texas) - Fort Hood, opened in August 1942, 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

Miscellaneous:

Donald Kraft was a life member of the Vigilant Fire Company and a member of American Legion #735 / Donald M. "Krafty" Kraft passed away on 17 September 2021 at the age of 75 years old

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

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

infantry firearms / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / Modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower

The 1st Armored Division, nicknamed "Old Ironsides", is a combined arms division of the United States Army / The division is part of III Armored Corps and operates out of Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas / It was the first armored division of the United States Army to see battle in World War II / Since World War II, the division has been involved in the Cuban Missile Crisis, Persian Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, and several other operations / The division has also received numerous awards and recognition

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAJCKER**

FRANK

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank J. Krajcer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Krajcer was a graduate of the University of Buffalo, earning an MBA in Business Administration / Krajcer worked for National Fuel, retiring as a supervisor and the head of the land department / Frank Krajcer was a lifetime member of the Hamburg Knights of Columbus and a former president of the International Right of Way Association / Frank J. Krajcer passed away on 23 July 2025 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAKOWIAK**

RICHARD

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard F. Krakowiak honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Krakowiak retired from the Ford Motor Company after 35 years of service / Krakowiak was a Meals On Wheels volunteer and volunteered at his church / Richard F. Krakowiak passed away on 30 January 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAMER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

EARL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: COL

Year Entered: 1943

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Earl E. Kramer honorably served in the United States Army / Earl Kramer enlisted in the United States Army in 1943 and was assigned to the European Theater of Operations / Kramer served as a Machine Gunner with the 2nd Armored Division and landed in Normandy on D-Day +9 / Kramer served in a light tank during the Battle of the Bulge, and went on to serve in several campaigns across France, Belgium, Holland and Germany / He was wounded in April 1945 while on a recon mission in Germany

At the end of World War II, Kramer was Honorably Discharged from Army with the rank of First Sergeant / In 1949, Kramer received a direct commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and served 35 years, retiring with the rank of Colonel

Earl E. Kramer served in World War II and also served during the Korean War Era and the Vietnam War Era

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Earl E Kramer passed away on 30 September 2017



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRATHAUS JR**
CHARLES J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: ADJ2

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Aviation Machinist's Mate Petty Officer Second-Class Charles J. Krathaus, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / ADJ2 Krathaus was a Jet Engine Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Aviation Machinist's Mates (abbreviated as AD) are United States Navy aircraft engine mechanics that inspect, adjust, test, repair, and overhaul aircraft engines and propellers / More specifically, ADs install, maintain, and service various aircraft engine types as well as various accessories, gear boxes, related fuel systems, and lubrication systems; determine reasons for engine degradation using various test equipment; perform propeller repairs; handle and service aircraft ashore or aboard ship; and can also serve as aircrewman in various types of aircraft



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRAUS**

PAUL

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL.

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

Service Notes:

Private Paul E. Kraus honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Paul Kraus was assigned as a Cook

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Kraus was a volunteer fire fighter for 51 years with the Big Tree Fire Department / Paul E. Kraus passed away on 24 March 2024 at the age of 82 years old

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KREMER**

EDWARD

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward H. Kremer honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward H. Kremer passed away on 27 November 2023 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KREUZER**

JOSEPH

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

107TH COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff-Sergeant (E-6) Joseph Arthur Kreuzer honorably served in the United States Air Force as an Administrative Specialist and was activated when North Korea captured the USS Pueblo / SSgt Kreuzer's unit was sent to South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph A. Kreuzer was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KROLL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

DAVID

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David L. Kroll honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Kroll retired in 2004 as a Fraud Investigator for the County of Erie / Kroll was a longtime member of the Orchard Park Jaycees and a member of the Royal Order of the East Aurora Moose Lodge #370 / David Kroll was a past member of American Legion Post #567 and a current member of American Legion Post #362 / David L. Kroll passed away on 21 October 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRUGER

WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CS3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Commissaryman Third-Class William Kruger honorably served in the United States Navy during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Commissarymen prepared meals for enlisted sailors in galleys on the ship and shore bases in the general mess / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / Commissaryman was established as a rating in the U.S. Navy in 1948, and was changed to Mess Management Specialist in 1974, a title that lasted for thirty years until it became Culinary Specialist in 2004



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRUK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

EDWARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward J. Kruk honorably served in the Air National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward J. Kruk passed away on 28 November 2024 at the age of 79 years old

The Air National Guard (ANG), also known as the Air Guard, is a federal military reserve force of the United States Air Force, as well as the air militia of each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands / It, along with the Army National Guard component of each state, district, commonwealth or territory, makes up the National Guard of each region as applicable / When Air National Guard units are used under the jurisdiction of the state governor, they are fulfilling their militia role / When federalized by order of the President of the United States, ANG units become an active part of the U.S. Air Force / They are jointly administered by the states and the National Guard Bureau, a joint bureau of the Army and Air Force that oversees the U.S. National Guard



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KRZEMINSKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOSEPH

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 4TH ESTB UNITED STATES ARMY TRANSPORTATION CORPS (USATC)
5TH UNITED STATES ARMY

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph Andrew Krzeminski honorably served in the United States Army as a Construction Machine Operator

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Krzeminski was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / Joseph Andrew Krzeminski passed away on 27 March 2016

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 / Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fifth Army was redesignated on 1 January 1957 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fifth United States Army / The United States Army Transportation Corps (USATC) is responsible for the movement of personnel and material by truck, rail, air, and sea

The United States Fifth Army was one of the principal formations of the U.S. Army in the Mediterranean during World War II / It was officially activated on 5 January 1943 at Oujda, French Morocco and made responsible for the defense of Algeria and Morocco / The Fifth Army started life as the Army units that participated in Operation TORCH, the invasion of North Africa / It was the first American field army ever to be activated outside of the United States



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KRZYWOWIAZA**
FRANK J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank J. Krzywowiaza honorably served in the United States Navy / Krzywowiaza retired from the Navy after 32 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank J. Krzywowiaza passed away on 2 November 2024 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KUBANT

MARTIN

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Martin Anthony "Marty" Kubant honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Martin Anthony "Marty" Kubant passed away on 25 January 2024 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KULIK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

DANIEL

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel R. Kulik honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel R. Kulik passed away on 10 November 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Nativity of Our Lord Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KULLERKUPP**
HANS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Hans Kullerkupp honorably served in the United States Air Force Reserve / SMSGT Hans Kullerkupp served for 24 years in the Air Force Reserve, as Site Development Superintendent for the Civil Engineering Squadron / SMSGT Kullerkupp retired from the U.S. Air Force Reserve in 1990

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Hans Kullerkupp attended Millard Fillmore College's School of Architecture and Design and was employed for 10 years by Pfohl, Roberts and Biggie, where he worked on the project to raise the roof of Memorial Auditorium / Hans Kullerkupp joined Cannon Design in 1979 as Senior Principal, leading the successful school design division and working on school projects throughout Western New York / Kullerkupp was part of the design team for the former Fleet Bank office tower in downtown Buffalo and the first children's hospital in Tel Aviv, Israel / Hans Kullerkupp was named a Senior Vice President in 1997 / Kullerkupp retired in April 2013 / Hans Kullerkupp passed away on 15 September 2014 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KULP, JR.**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

7TH FLEET PATROL SQUADRON RECONNAISSANCE

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles A. Kulp, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Charles Kulp was assigned to the 7th Fleet Patrol Squadron Reconnaissance, surveillance in the Western Pacific / Charles Kulp served 22 months foreign and sea service

Charles Kulp, Jr. was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy on 3 August 1960 with reserve obligations ending 15 August 1962

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Kulp was the proprietor of Kulp Hardware store in South Buffalo, New York / Charles A. Kulp, Jr. passed away on 25 July 2025 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KUMM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

ROBERT

K.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

USS TRUCKEE (AO-147)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert K. Kumm honorably served in the United States Navy / Robert Kumm served aboard the USS Truckee, a fleet oiler

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Kumm graduated from LaSalle High School in 1969 / Robert Kumm was a supervisor at the Niagara Falls treatment facility for more than 20 years, retiring in 2007 / Robert K. Kumm passed away on 24 January 2013 at the age of 61 years old and is interred at Riverdale Cemetery, Lewiston, New York

USS Truckee (AO-147) was a Neosho-class fleet oiler of the United States Navy in service from 1955 to 1994 / The ship was named after the Truckee River in the U.S. states of California and Nevada / The fleet oiler was commissioned on 18 November 1955 / Assigned to the Atlantic Fleet, the served with Service Squadron 4 from January 1956 to 1980 / Truckee ended her operations as a fleet oiler with the United States Navy on 8 November 1979 / She finished the last of her 25 odd years while assigned to Service Squadron 4, NAVSURFLANT in Norfolk, Virginia / The USS Truckee was transferred to the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) on 1 May 1999 for lay up in the National Defense Reserve Fleet, James River, Fort Eustis, Virgini / On 6 August 2008, Truckee was removed from the NDRF after being sold to Bay Bridge Enterprises for scrapping



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KURZDORFER**

JOHN

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CAPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain John Charles Kurzdorfer honorably served in the United States Air Force / Captain Kurzdorfer was a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Charles Kurzdorfer passed away on 16 December 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: KUSIOWSKI
FRANK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

C.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: SCPO

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Senior Chief Petty Officer Frank Charles Kusiowski honorably served in the United States Army / SCPO Frank Kusiowski retired from the U.S. Navy after 32 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Kusiowski retired from the Collins Correctional Facility as a Corrections Officer / Kusiowski was a lifetime member of Amvets, the Gowanda American Legion and the Gowanda Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Kusiowski was a 50 year member of the Collins Volunteer Fire Department and drove the school bus for Gowanda Central School / Kusiowski was also a member of the Fleet reserve, the Chief Petty Officer Club, the Red Knights Motorcycle Club, as well as the Gowanda Moose Club and the Slovenian Club / Frank Charles Kusiowski passed away on 27 December 2023 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **KUSTRA, SR.**
FRANK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Frank Kustra, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Kustra, Sr. passed away on 5 April 2024 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Whitehaven Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LABBY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

RICHARD

B.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard Bernard Labby honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Richard Labby went to work at the Ford Stamping Plant until his retirement / Richard Bernard Labby passed away on 26 October 2024 after a brief battle with a brain tumor at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAIBLE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

MICHAEL

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael G. Laible honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael G. Laible passed away on 20 August 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAMPRECHT**
PAUL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul Lamprecht honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Lamprecht was a graduate of St. Mary's High School in Lancaster / Lamprecht was a member of the Pine Hill Drum Corps / Paul Lamprecht passed away peacefully at the NYS Veterans Home at Batavia on 10 October 2025 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LANE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

GARY

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gary S. Lane honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Lane was a retired Director of Youth, Parks & Recreation at the Town of Tonawanda / Gary S. Lane passed away on 13 September 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LANG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SLOAN

THOMAS

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas M. Lang honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas M. Lang passed away on 13 November 2024 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at St Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LANGE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

BRIAN

E.

Address: BURMON DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: COAST GUARD

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Brian E. Lange honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

The brothers of Brian Lange, William E. Lange and Michael E. Lange, both served in the United States Marine Corps and were stationed in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After graduating from high school, Brian Lange attended college before entering the military / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Coast Guard, Brian Lange drove a bus for Head Start in Olean, New York and was a house painter / Lange was a member of the Buffalo American Legion / Brian E. Lange passed away on 16 May 2025 at the age of 72 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LAUDISIO, SR.

ROBERT

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert F. Laudisio, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Laudisio, Sr. passed away on 30 December 2023 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LAUFER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

BERTHOLD

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO2

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

USS HARTLEY (DE-1029)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Berthold J. "Bud" Laufer honorably served in the United States navy / PO2 Berthold Laufer was assigned to the USS Harley as a Boiler Technician (BT)

PO2 Berthold Laufer was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 6 August 1962

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Berthold J. "Bud" Laufer passed away on 22 September 2020

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

USS Hartley (DE-1029) was a Dealey-class destroyer escort in the United States Navy / DE-1029 was the second ship to bear the name Hartley; she was named for Admiral Henry Hartley and was commissioned on 6 June 1957 / During the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Hartley participated in antisubmarine exercises out of Newport, Rhode



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Island / In 1962 on, the Hartley continued operating in the Atlantic and the Caribbean and in March 1963, she conducted surveillance patrols off Cuba / The Harley was decommissioned on 8 July 1972 and sold to the Columbia Navy and renamed the Boyaca / She was stricken from the Colombian record in 1992 and her final fate is unknown

Name: **LAUFER**
GORDON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gordon Laufer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gordon Laufer attended Kenmore East Senior High School before enlisting in the US Navy / Laufer was a member of the American Legion / Gordon Laufer passed away on 16 May 2024 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAUN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BOSTON

JAMES

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James A. Laun honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Laun was a Pastor for over 55 years in the Western New York Community / Reverend James A. Laun passed away on 18 January 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LAWICKI**

JAMES

L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James L. Lawicki honorably served in the United States Navy / James Lawicki participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis

James Lawicki also served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Lawicki served with the Erie County Sheriff's Department for over 27 years / James L. Lawicki passed away on 13 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LAY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

CRAIG

T.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Craig Thomas Lay honorably served in the United States Navy / Craig Lay was stationed in the Mediterranean

After serving four years active duty, Craig Lay joined the Navy Reserves, serving 20 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Craig Lay received his Associate's Degree from Bryant Straton College and his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Buffalo / Lay worked as an Electrician and retired from General Motors / Craig Thomas Lay passed away on 9 August 2025 at the age of 72 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LEE, JR.

JAMES

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS PORTLAND (LSD-37)

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Third-Class James F. Lee, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 James F. Lee, Jr. served aboard the USS Portland for twelve months as an Electrical, Mechanical Repairman

Petty Officer 3rd Class James F. Lee, Jr. was Honorably Discharged at Navy Supply Corp, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 9 December 1975

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James F. Lee, Jr. passed away on 23 December 2024 at the age of 68 years old

The second USS Portland (LSD-37) was a US Navy Anchorage class dock landing ship built at General Dynamics Quincy Shipbuilding Division at Quincy, Massachusetts, and commissioned in 1970 / The Portland served in the Atlantic fleet, deploying to various regions including the Caribbean, North and South Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Indian Ocean / The USS Portland was decommissioned in 2003 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register in 2004 / It was sunk as a target during an exercise off the Virginia coast later that year



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LEIBELSHON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DAVID

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David Martin Leibelshon honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as a Symbolic Programmer during his tour of duty with the Marines

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Leibelshon graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1965 and attended college at the University of Buffalo / Leibelshon taught in the Buffalo Public School System, retiring and moving to Vista, California / David Martin David Leibelshon passed away on 18 November 2022 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LENARTOWICZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

ALFRED

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer First-Class Alfred J. Lenartowicz honorably served in the United States Navy / PO1 Alfred Lenartowicz enlisted in the Navy at 18 years old and assigned the classification as an Electrical Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred J. Lenartowicz passed away on 6 May 2015 at the age of 72 years old and interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

Electrician's Mates are responsible for the operation and repair of a ship's or station's electrical power plant and electrical equipment / They also maintain and repair power and lighting circuits, distribution switchboards, generators, motors and other electrical equipment / Specially qualified electrician's mates are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to maintain the control subsystems in nuclear reactors

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **LENZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

ROBERT

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert Wilkie Lenz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Lenz worked for over a decade in the family-owned restaurant, Old Red Mill Inn in Clarence / Wilkie established the Asa Ransom House in 1975 and was owned and operated by the Lenz family until 2021 / Lenz was a distinguished entrepreneur and community advocate for the Town of Clarence / Robert Lenz was a member of the Clarence Hollow Association, the JC's, Clarence Historical Society, NARP, Empire State Passenger Association and the Clarence Farmers Market / Robert Wilkie Lenz passed away on 31 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LESZCZAK, JR.**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Leszczak, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Leszczak was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey and moved to Grand Island in 1969 / John Leszczak, Jr. passed away on 21 April 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LEWIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

DAVID

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David A. Lewis honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Lewis retired as an Engineer from Praxair, Inc / David A. Lewis passed away on 23 July 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LEWIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

WILLIAM

C.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William C. Lewis honorably served in the United States Navy and the Naval Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Lewis was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee and moved to Buffalo / Lewis graduated from East High School in 1963 / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Navy, Lewis earned a degree from Bryant & Stratton Business Institute and the University of Buffalo / William Lewis worked for Allied Chemical Corp., Otis Elevator and the former Meyer Memorial Hospital (now ECMC) / Lewis went to work for the Marine Midland Bank where he was a Financial Analyst for more than 20 years / Lewis was also a Certified Independent Insurance Agent and a Notary Public / In 1982, the Mayor of Buffalo appointed Lewis as the First Project Director of the Pratt-Wilbert Housing Project / Lewis also worked for the United States Postal Service for over 27 years as a Driver and Letter Carrier, retiring in 2013 / Lewis headed the Finance Commission for St. John Baptist Church, where he was also a deacon, teacher and elder / William Lewis served as President of the Senior Choir, sang tenor and often, as a soloist / William C. Lewis passed away on 18 October 2023 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LIEBRECHT**

RICHARD

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Richard H. Liebrecht honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Richard Liebrecht was assigned as a Heavy Weapons Infantryman and stationed at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

PFC Richard Liebrecht was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 10 November 1960

Base Assignments:

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade was used as a World War II recruit training post / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at Fort Meade / Fort Meade is the Army's second largest installation by population with more than 64,000 employees that represent the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force / Fort Meade's more than 120 partner agencies include the DoD's newest Combatant Command - US Space Force, as well as the National Security Agency, DISA/JFH DODIN Combatant Command - U.S. Space Force, U.S. Cyber Command - the National Security Agency, Defense Information Systems Agency/Joint Forces Headquarters for the Department of Defense Information Network, Defense Media Activity, and several non-DoD agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency and Architect of the Capitol

Miscellaneous:

Richard Liebrecht retired from the Buffalo Fire Department with 31 years of service from 1967-1998 / Richard H. Liebrecht passed away on 17 January 2023 at the age of 86 years old

Heavy Weapons Infantryman employ, engage, and eliminate threats with a variety of heavy weapons, in an



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) and Heavy Weapons Company / Heavy Weapons Infantryman support Battalion Commanders mission with the versatility of the Weapons Company capabilities providing close and long-range missile and heavy machine gun fires and provides anti-armor tactics

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LILAC SR.**
DEAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WHEATFIELD

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Dean E. Lilac honorably served in the United States Army as an instructor for Jungle Operations at Fort Sherman, Panama

Base Assignments:

Fort Sherman, Panama - Fort Sherman is a former United States Army base in Panama, located on Toro Point at the Caribbean (northern) end of the Panama Canal, on the western bank of the Canal directly opposite Colón (which is on the eastern bank) / It was the primary defensive base for the Caribbean sector of the Canal, and was also the center for US jungle warfare training for some time / Its Pacific-side partner was Fort Amador / Both bases were turned over to Panama in 1999

Miscellaneous:

Dean Lilac graduated from Tonawanda High School in 1964 and in 1966, Lilac enlisted in the U.S. Army / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Lilac worked for over thirty years at National Fuel Gas until his retirement / Lilac was the official Bugler for the Chapter #77 Vietnam Veterans of America (Tonawanda) / Dean E. Lilac Sr. passed away at the age of 75 years old on 14 May 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LINDELL

GARY

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Gary Lindell honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Lindell retired from the General Motors Plant, Buffalo / Gary H. Lindell passed away on 25 January 2023 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LIPKA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

RICHARD

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard P. Lipka honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Richard Lipka, embarked on a career in Education / Lipka taught at Smallwood Drive Elementary School, St. Bonaventure, and Pittsburg University in Pittsburg, Kansas / Lipka was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Cheektowaga Historical Society / Richard P. Lipka passed away on 29 November 2024 after a long bout with Parkinson's Disease at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LIVINGSTON**
RICHARD T.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard T. Livingston honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard T. Livingston passed away on 25 March 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LIVINGSTON**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald H. Livingston honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Livingston was a well-known contractor and developer on Grand Island and in Swain, New York / Livingston was the President of Grand Island Builders Association and a Freemason / Ronald H. Livingston passed away on 22 November 2021 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LOBSINGER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

BRUCE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND MEDICAL BATTALION, 2ND INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Bruce M. Lobsinger honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Bruce Lobsinger was classified as a Medical Specialist and served 13 months of foreign service in South Korea, assigned to Headquarters Company, 2nd Medical Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, US Army Pacific

Sergeant Bruce Lobsinger received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 9 September 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce M. Lobsinger passed away on 24 August 2023 at the age of 72 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The Medical Battalion was a Divisional medical unit developed to furnish medical support for the Infantry Division. Its primary mission was to organize and conduct the necessary evacuation and medical care for casualties of the Division¹. The Medical Battalion was responsible for the evacuation of ALL casualties from the Infantry Battalion and Regimental Aid Stations. If casualties could not be gathered at the Aid Stations, the Collecting Companies would remove casualties directly from the field¹. The Medical Battalion always accompanied the Division in the field¹.

The 2nd Medical Battalion was a Divisional medical unit developed to furnish medical support for the Infantry Division / Its primary mission was to organize and conduct the necessary evacuation and medical care for casualties of the Division / The Medical Battalion was responsible for the evacuation of all casualties from the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Infantry Battalion and Regimental Aid Stations / If casualties could not be gathered at the Aid Stations, the Collecting Companies would remove casualties directly from the field / The Medical Battalion always accompanied the Division in the field / The Medical Battalion is organized as a "miniature" medical organization in order to maintain the best operative coordination of all the existing facilities and to give flexibility to a possible expansion of the medical service when necessary

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LOMEO**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John Lomeo honorably served in the United States National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Lomeo graduated from the Buffalo Technical High School and received his Associate's Degree in Applied Science from the Erie County Technical Institute / Lomeo was employed by the City of Buffalo as a Senior Architect / Lomeo also had a career in Real Estate, founding his own Real Estate company, Cambridge Group Ltd in Las Vegas, Nevada / Lomeo moved to Henderson, Nevada where he passed away on 29 June 2024 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LONCAR**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

GEORGE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

309TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain George Michael Loncar honorably served as an Intelligence Officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George M. Loncar was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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

The 309th Fighter Squadron was initially established under Third Air Force in early 1942 as a fighter squadron at Baer Field, Indiana, flying some antisubmarine patrols in the Gulf of Mexico / Deployed to the European Theater of Operations (ETO) in June 1942 without aircraft as its Curtiss P-40 Warhawks and Bell P-39 Airacobras were deemed unsuitable for use against German aircraft in long-range bomber escort duties / Was re-equipped with RAF Spitfire Vs and its pilots and technicians spent a two-month period undergoing intensive training in flying and fighting with RAF pilots in the British aircraft from airfields in southeast England / The squadron flew its first combat mission on 18 August 1942, when it attacked enemy positions in occupied France / By the end of World War II, the squadron had earned two Distinguished Unit Citations and was involved in eight campaigns / Was deployed to Southeast Asia, 1964 as part of advisory forces operating against North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces in South Vietnam / Reassigned back to TAC at Homestead AFB in 1970, as part of re-establishment of 31st TFW upon its return from duty in Southeast Asia / Equipped with McDonnell F-4E Phantom IIs / Was deployed to Thailand, July 1972, engaging North Vietnamese forces in northern South Vietnam in response to the communist



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

spring offensive / Returned to the United States in the late fall 1972



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LONG

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DENNIS

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

827TH AIR DEFENSE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

AIRMAN'S MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Dennis W. Long honorably served in the United States Air Force / Dennis Long was assigned as an Electrical Power Production Specialist at the 827th Air Defense Group, Keno Air Force Station, Oregon

Dennis Long received his Honorable Discharge on 24 March 1971 at Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Oregon

Base Assignments:

Keno Air Force Station, Oregon - A Cold War Air Force Radar Station first established in 1958 near Keno, Klamath County, Oregon, it was named Keno Air Force Station after the location / The station initially had both a Ground-Control Intercept (GCI) and early warning mission / The early warning mission involved tracking and identifying all aircraft entering their airspace while the GCI mission involved guiding Air Force interceptors to any identified enemy aircraft / The Keno Air Force Station was deactivated as a USAF radar site on 30 Sept 1979, the abandoned Air Force buildings were removed in the early 1990s and a much smaller compound was established for the FAA search radar and other facilities / The site became Klamath Falls FAA Radar Site

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Long was a Truck Driver until his retirement / Dennis W. Long passed away on 18 March 2025

The 827 Air Defense Group was activated on 1 March 1970 / The 827th Provided administrative and logistical support to units and elements of the 25th Air Division as directed / In In 1959 the 827th Squadron began operating an AN/FPS-20A search radar and a pair of AN/FPS-6A height-finder radars at Keno Air Force Station until the station was deactivated in 1979



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Airman's Medal was established on July 6, 1960, and takes the place of the Soldier's Medal for Air Force personnel / It is awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States or of a friendly nation who, while serving in any capacity with the United States Air Force after the date of the award's authorization, has distinguished himself or herself by a heroic act, usually at the voluntary risk of his or her life but not involving actual combat / The saving of a life or the success of the voluntary heroic act is not essential / The Airman's Medal is not awarded for normal performance of duties

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LONG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CRITTENDEN

MARVIN

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Marvin A. Long honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marvin Long was employed by National Fuel where he worked for over 30 years until his retirement / Long was a member and Past Chief of the Crittenden Volunteer Fire Company / Marvin A. Long passed away on 6 July 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **Longbine**

Richard

S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **Blasdel**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **Army**

Rank: **E-3**

Year Entered: **1965**

Year Discharged: **1967**

Unit / Squadron:

Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 83rd Artillery Regiment

Medals / Citations:

National Defense Service Medal

Marksmanship Badge: Marksman (Rifle)

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 3rd Class Richard S. Longbine honorably served in the United States Army / SP-3 Richard Longbine was assigned as a Medical Specialist while deployed in Europe for 18 months

SP-3 Richard Longbine was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 11 April 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Longbine was a graduate of Frontier High School in Hamburg, New York / Richard S. Longbine passed away on 1 December 2017

Army Medical Specialist is a military enlisted person trained to give first aid and minor medical treatment

The 83rd Field Artillery Regiment is a regiment of the Field Artillery Branch of the United States Army / 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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LOSCHIAVO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

AUGUSTINE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Augustine M. Loschiavo honorably served in the United States Army / Augustine Loschiavo was assigned as a Decontamination Specialist and stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama

Augustine Loschiavo was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 5 November 1963, with reserve obligations ending 5 November 1967

Base Assignments:

Fort McClellan, Alabama - Originally Camp McClellan, is a decommissioned United States Army post located adjacent to the city of Anniston, Alabama / During World War II, it was one of the largest U.S. Army installations, training an estimated half-million troops / After the war it became the home of the Military Police Corps, the Chemical Corps and the Women's Army Corps / From 1975 until it was closed in 1999, Fort McClellan was home of the Military Police Corps and the One Station Unit Training (OSUT) Military Police School and was home of the Chemical Corps School, which trained soldiers in chemical warfare / In 1988, Fort McClellan was used as an alternate training academy for the United States Border Patrol, before its closure by the Base Realignment and Closure commission (BRAC)

Miscellaneous:

Augustine Loschiavo worked for General Motors for over 30 years / After his retirement from General Motors, Loschiavo kept busy working as a shuttle driver for Mercedes Benz / Augustine M. "Augie" Loschiavo passed away on 14 October 2024 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LOTEMPIO, SR.**
RONALD L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Ronald L. LoTempio, Sr. honorably served in the Army National Guard / PFC Ronald LoTempio was assigned as a Bandsman - Trumpet player

PFC Ronald LoTempio received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 2 May 1959

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald LoTempio was a Bank Clerk until his retirement / Ronald L. LoTempio, Sr. passed away on 1 February 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LOVE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Edward "Bob" Love honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Edward "Bob" Love passed away on 12 August 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LUBICK**
RICK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ralph Lubick honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ralph Lubick graduated from Bennett High School and graduated from the University of Buffalo with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Pharmacy / Ralph Lubick was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force in 1962 / Ralph Lubick passed away in December 2022 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **LUMSDEN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILIAMSVILLE

KENNETH

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Kenneth J. Lumsden honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth J. Lumsden passed away on 13 November 2024 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: LUSCHENAT

JAY

D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONOAWANDA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Jay David Luschenat honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jay Luschenat graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1966 before enlisting in the Navy / Jay David Luschenat passed away in Las Vegas, Nevada on 19 December 2014 at the age of 66 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACDOWELL**
NORMAN J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, TRAINING & TEST (T&T) REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Norman J. MacDowell honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Norman MacDFowell was assigned as a Mortar Man during 16 months of foreign duty

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Commonly abbreviated MCB Quantico, Marine Corps Base Quantico is a United States Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia, covering nearly 86.169 square miles) of southern Prince William County, Virginia, northern Stafford County, and southeastern Fauquier County / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps" / In 1917, Marine Barracks, Quantico was established and thousands of Marines were trained at Quantico during World War I / In 1934, Amphibious Warfare Doctrine, along with special amphibious landing crafts for World War II were developed at Quantico / These Amphibious Warfare techniques, developed in the years before World War II, made victory possible in the Pacific theater / Quantico trained over 15,000 USMC and other service officers in Amphibious Warfare techniques / The first Marine Aircraft Wing was developed at Quantico, as well as the Corps' first helicopter squadron, Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1), the first helicopter squadron to provide rapid transportation for Presidents of the United States ("Marine One")

Miscellaneous:

Norman MacDowell received his Honorable Discharge from the US Marine Corps on 3 August 1962 / Norman J. MacDowell passed away on 16 October 2019

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Marine Corps Headquarters and Service company includes all command, administration, intelligence, operations, logistics, and communication Marines and equipment, as well as the battalion's Scout Sniper platoon and Battalion Aid Station (BAS) staffed by U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman

Name: **MACGAFFICK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JOHN

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John G. Macgaffick honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Macgaffick was a former Truck Driver / John G. Macgaffick passed away on 28 September 2023 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DAVID

Address: 98 SMITH STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class David Mack honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of David Mack, Army PFC William Mack was Killed In Action on 20 January 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam / Another brother, PFC Dennis Mack, served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Ft. Belvue, Virginia - Fort Belvoir is a United States Army installation in Fairfax County, Virginia, United States / It was developed on the site of the former Belvoir plantation, seat of the prominent Fairfax family for whom Fairfax County was named / It was known as Camp A.A. Humphreys from 1917 to 1935 and Fort Belvoir afterward / The post was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for American Civil War Union Army General Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed Fort Belvoir in the 1930s at the request of Howard W. Smith, a Congressman from Virginia, in recognition of the Belvoir plantation that once occupied the site / Camp Humphreys was established in World War I as the U.S. Army Engineers Training School / It served as the post-graduate institution for U.S. Military Academy engineers and a finishing school for engineering troops headed to war / The school, which came to host the Engineer Officer Basic Course, relocated in 1988 from Fort Belvoir to Fort Leonard Wood, in Missouri / Fort Belvoir serves as the headquarters for the Defense Logistics Agency, the Defense Acquisition University, the Defense Contract Audit Agency, the Defense Technical Information Center, the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, the United States Army Military Intelligence Readiness Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACK**
DENNIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 98 SMITH STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Dennis Mack honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

The brother of Dennis Mack, Army PFC William Mack was Killed In Action on 20 January 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam / Another brother, PFC David Mack, served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 2009

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Joseph P. Mack honorably served in the United States Army Reserve / SFC Joseph Mack served for forty years in the U.S. Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph P. Mack passed away on 20 October 2024 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery Corfu, 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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACKINNON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JAMES

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 2LT

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

1ST RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 6TH ARMORED CAVALRY

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant James William "Jim" MacKinnon honorably served in the United States Army Reserve and spent 6 months of active duty / MacKinnon served as a Tank Unit Commander

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James MacKinnon attended Canisius College earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Economics / MacKinnon was hired by Cardinal O'Hara High School as a gym teacher and coach for basketball and cross-country / James MacKinnon later coached sports at DeSales High School and Turner High School / MacKinnon worked for the New York Life Insurance Company, retiring as Managing Agent / James William "Jim" MacKinnon passed away at the age of 85 years old on 18 October 2022

The 6th Cavalry ("Fighting Sixth") is a regiment of the United States Army that began as a regiment of cavalry in the American Civil War / The 6th Cavalry was redesignated as the 6th Armored Cavalry in 1960 / 1st Squadron is the air cavalry reconnaissance squadron of the 1st Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACLEOD**
DONALD J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-2

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

USS LAFFEY (DD-724)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Fireman Recruit Donald J. MacLeod honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald MacLeod was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 20 July 1973 / Donald J. MacLeod passed away on 26 February 2021

USS Laffey (DD-724) is an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, which was constructed during World War II, laid down and launched in 1943, and commissioned in February 1944 / Laffey was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for Bartlett Laffey / Seaman Laffey was awarded the Medal of Honor for his stand against Confederate forces on 5 March 1864 / The ship earned the nickname "The Ship That Would Not Die" for her exploits during the D-Day invasion and the battle of Okinawa when she successfully withstood a determined assault by conventional bombers and the most unrelenting kamikaze air attack in history / In mid January 1952, she sailed for Korea and took part in the blockade of Wonsan in Korea / The USS Laffey was decommissioned on 9 March 1975 / Laffey received the Presidential Unit Citation and five battle stars for World War II service, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation and two battle stars for Korean War service, the Meritorious Unit Commendation during the Cold War, and the Battle "E" during all three conflicts / Laffey was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1986, at which time she was recognized as the only remaining US-owned Sumner-class destroyer, and for her spirited survival of the kamikaze attack / Today, Laffey is a U.S. National Historic Landmark and is preserved as a museum ship at Patriots Point, outside Charleston, South Carolina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **MADISON**
LOVELLE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 50 LAUREL STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Lovelle Madison honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Madison was stationed in Korea

SGT Lovelle Madison's brother, Sergeant Henry Madison was Killed In Action on 27 February 1969 from chest wounds received from enemy small arms fire during combat action in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAHONEY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

MARY JOAN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: O-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Commander Mary Joan Mahoney honorably served in the United States Navy / LT CMDR Mahoney served as a Navy Nurse for nearly 21 years

Mary Joan Mahoney retired from the United States Navy with an Honorable Discharge on 30 June 1973

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mary Joan Mahoney passed away on 25 February 2018 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAISANO**
JAMES J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James J. Maisano honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James J. Maisano passed away on 20 October 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALCZEWSKI**
STEPHEN S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stephen S. Malczewski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Malczewski was a retired Aeronautical Engineer with Bell Aerospace / Stephen S. Malczewski passed away on 2 November 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALINOWSKI, SR.**

CHARLES

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles E. Malinowski, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Malinowski retired from the Town of West Seneca after 25 years as the Town's Deputy Comptroller / Malinowski served as a lifetime Board Member of the Blasdell Rod and Gun Club / Charles E. Malinowski, Sr. passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALIZIA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

JOHN

T.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

EIGHTH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John T. "Jack" Malizia honorably served in the United States Army / John Malizia was attached to the Eighth Army in Korea as a Helicopter Repairman for 13 months

John Malizia was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on December 14, 1971

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John T. "Jack" Malizia passed away on 15 May 2024 at the age of 74 years old

The Eighth Army was officially activated at Memphis, Tennessee, on 10 June 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 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.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 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 / 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

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANCUSO**
JOSEPH T.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1999

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND BRIGADE (ENGINEER OSUT)
98TH INFANTRY DIVISION (TRAINING)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Joseph T. Mancuso honorably served in the United States Army / MSGT Joseph Mancuso served a total of 37 years in the US Army and Army Reserve from 1962 through 1999 / MSgt Mancuso was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Cold War and Gulf War

Master Sergeant Joseph Mancuso received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 22 August 1999

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph T. "Moose" Mancuso passed away on 8 June 2023 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade was constituted 12 June 1942 in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Engineer Amphibian Brigade / Redesignated 26 June 1952 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Amphibious Support Brigade, and allotted to the Regular Army / Redesignated 10 September 2009 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade / During World War II, the H&H Company, 2nd Brigade participated in the campaigns for New Guinea and Leyte, receiving the Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation / Campaign battles during the Korean War included the UN Defensive and Offensive battles, the Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) Intervention and the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, receiving the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 98th Infantry Division ("Iroquois") was a unit of the United States Army in the closing months of World War I and during World War II / The unit is now one of the U.S. Army Reserve's training divisions, officially known as the 98th Training Division / The 98th Training Division's current primary mission is to conduct Initial Entry Training (IET) for new soldiers / It is one of three training divisions subordinate to the 108th Training Command (IET) / The 98th Division was activated at Camp McClellan, Alabama in October 1918, too late to see service in World War I / The 98th was ordered into active military service on 15 September 1942 at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, filling its ranks primarily with soldiers from New York and New England / The 98th spent the next eighteen months training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, Camp Forrest, Tennessee and Camp Rucker, Alabama in anticipation of combat in the Pacific theater / Arriving in Oahu, Hawaii on 19 April 1944, the roughly 19,590 soldiers of the 98th relieved the 33rd Infantry Division of responsibility for the defense of the Hawaiian Islands and continued training for deployment to Asia / The 98th Infantry Division arrived in Japan on 27 September 1945 and served in Osaka, Japan as part of the occupying force until 16 February 1946 / In fall 2004, the 98th Division arrived in Baghdad and filled the ranks of the Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq (MNSTC-I), the unit charged with assisting the Iraqi government in developing, training and equipping the new Iraqi security forces / Five 98th Training Division soldiers were killed in action during the division's deployment to Iraq in 2004–05 / The division also fielded soldiers to such other locations as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Horn of Africa, Kuwait, Jordan and Afghanistan

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANCUSO**
JOSEPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph Mancuso honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Mancuso was an accomplished harmonica player for the musical group, "Steam Monkeys", who frequently played at Nietzsche's and the Sportsman Club / In 2018, Mancuso and the Steam Monkeys were inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame / Joseph Mancuso moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico / Joseph Frank Mancuso passed away on 28 December 2023 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANGRUM**

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John J. Mangrum honorably served in the United States Army / John Mangrum was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Mangrum was a 1957 graduate of Tonawanda High School and attended the University of Buffalo / John Mangrum was a member and former President of the Kiwanis Club, a member of Sikora Post #1322 American Legion and Vietnam Veterans Chapter 77 / John J. Mangrum passed away on 4 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANISCALCO**

MARTIN

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Marin J. Maniscalco honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Marin Maniscalco worked for Dunlap Tire, retiring after 31 years / Maniscalco served as President of United Steel Workers (USW) Local 135L, Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees (SOAR) / Marin J. Maniscalco passed away on 29 November 2023 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANN**

FRANK

D

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

7TH FIELD HOSPITAL

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Frank D. Manns honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Frank Manns was assigned as an Army Medic during the Vietnam War with service with the 7th Field Hospital and the USAR Control Group / SP4 Manns also served some time as an Army medic in Japan

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Manns retired from Quebecor, a diversified media and telecommunications company, in Depew where he was a printer for over 30 years / Frank D. Manns passed away on 24 November 2022 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARKWARDT**
BRUCE D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bruce D. Markwardt honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Markwardt was a Master Auto Technician / Bruce D. Markwardt passed away on 24 March 2024 at the age of 74 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARSHALL**
BRUCE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 2010

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (3 AWARDS)

IRAQ CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE EXPEDITIONARY SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARDS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR SERVICE MEDAL

AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Bruce R. Marshall honorably served in the United States Air Force / SMSGT Bruce Marshall served our nation from 1973-2010 in the US Air Force and Air National Guard / SMSGT Marshall was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Persian Gulf War, Global War on Terrorism, and served at the World Trade Center (WTC) days after the terrorist attack on 11 September 2001 / SMSgt Marshall had multiple deployments world-wide, including Iraq, England, France, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Panama

Bruce Marshall received his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 28 February 2010

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce R. Marshall passed away on 18 May 2023 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for award to members of the armed forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force after March 24, 1958, shall have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement and service / The degree of merit must be distinctive, though it need not be unique / Acts of courage which do not involve the voluntary risk of life required for the Airman's Medal may be considered for the Air Force Commendation Medal

The Air Force Achievement Medal (AFAM) is a decoration awarded to Air Force personnel for an outstanding achievement or meritorious service not of the same nature that warrants receiving the Commendation medal / The AFAM is only awarded to junior personnel and is most often awarded to officers with the pay grade of O-4 and below, as well as enlisted personnel below the grade of E-7 / The AFAM can be given in an area of combat but only for non-combat meritorious service and it is considered to be the lower of the U.S. Military's meritorious service medals / The Air Force Achievement medal acknowledges the contributions of the junior officers and enlisted personnel who are not eligible to receive the higher Commendation medal or the Meritorious Service Medal

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is one of the unit awards of the United States Air Force / It was established in 1954 and was the first independent Air Force decoration created / The Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

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

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

The Iraq Campaign Medal is a military award that was established by the United States in 2004 to recognize members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in Iraq during the Iraq War

The Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Service Medal is a United States Armed Forces award / To receive the medal, a military service member must have served on active duty during a designated anti-terrorism operation for a minimum 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days / The medal recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terror from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined / The GWOT Service Medal honors those who actively supported combat in anti-terrorism operations, but did not necessarily participate on foreign soil / One serviceman or woman can receive both the GWOT Expeditionary Medal and the GWOT Service Medal if they served in separate operations, each of which



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

qualifies them for the individual medal

The Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon is awarded to Air Force personnel who complete a standard contingency deployment / The deployment must be a minimum of 45 continuous days or 90 non-consecutive days

The Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal is awarded to Reserve or National Guard personnel who complete three uninterrupted years of exemplary service without disciplinary action / It was initially established as a ribbon bar in 1964 and took on its current medal form in 1973 / The medal recognizes outstanding behavior, efficiency, and fidelity during service in an enlisted status in the U.S. Air Reserve Forces



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MARTIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

GOMER

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

3RD BATTALION, 6TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gomer Martin honorably served in the United States Army / Gomer Martin was deployed to West Berlin, Germany for 11 months as a Construction Machine Operator with the 3rd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment

Gomer Martin was Honorably Discharged at Fort Dix, New Jersey on 25 February 1957

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Gomer Martin passed away on 9 March 2025 at the age of 91 years old

The 6th Infantry Regiment ("Regulars") was formed 11 January 1812 / Zachary Taylor, later the twelfth President of the United States, was a commander of the unit / The motto, "Regulars, By God!" derives from the Battle of Chippawa, in which British Major General Phineas Riall noticed that the approaching regiment had on the uniforms of militia, which the British had defeated at Queenston Heights / Instead, the Americans pressed the attack. Riall is believed to have said, "Those are Regulars, By God!", though the only source of this was opposing U.S. General Winfield Scott / The regiment participated in the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the American Civil War, the Indian Wars (1823-1879), the Spanish-American War, Philippine-American War (1899-1913), the Pancho Villa Expedition (1916-1917), World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War / On 17



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

May 1967, the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was reorganized as a standard Infantry Battalion and was assigned to the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, in the "Americal" (23rd Infantry) Division / The 1-6th Infantry was the division's first element ashore, arriving at Chu Lai in October to participate in its thirty-fifth campaign and ninth war / After a brief initial operation south of Duc Pho, the battalion was assigned the mission of securing the installation at Chu Lai / 1-6th Infantry participated in Task Force Oregon, Task Force Miracle, Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, Operation Burlington Trail, and had the mission of protecting "Americal" Division Headquarters and Chu Lai Defense Command from enemy ground mortar and rocket attacks / The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for its victory at the Battle of Lo Giang, 7-11 February 1968 / On 15 February 1969, the battalion was released from the 198th Light Infantry Brigade and assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division, "Americal" Division / On 13 September 1972 was reassigned to the 1st Armored Division, and was posted at Stork Barracks in Illesheim, West Germany / Elements of the 6th Infantry were also part of IFOR, Task Force Eagle, which was charged with implementing the military aspects of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARTIN, SR.**
EDWIN C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edwin C. Martin, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin C. Martin, Sr. passed away on 19 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARX, JR.**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William D. "Bill" Marx, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Marx joined the National Ski Patrol in 1973 and was a member of the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol since 1990 / Marx was a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus member at St. Aloysius Gonzaga / William D. "Bill" Marx, Jr. passed away on 8 April 2025 from Parkinson's Disease at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASTERS**

DAVID

L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David L. Masters honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Masters graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1960 / Masters was a long time member and former Commodore of Inner Harbor Yacht Club / David Masters was the owner of Master Rug in the Town of Tonawanda / David L. Masters passed away in Niagara Falls, New York on 13 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MATTHEWS**
JAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS FORESTALL (CVA-59)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jan Matthews honorably served in the United States Navy / Jan Matthews was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1962 and upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Naval Engineering, stationed at Pensacola, FL where he was trained as a naval aviator / Matthews continued his service for an additional 8 years flying Sikorsky helicopters and instructing new flight trainees in instrument flight / Matthews served aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Forrestal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jan Matthews attended high school in Painted Post, New York / Jan Matthews was very successful in marketing and moved to marketing transducers and other sensing devices where he held numerous marketing manager and vice president positions at several companies including ViaTran, Schlumberger, Sensotron, and GE Druck, which enabled him to become a world renowned expert on pressure instrumentation, constantly innovating new applications and products across a multitude of emerging technologies ranging from products used on the Stealth aircraft to submersible wireless oil field operations and waste water treatment applications / After his retirement, Matthews started a consulting business, US Pressure, giving advice on transducer applications / Jan Matthews passed away on 10 June 2010 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Maple Grove Cemetery, Friendship, New York

USS Forrestal (CVA-59) was a supercarrier named after the first United States Secretary of Defense James Forrestal / Commissioned in 1955, she was the United States' first completed supercarrier, and was the lead ship of her class / She surpassed the World War II Japanese carrier, Shinano, as the largest carrier yet built, and was the first designed to support jet aircraft / Forrestal served for nearly four decades in the Atlantic,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Mediterranean, and Pacific / In June 1967, Forrestal departed Norfolk for duty in waters off Vietnam / Once in the Gulf of Tonkin, Forrestal began four days of sorties / The planes of Attack Carrier Air Wing 17 flew about 150 missions against targets in North Vietnam from the ship / On 29 July 1967, during preparation for another strike, a Zuni rocket installed on an F-4 Phantom (#110), misfired, impacting an armed A-4 Skyhawk (#405)'s side, parked on the port side / The rocket's impact dislodged and ruptured the Skyhawk's 400-US-gallon external fuel tank / Fuel from the leaking tank caught fire, creating a serious conflagration that burned for hours, killing 134 sailors, injuring 161, destroying 21 aircraft and costing the Navy \$72 million / On the flight deck that day was Lieutenant Commander (later Senator) John McCain, who was wounded by an exploding bomb / The Forrestal was decommissioned in 1993, and made available as a museum / Attempts to save her were unsuccessful, and in February 2014 she was towed to Brownsville, Texas, to be scrapped / Scrapping was completed in December 2015



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAZGA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

EDWARD

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward R. Mazga honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward R. Mazga passed away on 20 November 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCANN**
PATRICK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1988

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE RIBBON

A.F. OVERSEAS LONG TOUR RIBBON W/2 DEVICES

AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/8 DEVICES

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/ 5 DEVICES

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Patrick McCann honorably served in the United States Air Force / SMSGT Patrick McCann was trained as a Medical Material Superintendent

Senior Master Sergeant Patrick McCann from the U.S. Air Force after 28 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick McCann passed away on 8 July 2025

The Air Force Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States who distinguishes themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon is issued for completion of a standard overseas service assignment of two years or more in length with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Long tour credit is awarded for completion of an overseas long tour (2 years) prescribed by Department of the Air Force Instructions, or to any member assigned to a United States or overseas location who is subsequently sent under temporary duty orders (to include combat tours) for 365 or more days within a 3-year time frame / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCARTHY**
CHARLES J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CSSN

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

USS ALAMEDA COUNTY (LST-32)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Commissarymen Seaman (CSSN) Charles Justin McCarthy honorably served in the United States Navy aboard the USS Alameda County (LST-32) for 3 1/2 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Justin McCarthy passed away on 6 April 2018 and is interred at Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York

Commissarymen prepared meals for enlisted sailors in galleys on the ship and shore bases in the general mess / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / Commissaryman was established as a rating in the U.S. Navy in 1948, and was changed to Mess Management Specialist in 1974, a title that lasted for thirty years until it became Culinary Specialist in 2004

USS Alameda County (LST-32) was an LST-1-class tank landing ship built for the United States Navy during World War II / Like many of her class, she was not originally named, and only referenced by her hull designation / Later she was named for Alameda County, California, the only US Naval vessel to bear the name / She was commissioned on 12 July 1943 and served as a training platform in Chesapeake Bay, until March 1944, when she crossed the Atlantic Ocean and patrolled the Mediterranean Sea / LST-32 spent the next 10 months carrying supplies and munitions between various ports in the Mediterranean / In January 1945, she lifted British troops to Greece to help suppress a communist attempt to take over the government / She later transported prisoners, elements of the French Foreign Legion, railroad cars, and other vehicles between ports in Italy, France, and



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

North Africa, before returning to the United States at New York, in July 1945 / After World War II, LST-32 operated in the Mediterranean Sea for the remainder of her active Navy career providing the 6th Fleet with the capability of establishing forward NATO air bases anywhere in the Mediterranean on short notice / On 25 June 1962, Alameda County was decommissioned at Naples; and her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 June 1962, where she was transferred to the Italian Government

Name: MCCARTHY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

JOHN

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John L. "Jack" McCarthy honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John L. "Jack" McCarthy passed away on 16 October 2025 at the age of 87 years of age and his remains cremated



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCOWAN**
RICHARD J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 2ND LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

9TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant Richard James McCowan honorably served in the United States Army/ 2nd LT Richard McCowan served as a personnel sergeant with the 9th AAA Group in Japan from July of 1955 to April of 1957, when he was awarded a direct commission as a 2nd Lieutenant

Second Lieutenant Richard James McCowan received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army in September 1965

He was honorably discharged in September of 1965 as a 1st lieutenant.

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Richard McCowan graduated magna cum laude from St. John's University in 1953 / McCowan received his M.A. in English literature from Niagara University in 1954 and earned his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from St. John's University in 1965 / Dr. McCowan was licensed in school psychology, secondary education, guidance counseling, and as a principal, chief school district administrator and instructional administrator-director of research / Dr. McCowan retired from his teaching position as a Professor of Educational Foundations in 1989 and assumed a full-time position with the State University of New York Research Foundation as Director of the Research and Evaluation Group (REG) for the Center for Development of Human Services (CDHS) / In 2009 Dr. McCowan was promoted to Senior Director for Administration and Research / Dr. McCowan had extensive experience in administration, teaching, and evaluation research. As a graduate professor at State University of New York College at Buffalo from 1971 through 1989, he taught advanced techniques of counseling, research, statistics, and computer applications / McCowan initiated and chaired the M. S. in Educational Computing



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

program for the State University College at Buffalo and was Associate Director for Evaluation for the Center for Applied Urban Research and Development from 1980 to 1985 / From 1969 to 1971, Dr. McCowan was Director of the Research and Development Complex at the State University College at Buffalo / Dr. McCowan was Director of the Campus Laboratory School and the Child Study Center, as well as several federally and state supported programs, from 1968 to 1971 / From 1966 through 1968, Dr. McCowan was Chief of the Bureau of School and Cultural Research of the New York State Education Department and administered the \$1 million Experimental and Innovative Programs which supported research and innovation in public schools and universities in New York State / From 1964 to 1966 in the Eden Central Schools, Dr. McCowan was Director of Guidance with responsibility for guidance, psychological, health, and special education services and was Coordinator of Federal Funds for the district / McCowan was a counselor at Farmingdale Senior High School from 1961 to 1964 / From 1957 through 1961 Dr. McCowan was a counselor and English teacher in Baldwin Junior High School / McCowan was an assistant dean of students at Niagara University from 1955 through 1957 / Dr. McCowan was the editor of the Journal for Industry-Education Cooperation and the Child Study Journal authoring over 100 publications, including refereed articles, books, chapters, monographs, and reports and has made more than 120 professional presentations / Dr. McCowan was principal investigator or project director for more than \$7.5 million of competitively awarded grants and collaborated on CDHS proposals for more than \$150 million / Dr. McCowan was a consultant to the United States Office of Education, the United States Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, the New York State Senate, the New York State Education Department, the New York State Department of Social Services, the New York State Power Authority, and numerous colleges, universities, and school districts / Richard McCowan served four terms on the Grand Island Board of Education, including six years as President and two years as Vice-President / Dr. Richard James McCowan passed away on 3 January 2018 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York

The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA) 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCDONALD, JR.**
WILLIAM J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William J. McDonald, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. McDonald, Jr. passed away on 21 July 2020

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / Based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCDOWELL**
ADRIAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1974**

Year Discharged: **1975**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Adrian Bernard McDowell honorably served in the United States Army / Adrian McDowell was assigned as an Armorer Unit Supply Specialist and stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas

Adrian McDowell was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 25 August 1975

Base Assignments:

Fort Riley, Kansas – Ft. Riley is a United States Army installation located in North Central Kansas, on the Kansas River / The Fort Riley Military Reservation covers 101,733 acres in Geary and Riley counties / The Fort consists of six functional areas, including the Main Post, Camp Funston, Marshall Army Airfield (MAAF), Camp Whitside, Camp Forsyth, and Custer Hill / In January 1853 a fort was constructed to organize, train, and equip troops to protect the overland trails / The site was named Camp Center because surveyors believed it was near the center of the United States / On 27 June 1853, Camp Center became Fort Riley, named in honor of Major General Bennet C. Riley, who had led the first military escort along the Santa Fe Trail in 1829 / During the Civil War, the fort was used to house Confederate prisoners / In 1919, the 2nd cavalry regiment was created, which provided the training and cavalry tactics to new cavalry officers / The 9th Armored Division was organized at Ft. Riley in July 1942, and after its deployment, Camp Funston was used as a German prisoner of war camp / The invasion of South Korea by North Korean forces in June 1950 once again brought attention to Fort Riley as an important training facility / Over the next few years, recruits from all over the United States came to Fort Riley and received basic training / In 1955, the fort's utilization changed from training and educational center to that of being the home base for a major infantry division, the 1st Infantry Division / In the decade following, 1st Infantry Division units trained to respond to any threat that might arise in Europe or other parts of the world / Increased guerrilla insurgency in South Vietnam during the mid-1960s, led to the deployment of the 1st Infantry Division to Southeast Asia / During this same year, a provisional basic combat training brigade was organized at Fort Riley, and in February 1966, the 9th Infantry Division was reactivated and followed the 1st Infantry Division into



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

combat / Between November 1990 and January 1991, soldiers and equipment were deployed overseas to participate in the Gulf War / Fort Riley became a Division Headquarters on 5 June 1999, with the reactivation of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) / On 1 August 2006, the 1st Infantry Division returned to Fort Riley

Miscellaneous:

Adrian Bernard McDowell passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The Armorer Unit Supply Specialist, is a vital component of the US Army / They play an important role in maintaining weapons, ensuring they are in good working condition, and ready to be used at all times / The Armorer Specialist is responsible for inspecting and repairing firearms, from handguns to heavy machine guns



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **McFARLAND**
SCOTT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE (H&S) COMPANY, SUPPORT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Scott Lansing McFarland honorably served in the United States Army and was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Scott L. McFarland was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

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

The Army Headquarters and Service company is made up of the battalion headquarters, which includes the battalion or regimental command section and the battalion/regimental headquarters executive staff, and headquarters support personnel of a battalion, or regiment



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCGINLEY**
THOMAS J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

3RD AVIATION FLIGHT DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Thomas J. McGinley honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 McGinley was assigned as a Multi Engine Airplane Mechanic and was stationed in Korea for 12 months

Specialist Fifth-Class Thomas McGinley received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 2 September 1966

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

McGinley was a member of the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company, a retired commercial pilot from Midway Airlines and an accomplished pianist and organist playing the Wurlitzer for many years at Shea's, Riviera Theatre,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

and Our Lady of Peace Church / Thomas J. McGinley passed away on 26 May 2022

The 3rd Aviation Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army Aviation Branch / It operates the Boeing AH-64 Apache attack helicopter, Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, and Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopter / Originally designated the 3d Aviation Company (Combat), the unit was activated and assigned to the 3d Infantry Division on 1 July 1957 at Fort Benning, Georgia

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCLELLAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

LAWRENCE

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 44TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY (ADA)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Lawrence David McLellan honorably served in the United States Army as a Power Generator Equipment Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence D. McLellan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment is an Air Defense Artillery regiment of the United States Army, first constituted in 1918 in the Regular Army during World War I / .During World War II the unit served as the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment / In 1963, the 6th Missile Battalion, 44th Artillery (HAWK), 38th Artillery Brigade was deployed to South Korea / Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Artillery Group; 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion; and the 49th and 44th Field Artillery Battalions consolidated, reorganized, and redesignated 7 November 1969 as the 44th Artillery, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System / Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 44th Air Defense Artillery

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 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **MCMAHON**

JAMES

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James F. McMahon honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James McMahon was a member of the Variety Club of Buffalo and a member of American Legion Post #735 in West Seneca / James McMahon retired to The Villages, Florida / James F. McMahon passed away on 23 June 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCNICHOLAS, JR.**
JAMES E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT COL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1993

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel James E. McNicholas, Jr. honorably served 24 years in the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) / After graduating from college, McNicholas was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and was stationed in Korea, Germany and the United States / Base assignments included Homestead AFB, FL; Korea; Ft. Bliss, TX; Hanau, Germany; Kaiserslautern, Germany and Ft. Ritchie, MD / James McNicholas was an Assistant Professor of Military Science in the ROTC program at Canisius College from 1975 to 1978 and then Chairman of the Military Science Department from 1989 until he retired from active duty in 1993 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel

Following his military retirement, Second Lieutenant McNicholas set up the Junior ROTC program in seven schools of the Buffalo School District

Base Assignments:

Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida - Previously known as Homestead Air Force Base (Homestead AFB), the base is located in Miami-Dade County, Florida, to the northeast of the city of Homestead. It is home to the 482nd Fighter Wing (482 FW) of the Air Force Reserve Command's Tenth Air Force (10 AF), as well as the headquarters of Special Operations Command South / The installation was named Homestead Army Air Field on 16 September 1942 as a base for the United States Army Air Forces during World War II / In 1962, over 10,000 U.S. Army personnel were deployed to Homestead AFB and housed in a tent city in preparation for a possible land invasion of Cuba / Additional U.S. Army air defense artillery personnel manned several MIM-23 Hawk mobile surface-to-air missile (SAM) batteries and AN/MPQ-35 search radars that were placed around the base for defense against Soviet and/or Cuban aircraft / The 31st Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) was deployed to Southeast Asia for combat operations over Vietnam, the 4531st Tactical Fighter Wing was established as a provisional unit for host wing duties at Homestead AFB until the 31st TFW returned in 1970 / In 1994, Homestead AFB was placed on the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's initial base closings list, potentially dooming the base



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

to closure, however, the BRAC Commission recommended retaining Homestead AFB and rebuilding and realigning the installation

Ft. Bliss, Texas - Fort Bliss is a United States Army post in New Mexico and Texas, with its headquarters in El Paso, Texas / Named in honor of LTC William Bliss (1815–1853), a mathematics professor who was the son-in-law of President Zachary Taylor, Ft. Bliss has an area of about 1,700 square miles; it is the largest installation in FORSCOM (United States Army Forces Command) and second-largest in the Army overall (the largest being the adjacent White Sands Missile Range) / Fort Bliss is home to the 1st Armored Division, which returned to US soil in 2011 after 40 years in Germany / The division is supported by the 1st Armored Division Sustainment Brigade / The installation is also home to Joint Task Force North (JTF), a joint service command / Fort Bliss trained thousands of U.S. Soldiers during the Cold War / As the United States gradually came to master the art of building and operating missiles, Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range became more and more important to the country, and were expanded accordingly

Fort Ritchie, Maryland - Fort Ritchie was originally established as a training site for the Maryland National Guard / It was acquired as a US Army installation during World War II / During the war it was used as a training site for interrogators and psychological warfare experts, known as the Ritchie Boys / After the war, it was used as a communications center by the Army supporting the Military District of Washington and by the Air Force in support of the nearby Raven Rock Mountain Complex Alternate National Military Command Center (ANMCC) / Fort Ritchie closed in September 1998, pursuant to the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission

Miscellaneous:

James McNicholas was born in Gloversville, New York and graduated from Bishop Burke High School in 1964 / McNicholas graduated from Canisius College and served as President of the Canisius Alumni Association / McNicholas was an ex-officio member of the Canisius Board of Directors for more than 30 years / While stationed in El Paso, Texas, McNicholas earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Sul Ross State University and completed a Master's Degree in Education at Canisius College in 1997 / James McNicholas was President of the Canisius Cage Club, a member of the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Buffalo and a member of the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park / James E. McNicholas, Jr. died on 22 February 2024 after a short illness / James E. McNicholas, Jr. passed away on 22 February 2024 at the age of 77 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCNULTY, SR.**
DONALD M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HANBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1995

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD RIBBON W/1 OAK LEAF (2)

AIR FORCE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL

OVERSEAS LONG TERM RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

COMMENDATION MEDAL

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD RIBBON

OVERSEAS SHORT TOUR RIBBON W/1 OAK LEAF CLUSTER (2)

LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/3 OAK CLUSTERS (4)

GOOD CONDUCT AWARD W/1 SILVER OAK LEAF CLUSTER (6)

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Donald M. McNulty, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / MSGT Donald McNulty had a total of 6 years of foreign service as a Pavement & Construction Equipment Craftsman, including in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm

MSGT Donald McNulty was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 31 May 1995 after 24 years of active duty

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald McNulty was a member of VFW Post #8265 in Eden, New York / Donald M. McNulty, Sr. passed away on 26 March 2023 at the age of 70 years old

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

The Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

award to members of the armed forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force after March 24, 1958, shall have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement and service / The degree of merit must be distinctive, though it need not be unique / Acts of courage which do not involve the voluntary risk of life required for the Airman's Medal may be considered for the Air Force Commendation Medal

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

The Air Force Organizational Excellence Award Ribbon was established in 1969 to recognize unique, unnumbered organizations or units that have performed exceptionally meritorious service for a nominated time period of not less than two years / It is intended to recognize the achievements and accomplishments of U.S. Air Force organizations or activities that do not meet the eligibility requirements for the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

The Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM) is a military service medal of the United States Armed Forces which was created on January 19, 1977 by President Gerald Ford under Executive Order 11965 / The medal may be awarded to members of the United States military (including Reserve and National Guard members) who distinguish themselves by meritorious participation in specified military acts or operations of a humanitarian nature

The Air Force Short Tour Service Ribbon is awarded for less than two years of duty or as directed by Department of the Air Force policies / Normally, the Short Tour Service Ribbon is awarded for a permanent duty assignment of at least 300 days within an 18-month time span; such assignments are generally served unaccompanied by family members, though a short tour assignment need not be unaccompanied / Historically, most Short Tour Service Ribbons were awarded for service in South Korea, by far the most common short tour assignment in the USAF / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

The Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon is issued for completion of a standard overseas service assignment of two years or more in length with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Long tour credit is awarded for completion of an overseas long tour (2 years) prescribed by Department of the Air Force Instructions, or to any member assigned to a United States or overseas location who is subsequently sent under temporary duty orders (to include combat tours) for 365 or more days within a 3-year time frame / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

award

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

Master Sergeant Donald M. McNulty, Sr. was also awarded the following military honors:

NCO PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION GRADUATION RIBBON w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster (2 awards)

The Air Force NCO Professional Military Education Graduation Ribbon, authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force, Aug. 28, 1962, is awarded to graduates of the following certified Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education schools (NCO Preparatory Course, Airman Leadership School, NCO Leadership School, NCO Academy, SNCO Academy)

AIR FORCE TRAINING RIBBON

The Air Force Training Ribbon is awarded to U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force service members on completion of initial accession training after 14 August 1974 / It is officially hallmarked by the U.S. Institute of Heraldry / If a member completes two accession training programs, such as BMT and OTS, a bronze oak leaf cluster is worn on the ribbon



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCPARTLAN, JR.**
JAMES H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BM

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS BUTTE (AE-27)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Boatswain's Mate James Hugh McPartlan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was assigned as a Fire Fighter

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

James H. McPartlan, Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

Naval Fireman stand power plant and ship security watches both while in port and underway / While performing watches, they will ensure all safety standards are being met with any associated engineering machinery / They are responsible for working with safety and fire suppression equipment / A Fireman preserves, maintains, and repairs the safety equipment and any other associated equipment to prepare for underway operations / Firefighters in the Navy assist putting out fires on ships, rescuing service members and their families and



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

providing emergency medical care / In addition to performing maintenance on the equipment, they will also perform any emergency equipment repair

The second USS Butte (AE-27) was a Kilauea-class ammunition ship in the United States Navy, commissioned on 14 December 1968 in the Boston Naval Shipyard and assigned to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, originally homeported in Norfolk, Virginia / During the crisis in Jordan in 1970, Butte was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation for her peacekeeping role in that operation / From December 1972 to July 1973 she operated in the Tonkin Gulf and was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with one battle star / Shortly after getting underway from Norfolk on 3 September 1974, Butte suffered a major fire in the main switchboard, disrupting all ship support electrical supply / She was towed back to the naval base for repairs which included replacing the switchboard / In September 1995, Butte began her last deployment as part of the USS America battlegroup / She spent October 1995 operating in the Adriatic Sea, supporting air strikes in Bosnia as part of Operation Deliberate Force / She was decommissioned on 3 June 1996 and placed in service with the Military Sealift Command, where she became USNS Butte (T-AE-27) / Like five of the six other ships of her class, she was overhauled upon the transfer: accommodations were improved, the main armament was taken out and she was outfitted for reduced civilian crewing / On 24 May 2004, she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and transferred to the NAVSEA Inactive Ships Maintenance Facility in Philadelphia awaiting disposal / On 3 July 2006, the ex USS Butte was sunk as a target off the east coast of the United States using Harpoon missiles, a Mark 48 torpedo fired from the USS San Juan and EOD explosives

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCSWAIN**
DONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald R. McSwain honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald McSwain was employed by the City of Buffalo as a Police Officer for 34 years / Donald R. McSwain passed away on 24 June 2025 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCTIGUE**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David J. McTigue honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. McTigue passed away on 20 August 2018



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEJAK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 27TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION

36TH HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) Robert Francis Mejak honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Robert Mejak was assigned as an Auto Repairman / Cpl Mejak was stationed in Kimpo, Korea

Base Assignments:

Kimpo, Korea - Kimpo is a city in Gyeonggi Province, South Korea / The airport at Kimpo (Gimpo) was known as "K-14" Air Force Base during the Korean War / Sabre jets were based and operated from K-14 to "Mig Alley" located in the north western area of North Korea, and where air combat would take place with enemy Mig aircraft

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Mejak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

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 / In the Vietnam War, the division suffered more casualties than any other army division: 5,444 men killed in action and 26,592 wounded in action / 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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **MELLENGER**
KARL A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

2ND BATTALION, 127TH ARMOR REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Karl A. Mellenger honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Mellenger served a total of 6 years in the US Army Artillery Branch and New York Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl Mellenger received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 13 March 1966 / Mellenger was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders / Karl A. Mellenger passed away on 2 May 2020

The 127th Armor traces its origins as far back as 1838, to a company also known as the "Buffalo City Guards" / The 127th Tank Battalion (formed 1950) reorganized and redesignated as 127th Armor, a CARS parent regiment, on 16 March 1959 / The regiment then consisted of the 1st Medium Tank Battalion, an element of the 27th Armored Division (United States) / Circa 2005 the 1st Battalion was a tank unit of the 3rd Brigade, 42nd Infantry Division (United States) in Buffalo, NY



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MELLOTT**
DONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald E. Mellott honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Donald Mellott worked for the railroad until his retirement / Donald E. Mellott passed away 31 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MELTZER**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AURORA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David Meltzer honorably served in the United States Army Reserves for six years / Meltzer trained as a Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Fort Sam Houston is a U.S. Army post in San Antonio, Texas known as "Fort Sam," / It is named for the U.S. Senator from Texas, U.S. Representative from Tennessee, Tennessee and Texas Governor, and first President of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston / Fort Sam Houston is known as the "Home of Army Medicine" and "Home of the Combat Medic" / At the end of World War II, the Army decided to make Fort Sam Houston the principal medical training facility

Miscellaneous:

David Meltzer attended School #81 in Buffalo and graduated from Kenmore Junior High School in 1958 and Kenmore West Senior High School in 1962 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army Reserves, Meltzer was an Accountant for Mid-State Packing Company, Inc. / David Meltzer attended SUNY Buffalo, majoring in Philosophy / Meltzer earned his Bachelor of Sciences Diploma in Accounting from Canisius College in 1975 / Meltzer worked as a Welfare Examiner for the Erie County Department of Social Services / Meltzer later moved to an accounting position with the Erie County Comptroller's Office, followed by a post with the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning until his retirement in 2005 / David Meltzer passed away on 3 July 2024 at the age of 80 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MERVINE**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David J. Mervine honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. Mervine passed away on 24 September at the age of 80 years old and is interred at the Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MESCALL**
DANIEL

G.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel G. Mescall honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel G. Mescall passed away on 4 July 2025 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MESCALL**
DANIEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel G. Mescall honorably served in the United States Military

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel G. Mescall passed away on 4 July 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MESMER, JR.

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John R. Mesmer, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Mesmer was a millwright and a handyman / Mesmer retired from Upstate/Bison Foods in West Seneca / John Mesmer was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Moose Lodge / John R. Mesmer, Jr. passed away on 22 April 2013 at the age of 66 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ALDEN

KENNETH

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO2

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second-Class Kenneth M. Meyer honorably served in the United States Navy / Petty Office Second-Class Kenneth Meyer was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician at Commandant Third Naval District, New York

PO2 Kenneth Meyer was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy on 17 March 1961 with reserve obligations ending 27 July 1962

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth M. Meyer passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 86 years old

Aviation Electronics Technicians are carefully trained to maintain all aviation electronic systems, from navigation and radar to tactical displays and warfare sensors / Aviation Electronics Technicians maintain, troubleshoot, repair and test complex electronic systems related to aviation on tactical jets, fixed wing aircraft or rotary winged helicopter systems / Technicians work with systems including digital computers, fiber optics, infrared detection, radar, laser electronics, navigation, pressure indication, and electrical power generation and distribution

The Third Naval District, headquartered at New York, New York, was established on 7 May 1903 / In 1966, after the Brooklyn Navy Yard had provided significant maritime forces to win the Atlantic naval campaigns during both World War I and World War II, the U.S. Navy closed the aging yard as an operational naval base / Third Naval District was disestablished on 7 October 1976, and command functions were transferred to the Fourth Naval District in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

MARC

D.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Marc D. Meyer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marc D. Meyer passed away on 8 November 2024 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MICHALAK

JERRY

G.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Jerry G. Michalak honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerry G. Michalak passed away on 5 October 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MICHALSKI**
EDMUND

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edmund Michalski honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edmund Michalski graduated from Bishop Ryan High School / Michalski graduated with a MBA from Michigan State University in 1966 / Edmund Michalski was the owner of a bakery and café and a consultant / Michalski was the President of the Buffalo Chapter of the New York Restaurant Association in 1964 / Edmund Michalski passed away on 15 April 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIERZWA**

PAUL

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul A. Mierzwa honorably served in the United States Air Force / Mierzwa was assigned to the Air Force Band, where he played the drums

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Paul Mierzwa was employed by the Whitmier & Ferris Company for many years as an Artistic Designer / Paul A. Mierzwa passed away on 7 December 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIESOWICZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

GERALD

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

11TH ARTILLERY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Gerald L. Miesowicz honorably served in the United States Army / Gerald Miesowicz was deployed to Germany for 1 year and 7 months with the 11th Artillery / Miesowicz played the bugle in the Army, performing Taps to honor fallen comrades

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Miesowicz was employed as a Civil Engineer at Bethlehem Steel, leaving to work at Hertel Plumbing and Heating / Gerald Miesowicz, a musician, played trumpet for polka bands such as the Jumping Jacks, G-Notes, Eddie O's Orchestra, and Rare Vintage and appeared on the Polka Buzz TV Show, Buffalo Polka Boosters and Polka Variety Social Club / Gerald L. Miesowicz passed away on 24 May 2024 at the age of 87 years old

The 11th Field Artillery Regiment is a Field Artillery Branch regiment of the United States Army first formed on 3 June 1916 / A parent regiment in the U.S. Army Regimental System, one battalion of the regiment is currently active, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division / The regiment was shipped to England aboard RMS Carolina on 14 July 1918 and fought in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, seeing its first action on the night of 26 October at Rémonville and participating in the largest artillery barrage of the war on 1 November 1918 / Four battalions of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment served in the Vietnam War / The 1st Battalion served with the 9th Infantry Division. The 2d Battalion served with the 101st Airborne Division. The 6th Battalion served with the 11th Infantry Brigade / The 7th Battalion served the 25th Infantry Division. Robert Kalsu (Buffalo Bills), one of two NFL players killed in Vietnam, served with Battery A, 2d Battalion in the 101st Airborne Division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIHALO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

EDWARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward J. Mihalo passed away on 15 July 2024 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at St. Mary's Cemetery, Eden, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILKS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

DAN

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Dan R. Milks honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dan Milks was a long-time employee of Roswell Park / Dan R. Milks passed away on 22 June 2025 at the age of 81 years old and his remains cremated at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery's Field of Valor, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

ALFRED

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CITY OF TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Alfred J. "Buddy" Miller honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Miller was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force and went to work for General Motors Powertrain for 38 years until his retirement in 2006 / Alfred J. "Buddy" Miller passed away on 14 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ARTHUR

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur L. Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Miller graduated from Grand Island High School / Arthur Miller was a facilities Manager for VLOC / Miller retired to Sun City Center, Florida / Arthur L. Miller passed away on 14 November 2015 at the age of 68 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John "Gary" Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Gary Miller received his Honorable Discharge when he retired from the Navy after 22 years as an ADC Flight Engineer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John "Gary" Miller passed away on 2 October 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

JOHN

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John W. "Jack" Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Miller was a retired Buffalo Fire Fighter of 35 years and received the Butler Award for Bravery, saving 3 children in a working fire / Miller is also a retired school bus driver for Grand Island School District, a member of Zion United Church of Christ, a Masonic member of Renaissance Lodge #1188 F&AM and a member of Faith Chapter #722 O.E.S. and past Grand Officer of Order of Eastern Star / John W. "Jack" Miller passed away on 18 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLIGAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

MICHAEL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 3RD SUPPORT BRIGADE, SEVENTH ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND,
US ARMY EUROPE

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Michael E. Milligan honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Michael Milligan was deployed for 18 months of foreign service in Germany as a Power Plant Operations Mechanic

SP4 Michael E. Milligan was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 8 May 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Milligan was the production manager with Brimms Inc / Michael E. Milligan passed away on 10 October 2022 at the age of 74 years old

Power Plant Operations Mechanic supervises electric power plant and auxiliary systems equipment / Operates and maintains electrical power plants; performs mechanical, electrical and instrumentation functions necessary to install and prepare power station equipment for initial startup; analyze plant equipment and system operating characteristics to determine operational condition; perform electrical assessments of electrical distribution systems and facilities; repair or overhauls generating equipment and associated systems components; supervise the installation, operation or maintenance of prime power plants, associated systems, equipment and soldiers; direct preparation of power plant equipment for movement, storage and installation; serve as technical inspector to determine faulty operation maintenance practices; determines and isolates complex malfunctions, utilizing diagnostic tests, and troubleshooting techniques; supervise electrical



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

assessments of electrical distribution systems and facilities

General support groups provide both general support and back-up direct support for the divisions and the direct support groups / Repair parts at the general support level are in supply channels; however, general support maintenance units carry adequate shop stocks of repair parts to support their internal operations / Missile and ammunition maintenance is handled by the ammunition brigade and maintenance for medical equipment by the medical brigade

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MIMMACK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

JACK

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LCDR

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Commander Jack E. Mimmack honorably served in the United States Navy / LCDR Jack Mimmack was a Denist stationed at the Chelsea Naval Hospital and Edenton, North Carolina / LCDR Mimmack retired from the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Chelsea Naval Hospital, Massachusetts - Naval Hospital Boston was a hospital in Chelsea, Massachusetts / With the closure of the nearby Boston Navy Yard, the hospital closed in 1974 / Chelsea Naval Hospital was one of the first three hospitals authorized by Congress to accommodate naval personnel / Previously, personnel received treatment at marine hospitals operated by the Department of the Treasury for mariners, both naval and merchant / The hospital served naval personnel and others during the American Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II

Miscellaneous:

Jack Mimmack graduated from Nichols School in 1947 and Grinnell College (Grinnell, Iowa) in 1951 / Mimmack graduated from the University of Buffalo Dental School in 1955 prior to entering military service / After his retirement from the Navy, Jack Mimmack joined his Father in the Dental practice, working for 40 years as a Dentist / Mimmack was a life member of the Country Club of Buffalo / Jack E. Mimmack, DDS passed away on 19 March 2025 at the age of 95 years old after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MISZTAL**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

S.

Address: 88 BRADWOOD ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert S. Misztal honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Misztal worked for the Ford Stamping Plant for 34 years before his retirement / Robert S. Misztal passed away on 7 November 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTGOMERY**
JAMES **E.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HOLLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James E. Montgomery honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Montgomery retired as a Corrections Officer from Collins Correctional Facility after 20 years of service /
James E. Montgomery passed away on 28 June 2025 at the age of 86 Years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTGOMERY**
JAMES W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James W. Montgomery honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James W. Montgomery passed away on 12 January 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTROY, SR.**
JAMES N.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (MACHINE GUN)

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant (E-6) James N. Montroy, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army for five years / SSGT James Montroy was assigned as a Cook and served 12 months of foreign service in the US Army Pacific, including Laos, Thailand and Korea

SSGT James Montroy received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 18 July 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James N. Montroy, Sr. passed away on 12 October 2023 at the age of 79 years old

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTZ**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 46 SUNNYDALE AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary Montz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Gary Montz was stationed in San Diego, California

The brother of PFC Gary Montz, Private First-Class Roger Montz, was Killed In Action on 19 May 1968 from an enemy explosive devise in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORAN**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

David Moran honorably served in the United States Air Force / Moran was deployed to Japan and also was stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Moran was a past President of the W.N.Y. Hairdressers Association / David Moran passed away on 10 July 2017



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

JAMES

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

595TH SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Patrick Moran honorably served in the United States Army / SGT James Moran was a Communications Center Operations Tel-Typewriter Operator

Base Assignments:

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 / It is the home of the United States Army Signal Corps and United States Army Cyber Command / It is named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / The camp opened in July 1917, becoming a training site and home of the famous 82nd Division / From early 1946 to June 1947, the U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks for convicted criminals was located at Camp Gordon, and the installation was scheduled for deactivation / In September 1948 the Army relocated the Military Police School from Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to Camp Gordon, and in October 1948 a Signal Corps training center was activated / 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 / The location closed as the war ended / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS), before all US Army branch OCSs were merged with the Infantry OCS at Fort Benning / Until 1974, Fort Gordon was also a training location for the Military Police Corps

Miscellaneous:

James P. Moran was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The United States Army Signal Corps (USASC) is a branch of the United States Army that creates and manages



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

communications and information systems for the command and control of combined arms forces and was established in 1860 / The Signal Corps only mission is to provide communications links between the Army units in their area of operations and other signal nodes in further areas served by other signal units / The first satellite terminal ever installed in a combat zone was installed in Ba Queo, near Saigon / From north to south, communicating across the varied landscapes of Vietnam presented a variety of challenges, from mountains to jungle / The answer came by utilizing the technology of "troposcatter" / A radio signal beamed up into the atmosphere is "bounced" back down to Earth with astonishingly good results, bypassing debilitating terrain / In January 1962, the system of troposcatter units were established under the operational name of BACKPORCH / The escalation of the number of troops in the Vietnam War caused an increasing need for more communications infrastructure / In the spring of 1966 the assorted Signal units were reassigned to the newly formed 1st Signal Brigade / By the close of 1968 this brigade consisted of six signal groups, and 22 signal battalions—roughly 23,000 soldiers / The first Vietnam War death on the battlefield was a Signal Corps radio operator

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

THOMAS

S.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 7TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as an Anti-Tank Assault Man

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Moran was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 16 September 1976 / Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran passed away on 25 March 2017

An Anti-tank Assaultman was a front-line military job that supported ground infantry and tasked with tankbusting and breaching / In the past, Marine Corps Infantry Assault had been referred to as "grunts" for their hard, grueling work in combat / Assaultman were responsible for anti-armor operations and tactical vehicle operations / These servicemembers provided medium and heavy anti-armor fire in support of the infantry battalion

The 7th Marine Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Marine Corps based at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California / Nicknamed the "Magnificent Seventh", the regiment falls under the command of the 1st Marine Division and the I Marine Expeditionary Force / The 7th Marine Regiment was formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 14 August 1917 / From August 1917 through August 1919, the 7th Marine Regiment served in Cuba / On 17 August 1950, after the outbreak of the Korean War, the 7th Marines was reactivated as part of the 1st Marine Division / On 21 September 1950 the regiment landed at Inchon and took part in the recapture of Seoul on 7 October 1950, after 22 days of fighting / In 1965, the regiment was



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

deployed to South Vietnam / While in service in Vietnam the 7th Marine regiment participated in the following military operations: Operation Starlite, Operation Piranha, Operation Harvest Moon, Operation Mallard, operations Texas and Indiana, Operation Golden Fleece 7-1, Operation Rio Blanco, Operation Shark, Operation Boone, Operation Duval, Operation Desoto, Operation Foster, Tet Offensive, Operation Allen Brook, Operation Mameluke Thrust, Operation Daring Endeavor, Operation Linn River, Operation Meade River, Operation Oklahoma Hills, Operation Taylor Common, Phase I of Operation Pipestone Canyon, the defense of Que Son, Operation Pickens Forest and Operation Imperial Lake / The last elements of 7th Marines departed the Republic of Vietnam 13 October 1970 / The 7th Regiment is charged with conducting mechanized, combined-arms operations and other expeditionary operations in order to support theater engagement plans and contingency operations / The regiment is prepared to deploy within 48-hours of the receipt of an execute order as either the ground combat element for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade (1st MEB) or as a major subordinate element of the 1st Marine Division / As directed, the regiment will prepare infantry battalions for deployment to the Pacific Command (PACOM AOR) in order to support III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) operations and training

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORRIS**

GARY

N.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary N. Morris honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Gary Morris was assigned as a Hawk Missile Crewman / PFC Morris was deployed to Germany for 8 months

Gary Morris was Honorably Discharged from the US. Army on 22 February 1974

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary N. Morris passed away on 23 September 2021

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORRIS**
MARK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM2

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. HENDERSON DD-785

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT

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

Service Notes:

Mark A. Morris honorably served in the United States Navy

In 1989, Mark Morris enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserves joining the Seabees / Morris served with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 13 (NMCB13) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 21 (NMCB21) / Mark A. Morris retired from the Seabees in 2004 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO)

Base Assignments:

Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPACT), Long Beach, California - Beginning in 1938, the Navy occupied the Long Beach Naval Complex on the south side of Terminal Island in Long Beach and Los Angeles under various functions and missions / The complex covered approximately 1,095 acres of land and harbor areas that included two naval activities: the Naval Station and the Naval Shipyard / The Naval Station was established on 15 November 1946, as a homeport for Pacific Fleet ships, providing port facilities, fleet support personnel, and recreational facilities / The Long Beach Naval Shipyard was established in February 1943 as a facility to repair and refit Navy ships / The Naval Station was closed on 30 September 1994 and the Naval Shipyard was closed on 30 September 1997

Miscellaneous:

Mark Morris graduated from Bishop Neumann High School in 1973 prior to entering military service / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Morris went to work at the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) as a Pipefitter / Later he was promoted to Chief Stationary Engineer and held that position until his retirement in June 2013



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Henderson (DD-785) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the second Navy ship of that name, and the first named for United States Marine Corps Major Lofton R. Henderson / The Henderson was commissioned on 4 August 1945 in Seattle, Washington / During the Korean Conflict, the Henderson supported the American assault into Inchon Bay, Korea during September 1950 by destroying mines and bombarding the Inchon waterfront preparatory to the invasion / The USS Henderson received 8 Battle Stars for her service during the Korean Conflict and shared in the Navy Unit Commendation given her task unit for its part in the Inchon landings / In January 1967, during the Vietnam Conflict, the Henderson was sent to Vietnam for four months to support attack carrier operations and conduct shore bombardment assignments / In April 1968, the Henderson returned to Vietnam to conduct shore bombardments and escort duties in the South China Sea until September 1968 / During her service in Southeast Asia, the Henderson received seven Battle Stars for her support during the Vietnam Conflict / In 1973, following her Vietnam assignment, the USS Henderson spent the next six years conducting reserve training operations out of Long Beach. The destroyer spent the majority of her time sailing in local operating areas, though the warship also conducted reserve unit training cruises to Pearl Harbor or the Pacific Northwest on an annual basis / The USS Henderson (DD-785) was decommissioned on 30 September 1980

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORRIS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

STEPHEN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stephen J. Morris honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen J. Morris passed away on 14 January 2025 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORROW**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

MICHAEL

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Michael W. Morrow honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Morrow was a graduate of Orchard Park High School and the College of Emporia, Emporia, Kansas / Morrow was the co-owner of Arthur's Hardware in Orchard Park / Michael Morrow was Life Member and former President of the Orchard Park Fire Company / Morrow was co-founder of the Orchard Park Pavilion and a member of the Chamber of Commerce / Michael W. Morrow passed away on 3 June 2024 at the age of 80 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOTYKA**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald Motyka honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Motyka retired from General Mills after more than 30 years working in Buffalo, West Chicago, IL and Golden Valley, MN / Motyka played in the folk group at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, the Cursillo Community and various RV parks in retirement / Ronald Motyka passed away on 11 February 2015



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOZINGO**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1966**

Year Discharged: **1968**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas Edward Mozingo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Thomas Mozingo had a successful career with the Ford Motor Company, working over 30 years until his retirement in 2004 / Thomas Edward "Tom" Mozingo passed away on 15 March 2024 in Bradenton, Florida at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, Florida



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MRKALL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

NORMAN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Norman J. Mrkall honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Norman Mrkall was stationed in Guam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Mrkall was a plumber and a union carpenter / Norman Mrkall was a retired Grand Island Highway Superintendent, credited with building a modern highway department for the Town of Grand Island, serving many years as Fire Chief and 21 years as Chairman of the Board of Directors / Mrkall was a 64-year member of the Grand Island Fire Company / Norman Mrkall received the Citizen-of-the-Year award in 1974 and 1999 / Norman J. Mrkall passed away on 17 April 2018 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MRUGALSKI**
DONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald A. Mrugalski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald A. Mrugalski passed away on 25 April 2025 at the age of 87 years old and his remains were cremated



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURAWSKI**
MICHAEL D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, 18TH ARTILLERY GROUP (AIR DEFENSE), ARMY AIR DEFENSE
COMMAND

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Michael David Murawski honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Michael Murawski was assigned to an Air Defense Artillery Branch as a Light Vehicle Driver

Michael Murawski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 12 March 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Murawski moved to Calabash, North Carolina / Michael David Murawski passed away on 11 November 2023 at the age of 75 years old

The Air Defense Artillery Branch is the branch of the United States Army that specializes in anti-aircraft weapons (such as surface to air missiles) / In the U.S. Army, these groups are composed of mainly air defense systems such as the Patriot Missile System, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD), and the Avenger Air Defense system which fires the FIM-92 Stinger missile / The Air Defense Artillery branch descended from Anti-Aircraft Artillery (part of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps until 1950, then part of the Artillery Branch) into a separate branch on 20 June 1968 / The mission of Air Defense Artillery is to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack, and surveillance

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURRAY SR**
JOHN **M.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant John Morton Murray, Sr., honorably served in the United States Army, followed by service in the United States Army Reserves / 1st LT Murray was assigned to the Transportation Corp

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Murray was a 1995 graduate of the University of Virginia / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, John Murray, began his career as a Certified Public Accountant with Arthur Young & Company / Murray served as Treasurer, Squadron Education Chairman and Celestial Navigation Instructor of the Buffalo Power Squadron / John Murray was a Life Member and Past President and Director of the Buffalo Chapter of the Financial Executives Institute / Murray retired in 1998 as the Vice President-Finance and Treasurer from American Precision Industries / John Morton Murray, Sr., passed away on 1 December 2024 at the age of 91 years old

The Transportation Corp are concerned with supplying, loading, and unloading combat vehicles, cargo and materiel into combat mission readiness / They also protect transportation assets and ensure that the equipment is used properly to reach its destination successfully



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURTHA**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas Murtha honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Murtha graduated from South Park High School in 1966 / Murtha retired from the United States Postal Service / Thomas Murtha is a member of the American Legion



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSSELL**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert E. "Bob" Mussell honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Mussell was a retired Health Inspector for the Erie County Health Department / Mussell was a drummer and played in various local bands / Robert E. "Bob" Mussell passed away on 14 June 2025 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Union Cemetery, Elma, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MYER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

FRED

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Fred Chester Myer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After graduating from SUNY Fredonia and Buffalo State College, Fred Myer taught English for the Kenmore School System / After his retirement, Myer was an award-winning trainer of Shelties / Fred Chester Myer passed away on 22 April 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MYERS, JR.
JOHN

B.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John B. Myers, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Myers retired after 30 years as a Firefighter from the Buffalo Fire Department / John B. Myers, Jr. passed away on 10 June 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NAGY, JR.**
LOUIS J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

2ND MARINE DIVISION, FLEET MARINE FORCE

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Louis J. Nagy, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Louis Nagy was assigned as a Rifleman / LCPL Nagy served 18 months of foreign service and his final duty assignment was as a Military Policeman at 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

Base Assignments:

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

Miscellaneous:

Louis J. Nagy, Jr. passed away on 29 March 2023

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The 2nd Marine Division (2nd MARDIV) is a division of the United States Marine Corps, which forms the ground combat element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) / The division is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / During World War II, the 2nd Marine Division (Headquarters) participated in operations in the Pacific Theater of Operations: the Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the Battle of Tarawa, the Gilbert Islands campaign, the Battle of Saipan, the Battle of Tinian and the Battle of Okinawa / The Division didn't take part in a major action again until 1958 when elements participated in the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958 / 2nd Marine Division units helped to reinforce Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965 as part of Operation Power Pack / Other peacekeeping operations carried on by the Division include being part of the Multi National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984 / The Division suffered the loss of 238 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing, plus 3 U.S. Army personnel attached to the unit

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NATIELLA**
JOSEPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: COL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Colonel Joseph R. Natiella honorably served in the United States Army Reserve for 28 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Natiella was born in Utica, NY / Natiella graduated from Utica College and Georgetown University School of Dentistry / Joseph Natiella practiced dentistry with his father until 1966 when he entered specialty training at The State University at Buffalo in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology / Natiella achieved Board Diplomate status in 1971 and taught at the School of Dental Medicine for 37 years and retired as a full professor in 2006 / Natiella retired to Bonita Springs, Florida / Joseph R. Natiella, DDS passed away on 18 September 2024 at the age of 89 Years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NAWROT**
MARTIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST CONCORD

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: COAST GUARD

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Martin C. Nawrot honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Martin C. Nawrot passed away on 27 May 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEAL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

FRANK

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Frank J. A. Neal honorably served in the United States Navy / Frank Neal graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Class of 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Neal was a graduate of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Frank Neal worked as a Pump Specialist for 33 years with the family business, Root, Neal and Company / Neal was an avid runner, completing 13 marathons and served as Director of Admissions for the 1977 Skylon Buffalo to Niagara Falls Marathon / Frank J. A. Neal passed away on 1 September 2025 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NELSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

RICHARD

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard Nelson honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Nelson graduated from Tonawanda High School in 1955 / Nelson attended Mars Hill College, North Carolina and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History & Religion in 1965 / Richard Nelson's schooling led to his life's work in church choral music and youth ministry / Richard Nelson passed away on 21 April 2015 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEWMAN**
LOUIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank: **E-3**

Year Entered: **1956**

Year Discharged: **1959**

Unit / Squadron:

USS CASCADE

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Seaman (SN) Louis C. Newman honorably served in the United States Navy / The majority of SN Louis Newman's sea service was aboard the USS Cascade (AD-16), a Naval Destroyer Tender that tended the East Coast based destroyer squadrons

SN Louis Newman was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 11 September 1959

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Louis Newman Louis drove for the Buffalo Courier Express Newspaper and drove a semi-truck for a food distributor, Desiderio's in Buffalo / Louis C. Newman passed away on 13 April 2023 at the age of 84 years old

USS Cascade (AD-16), the only ship of its class, was a destroyer tender in the United States Navy / Originally designed as a passenger-freighter, the Cascade was launched on 6 June 1942 by Western Pipe and Steel Company in San Francisco, California / Cascade cleared San Francisco on 12 June 1943 for Pearl Harbor, where she began her war time duty of tending destroyers / As the war moved westward, Cascade followed, bringing her support close to the action areas / From November 1943, she was stationed successively at Kwajalein, Eniwetok, and Ulithi, while the ships she served ranged the Pacific, escorting convoys, screening carrier task forces, supporting invasions, and carrying out many other tasks with typical destroyer versatility / Cascade was the flagship of Service Squadron 4 in 1943 / In June 1945, Cascade sailed to Okinawa, where she endured the suicide raids and typhoon weather / She left Okinawan waters in September to serve in Wakayama, Japan and later at Tokyo, Japan, supporting the occupation until March 1946, when she sailed for the East Coast / Cascade was decommissioned and placed in service in reserve at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 12 February 1947 /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Recommissioned on 5 April 1951, Cascade was based in Newport, Rhode Island, as tender for the many destroyers home-ported there / From Newport she cruised to the Caribbean and the Mediterranean to support the destroyers serving in the Sea / During this time Cascade served as flagship, and carried the flag of commander, Service Force, 6th Fleet, and the flag of commander, Destroyer Flotilla 6 / She also served as flagship for commander, Destroyer Force, Atlantic / She served in this role as flagship and tender up through 1963 / From 1970 to 1974, the Cascade was forward deployed to the Mediterranean, homeported in Naples Italy / The Cascade was decommissioned on 22 November 1974 and struck from the Naval Register on 23 November 1974 / She was subsequently sold for scrap to Luria Brother of Brooklyn, New York, and dismantled at the Gulmar Yard in Brownsville, Texas starting September 1975 / The anchor, along with mooring cleats, ended up at the front entrance of Danville High School in Danville, Kentucky / The USS Cascade received one battle star for World War II service



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEWMAN**
RODERICK D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AURORA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY-E, 1ST BRIGADE, 30TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Roderick Davis Newman honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Roderick Newman was deployed for 20 months of active duty in Germany serving as a Heavy Weapons Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roderick Newman was Honorably Discharged from the Army on 23 April 1962 / Roderick Davis Newman passed away on 12 June 2019

Heavy Weapons Infantryman employ, engage, and eliminate threats with a variety of heavy weapons, in an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) and Heavy Weapons Company / Heavy Weapons Infantryman support Battalion Commanders mission with the versatility of the Weapons Company capabilities providing close and long-range missile and heavy machine gun fires and provides anti-armor tactics

The 30th Infantry Division was a unit of the Army National Guard in World War I and World War II / It was nicknamed the "Old Hickory" division, in honor of President Andrew Jackson / The 30th Infantry Division was regarded as the number one American infantry division in the European Theater of Operations (ETO), involved in 282 days of intense combat over a period from June 1944 through April 1945



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NEWTON**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

31ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (CARBINE RIFLE)

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Ronald D. Newton honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Ronald Newton served as an Air Defense Fire Distribution System Crewman and was attached to the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Lockport Air Force Station, Lockport, NY

Base Assignments:

Lockport Air Force Station, Lockport, NY - Lockport Air Force Station is a closed United States Air Force ADCOM General Surveillance Radar station in Cambria, New York / Initially established at Fort Niagara in 1950 before relocating to Lockport site, it was a joint USAF and US Army station from 1951 to 1969 / The Air Defense squadron inactivated on 29 June 1979 / The key infrastructure of three radomes (AN/FPS-7 and twin AN/FPS-6 radars) were demolished / Today the former station is partially vacant with base apartments for private use and commercial redevelopment

Miscellaneous:

Ronald D. Newton passed away on 1 December 2021

The 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade was constituted on 1 January 1918, during World War I, in the National Army as Headquarters, 31st Heavy Artillery Brigade, Coast Artillery Corps at Key West, Florida but would see numerous name changes over the lifetime of the unit / The unit, commanded by Brigadier General George Washington Gatchell, rapidly transitioned into World War II where the brigade earned four battle streamers for participation in the campaigns Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne, and Champagne 1918 / The 31st Brigade was deployed to the European Theater in World War II where it participated in and earned three more



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

battle streamers for campaigns in Rome-Arno, Southern France, and the Rhineland / On 30 June 1946, the brigade was deactivated at Laned-Sebold, Germany / This unit would encounter numerous activations and inactivations over the years to come to include a 1946 inactivation in Germany, reactivation in 1948 at Fort Bliss, Texas and in 1958 was reorganized as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 31st Artillery Brigade / The headquarters was inactivated in 1960 at McChord Air Force Base, Washington and then reactivated on 15 December 1961 at Lockport Air Force Station, N.Y., as the 31st Artillery Brigade (Air Defense) / In response to the Cuban Missile Crisis, the brigade was set up with nine Hercules and Hawk battalions defending southern Florida from attack by Cuba and the Soviet Union

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NICHOLSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

DENNIS

J.

Address:

LACKAWANNA

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-1

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Dennis J. Nicholson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as an Administrator

Dennis Nicholson received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 23 April 1971

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis J. Nicholson passed away on 8 April 2018

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NICHTER**
KURT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Kurt W. Nichter honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kurt W. Nichter passed away on 21 January 2025 at the age of 71 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NIGOL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

RAEMO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Raemo Nigol honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raemo Nigol passed away on 25 October 2025 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOGLE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

THOMAS

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas E. Nogle honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Nogle worked for GM Tonawanda Forge for 30 years, retiring in 1998 / Thomas E. Nogle passed away on 1 October 2023 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOWAK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

LEONARD

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Leonard L. Nowak honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Leonard Nowak earned an Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Bachelors Degree (BA) and his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the State University of New York at Buffalo / Nowak worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for 36 years before retiring / Leonard L. Nowak passed away on 19 February 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NOWICKI**
RICHARD **M.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

74TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard M. Nowicki honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Nowicki was a member of the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park / Richard M. Nowicki passed away on 6 April 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **NUGENT**

DONALD

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Donald J. Nugent honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Nugent retired from Tops Markets after 47 years / Nugent was a member of the OLBS School Board / Donald J. Nugent passed away on 2 November 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **O'CONNELL**
JAMES M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 26TH SIGNAL BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

EXPERT BADGE: RIFLE

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) James Michael O'Connell honorably served in the United States Army and served as a Radio Operator

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James M. O'Connell was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The Field Radio Operator is skilled in the long list of radios for all frequency ranges and uses / The radios used are divided among the frequency range as well as for their specific uses / The Radioman will not be an infantryman or a tanker, but if assigned to those units, he will be fighting side by side with the members of those combat units and carrying a radio or operating the vehicle-mounted radio / Some select radiomen will get assigned to go out with the infantry companies and will be responsible for the communications in that company / However, in the larger communication units, the radioman will be with other radiomen and fellow communicators



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **O'CONNOR**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-2

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS WALDRON (DD-699)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Seaman Apprentice James P. O'Connor honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James O'Connor was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 25 September 1970 / James P. O'Connor passed away on 13 March 2021

USS Waldron (DD-699), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for John C. Waldron, a U.S. Naval aviator who led a squadron of torpedo bombers in World War II / The Waldron was commissioned on 7 June 1944 / Waldron reported for duty in the Pacific in December 1944 as part of the Fast Carrier Task Force (TF-38/58) / Waldron spent her entire World War II service with the fast aircraft carriers / The Waldron remained with the fast carriers during the final strikes on the Japanese home islands / The 15 August 1945 cessation of hostilities found her still off the Japanese coast in company with TF 38 / She screened the carriers while their aircraft covered the initial occupation of Japan / That duty lasted until 10 September, at which time she finally entered Tokyo Bay / During the Vietnam War, the Waldron arrived in Vietnamese waters on 24 August / Ppatrolling near the 17th parallel, she provided gunfire support for the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) during operations ashore during the Vietnam War until September 1967 / During her second tour on the gunline in October 1967, Waldron's main battery supported troops of the Army's 1st Air Cavalry Division and of the South Vietnamese 40th Division / On 30 October 1973, Waldron was decommissioned at Mayport, Florida / She was simultaneously transferred, by sale, to the Colombian Navy / Her name was struck from the Navy List on 31 October 1973 / The USS Waldron (DD-699) earned four battle stars



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

during World War II and one battle star for service during the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **O'CONNOR**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas A. O'Connor honorably served in the United States Air Force / O'Connor deferred military service until he completed his residency and served as Chief of Anesthesia at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida

Base Assignments:

MacDill Air Force Base, Florida - MacDill AFB is located in South Tampa and was constructed as MacDill Field, a U.S. Army Air Corps, later U.S. Army Air Forces, installation just prior to World War II / With the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947, it became MacDill Air Force Base / During the 1950s and 1960s, it was a Strategic Air Command (SAC) installation for B-47 Stratojet bombers / In the early 1960s, it transitioned to a Tactical Air Command (TAC) installation, briefly operating the F-84 Thunderstreak jet fighter before transitioning to the F-4 Phantom II / During the 1960s, 1970s, and early 1980s, it operated F-4 Phantom II fighters under various fighter wings, followed by F-16 Fighting Falcons in the mid-1980s to early 1990s / MacDill became an Air Mobility Command installation in 1996 and home to the 6th Air Refueling Wing, its 310th Airlift Squadron flying the C-37A, and its 50th Air Refueling Squadron and 91st Air Refueling Squadron flying the KC-135 / The 6 ARW is further augmented by the Air Force Reserve Command's 927th Air Refueling Wing and 63d Air Refueling Squadron also flying KC-135s / MacDill AFB is also home to the headquarters for two of the U.S. military's unified combatant commands: Headquarters, United States Central Command, and Headquarters, United States Special Operations Command / Both commands are independent from one another and each is commanded by a respective four-star general or admiral

Miscellaneous:

Born in the Bronx, Thomas O'Connor attended a Catholic elementary school and Manhattan College Preparatory School / O'Connor enrolled in premed studies at the University of Notre Dame, earning his Bachelor's Degree in 1966 and completing his medical degree at the University of Buffalo in 1970 / After graduation, Dr. Thomas O'Connor served his residency in internal medicine at Buffalo General Hospital and later accepted a residency at



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston / From 1976 to 1979, Dr. O'Connor became Chairman of the Anesthesia Department at Deaconess Hospital and then moved to St. Francis Hospital from 1978 to 1988 as the Chief Anesthesiologist / Dr. O'Connor served as chief of the Anesthesia Department at Kenmore Mercy Hospital from 1989 to 2006 / Dr. O'Connor served as a consultant with the Medical Legal Department at Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center and chief of anesthesia for Invision Health of Williamsville / Dr. Thomas O'Connor was a founder of the Right to Life Party in Erie County / An officer in the Catholic Physicians Guild, Dr. O'Connor received the Pro Vita Award from the Diocese of Buffalo in 1999 / Dr. O'Connor was a member of the Erie County and New York State Medical Societies, the Society of Catholic Social Scientists and the Catholic Medical Association / Dr. O'Connor served for decades on the Board of Directors of Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia / Dr. Thomas O'Connor was awarded the Humanitarian of the Year Award in 2001 and the Physician Benefactor Award from the Western New York Division of the Polish American Congress in 2005 / Dr. Thomas A. O'Connor passed away on 23 May 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: O'DONNELL

JOHN

B.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John B. O'Donnell honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John B. O'Donnell passed away on 16 February 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OERTEL**

KARL

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1979

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY RIBBON W/SERVICE STAR

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Karl M. G. Oertel honorably served in the United States Air Force / Karl Oertel trained as a Heavy Equipment Operator and served for 6 years 11 months on active duty

Karl Oertel was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 29 January 1979

Base Assignments:

Loring Air Force Base, Maine – Loring AFB was a United States Air Force installation in northeastern Maine, near Limestone and Caribou in Aroostook County / It was one of the largest bases of the U.S. Air Force's Strategic Air Command during its existence, and was transferred to the newly created Air Combat Command in 1992 / Constructed in 1947, the base was originally named Limestone Army Air Field, and was renamed Limestone Air Force Base following the establishment of the Air Force in 1947 / It was named in 1954 for Major Charles J. Loring, Jr., USAF, a Medal of Honor recipient during the Korean War / From 1951 to 1962, it was co-located next to Caribou Air Force Station / For the majority of its operational lifetime, Loring was a heavy bomber, aerial refueling, and interception facility for military aircraft, equipment, and supplies first as part of Strategic Air Command (SAC) (1947–1992), then as part of the succeeding Air Combat Command (ACC) (1992–1994) / After 41 years in operation, Loring AFB officially closed on 30 September 1994

Miscellaneous:

Karl M. G. Oertel passed away on 24 October 2025 at the age of 73 years old

The mission of the 42nd Civil Engineer Squadron is to acquire, construct, maintain, and operate real property facilities and provide related management, engineering and other support work and services. To do this the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

squadron is organized into seven branches: Unit Administration, Financial Management, Engineering and Environmental Planning, Operations, Fire Protection, Family Housing Management and Industrial Engineering

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OGNIBENE**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John Ognibene honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Ognibene passed away on 30 August 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OGUICH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

GEORGE

N.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTLE GROUP, 34TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (PISTOL)

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class George N. Oguich honorably served in the United States Army / PFC George Oguich was deployed for 17 months of foreign service with US Army Europe in Germany, Italy and France as an Intermediate Speed Radio Operator

PFC George N. Oguich was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on 2 December 1959

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George N. Oguich passed away on 21 September 2022 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, 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

The 34th Infantry Regiment (special designation "Leyte Dragons") is a Regular Army infantry regiment of the United States Army / It saw combat in World War I, in the Pacific Theater of Operations in World War II, and was the first full American regiment deployed in combat in the Korean War / The 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 34th are now basic training formations attached to the 165th Infantry Brigade at Fort Jackson, South Carolina / The



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

34th was awaiting embarkation on 7 December 1941 when the attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into World War II / The regiment was reassigned to the Hawaiian Department and its convoy rerouted to Oahu, where it arrived on 21 December 1941 / The 34th was put in department reserve and assigned to the defense of the island / On 12 June 1943 the 34th was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division, replacing the 298th Infantry, a Hawaiian National Guard unit that had been severely depleted the previous year when its ethnic Japanese soldiers were reassigned to the 100th Infantry Battalion / In September 1943, the division shipped out to Australia for training / The 34th served as division reserve during the Operation Reckless landings at Tanahmerah Bay, Netherlands New Guinea on 22 April 1944 / The regiment was brought ashore and assisted in mopping-up operations around the Hollandia airdrome / The 34th Infantry, operating as an element of the 24th Infantry Division, participated in some of the most horrific combat under the most insufferable weather and terrain conditions of the War in the Pacific / Yet for the entire campaign U.S. forces losses were minimal / The mopping up activities on the island of Mindanao lasting into September 1945 would result in 22,000 Japanese soldiers emerging from the central Mindanao jungles to surrender / More than 10,000 Japanese died in combat on Mindanao, while 8,000 or more died from starvation or disease during the campaign / From 17 April to 15 August 1945, 820 U.S. soldiers were killed in eastern Mindanao and 2,880 were wounded; many more deaths and injuries were after 15 August / The 34th Infantry would go on to occupy the southern Japanese island of Kyushu

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OHNSORG**
ROGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Roger W. Ohnsorg honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Ohnsorg was born on Staten Island, New York / Ohnsorg graduated from Alfred University in 1959 with a degree in Ceramic Engineering / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Roger Ohnsorg took a position with Carborundum Corporation in Keasbey, New Jersey and was later transferred to Niagara Falls, earning an MBA, and finishing his career at Carborundum / The research conducted by Ohnsorg led to several patents and participation in international conferences / Roger Ohnsorg developed a deep love and appreciation of the Niagara Falls area and its history, authoring two books, "The Bridges of Goat Island", and "Robert Lindley Murray - The Reluctant U.S. Tennis Champion" / Roger W. Ohnsorg passed away on 22 October 2012 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: OKON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

WALTER

C.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Walter Chester Okon honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Chester "Whitey" Okon passed away on 3 January 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: O'LEARY, JR.

JOHN

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John J. "Jack" O'Leary, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John O'Leary was a member of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. Nash Council / John J. "Jack" O'Leary, Jr. passed away on 16 September 2025 and donated his body to the UB Anatomical Gift Program



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OLSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

DONALD

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Donald W. Olson honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Olson volunteered at the US Air Force Base as a Chaplain, ran the Niagara Bible Conference in Olcott, NY for over a decade and volunteered as a Chaplain for Niagara County jails as a counselor / Donald W. Olson passed away after a bout with cancer on 3 June 2010 at the age of 62 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OLSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

RICHARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

67TH MILITARY POLICE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Richard J. Olson honorably served in the United States Army as a Cook and also served with the 67th Military Police Company

Richard Olson was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 2 August 1968

Base Assignments:

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort Devens is a United States Army Reserve military installation in Worcester County in Massachusetts and was established on 5 September 1917 / It was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / The 1st, 32nd, and 45th Divisions trained at Devens during World War II / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / It was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

Miscellaneous:

Richard J. Olson passed away on 11 January 2018

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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 67th Military Police Company was constituted 12 February 1944 in the Army of the United States and activated 25 February 1944 in Algeria / The 67th MP participated in the battles of Rome-Arno; Southern France; Rhineland; and Central Europe during World War II / The company was officially inactivated on July 31, 1955 at Camp McCauley and on 22 July 1963 activated in France / the 67th MP Company was again inactivated 22 June 1972 at Fort Devens, Massachusetts and then activated 16 May 2006 at Fort Lewis, Washington

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **O'MARA**

WILLIAM

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1ST LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

ORDNANCE CORPS

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant William J. O'Mara honorably served in the United States Army / 1st LT William O'Mara was deployed to Vietnam and assigned to the Ordnance Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. O'Mara passed away on 10 August 2020 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility materiel during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ORSINI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOSEPH

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: LT. COL.

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 2006

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph E. Orsini honorably served in the United States Air Force as a Judge Advocate

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph E. Orsini passed away on 31 March 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) is the legal arm of the United States Air Force / Officers serving in the JAG Corps are typically called judge advocates / They handle a wide variety of legal issues including international law, operations law, environmental law, and military and civilian personnel issue



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OZIMEK, JR.**

JOSEPH

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Joseph F. Ozimek, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C Joseph Ozimek was a Communications Specialist, stationed in Torrejon Air Base, Spain

The brother of A1C Ozimek, Private First-Class Ronald Robert Ozimek, was Killed In Action on 10 August 1969 from hostile mortar fire at the Marine NDP (night defensive position) NW of LZ (landing zone) Sierra on DMZ, Quang Tri province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Torrejon Air Base, Spain – Torrejon AB is both a major Spanish Air and Space Force base and the co-located Madrid–Torrejon Airport, a secondary civilian airport for the city and metropolitan area of Madrid / Torrejon Air Base was originally the home of the Spanish National Institute Aeronautics / USAF support activities began under the 7600th Air Base Group located in Madrid in July 1956, to support construction and base organizational functions / Torrejon Air Base opened officially on 1 June 1957 with SAC activating the 3970th Strategic Wing on 1 July 1957 / The base hosted the Sixteenth Air Force as well as SAC's 65th Air Division (Defense) where it cooperated with Spanish Air Force units in the Air Defense Direction Centers (ADDC) / As a result of the withdrawal of USAF forces in South Vietnam, on 15 July 1971 the 307th and 353rd TFS were returned to their home bases, and the 612th and 614th TFSs were assigned to Torrejon / On 28 June, the 613th TFS was inactivated and its aircraft sent to Air National Guard squadrons in the United States / The 612th TFS inactivated on 1 October and the 614th TFS on 1 January 1992 / In accordance with the 1988 agreement, the USAF portion of the base was turned over to the Spanish government on 21 May 1992, with the 401st Tactical Fighter Wing being transferred to Aviano Air Base, Italy without personnel or equipment

Miscellaneous:

A Communications Specialist supervises, installs, operates and performs maintenance checks and services on



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

manual or automated tactical multichannel communications equipment



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **OZOLINS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

BERNARD

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CAPTAIN

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

3RD ENGINEERING BATTALION, 3RD MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Captain Bernard Ozolins honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Captain Ozolins was deployed to Vietnam for 10 months and assigned as the Motor Transport officer / Captain Ozolins served with the Marine Corps for 5 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Born in Liepaia, Latvia, Bernard Ozolins attended college and later joined the United States Marine Corps as a 2nd Lieutenant on 21 March 1961 / Bernard Ozolins received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corp on 1 January 1967 / Bernard Ozolins passed away on 30 April 2018 at the age of 79 years old

The Motor Transport Officer plans, coordinates, executes and supervises the execution of all functions of motor transport / Motor Transport Officers analyze, translate, and execute commander's operational requirements and intent to support mission requirements at the battalion, squadron, regiment, Major Subordinate Command (MSC), Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) and Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) levels / As a motor transport subject matter expert, Motor Transport Officers are responsible for: planning, executing and monitoring tactical wheeled vehicle movements; planning and forecasting of equipment readiness and availability; monitoring and managing motor transport maintenance requirements; advising commanders on motor transport maintenance and operations requirements; management of individual and collective motor transport training; and management of motor transport licensing programs



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PAJAK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RICHARD

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-1

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Richard F. Pajak honorably served with the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

Miscellaneous:

Richard Pajak was a member of AMVETS Post #72 / Richard F. Pajak passed away on 18 October 2020



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PALMER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

WILLIAM

W.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William W. Palmer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Palmer graduated from Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Palmer began his career with the Erie County Department of Social Services / Palmer was a 1969 graduate of the Social Work program at SUNY at Buffalo / After his retirement from the County of Erie, William Palmer worked for ADESA Buffalo Auto Auction and served as a Eucharistic Minister at his church / William W. Palmer passed away on 7 February 2024 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PALMER, JR.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

L.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert L. Palmer, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Palmer graduated from Bennett High School in Buffalo in 1961 / Palmer graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a Masters Degree in College Student Personnel Administration in 1972 and a Doctorate in Higher Education in 1979 / Robert Palmer also received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in 1972 from Indiana University / Palmer studied at Harvard's Institute for Educational Management / Robert Palmer had a 20 year career at the University of Buffalo, rising to the position of Vice President of Student Affairs / In August of 1979, Palmer moved to Indio, California joining the California State University, Fullerton as the Vice President of Student Affairs / Robert Palmer was awarded the Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Dean/Vice President from NASPA-Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education, Region VI / Robert L. Palmer, Jr. PhD passed away on 29 January 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PALUCH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

STEPHEN

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Stephen D. Paluch honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Paluch was a member of the Knights of St. John Commandery #391; Knights of Columbus Father Baker Council #2243; and the Wacky Wednesday Social Club / Paluch was a member of American Legion Post #527 / Stephen D. Paluch passed away on 23 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery in the Field of Valor, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PALYSZESKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert Earl Palyszeski honorably served in the United States Army / Robert Palyszeski was stationed in Camp Pieri, Wiesbaden, Germany working with the Guided Missile Electronic Guidance System

Base Assignments:

Camp Pieri was a former U.S. Army base until the mid 1990's / Camp Pieri was located in a suburb of Wiesbaden, Germany

Miscellaneous:

Robert Palyszeski worked for Bethlehem Steel Corporation / Palyszeski earned his Associate's Degree in Accounting / Robert Earl Palyszeski passed away in Winston-Salem, North Carolina on 28 March 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PARK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert J. Park honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, Robert Park went to work for Quebecor where he retired after 43 years / Robert J. Park passed away on 14 October 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PARKER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

ALVIN

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal Alvin M. Parker honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Alvin Parker was assigned as a Motor Vehicle Operator and had 13 months of foreign service at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Alvin M. Parker is the very proud direct descendent of Union Army Lt. Col. Ely Samuel Parker, a Tonawanda Seneca from Pembroke, New York / Lt. Col. Parker became prominent as a lawyer, engineer, diplomat and one of the top aides to General Ulysses S. Grant, and he drafted the terms of surrender and was present when Robert E. Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, effectively ending the Civil War

CPL Alvin Parker was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 4 September 1964

Base Assignments:

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (NSGB), Cuba - Guantanamo Bay is located approximately 430 miles southeast of Miami, on the southeastern coast of Cuba / Established in 1903, it is the United States' oldest overseas military installation and the only one in a communist country / According to the United States' lease with Cuba, the U.S. retains jurisdiction while Cuba maintains sovereignty over the 45-square-mile installation, which is surrounded by a fence line that stretches over 17 miles / NSGB serves as a key operational and logistics hub, supporting a variety of missions including maritime security, humanitarian assistance, and joint operations / Its unique geographic location provides strategic advantages, enhancing U.S. defense capabilities in the region and serving as a critical forward operating base for various military and humanitarian activities

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan - Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni or MCAS Iwakuni is a joint Japan



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Maritime Self-Defense Forces and United States Marine Corps air station located in the Nishiki river delta, 1.5 mi southeast of Iwakuni Station in the city of Iwakuni, Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan / The Japanese government commissioned the base on 8 July 1940 / When World War II started, the Iwakuni Air Station was used as a training and defense base / The first allies to reach Iwakuni at the war's end were a group of U.S. Marines who had signed papers ending the conflict for the Japanese air base / After the end of World War II, various military forces from the United States, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand occupied the base / The Americans first occupied the base in 1950 to use it as a springboard for aircraft heading to the Korean War / In 1952, Air Station Iwakuni officially became a United States military base / It is currently home to around 10,000 United States Marines, sailors, and family members / The base is detailed for Marine pilot training and air patrol

Miscellaneous:

Alvin Parker was an enrolled member of the Tonawanda Band of Senecas / Parker graduated from Burgard High School and Buffalo State College / Al Parker was employed at General Motors for most of his life as a Training Specialist / After retiring, Parker taught cultural studies at School 19 and had numerous speaking engagements with history enthusiasts throughout New York State / He was the first Native American inducted into Leadership Buffalo / Alvin Parker was an ardent supporter of the Buffalo Historical Society, and sat on the board at the Old Fort/Niagara Association / Parker was highly passionate about participating in Civil War and French and Indian War reenactments at Forest Lawn cemetery, Hull House, Old Fort Niagara, and Appomattox Court House because he could preserve the stories of the past and the legacy of his ancestors Ely S. Parker and Red Jacket / Alvin M. "Al" Parker passed away on 21 August 2022 at the age of 80 years old

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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PASINSKI**
ROBERT J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert J. Pasinski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Pasinski was the owner of the Jovial Bar II, in Angola for over 50 years / Robert J. Pasinski passed away on 31 May 2024 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PATERNOSTRO**
NICHOLAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Nicholas Paternostro honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Nicholas Paternostro was employed by the Xerox Corporation in Amherst, retiring as a Service manager after 35 years of employment / Nicholas Paternostro passed away on 8 July 2024 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PAULY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

GARY

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth Class (SP4) Gary M. Pauly honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Gary Pauly was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division and was stationed in Dongducheon, Korea, 5 miles south from Panmunjom, DMZ, site of the signing of the Korean War Armistice

Base Assignments:

Camp Casey - Dongducheon, Korea - Camp Casey was named in 1952 after Major Hugh Boyd Casey, who was killed in a plane crash near the camp site during the Korean War / Camp Casey is one of several U.S. Army bases in South Korea near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) / Camp Casey was home to several of the main combat units of the Second Infantry Division / Among them were the Second Battalion of the 9th Infantry Regiment, the First Battalion of the 72nd Armored Regiment (Crusaders), and the 210th Field Artillery Brigade / Camp Casey is occupied by over 6,300 military personnel and more than 2,500 civilians

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Gary M. Pauly returned to West Seneca where he attended Niagara University / Pauly graduated from the university in 1978 with a degree in social welfare / In 1979, Pauly joined the West Seneca Police Department, serving in the Family Offences and Domestic Violence Bureau / In January 2015, Gary Pauly retired from the West Seneca Police Department after 35 years of service / After his retirement, Pauly served as a West Seneca Court Security Officer / Gary Pauly is a member of American Legion Post #735

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,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PAWLOWSKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

LOUIS

J.

Address: DARTWOOD DRIVE

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE (H&S) COMPANY, 1ST INFANTRY TRAINING REGIMENT (ITR)

29TH RIFLE COMPANY, BUFFALO, NEW YORK

USS INCHON

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Louis J. Pawlowski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Louis Pawlowski was assigned as an Infantryman and underwent Desert Warfare Training / LCPL Louis Pawlowski served briefly aboard the USS Inchon for training

LCPL Louis Pawlowski also served in the Marine Reserve

LCPL Louis Pawlowski served on active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Reserves

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), also known as 29 Palms, is the largest United States Marine Corps base / The base covers a total area of 1,102 square miles / From 1942 through July 1944, during World War II, the airfield at Twentynine Palms was utilized by the U.S. Army Air Force for primary flight training / On 20 August 1952, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Headquarters issued Post Order 343 creating the Marine Corps Training Center, Twentynine Palms / The base was designated on 6 February 1953, as Marine Corps Training Center, Twentynine Palms / By 1 February 1957, it grew to base status and was designated as Marine Corps Base, Twentynine Palms, California / On 16 February 1979, the base was changed once more to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) / On 1 October 2000, after 21 years as MCAGCC, the command was designated as Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Twentynine Palms, California / The base is currently home to one of the largest military training areas in the nation / Twentynine Palms was to be a permanent 'combined-arms exercise college' for all of the Marine Corps

Miscellaneous:

Louis Pawlowski graduated from South Park High School and attended Bryant & Stratton Business School and the University of New York at Buffalo / Pawlowski is a graduate of the Roberts Beauty School / Louis Pawlowski worked for Acme Steel as a Time Study Efficiency Expert / Pawlowski became a Barber-Hair Stylist and was an instructor at the Marjon Beauty School / Louis Pawlowski is the owner of the Shear Artistry Salon in Cheektowaga, New York / Louis Pawlowski is a member of Moose Lodge #959 and a member and 1st Vice-Commander of American Legion Post #735 / Pawlowski is also a member of the American Legion #735 Color Guard

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The 1st Infantry Division (1ID) is a combined arms division of the United States Army, and is the oldest continuously serving division in the Regular Army / It has seen continuous service since its organization in 1917 during World War and was officially nicknamed "The Big Red One" (abbreviated "BRO") after its shoulder patch and is also nicknamed "The Fighting First" / A few weeks after the American entry into World War I, the First Expeditionary Division, later designated the 1st Infantry Division, was constituted on 24 May 1917, in the Regular Army, and was organized on 8 June 1917, at Fort Jay, on Governors Island in New York / The 1st Infantry Division fought in World War I and World War II / During the Korean War, the Big Red One was assigned to occupation duty in Germany, while acting as a strategic deterrent against Soviet designs on Europe / 1st Infantry Division troops secured the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials and later transported seven convicted Nazi war criminals to Spandau Prison in Berlin / The division fought in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1970 / Arriving in July 1965, the division began combat operations within two weeks / By the end of 1965, the division had participated in three



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

major operations: Hump, Bushmaster 1 and Bushmaster II / The division was involved in the Tet Offensive of 1968, securing the massive Tan Son Nhut Air Base / In the first half of 1969, the division conducted reconnaissance-in-force and ambush operations, including a multi-divisional Operation Atlas Wedge / The last part of the year saw the division take part in Dong Tien ("Progress Together") operations / These operations were intended to assist South Vietnamese forces to take a more active role in combat / The division officially departed South Vietnam on 7 April 1970 / During its involvement in the Vietnam War, the division lost 6,146 killed in action, with a further 16,019 wounded / Twenty of its number were taken as prisoners of war / 11 members of the division were awarded the Medal of Honor

USS Inchon (LPH/MCS-12) was an Iwo Jima-class amphibious assault ship of the United States Navy in service from 1970 to 2002 / Commissioned on 20 June 1970, she was named for the Battle of Inchon, a turning point of the Korean War / In 1972–1973, the USS Inchon circumnavigated the globe and returned to Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia / In February 1973, Inchon was attached to Task Force 78 for Operation End Sweep, the U.S. Navy's effort to clear U.S. mines from North Vietnamese waters after the signing of the Paris Peace Accords / Following a major fire, she was laid up and sunk as a target in 2004

The Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES or MFR), also known as the United States Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR) and the U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve, is the reserve force of the United States Marine Corps / The Marine Corps Reserve is an expeditionary, warfighting organization and primarily designed to augment and reinforce the active duty units of the Marine Corps in their expeditionary role / It is the largest command, by assigned personnel, in the U.S. Marine Corps / Marines in the Reserve go through the same training and work in the same Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) as their active-duty counterparts / The United States Marine Corps Reserve was established when Congress passed the Naval Appropriations Act of 29 August 1916, and is responsible for providing trained units and qualified individuals to be mobilized for active duty in time of war, national emergency, or contingency operations / Reserve Marines are ready to supplement the active-duty troops when needed

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **PAX**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JAMES

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James H. Pax honorably served in the United States Navy and the United States Coast Guard / James Pax also served in the Naval Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Pax graduated from Buffalo State College and worked as a sales engineer for Armco Steel / James Pax was a Town Councilman for the Town of Grand Island from 1972 to 1991 / Pax was elected as the Supervisor, Town of Grand Island from 1992 to 1997 / James Pax was awarded the Citizen of the Year for Government in 1986 / Pax moved to Lockport, New York in 2001 / James H. Pax passed away on 14 February 2012 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery, Lockport, New York

The Navy Reserve is a branch of the United States Navy made up of qualified sailors who serve part-time while working in civilian jobs or attending school / Members of the Navy Reserve are categorized as being in either the Selected Reserve (SELRES), the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Retired Reserve / They provide invaluable expertise, experience, and leadership while delivering critical support to global operations and planning / The Navy Reserve provides strategic depth and delivers operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team in a range of military operations from peace to war



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PECK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

GIFFORD

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gifford R. Peck honorably served in the United States Army / Gifford Peck retired from the U.S. Army after 38 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gifford Peck worked as a printer for Royal Printing in Buffalo / Peck was a lifelong member of Union Hook & Ladder in the City of Tonawanda, and a lifelong member of the Grand Island Volunteer Fire Company / Gifford R. Peck passed away on 16 January 2021 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PEMBLETON**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Charles W. Pembleton honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Pembleton was a retired crane operator / Charles W. Pembleton passed away on 3 July 2022 at the age of 71 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PERRY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DONALD

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Donald B. Perry honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Perry was the owner of "Don's Spaghetti House" in East Aurora / Perry was a member of the East Aurora Kiwanis Club / Donald B. Perry passed away on 13 February 2025 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at the Bear Ridge Cemetery, Pendleton, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PETERSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PHILIP

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Philip R. Peterson honorably served in the United States Army as a Medic Paratrooper in the Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army Philip Peterson became a Master of many building trades including carpentry / Philip R. Peterson passed away on 7 November 2023 at the age of 71 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PICKEL, SR.**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert W. Pickel, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Pickel retired as the Senior Vice President of Finance for the Buffalo Sabres and moved to Florida / Pickel served as the President of the Board of Directors for Summer Bay Resorts in Orlando, Florida / Robert W. Pickel, Sr. passed away on 7 January 2021 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PIETRZAK
JULIAN J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Julian J. Pietrzak honorably served in the United States Navy and served on a Naval destroyer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Julian Pietrzak was a member of United Auto Workers, Local #424 / Julian J. Pietrzak passed away on 29 May 2024 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PILARSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

JOSEPH

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Joseph R. Pilarski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Pilarski retired from the Tonawanda General Motors Plant / Joseph R. Pilarski passed away on 29 May 2025 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PITASS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

BERNARD

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

EUROPEAN OCCUPATION MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Bernard J. Pitass honorably served in the United States Army / Bernard Pitass served for 22 months on active duty with a 17 month tour of duty in Germany with the 3rd Infantry Division, 76th Artillery as a Field Artillery Intel Assistant

Bernard Pitass was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 6 December 1967 with reserve obligations completed 18 December 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bernard Pitass was a State Trooper for New York State and a Zone Sergeant for Troop "T" as supervisor of state wide Thruway Operations until his retirement in 2003 / Bernard J. Pitass passed away on 7 January 2025 at the age of 78 Years old

The Army of Occupation Medal was 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PITTORF, SR.**
WARREN R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Warren R. Pittorf, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Warren R. Pittorf, Sr. passed away on 25 July 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PIWOWARCZYK

RONALD

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: RM2

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Radioman Petty Officer 2nd Class Ronald E. Piwowarczyk honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Piwowarczyk was a Senior Special Agent for U.S. Immigration and President and Life Member of Reserve Hose Fire Company / Piwowarczyk was one of first responders from Western New York who went to Ground Zero to assist after New York was attacked on 9/11/2001 / Ronald E. Piwowarczyk passed away on 5 September 2014

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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PLOWDEN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

MARCUS

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Marcus E. Plowden honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Marcus Plowden was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 11 February 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marcus Plowden retired from the General Motors Powertrain Plant in Tonawanda, New York / Marcus E. Plowden passed away on 26 September 2025 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PODOSEK III**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOHN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1975

Year Discharged: 1979

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal John Joseph Podosek, III honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Born in Buffalo, John Podosek moved to Elmira Heights / Podosek was employed by the CVS Distribution Center in Waverly, New York as a forklift operator / John Joseph Podosek, III passed away on 27 September 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POKIGO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

RAYMOND

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Raymond J. Pokigo honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond J. Pokigo passed away on 22 July 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POLITO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

VINCENT

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

USS HENLEY (DD-762)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Third-Class Vincent Louis Polito honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Vincent Polito served 21 months aboard the USS Henley during the Cuban Missile Blockade in 1962

Vincent Polito was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 6 August 1963

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Vincent Polito was a banker, musician and the owner of Creekview Estates Apartments in Lockport and was a member of the Knights of Columbus / Vincent Louis Polito passed away on 25 May 2021 at the age of 78 years old

USS Henley (DD-762), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was the fourth ship of the United States Navy to be named Henley, was named after Captain Robert Henley (5 January 1783 – 7 October 1828); an officer in the United States Navy during the Quasi-War with France, the War of 1812 and the Second Barbary War / The Henley was commissioned on 8 October 1946 / Henley patrolled with other United Nations ships in the summer of 1948 as the Israeli-Arab dispute threatened to erupt into war / During the Cuban Missile Crisis in the fall of 1962 over offensive missiles stationed in Cuba, Henley joined the fleet "quarantining" the island / Following this, she then returned to a peacetime pattern of readiness operations / The Henley was decommissioned in 1973 and sold 24 June 1974 and broken up for scrap

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POLLUTRO, SR.**
MICHAEL J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

7272 SUPPORT GROUP, THIRD US AIR FORCE, US AIR FORCE EUROPE-AFRICA

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Michael J. Pollutro, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C Michael Pollutro was assigned as an Apprentice Cook while stationed in Libya for 15 months with the 7272nd Support Group, Third Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael J. Pollutro, Sr. passed away on 3 February 2023 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Mt. Hope Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service operations; and food and supply ordering

The Third Air Force (Air Forces Europe) (3 AF) is a numbered air force of the United States Air Forces in Europe - Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA) / Its headquarters is Ramstein Air Base, Germany / It is responsible for all U.S. air forces in Europe and Africa, and operations and support activities in the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command's areas of responsibility

The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: POSTEK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DANIEL

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Daniel Joseph Postek honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Joseph Postek passed away on 27 September 2024 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POTTS, JR.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

LEONARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Leonard J. Potts, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Leonard Potts was an Ironworker with Local #6 for over 50 years / Leonard J. Potts, Jr. passed away on 29 September 2024 at the age of 78 years old

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POWERS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

GERALD

E.

Address: 72 MONCLAIR AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC (E-3)

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

390TH INFANTRY TRAINING REGIMENT RESERVE

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gerald E. Powers honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Gerald Powers was assigned as a Company Payroll Clerk

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 1915 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Camp Kilmer, New Jersey - Constructed in 1942, the camp is named Joyce Kilmer, a poet killed in World War I while serving with 69th Infantry Regiment / Camp Kilmer was a staging area and part of an installation of the New York Port of Embarkation / The camp was organized as part of the Army Service Forces Transportation Corps / Troops were quartered at Camp Kilmer in preparation for transport to the European Theater of Operations in World War II / Eventually, it became the largest processing center for troops heading overseas and returning from World War II, processing over 2.5 million soldiers / During the Cold War after the failed 1956 Hungarian Revolution 30,000 refugees were resettled at Camp Kilmer / In 1963, most of the camp's 1600 acres was auctioned and sold to local governments, and Rutgers University / Camp Kilmer officially closed in 2009.

Miscellaneous:

Gerald E. Powers attended Canisius College and graduated in May, 1959 / Gerald Powers was employed by the Erie County Department of Social Services as a caseworker prior to entering the Army / Powers received a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Buffalo in May, 1967 / Gerald Powers worked for the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

West Seneca Development Center as a Team Leader until his retirement in March, 1997

Name: **POWERS, JR.**
ROLAND

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Roland Powers, Jr. honorably served with the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roland Powers was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts / Powers retired from United Airlines after 38 years of service / Roland Powers, Jr. passed away on 10 March 2014 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **POWIS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AURORA

BENJAMIN

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CVA-67)

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 3rd Class Benjamin E. Powis honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Benjamin Powis served aboard the USS John F. Kennedy, a fixed wing attack carrier, as a Boiler Technician for 2 1/2 years

Benjamin Powis received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy on 9 December 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Benjamin E. Powis passed away on 2 July 2023 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

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

USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) (formerly CVA-67), is an aircraft carrier, and considered a supercarrier / She is the last conventionally powered carrier built for the Navy / The Kennedy was commissioned on 7 September 1968 /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The USS Kennedy was named after John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States / The Kennedy was originally designated a CVA, for fixed wing attack carrier, however the designation was changed to CV, for fleet carrier / John F. Kennedy's maiden voyage, and several of her subsequent voyages, were on deployments to the Mediterranean during much of the 1970s to help deal with the steadily deteriorating situation in the Middle East / During the 1970s John F. Kennedy was upgraded to handle the F-14 Tomcat and the S-3 Viking aircraft / On 20 June 1975, the John F. Kennedy was the target of possible arson, suffering eight fires, with no injuries, while at port in Norfolk, Virginia / In August 1980, the John F. Kennedy left Norfolk, Virginia and voyaged to the Mediterranean Sea / In January 1982, the John F. Kennedy, with Carrier Air Wing Three (AC), sailed as the flagship for Carrier Group Four (CCG-4) from Norfolk, Va. on her first visit to the Indian Ocean after port visits to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Malaga, Spain, and transiting the Suez Canal / In October 1983 John F. Kennedy was diverted to Beirut, Lebanon from her planned Indian Ocean deployment, after the Beirut barracks bombing killed 241 U.S. military personnel taking part in the Multinational Force in Lebanon, and spent the rest of that year and early 1984 patrolling the region / On 4 December 1983 ten A-6 aircraft from John F. Kennedy along with A-6 and A-7 aircraft from USS Independence took part in a bombing raid over Beirut, in response to two U.S. F-14 aircraft being fired upon the previous day / In August 1988 John F. Kennedy departed on her twelfth overseas deployment / During this deployment, a pair of MiG-23 Flogger fighter aircraft from Libya approached the carrier task force, which was 81 miles off the shore of Libya near the declared Libyan territorial waters of the Gulf of Sidra / John F. Kennedy launched two F-14 Tomcats from VF-32 "Fighting Swordsmen" to intercept the incoming MiGs / The U.S. planes were sent to escort the MiGs away from the task force but during the course of the intercept, the MiGs were determined to be hostile and were both shot down / During the 11 September attacks of 2001 unfolded, John F. Kennedy and her battle group were ordered to support Operation Noble Eagle, establishing air security along the mid-Atlantic seaboard, including Washington, D.C. / The John F. Kennedy was decommissioned on 23 March 2007 and on 6 October 2021, the John F. Kennedy was sold for one-cent to International Shipbreaking Limited



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PRANGE**
GAIL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

USS WISCONSIN

USS RANGER

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gail G. "Homer" Prange honorably served in the United States Navy / Gail Prange served in the Pacific aboard the battleship USS Wisconsin and the aircraft carrier USS Ranger

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gail Prange was a graduate of Seneca Vocational High School and attended Buffalo State College / Gail Prange was an insurance Claims Adjuster for more than 20 years with Allied Claim Services, becoming vice president of property claims / Prange began a second career in the Buffalo City Clerk's Office, working as an archivist for more than 10 years / Homer was a member of the USS Wisconsin Association / Gail G. "Homer" Prange passed away on 12 January 214 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PRAWEL**

GERALD

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gerald E. Prawel honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Prawel retired from Buffalo Forge after 36 years and worked at Wegman's part-time / Gerald E. Prawel passed away on 22 May 2025 at the age of 90 Years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PRIVITERA
MARK J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Mark J. Privitera honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mark J. Privitera passed away on 4 May 2024 at the age of 66 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: PRIVITERE
FRANK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Frank Privitere honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Privitere passed away on 8 January 2008,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PRZEPASNIAK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

WALTER

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Walter J. Przepasniak honorably served in the United States Air Force / Walter Przepasniak was stationed for 10 months in Korea as an Engineering Specialist

Walter Przepasniak was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 11 June 1969

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Przepasniak worked as a Public Servant for 37 years / Przepasniak was a member of the Directors and Legion of Honor of Ismailia Shriners of Buffalo and a member of Wiechec's Social Athletic Club / Walter J. Przepasniak passed away on 10 October 2024 at the age of 83 years old

The Air Force Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States who distinguishes themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States

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.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

Name: **PUCCI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: MARILLA

MICHAEL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael E. Pucci honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Pucci was a member of the Local #22 (formerly #36) Plumbers Union for 55 years and a member of the Marilla Vets Club and a benevolent member of the Marilla Fire Co. and Town Line Fire Co. / Michael E. Pucci passed away on 13 February 2023 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Annunciation Cemetery, Elma, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PUCKETT**

RONALD

T.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Ronald T. Puckett honorably served in the United States Army and the National Guard during the Vietnam Era

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Puckett graduated from Bennett High School in 1961 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Puckett had a long and successful career operating heavy machinery as a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (I.U.O.E.) Local #17, retiring in 2000 / Ronald Puckett coached in many youth programs and played baseball for the State Champion Legion Post / Ronald Puckett was the Commander of American Legion Post 735 for many years, Past Commander of Erie County Committee American Legion, Member of AmVets #8113, West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee, Masonic Lodge #1111, and I.U.O.E Local #17 / Ronald T. Puckett passed away at the age of 81 years old on 16 April 2024 and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, 4215 Tonawanda Creek Rd, North Tonawanda, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PULLI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CLARENCE

JOHN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John J. Pulli honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Pulli retired from the VA Healthcare System after 30 years of service / John J. Pulli passed away on 12 March 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **PUTNAM JR.**
ROGER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **SGT**

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant Roger Wright "Jerry" Putnam, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Putnam attended Williams College (Williamstown, Massachusetts) / Putnam worked as a Real Estate Agent, a liquor store owner, an arson investigator, private investigator and Director of the Buffalo Mayor's Task Force on Property Crime / Putnam was the Tenor Drummer for the Caledonian Pipes and Drums marching Band / Roger Putnam was the Sergeant-At-Arms for the Lorenzo Burrows Jr. American Legion Post #78 Color Guard / Putnam moved to Madison, Wisconsin after his retirement / Roger Wright "Jerry" Putnam, Jr. passed away on 26 March 2025 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **QUAGLIETTA, SR.**

JOHN

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John C. Quaglietta, Sr. honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Quaglietta worked for the American Red Cross for 15 years as the Fleet Manager / John C. Quaglietta, Sr. passed away on 10 September 2025 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: QUEENO

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

NORMAN

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

2ND BATTALION, 41ST FIELD ARTILLERY, US ARMY EUROPE

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Norman E. Queeno honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Norman Queeno was deployed to Germany for 19th months as a Gunner for the US Army Artillery

Norman Queeno was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 5 May 1971

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman E. Queeno passed away on 18 October 2020

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 41st Field Artillery Regiment is a field artillery regiment of the United States Army / During the Second World War, the 41st Field Artillery Battalion's arsenal consisted of 105 mm howitzers / The Battalion participated in 10 campaigns during the war: Algeria-French Morocco (with arrowhead), Tunisia, Sicily (with arrowhead), Naples-Foggia, Anzio (with arrowhead), Rome-Arno, Southern France (with arrowhead), Rhineland, Central Europe and the Central Pacific / For Operation Desert Storm, the 41st received campaign participation credit for Defense of Saudi Arabia, Liberation of Kuwait and for the Cease Fire / The Battalion was a part of the 24th



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Infantry Division (Mechanized) Artillery and was deployed in support of Desert Shield and Desert Storm beginning in August 1990 until March 1991

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RAHAM**

RODNEY

D.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Rodney D. "Rod" Raham honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Rodney Raham was a a retired Chief with U.S. Customs and Border Protection / Rodney Raham was a 41-year Life Member and Past President of the Grand Island Fire Co. / Rodney D. "Rod" Raham passed away on 25 June 2019 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RAJ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert J. Raj honorably served in the United States Navy / Robert Ray served with a Seabees Construction Battalion

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Raj worked as an Electrician at Bethlehem Steel in Lackawanna and retired from the Public Works Department for the City of Buffalo / Robert J. Raj passed away on 3 February 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RALABATE, JR.**
FRANK

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Frank C. Ralabate, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army as an Army Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank C. Ralabate, Jr. passed away on 14 June 2020 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York

Army Medical Corpsman is a military enlisted person trained to give first aid and minor medical treatment / The Medical Corps consists of commissioned medical officers who are physicians / A combat medic is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at a point of wounding in a combat or training environment / U.S. Army Medics and U.S. Navy Corpsmen were the enlisted "first responders" of the Vietnam War



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RANAHAN**
PATRICK J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Patrick J. Ranahan honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Ranahan retired from the Milk-Bone manufacturing facility in Buffalo / Patrick J. Ranahan passed away on 11 May 2024 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RASTELLI**
NICHOLAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Nicholas Rastelli honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Nicholas Rastelli passed away on 9 January 2013



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REAMSNYDER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

GEORGE

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

USS GAINARD (DD-706)

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

George E. Reamsnyder honorably served in the United States Navy / George Reamsnyder was trained as a Radarman and served 24 months active duty including 22 months Foreign-Sea Service on the USS Gainard (DD-706) an Alan Sumner Class Destroyer

George Reamsnyder was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 9 August 1964

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Reamsnyder passed away on 25 September 2025 and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

A Radarman was a rating in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard during, and after, World War II / The radarman was generally required to attend and complete a U.S. Navy Class "A" radar school at a designated Naval Training Centers (NTC) in the United States / Once assigned to a ship or shore station, the radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarman were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas / Radarman also operates radar, navigation, and communications equipment in shipboard and combat information centers (CICs) or bridges / They detect and track ships, planes, and missiles. They operate and maintain IFF (identification friend or foe) systems

USS Gainard (DD-706), was an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer of the United States Navy and named after Joseph Aloysius Gainard / Gainard was born on 11 October 1889 in Chelsea, Massachusetts and enlisted in the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

United States Naval Reserve on 23 November 1917 / He received the Navy Cross for distinguished service while Master of the American merchant steamer SS City of Flint, seized by a German cruiser on the high seas on 9 October 1939 but returned to him in a Norwegian fjord on 3 November / Recalled to active duty on 30 July 1941, he commanded the submarine decoy ship USS Big Horn in the Caribbean, then commanded the attack transport USS Bolivar in the Pacific / He died from illness in the U.S. Naval Hospital at San Diego, California, on 23 December 1943 / The USS Gainard was commissioned on 23 November 1944 and departed Pearl Harbor on 12 March and staged at Saipan for the forthcoming invasion of Okinawa, acting as a part of a decoy task force that made feints against the southeastern coast between 1 and 2 April 1945 while the landings were effected on the western beaches / The Gainard operated as radar picket and fighter director ship throughout the bloody Okinawa Campaign, detecting enemy air raids, providing early and continuous information to friendly forces / The destroyer arrived off Honshū, Japan, on 17 September 1945 and served as air-sea rescue ship until 21 February 1946 when she sailed for the United States / The USS Gainard was decommissioned on 26 February 1971 and struck from the Naval Register / On 26 March 1974, Gainard was sold to be broken up for scrap / Gainard received the Navy Unit Commendation for extraordinary heroism in action off Okinawa and one battle star for World War II service



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REEVES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

CHARLES

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Charles Anthony Reeves honorably served in the United States Army and stationed in Germany as a Military Policeman (MP)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Reeves graduated from South Park High School / Reeves attended the Buffalo Police Academy and received an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Erie County Community College / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Reeves joined the Erie County Sheriff's Department where he was a Deputy in the Special Crimes Unit / Charles Reeves also worked for Burt Manufacturing in Cheektowaga and for the Springville Police Department / Reeves was a member of the Carroll Rod & Gun Club, Randolph Lodge #359 Free & Accepted Masons, Frewsburg Samuel Derby American Legion Post #556 (formerly Springville American Legion) and West Seneca Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Reeves retired to Onoville but illness put him into the Jennie B. Richmond Nursing Home in Springville, New York / Charles Anthony Reeves passed away on 19 August 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REICH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

USS INDEPENDENCE (CV/CVA-62)

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert Reich honorably served in the United States Navy for four years and served aboard the USS Independence

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Reich passed away on 20 October 2024 at the age of 82 years old

The fifth USS Independence (CV/CVA-62) was an aircraft carrier of the United States Navy / She was the fourth and final member of the Forrestal class of conventionally powered supercarriers / She entered service in 1959, with much of her early years spent in the Mediterranean Fleet / The Independence was decommissioned in 1998 after 39 years of active service / Stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, the ex-Independence was towed beginning on 10 March 2017 to Brownsville, Texas for scrapping / She arrived on 1 June 2017 and dismantling was completed by early 2019



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REINAUER**
EVERETT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

914TH AIR RESERVE GROUP, NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Everett C. Reinauer honorably served in the Air Force Reserve / Everett Reinauer served in the reserve from 1958 to 1977 and worked with the 914th Air Reserve Group in Niagara Falls

Everett Reinauer also served in the United States Army-Air Force during World War II

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Niagara Falls, New York - Originally named Niagara Falls Air Force Base (1955-1971), the base is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally gained by Air Mobility Command / It is located adjacent to Niagara Falls International Airport, New York, 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base

Miscellaneous:

Everett C. Reinauer passed away on 13 April 2012



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REUMAN**
WILLIAM J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY ARTILLERY BRANCH

1ST MISSILE BATTALION, 84TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class William J. Reuman honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 William Reuman's final duty assignment was with 1st Missile Battalion, 84th Artillery Regiment at Fort Sill, Oklahoma as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Fort Sill, Oklahoma - Fort Sill is a United States Army post north of Lawton, Oklahoma, about 85 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. It covers almost 94,000 acres / The fort was first built in 1869 during the Indian Wars and was home to the 7th Cavalry, the 19th Kansas Volunteers and the 10th Cavalry, a distinguished group of black "buffalo soldiers" / It was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and serves as home of the United States Army Field Artillery School, as well as the Marine Corps' site for Field Artillery MOS school, United States Army Air Defense Artillery School, the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, and the 75th Field Artillery Brigade / Fort Sill is also one of the four locations for Army Basic Combat Training / Ft. Sill has played a significant role in every major American conflict since 1869

Miscellaneous:

William Reuman was a 54-year active member of the Marilla Fire Company, where he served as a past assistant chief, a member of the Board of Directors and Vigilance committee, and as the company safety officer / Reuman was also a member of the Erie County Fire Chiefs, NYS Association of Fire Chiefs, the Firefighters Association of the State of New York, a member of the Executive Board of the Erie County Conservative Party, a member of the Town of Marilla Zoning Board and a member of the Akron Mason's Lodge / William J. Reuman passed away as a result of a tragic auto accident on 27 May 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RHONEMUS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

PAUL

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

502ND ENGINEER COMPANY (FLOATING BRIDGE), 565TH ENGINEER BATTALION, 7TH ENGINEER BRIGADE

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 152ND ENGINEER BATTALION (ARMORED DIVISION)

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Paul A. Rhonemus honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Paul Rhonemus was a Bridge Specialist for the US Army Corps of Engineers / SP4 Paul Rhonemus was stationed in Karlsruhe, Germany for most of his active duty

Prior to active duty with the Army Paul Rhonemus served 2 years in the New York National Guard from 1961-1963 and was attached to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 152nd Engineer Battalion (Armored Division) in Buffalo, NY

PFC Paul Rhonemus was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 29 December 1965

Base Assignments:

Karlsruhe, Germany - Of the kasernes still in use to this day, the Rhineland Kaserne in Ettlingen, about ten kilometers southwest of Karlsruhe, is the oldest / The first buildings of this complex were created in 1870 to house the troops of the Second Reich / Immediately after the war (WW II), the kaserne was used to house displaced persons flooding into Western Germany from the Soviet satellites and East Germany / During the period from 1946 until 1950, the kaserne constantly was quartering 2,000 DP's / In 1950, American troops moved into the kaserne / In 1958, it was occupied by the 39th Engr Gp, elements of the 552nd FA Bn, and three



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

German Labor Service Groups / The base was vacated by the Army in the later 1990's

Miscellaneous:

After leaving military service, Rhonemus served as a civilian employee of the Army Corps of Engineers until his retirement in 1996 / Paul A. Rhonemus passed away on 8 March 2021

The 502nd Engineer Company Assault Float Bridge was first constituted on 19 March 1942 / In April 1942 the 502nd was activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a Light Pontoon Bridge Company / During World War II, the 502nd participated in the following campaigns: Normandy (with arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe / It led several assault river crossings, making possible the Allied drive across France and into Germany / Soldiers of the 502nd Engineer Company (Assault Float Bridge) and the 4th Engineer Company of the German army participated in a combined US/German ribbon bridge crossing of the Rhine River 2 kilometers west of Ketsch, Germany on 7 October 1999 / The partnership Rhine crossing marked the first time American and German armies had combined to construct a bridge since crossing the Elbe River in June 1998 / One-hundred-ten American soldiers and 80 German soldiers participated in the event / Following the events of 11 September 2001, the 502nd Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge) deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from January to September 2003 and constructed the longest float bridge ever in combat: the Birthday Bridge in Tikrit, Iraq spanning 580 meters / During a second deployment to Iraq, from September 2004 to September 2005, the 502nd Engineer Company removed the longest Mabey-Johnson Float Bridge in Iraq, the Hait Jordan / The unit moved to Fort Knox, Kentucky in June 2008, as part of a restructuring of US Army elements in Germany and the transformation of the US Army as a whole to the modular force structure / There the 502nd Engineer Company was assigned to the 19th Engineer Battalion

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RICH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

RICHARD

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Richard A. Rich honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Rich graduated from School 77 and Lafayette High School in 1953 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Richard Rich earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Buffalo / Rich started in the Real Estate field in 1964, later joining the Corcoran Real Estate Agency in Eggertsville, New York / The Agency became Brassel, Higgins and Rich, with Richard Rich in charge of Internal Operations and coordinating the sales representatives / In 1974, Rich teamed with an associate to form Rich Associates and collaborated with four other agencies to form Realty1, the area's biggest agency / Rich was President of Realty World/Realty1 before selling his agency / In 1986, Rich became Manager of the Century 21-MJ Peterson Agency in Clarence for residential sales / Richard Rich served as the Director at Large of the New York Association of Realtors and the Western New York Regional Vice President / After leaving sales in the late 1980's, Rich taught courses to prisoners at the Erie County Correctional Facility / Richard Rich became an Assistant Professor of Business Administrative at Erie Community College in Amherst, New York / Rich was the founder and President of the Williamsville Business Association and was appointed in 2014 by the Village of Williamsville as a Real Estate Liaison to market the village to prospective businesses / Richard Rich helped start the Glen Park Art Festival in 2009 and was also a member of the Town of Amherst Arts and Culture in Public Places Board / Rich was a Past President of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce and Daemen College Associates / Richard A. Rich passed away on 6 February 2025 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RICHARDSON**
WILLIAM H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class William H. Richardson honorably served in the United States Army Reserve for two years

Base Assignments:

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - Fort Leonard Wood is a U.S. Army training installation located in the Missouri Ozarks / The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood, a distinguished American Soldier who served for 40 years (later became Military Chief of Staff) / Originally intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center / During World War II Italian and German POWs were interned at the fort / In 1984, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, most of the U.S. Army Engineer School's operations were consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood / Before that, officer training was conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Miscellaneous:

William Richardson graduated from Hamburg High School in 1951 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from St. Lawrence University in 1956 / In 1958, Richardson joined the investment firm of Trubee Collins and Company (Trubee Wealth Advisors), becoming a General Partner in 1961 / Richardson became the Managing Partner in 1974 and became President and Chief Executive Officer in 1992 / William Richardson retired from the firm in 2021 / Richardson was a member of the Board of Governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers from 1992 to 1994 and served a term on the NASD District 13 Committee / William Richardson was a former Board Member of the First Federal Savings and Loan of Hamburg, the prospect Lawn Cemetery Association, the Bond Club of Buffalo and the Better Business Bureau of Western new York / Richardson became President pf the Board of Directors at Buffalo Raceway in 1990 and served until his death / Richardson was a member of the Springville Country Club, the Red jacket Ski Club, the Willow bend Tennis and Swim Club and the Hamburg Indoor Tennis Association / William H. Richardson passed away on 26 June 2024 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RICHTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

USS TURNER (DD/DDR-834)

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Robert F. Richter honorably served in the United States Navy / PO Richter served onboard the USS Turner as a Radarman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Richter passed away on 27 March 2024 at the age of 79 years old

A Radarman was a rating in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard during, and after, World War II / The radarman was generally required to attend and complete a U.S. Navy Class "A" radar school at a designated Naval Training Centers (NTC) in the United States / Once assigned to a ship or shore station, the radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarmen were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas / Radarman also operates radar, navigation, and communications equipment in shipboard and combat information centers (CICs) or bridges / They detect and track ships, planes, and missiles. They operate and maintain IFF (identification friend or foe) systems

USS Turner (DD/DDR-834) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the third Navy ship named for Captain Daniel Turner (1794 (circa)–1850) / The Turner was commissioned on 12 June 1945 and began undergoing conversion to destroyer picket ship at Boston, Massachusetts / In December 1945, the Turner departed the Hawaiian Islands and proceeded to Japan / She operated out of Japanese ports with Task Group



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

55.4, Task Force 54, and other elements of the 5th Fleet until 24 March 1946 when she departed Yokosuka and proceeded via Midway to Pearl Harbor / She remained at Oahu until 29 May 1946 when she got underway and proceeded to Roi Island / In June and July, she participated in "Operation Crossroads", the atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll, during which she was flagship of Destroyer Squadron 5 and supported air operations for Section Baker of the tests / She returned to Pearl Harbor on 30 July 1946, got underway again on 7 August 1946, and steamed into San Diego harbor on the 13th of August / The ship operated along the west coast until August 1947, mainly participating in hunter-killer and fleet exercises / The Turner was reclassified as a radar picket destroyer on 18 March 1949 and throughout the 1950's, she conducted reserve training cruises, participated in fleet exercises, and frequently made 6th Fleet deployments / On her eighth Mediterranean cruise in 1958, she acted as a picket ship for Task Force 61 during the Lebanon crisis / Armed conflict flared in the Caribbean in April 1965; and, from 8 through 25 May 1965, Turner operated with Task Force 128 in support of the American presence in the Dominican Republic / She again provided assistance to the American space program in February 1966 when she patrolled an alternate recovery station, at a point midway between South America and Africa, not far from the equator, as a backup site for a Project Apollo test flight / Early in 1969, she completed her 15th Mediterranean deployment and returned to the United States / In April 1969, she arrived at Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, Florida and was decommissioned there on 26 September 1969 / Her name was struck from the Navy list that same day, and, on 13 October 1970, she was sold to Southern Scrap Material, Ltd., New Orleans, Louisiana, for scrapping

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations (The Third Dominican Republic Civil War)

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AF OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD RIBBON

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

ARMY SERVICE RIBBON

AF LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/2 LEAF
CLUSTERS

AIR FORCE TRAINING RIBBON

ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/HOURLASS DEVICE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Franklin Roberts honorably served in the Air Force as a Personnel Specialist / Sgt. Roberts was assigned to the Consolidated Base Personnel Offices in California and Texas / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 13 January 1970, Roberts served 22 more years from 1981 - 2006 in various units of the US Air Force Reserve, Texas Air National Guard, Oklahoma Air National Guard, Texas Army National Guard, Tennessee Army National Guard and the Tennessee Air National Guard / Sgt. Roberts was deployed during the War on Terrorism / Promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant (E-6), David Roberts was Honorably Discharged from the National Guard in Nashville, Tennessee in November 2016

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David F. Roberts served his country in uniform 25 1/2 years / David Franklin Roberts passed away on 26 September 2021

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is one of the unit awards of the United States Air Force / It was established in 1954 and was the first independent Air Force decoration created / The Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-EM) is a United States Armed Forces award created by George W. Bush on 12 March 2003, through Executive Order 13289 / The medal recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terror from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined / Prior to 30 April 2005, the medal was awarded for service within Iraq and Afghanistan, but has been replaced with the Iraq Campaign Medal and Afghanistan Campaign Medal and now serves primarily as recognition for personnel who have deployed in support of the War on Terror to locations beyond Iraq and Afghanistan

The Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal was established by the Secretary of the Air Force on 1 April 1964 and is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity during a four-year period while serving in an enlisted status in the U.S. Air Force Reserve

The Army Service Ribbon (ASR) is a military award of the United States Army and is awarded to all members of the Regular (Active) Army, and Army National Guard and United States Army Reserve in an active reserve status, for successful completion of initial-entry training, which for officers is considered to be successful completion of their basic/orientation or higher-level course / Enlisted soldiers will be awarded the ribbon upon successful completion of their initial military occupational specialty (MOS)-producing course

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The Air Force Training Ribbon is awarded to U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force service members on completion of initial accession training after 14 August 1974 / It is officially hallmarked by the U.S. Institute of Heraldry / If a member completes two accession training programs, such as BMT and OTS, a bronze oak leaf cluster is worn on the ribbon

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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**
HAROLD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Harold A. Roberts honorably served in the United Air Force for five years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold A. Roberts passed away on 30 May 2018



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBINSON, SR.**
ARTHUR E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Arthur E. "Art" Robinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur E. "Art" Robinson, Sr. passed away on 17 April 2019 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBINSON, SR.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

RICHARD

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Major Richard (Dick) J. Robinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Major Richard Robinson served three full years of service and another fourteen in the Army Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Robinson graduated from Bishop Timon High School and Canisius College, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and participated in the ROTC program / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Richard Robinson became a self-employed State Farm agent before retiring at the age of eighty-five, creating a lasting legacy of fifty-eight years of service / Robinson was a member of the Board of Trustees at Bishop Timon High School where he was Chairman for several years and joined the board of Directors at the South Buffalo Community Table / Richard Robinson was a charter member of the MSGR Nash Council and the American Legion for sixty-five years / Richard (Dick) J. Robinson, Sr. Passed away on 18 April 2024, at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROCHELLE**
BUDDIE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BULK FUEL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST FORCE SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP (FSSG)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

USMC MERITORIOUS MAST

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Buddie R. Rochelle honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Buddie Rochelle was assigned as a Bulk Fuel Man with the 1st Bulk Fuel Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group (FSSG) at Camp Pendleton, California

Lance Corporal Buddie Rochelle received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps on 9 August 1977

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:

Buddie R. Rochelle passed away on 4 September 2023 and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

7th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB) provides general engineering support of an expeditionary nature to the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), to include mobility, counter mobility and survivability enhancements, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), and general supply support to include the handling, storage and distribution of bulk water and fuel

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

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

USMC Meritorious Mast is a formal and ceremonial acknowledgment recognizing an enlisted person being awarded a Letter of Appreciation, Certificate of Commendation, or a personal decoration whenever personal performance is considered noteworthy or commendable beyond the usual requirements of duty by a demonstration of exceptional industry, judgment, or initiative

USMC Letter of Commendation is a letter of appreciation issued for exceptional performance of duty above and beyond that which is normally required and expected of an officer or enlisted person



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROESCH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

CARL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Carl J. Roesch honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Roesch was a retired Mathematics Teacher and a Cross Country Coach at Sweet Home Senior High School / Carl J. Roesch passed away on 13 May 2024 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGALSKI, JR.**
EDWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Edward Rogalski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Edward Rogalski was stationed in Korea from 1956-1957 as a Clerk Typist

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Rogalski was employed at Wickwire Steel and Fedders Radiator / Edward Rogalski, Jr. passed away on 3 June 2025 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHLOFF**
AL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Al Rohloff honorably served in the United States Army / Al Rohloff was drafted and spent his enlistment with the US Army stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Al Rohloff graduated from Kensington High School prior to getting drafted / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Rohloff was a letter carrier with the United States Postal Service / He left his job to help his mother run a restaurant and in 1984, bought DiTondos Restaurant at 370 Seneca Street in Buffalo / After serving the public for 34 years, Al Rohloff closed the restaurant in 2018 / Al Rohloff passed away on 28 December 2022 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHRING**
KEITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 2078 PARKER BOULEVARD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Keith Rohring honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Japan

The brother of A1C Keith Rohring, Marine Corps Private Kevin Rohring, was Killed In Action on 27 March 1967 from an explosive device during combat operations in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DAVID

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

37TH AIR BASE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman Second-Class (E-3) David Charles Ross honorably served in the United States Air Force / A2C David Ross was assigned was a Material Facility Specialist

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David C. Ross was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

FRED

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Fred Evan Ross honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Fred Evan Ross passed away on 30 March 2025 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSZAK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

CHARLES

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Charles R. "Ross" Roszak honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles R. "Ross" Roszak passed away on 27 May 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUBECK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

HERBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Herbert J. Rubeck honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Herbert Rubeck worked as a fork lift operator at ADM in Buffalo, New York, retiring in 2000 / Herbert J. Rubeck passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUFF, JR.**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John D. Ruff, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Ruff retired after 32 years as a Town of Amherst employee / Ruff was a member of the Eggertsville Hose Company and a member of the Francis J. Donovan American Legion Post #1626 / John D. Ruff, Jr. passed away on 25 July 2024



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUGG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HOLLAND

RICHARD

W

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: LT COL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Rugg honorably served in the Air Force during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Rugg worked in the Holland Central School district for 27 years as a teacher, vice principal, and coach / Richard W. Rugg passed away on 14 September 2017 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSHOK**
PAUL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY / AIR FORCE

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

51ST INFANTRY

3201ST TRANSPORTATION SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

DRIVER AND MECHANIC BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (CARBINE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Paul Rushok honorably served in the US Army for 3 years, 4 months as a Light Vehicle Driver / PFC Rushok was stationed in Mannheim, Germany

Paul Rushok joined the US Air Force in 1965, serving 3 years and 8 months, rising to the rank of Sergeant (E-4) / Sergeant served as a Vehicle Dispatcher and was cited for exceptional performance of his duties and responsibilities

Paul Rushok was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 6 February 1962 and received his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 23 August 1968

Base Assignments:

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida - Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) is a United States Air Force base in the western Florida Panhandle, located about three miles southwest of Valparaiso in Okaloosa County / The host unit at Eglin is the 96th Test Wing (formerly the 96th Air Base Wing) / The 96 TW is the test and evaluation center for Air Force air-delivered weapons, navigation and guidance systems, Command and Control systems, and Air Force Special Operations Command systems / Eglin AFB was established in 1935 as the Valparaiso Bombing and Gunnery Base / It is named in honor of Lt. Col. Frederick I. Eglin (1891–1937), who was killed in a crash of his Northrop A-17 attack aircraft on a flight from Langley to Maxwell Field, Alabama / From October 1941 to October 1945, an AAF Fixed Gunnery School operated at the base, supervised by the 75th Flying Training Wing / At its peak during World War II, the base employed more than 1,000 officers, 10,000 enlisted personnel and 4,000 civilians / During the Vietnam Era, the Special Air Warfare (SAW) Center, located at Hurlburt Field, undertook to develop tactical air doctrine while training crews for special air warfare in places like Southeast Asia / By mid-1963, SAW groups were in Vietnam and Panama

Miscellaneous:

Paul Rushok passed away on 30 June 2021 at the age of 80 years old

The 51st Infantry Division was an infantry division of the United States Army, organized on 11 September 1946 and composed of units from the Florida National Guard and the South Carolina National Guard

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 Driver and Mechanic Badge is a military special skill badge of the United States Army which was first created in July 1942 / The badge is awarded to drivers, mechanics, and special equipment operators to denote the attainment of a high degree of skill in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles / The badge was originally referred to as the "Motor Vehicle Badge" and adopted its current title of Driver and Mechanic Badge during the Korean War / The Driver and Mechanic Badge is awarded to soldiers who have received training and have met specific qualification standards to operate or repair military motor vehicles / The Driver and Mechanic Badge for wheeled vehicles requires successful completion of military vehicle operations and maintenance training and be assigned duties and responsibilities as a driver or assistant driver of government vehicles for a minimum of 12 consecutive months or have driven at least 8,000 miles with no vehicle accidents or traffic violations before one can be awarded the badge

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSINSKI**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas F. Rusinski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas F. Rusinski passed away on 7 November 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSELL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

BARRY

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

USS HOLLAND (AS-32)

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 3rd-Class Barry A. Russell honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Barry Russell served 2-1/2 years of sea service aboard the USS Holland (AS-32) as an Engineman (EN)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Barry Russell was born in San Diego, California / Barry Russell was a machinist at Capem, making machines to put on bottle caps / After retirement, Russell became a Terminal Manager for Laidlaw International / Barry Russell was a parking attendant at Sunset Bay and Hidden Harbor Marina / Barry A. Russell moved to Irving, New York and passed away on 6 September 2022 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

An Engineman (EN) in the U.S. Navy is an enlisted sailor who: operates, services, and repairs internal combustion engines used to power ships and small craft / Manages functions of diesel engines aboard ships, including propulsion and electrical power generation and maintains fuel, water, and air piping systems, performs preventive maintenance on engine components, and repairs or overhauls diesel engines

USS Holland (AS-32) was a Hunley-class submarine tender commissioned on 7 September 1963 / The USS Holland was the first ever built specifically to service fleet ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) / Holland departed Charleston on 14 October 1963 for shakedown training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, returning to Charleston on 19 November 1963 / The USS Holland was neither a submersible nor a combatant ship, she was a vital link in support of the United States first line of deterrence, the Navy's Polaris missile / She contained a complete



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

machine shop and was capable of making any submarine repair other than major overhaul, including servicing and maintaining the nuclear power plants of Polaris-equipped submarines / Holland tended submarines of the Atlantic Fleet into 1969 / From November 1974 to June 1975, Holland underwent a conversion overhaul at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington to enable her to support submarines equipped with Poseidon missiles / From November 1975 to January 1982 she served Submarine Squadron 14 at Holy Loch, Scotland / The USS Holland was decommissioned on 30 September 1996 and moored with the Reserve Fleet in Suisun Bay near San Francisco, California, and on 10 July 2013 was moved into dry dock at Mare Island for cleaning before being towed to Texas for scrapping / She has since been disassembled

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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

ANTONIO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Antonio Russo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Antonio Russo was a long standing member of the Lake Erie Italian Club / Antonio passed away on 20 February 2024 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSO, SR.**
FRANK J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Frank J. Russo, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank J. Russo, Sr. passed away on 11 October 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUST**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

BURDETT

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS LITTLE ROCK (CL-92/CLG-4/CG-4)

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Burdett W. Rust honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Burdett W. Rust passed away on 16 September 2024 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park

USS Little Rock (CL-92/CLG-4/CG-4) is a Cleveland-class light cruiser and one of 27 completed for the United States Navy during or shortly after World War II / She is one of six to be converted to guided missile cruisers and the first US Navy ship to be named for Little Rock, Arkansas / Commissioned on 17 June 1945, she was completed too late to see combat duty during World War II and was retired post-war, becoming part of the Atlantic Reserve Fleet in 1949 / In the late 1950s, she was converted to a Galveston-class guided-missile cruiser, removing her aft six-inch and five-inch guns to accommodate the Talos missile system / Like three other of her sister Cleveland ships converted to missile ships, she was also extensively modified forward to become a flagship / This involved removal of most of her forward armament to allow for an enlarged superstructure and was recommissioned in 1960 as CLG-4 (redesignated CG-4 in 1975) / In this configuration, she served in the Mediterranean, often as the Sixth Fleet flagship / Decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 22 November 1976, USS Little Rock was donated to the Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park, later renamed the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park, in Buffalo, N.Y., to serve as a museum ship / She was towed from Philadelphia, via the St. Lawrence Seaway, to Buffalo, and arrived in July 1977 / She is currently open to the public at the Buffalo Naval & Military Park / On 16 December 2017, Little Rock was present for the commissioning of USS Little Rock (LCS-9), the first time a U.S. Navy ship commissioned alongside her namesake



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUSTAY

JAMES

C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

416TH BOMB WING

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Charles Rustay honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT James Rustay was assigned as a Specialized Weapons Mechanic / SGT Rustay was stationed in Thailand

Base Assignments:

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Bexar County, Texas / The base is under the jurisdiction of the 802d Mission Support Group, Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and an enclave of the city of San Antonio / It is the only site for Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) / Lackland AFB is part of Joint Base San Antonio, an amalgamation of the Fort Sam Houston, the Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base, which were merged on 1 October 2010 / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Miscellaneous:

James C. Rustay was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SAAB

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

RICHARD

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MAJ

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Major Richard Saab honorably served in the United States Air Force / Major Richard Saab was stationed as the attending Urologist in the hospital at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio

Base Assignments:

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio - The base's origin begins with the establishment of Wilbur Wright Field on 22 May 1917 and McCook Field in November 1917, both established by the Aviation Section, U.S. Signal Corps as World War I installations / McCook was used as a testing field and for aviation experiments. Wright was used as a flying field (renamed Patterson Field in 1931); Fairfield Aviation General Supply Depot; armorers' school, and a temporary storage depot / McCook's functions were transferred to Wright Field when it was closed in October 1927 / Wright-Patterson AFB was established in 1948 as a merger of Patterson and Wright Fields / The base is one of the largest, most diverse, and organizationally complex bases in the Air Force with a long history of flight tests spanning from the Wright Brothers into the Space Age / Wright-Patterson is also the headquarters of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the Air Force Research Laboratory / It is the headquarters of the Air Force Materiel Command (MAC), one of the major commands of the Air Force / "Wright-Patt" (as the base is colloquially called) is also the location of a major USAF Medical Center (hospital), the Air Force Institute of Technology, and the National Museum of the United States Air Force, formerly known as the U.S. Air Force Museum

Miscellaneous:

Richard Saab graduated from Canisius High School in 1958 / After graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in 1963, Saab went on to the State University of New York - Buffalo, School of Medicine, graduating in 1966 / Richard Saab did his medical residency at the University of Buffalo Medical School and held fellowships at the University of Chicago Hospital & Clinics as well as the Hospital for Sick Children (Pediatric Urology) in Toronto, Canada / Richard Saab started his own Urology practice in Buffalo, where he practiced for over 50 years / Saab



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

was a member of the staff at Our Lady of Victory and South Buffalo Mercy hospitals, served on the OLV board, and was the Chief of Urology at both hospitals / Saab was a nine-time club champion, two-time senior club champion, and multiple-time Ahern Cup champion at Wanakah Country Club / Saab was a founding member of the Bear Lakes Country Club in West Palm Beach, Florida and in 2003, he was inducted into the Canisius High School Sports Hall of Fame for both golf and basketball / Richard Saab passed away on 26 July 2025 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SACCOMANNO**
JOSEPH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Joseph Saccomanno honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Joseph Saccomanno was assigned as a Pharmacy Specialist while stationed for 12 months on active duty in South Korea

Joseph Saccomanno was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 1 February 1961

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Saccomanno passed away on 26 March 2018 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

A Pharmacy Specialist in the Army plays a crucial role in the healthcare team by preparing and dispensing medications and maintaining pharmacy supplies and records under the supervision of pharmacists and doctors

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Name: **SALASNY, SR.**
JMAES S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James S. Salasny, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Salasny was a life member of Grand Island Rod & Gun Club, Tonawanda Sportsmens Club, National Rifle Assn. and Niagara Falls Harley Owners Group / Salasny was a Tool & Die maker and Gunsmith / James S. Salasny, Sr. passed away on 8 May 2013 at the age of 68 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SAMPSON III**

JOHN

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: COLDEN

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John F. Sampson III honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Sampson was a member of the Flying Knights of Hamburg, an organization to promote model aircraft building and safe flying / John F. Sampson III passed away on 24 July 2023 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Prospect Lawn Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SANDERS**
DENNIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Dennis Sanders honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Sanders was an Industrial Arts/Technology teacher for over 27 years at LeRoy Central School District /
Dennis M. Sanders passed away at the age of 76 years old on 15 May 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SANDS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

ROBERT

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert P. Sands honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Sands was a member of the Pierce-Arrow Society for over 50 years / Sands was employed by Bethlehem Steel Manufacturing for over 40 years / Robert P. "Muzzy" Sands passed away on 24 July 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SANIO**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EDEN

PAUL

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Paul H. Sanio honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Sanio was a graduate of Buffalo State University / Paul Sanio was a Social Studies Teacher at Burgard High School for 28 years / Paul H. Sanio passed away on 27 March 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Town Line Lutheran Cemetery, Alden, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SAUER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

FRANKLIN

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1945

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Franklin R. "Frank" Sauer honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Franklin Sauer retired from the United States Marine Corps where he served from 1945 through 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Franklin Sauer was a member of the American Legion Post #1041 in Amherst, New York / Franklin R. "Frank" Sauer passed away on 8 July 2023 at the age of 95 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SAXER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

ROBERT

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert M. Saxer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Saxer was a retired Book Processor for the Erie County Public Library / Robert M. Saxer passed away on 11 August 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SAXER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

THOMAS

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas F. Saxer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Saxer retired from the Town of Tonawanda / Thomas F. Saxer passed away on 1 March 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHAAB**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

JOSEPH

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

"B" COMPANY, 86TH ENGINEERS BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Joseph F. Schaab honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Schaab trained as a Mason and served for 24 months / Swaab was attached to "B" Company, 86th Engineers Battalion at Fort Dix, New Jersey

Joseph F. Schaab was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 1 May 1962

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Schaab, a master craftsman, was the founder and operator of Apex Masonry / Joseph F. Schaab passed away on 25 May 2025 at the age of 88 years old

A Carpentry and Masonry Specialist, uses the skills needed to handle a variety of carpentry and masonry duties, building important structures for the Army using hand and power tools, lumber, concrete, stones, and bricks / The Specialist also help combat engineers build structures to respond to rough terrain and environmental hazards

The 86th Engineer Battalion was constituted 15 July 1940 in the Regular Army as the 86th Engineer Battalion (Heavy Ponton) and activated 9 July 1941 at Fort Knox, Kentucky / The 86th Engineer Battalion participated in



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the battles of Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe during World War II / In Vietnam, the 86th participated in many battles including the Tet Offensive in 1969, earning the Meritorious Unit Commendation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHAEFER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DAVID

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

60TH MILITARY POLICE DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class David R. Schaefer honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 David Schaefer was trained as a Military Policeman and was stationed in Bad Kreuznach, Germany for 18 months

David R. Schaefer was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 10 June 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Schaefer was a retiree of 27 years from Verizon (Buffalo) and was a Job Coach at Lancaster High School for Special Education students / Schaefer was a member of the Father Baker Knights of Columbus Council #2243 / David R. Schaefer passed away on 24 October 2025 at the age of 79 years old

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHAEFFER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

GEORGE

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR NATIONAL
GUARD

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

George W. Schaeffer honorably served in the United States Air National Guard / George Schseffer enlisted in the Air National Guard as a Chef / He worked the mess kitchens at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and Fort Drum for 6 years, holding the rank of Executive Chef

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

Fort Drum, New York - Fort Drum is a U.S. Army military reservation in Jefferson County, near the western border of northern New York and is home to the 10th Mountain Division / Its mission includes command of active component units assigned to the installation, providing administrative and logistical support to tenant units, support to active and reserve units from all services in training at Fort Drum, and planning and support for the mobilization and training of almost 80,000 troops annually

Miscellaneous:

George Schaeffer graduated from Amherst Central High School in 1959 / Taking Food Service Administration



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

courses in 1963 at Erie County Technical Institute (Erie Community College) / After his military service, Schaeffer went into food sales with the Beech-Nut Foods Company and then went on to become a District Manager for Durkee Foods / Retiring in the mid 1990's, he became a leader in the Western New York Restaurant Association / Schaeffer later became a Potter / Schaeffer served on the Erie Community College Culinary Art Technology Advisory Board and received a Distinguished Alumni Award from ECC in 1993 / George Schaeffer was crowned Buffalo's first "Wing King" in 1984 when he won the inaugural Buffalo Chicken Wing Festival at Fantasy Island on Grand Island, winning again in 2013 in a Wing Festival competition for healthy recipes for chicken wing dips / George W. Schaeffer passed away on 9 September 2023 at the age of 81 years old

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service operations; and food and supply ordering

The Air National Guard (ANG), also known as the Air Guard, is a federal military reserve force of the United States Air Force, as well as the air militia of each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands / It, along with the Army National Guard component of each state, district, commonwealth or territory, makes up the National Guard of each region as applicable / When Air National Guard units are used under the jurisdiction of the state governor, they are fulfilling their militia role / When federalized by order of the President of the United States, ANG units become an active part of the U.S. Air Force / They are jointly administered by the states and the National Guard Bureau, a joint bureau of the Army and Air Force that oversees the U.S. National Guard



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHERER**
FRED

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

SIXTH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Fred Scherer honorably served in the United States Army / Fed Scherer was assigned as a Dispatcher and stationed in Germany in the late 1950's

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Fred Scherer attended St. Mark's School and graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in 1951 / Scherer earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Canisius College / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Fred Scherer opened the Furniture Manor on Elmwood Avenue in Kenmore, in the early 1960s / Scherer went on to become Vice President of the local Cape Cod Furniture chain, then managed the furniture department for Jenss in Niagara Falls before acquiring the F. Scherer and Sons Furniture from his uncles in 1977 and owned the store until it closed in January 2024 / Scherer was a former member of the Sertoma Club of Buffalo and the Buffalo Executives Association / Fred Scherer passed away on 21 October 2025 at the age of 91 years old

The 6th Transportation Battalion, a key element of the U.S. Army's Transportation Corps, has a rich history of service / Constituted in 1943, the battalion has participated in significant conflicts such as World War II, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Operation New Dawn / It has undergone various reorganizations and redesignations, reflecting its evolution from a Quartermaster Troop Transport Battalion to a Transportation Corps Truck Battalion and back again / The battalion's operations have included support in Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, Germany, Wahern, Kassel, and Kuwait / It has played a crucial role in the logistics and sustainment of U.S. forces during these conflicts / The battalion's inactivation ceremony was held on 12 August 2012, marking the end of its active service / The battalion's legacy continues through its veterans and the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

ongoing efforts to preserve its history and contributions to the Army



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHIEDER**
DONALD **E**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

"B" TROOP, 3RD BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-16 RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 5 Donald E. Schieder honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Donald Schieder drove and maintained reconnaissance tanks / SP5 Schieder completed CPR training while stationed in Mannheim, Germany

Base Assignments:

Ft. Dix, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Coleman Barracks, Mannheim, Germany - Named after Lieutenant Colonel Wilson D. Coleman, who was killed in action in France on 30 July 1944, Coleman Barracks is a United States Army military installation located in the Sandhofen district of Mannheim, Germany / The Coleman Barracks was assigned to U.S. Army, Europe (USAREUR) and administered by the U.S. Army Installation Management Command-Europe (IMCOM-E) / U.S. Army Europe left Mannheim's Coleman Barracks in 2011 only to return in 2015 on what was to be a temporary basis

Miscellaneous:

Donald Schieder graduated from Seneca Vocational High School and worked as a carpet installers helper prior to entering the Army / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, Schieder went to work for the City of Buffalo and retired in July 2009 as a Maintenance Supervisor



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 US 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 / The regiment originally was organized as horse cavalry in 1866, a designation under US 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 / 3rd Squadron, 8th Cavalry served as the divisional cavalry reconnaissance squadron (administratively under the 3rd Brigade), 8th Infantry Division at Coleman Barracks in Sandhofen, Germany

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHILLACE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

MICHAEL

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Michael H. Schillace honorably served in the United States Air Force

MSGT Michael Schillace retired from the U.S. Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Schillace retired from the East Aurora School System / Michael H. Schillace passed away on 9 July 2025 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHIPANI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

MICHAEL

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael D. Schipani honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael D. Schipani passed away on 15 March 2024 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHLENKER**

JOHN

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BOSTON

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John F. Schlenker honorably served in the United States Army and the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John F. Schlenker passed away in 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHMALL**
RICHARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard C. Schmall honorably served 6 years in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Schmall worked as a Machinist at Buffalo Wire Works and until his retirement in 2005, was a Bus Driver for First Student Transportation / Richard C. Schmall passed away on 16 March 2023 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHMITZ II**

RICHARD

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard W. Schmitz II honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Schmitz was a retired Buffalo Police Officer after serving 34 years on the Police Force / Richard Schmitz was a member and former Commander of the American Legion Post #1346 / Richard W. Schmitz II passed away on 2 March 2022 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHOENE**

GARY

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: LTC

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 2002

Unit / Squadron:

342ND FSB, COMPANY "C"

Medals / Citations:

LIBERTY MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Gary R. Schoene honorably served in the United States Air Force / LT COL Gary Schoene served active duty in the Air Force from 1972 through 1975, as a Doctor of Dental Medicine / Lieutenant Colonel Gary R. Schoene, joined the New York Air Reserve National Guard in 1976 and was attached to the 342nd Forward Support Battalion (FSB), Company "C" / Lt. Col. Schoene served in the NYANG until his retirement in 2002

Base Assignments:

Keesler Air Force Base - Biloxi, Mississippi - Keesler Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Biloxi, a city along the Gulf Coast in Harrison County, Mississippi, United States / The base is named in honor of aviator 2d Lt Samuel Reeves Keesler Jr., a Mississippi native killed in France during the First World War / The base is home of Headquarters, Second Air Force (2 AF) and the 81st Training Wing (81 TW) of the Air Education and Training Command (AETC) / The base has specialized in ground trade training since its opening in 1941 during World War II / When the War Department activated Keesler Field in June 1941, not only was Keesler getting a technical training center, but it would be getting one of the Army's newest replacement, or basic training centers / The first shipment of recruits arrived at Keesler Field on 21 August 1941 / Many stayed at Keesler to become airplane and engine mechanics, while others transferred to aerial gunnery or aviation cadet schools / Keesler continued to focus upon specialized training in Consolidated B-24 Liberator maintenance until mid-1944 / Presently, Keesler is the home to CNATTU Keesler (Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit), a training unit for U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps enlisted personnel receiving training at Keesler, such as enlisted meteorology training, with their Air Force counterparts

Niagara Falls Air Base - Niagara Falls, New York - Established in 1955, Niagara Falls Air Base is an Air Force



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Reserve Command military installation and is located adjacent to Niagara Falls International Airport, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing / Three Army Reserve units call the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station home / All three are located in the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) which was built in 2013 / The units are the 277th Quartermaster Company (Petroleum), 1982nd Forward Surgical Team (FST) and Alpha Company, 865th Combat Support Hospital (CSH)

Connecticut Street Armory and Masten Avenue Armory - Buffalo, New York - The armories have been the site of branches of the New York State National Guard for more than a century / The Connecticut Street Armory, opened in 1899, was the largest armory in the United States at the time of its completion / The 74th Regiment remained at the Connecticut Street Armory until 1920, though its Veterans Association still meets at the building to this day / In 1982, a fire damaged the back half of the armory and that part was rebuilt / Through the decades, different regiments have occupied Connecticut Street / Currently several National Guard regiments occupy the building including: 153rd Troop Command Brigade; Co. C, 427th Brigade Support Battalion; 27th Brigade Special Troops Battalion and the 152nd Engineer Support Company / The Masten Armory was constructed between 1902 and 1907 for the 65th Regiment of the New York National Guard and was even larger than Connecticut Street Armory / The Masten Armory is host to: Headquarters: 42nd Infantry Division, Detachment 1; 2nd Squadron, Troop C, 101st Cavalry and Co. D, 427th Brigade Support Battalion

Miscellaneous:

Gary R. Schoene graduated from Lake Forest College (Lake Forest, Illinois) and enrolled at University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, earning a degree as a Doctor of Dental Medicine / Dr. Schoene opened a dental practice on Center Road in West Seneca in 1976 while serving in the National Guard / Immediately after the terror attacks on 11 September 2001, Dr. Schoene and his 342nd Medical Unit were dispatched to New York City to provide cleanup assistance / Dr. Gary R. Schoene retired from his dental practice in 2020 / Gary Schoene was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHOLL**

THOMAS

G.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas G. Scholl honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Scholl graduated from Burgard High School in 1961 / Scholl attended Buffalo State University, earning a Master's Degree in Education / Scholl taught Graphic Arts at South Park High School, retiring in 1999 / Thomas G. Scholl passed away on 28 August 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHULTZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

LAWRENCE

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS SARATOGA (CV-6)

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lawrence Alan Schultz honorably served in the United States Navy / Lawrence Schultz served as an Aerial Photographer on board the USS Saratoga

After a fire aboard the ship in 1951 claimed the lives of seven sailors, Schultz was assigned to document the still-smoldering engine compartment for damage assessment / Lawrence Schultz later collated aerial photographs of Cuba into maps that were used in planning during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence Schultz attended the University of Buffalo prior to military service / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Schultz returned to the University of Buffalo, earning his Bachelor's Degree and Law Degree / Schultz spent six years with the Law Firm of Lipsitz, Green, Fahringer, Roll Schuller and James, specializing in appellate law / In 1996, Lawrence Schultz started his own law practice guiding appeals for other law firms / Schultz retired from active law practice in 2020 / Schultz served on the Appellate Committee for the Bar Association of Erie County and wrote a regular column on appellate law for the Daily Record of Rochester / Schultz was a founding member of the Orchard Park Community Church and active with the Boy Scouts Lawrence Alan Schultz passed away on 3 September 2023 at the age of 82 years old

USS Saratoga (CV/CVA/CVB-60), was the second of four Forrestal-class supercarriers built for the United States Navy in the 1950s / Saratoga was the sixth U.S. Navy ship, and the second aircraft carrier, to be named for the Battles of Saratoga in the American Revolutionary War / Commissioned on 14 April 1956, she spent most of her career in the Mediterranean, but also participated during the Vietnam War, receiving one battle star for her



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

service / While deployed with the Sixth Fleet on 23 January 1961, a serious fire broke out in Saratoga's number two machinery space which took seven lives / The fire, believed caused by a ruptured fuel oil line, was brought under control by the crew / One of her last operational duties was to participate in Operation Desert Storm / Saratoga was decommissioned on 20 August 1994, and was stored at Naval Station Newport in Newport, Rhode Island / The USS Saratoga was stricken from Naval records on 20 August 1994 and sent to Brownsville, Texas, to be scrapped / Scrapping was completed by early 2019

Name: **SCHULTZ**
RAYMOND P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Raymond Paul Schultz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Schultz retired from the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital of Buffalo / Raymond Paul Schultz passed away on 30 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCHULTZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

THOMAS

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LTJG

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lieutenant (j.g.) Thomas E. Schultz honorably served in the United States Navy / LT Thomas Schultz was stationed in Guam as a Naval Aviation Observer and flew tens of thousands of hours on reconnaissance

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Schultz attended St. Teresa's School and attended the second Freshman class at Bishop Timon High School, playing varsity basketball and baseball / Schultz graduated from Canisius College with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration where he played baseball for four years leading the Canisius "Griffins" to the Little Three Championships / Thomas Schultz enlisted in the Navy and entered the Officer Candidate School in 1956 and was commissioned a Lieutenant (j.g.) / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Thomas Schultz worked for the General Motors Tonawanda Engine Plant as an internal auditor, cost accountant and analyst programmer / In 1967, Schultz became Supervisor of Data Processing for Conax Corp, followed by the position of Data Processing Manager for Curtiss-Wright Corp / After two years, Schultz was appointed Senior Electronic Data Processing Manager for the Erie County Comptroller's Office / In 1975, he joined Erie Community College as a Systems Analyst, retiring in 1992 as the Director of Data Systems / As an ordained Deacon, Schultz was a Chaplain at Buffalo General Medical Center and was appointed to the Family Life Department of the Buffalo Diocesan Office / Thomas E. Schultz passed away on 5 January 2024 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SCINTA

RUSSELL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Russell Scinta honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Russell Scinta was a gifted musician and engineer by trade / Russell Scinta passed away on 19 May 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCOTT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

BARRY

Address: MARILYN DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1980

Unit / Squadron:

USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Petty Officer First-Class Barry Scott honorably served in the United States Navy / PO1 Barry Scott received his Navy training in Electronics and maintained seagoing and landbased communication equipment / Scott was stationed in Rota, Spain for three years and worked on submarine sonar gear

Base Assignments:

Naval Training Center (NTC), Great Lakes, Illinois - Naval Station Great Lakes (NAVSTA Great Lakes) is the home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Important tenant commands include the Recruit Training Command, Training Support Center and Navy Recruiting District Chicago / Naval Station Great Lakes is the largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Naval Air Station (NAS), Jacksonville, Florida - During World War I, the area now occupied by NAS Jacksonville, was named Camp Joseph E. Johnston and was commissioned on 15 October 1917 / The United States Army trained quartermasters and the center included more than 600 buildings; by 1918 Camp Johnston was the largest of all Quartermaster mobilization and training camps / On 15 October 1940, Naval Air Station Jacksonville was officially commissioned and became the first part of the Jacksonville Navy complex that would eventually include NAS Cecil Field and Naval Station Mayport / During the late 1940s, the jet age was dawning and in 1948 the Navy's first jet carrier air groups and squadrons came to NAS Jacksonville / By April 1949, NAS Jacksonville was the East Coast's aircraft capital, with more naval aircraft stationed here than at any other naval base from Nova Scotia to the Caribbean / In 1973, with the assignment of Helicopter Antisubmarine Wing One, the station's primary mission became antisubmarine warfare / In 1970, a major reorganization of the Naval Reserve resulted in three separate Naval Air Reserve flying squadrons being activated at NAS Jacksonville / A piece of history and Navy and Marine Corps tradition was lost in 1986 when the last unit of Marines left NAS Jacksonville



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

/ Marine Barracks Jacksonville had been one of the first groups to arrive at the base in 1940, but left due to mission realignments and a reduction in Marines authorized for Marine Corps Security Force duties at U.S. Naval installations / Naval Air Station Jacksonville is one of the Navy's finest installations and is the recipient of the 2012 Presidential Excellence Award and 2013 Commander, Navy Installations Command Excellence Award

Naval Air Station (NAS), Rota, Spain - Naval Station Rota, also known as NAVSTA Rota, is a Spanish naval base commanded by a Spanish Rear Admiral and fully funded by the United States of America / Located in Rota in the Province of Cádiz, near the town of El Puerto de Santa María, NAVSTA Rota is the largest American military community in Spain and houses US Navy and US Marine Corps personnel / There are also small US Army and US Air Force contingents on the base / NAVSTA Rota has been in use since 1953 when Spanish dictator Francisco Franco strengthened relations with the United States in order to improve local economies / The Chief of Naval Operations deployed Submarine Squadron 16 (SUBRON 16) to Rota on 28 January 1964 and in the early 1970s, the submarines assigned to SUBRON 16 were completing conversion to the Poseidon missile / At its peak size in the early 1980s, NAVSTA Rota was home to 16,000 sailors and their families, to include two permanently forward deployed aviation squadrons, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Two (VQ-2) and Fleet Logistics Support Squadron TWENTY TWO (VR-22). VQ-2 was based at Rota from 1959 until 2005

Naval Support Activity (NSA) Charleston, South Carolina - Naval Support Activity Charleston, originally designated Naval Weapons Station Charleston, is a base of the United States Navy located on the west bank of the Cooper River, in the cities of Goose Creek and Hanahan South Carolina / The base was commissioned on 5 November 1941 as the United States Naval Ammunition Depot (NAD) and was used as an ammunition collection and distribution point during World War II / During the mid-1950s, the installation was expanded with the Northside area called the Naval Weapons Station Annex and charged with new duties that included the handling of guided missiles and the docking, servicing and loading of submarines / In 1960 the Polaris Missile Facility Atlantic (POMFLANT) was constructed within the base to enable the handling of Terrier, Tarter, and, Hawk, missiles / On 30 September 1981, the Station acquired the nearby Charleston Army Depot and the station's name was changed to Naval Weapons Station South / In 1995 POMFLANT was decommissioned and the fleet ballistic missile operations moved to Kings Bay, Georgia / The Naval Nuclear Power Training Command school opened in 1998 and today, is a training center, with the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC), Nuclear Power Training Unit, Propulsion Facility, and Border Patrol satellite academy

Miscellaneous:

Barry Scott graduated from Ellicottville High School and attended SUNY Fredonia prior to entering the Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Scott used his Navy electronic training to find employment in the private sector, retiring from Windstream Communications as a Design Engineer / Barry Scott is a member of the West Seneca Lions and American Legion Post #735

Electronics technicians are responsible for electronic equipment used to send and receive messages, detect enemy planes and ships, and determine target distances / They maintain, repair, and calibrate all electronic equipment used for communications, detection tracking, identification, and navigation / Specially qualified electronics technicians are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to operate the nuclear reactor and maintain its control subsystems

USS Canopus (AS-34) was a Simon Lake-class submarine tender of the United States Navy, operational from 1965



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

to 1994 / The Canopus was commissioned on 4 November 1965 and sailed for the Caribbean on 7 January 1966 / Stationed at Holy Loch, Scotland until November 1975, the Canopus was instrumental in establishing several new maintenance concepts while completing, on schedule, every submarine refit during the 67 months at Holy Loch / During the last year at Holy Loch, Canopus received numerous awards including the Ney Award for the best large mess afloat, the second consecutive Battle Efficiency "E", the CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor Award for personnel retention, and the Navy Unit Commendation for her role in the first FBM Submarine Extended Refit Period / In 1976, Canopus underwent an extensive refit at Charleston Naval Shipyard and returned to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for refresher training / Canopus returned to Rota, Spain in December 1976 / In 1984, Canopus underwent an overhaul at Charleston Naval Shipyard, which lasted until 1985 / After a short stay at Charleston, Canopus sailed in July 1985 to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia/ The USS Canopus was decommissioned from active service on 7 October 1994 and scrapped in 2010

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SCOTT**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: NORTH COLLINS

BRUCE

R.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Bruce R. Scott honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Scott retired after a 42-year career with the Buffalo News as the Publishing Systems Manager / Bruce Scott was a Scout Master for Troop 429 in North Collins during the 1980's / Scott was one of the founders of the North Collins Tee Ball League / Bruce Scott moved to Chesterfield, Virginia after his retirement and worked as a School Bus Driver for the Chesterfield School District / Bruce R Scott passed away on 1 April 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SEGOOL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

ARTHUR

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, U.S. ARMY SECURITY AGENCY (USASA) BATTALION 8316

Medals / Citations:

OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class Arthur Francis Segool honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Arthur Segool was stationed in South Korea for 15 months and served as a Morse Code Interceptor

While serving in Korea, Specialist Segool discovered an old Army tent overloaded with orphaned children / They sent word back to the US and raised money, which they used to build an orphanage

Arthur Segool was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 4 September 1959

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Francis Segool passed away on 4 November 2017

The United States Army Security Agency (ASA) was the United States Army's signals intelligence branch from 1945 to 1976 / Composed of soldiers trained in radio communication, cryptography, military intelligence and linguists trained at the Defense Language Institute located at the Presidio of Monterey, California, the ASA was tasked with monitoring and interpreting military communications of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, and their allies and client states around the world / The agency was established after World War II, when the Soviet Union and the US had been allies / In the postwar years, after the Soviet Union and communist governments gained power in eastern Europe and China, they became enemies in the Cold War between Communist states and allies, and the US and western nations / The ASA was directly subordinate to the National Security Agency, and all major field stations had NSA technical representatives present



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SEITZ

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

PAUL

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

H AND H COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 70TH ARMOR REGIMENT, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION

H AND H COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 127TH ARMOR, NY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Paul E. Seitz honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Paul Seitz was assigned as a Law Clerk and Clerk Typist / SP-4 Seitz served 2 years on active duty and then served with the New York Army National Guard

Paul Seitz was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 23 October 1974 and received an Honorable Discharge from the New York Army National Guard on 5 November 1975

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul E. Seitz passed away on 30 July 2021

The 70th Armor Regiment is an armored (tank) unit of the United States Army. It was constituted as the 70th Tank Battalion in July 1940, an independent tank battalion intended to provide close support to infantry units / The battalion supported the 4th Infantry Division on Utah Beach during the D-Day landings in France, and fought with the 4th Infantry Division through the remainder of World War II / The 70th Tank Battalion was one of the first three tank battalions to deploy to Korea in the Korean War, where it saw significant action in, primarily with the 1st Cavalry Division / The 70th Armor Regiment was designated a parent organization as part of the Combat Arms Regimental System (CARS) in 1963 / On 9 October 2012, the last active battalion of the 70th Armor Regiment was inactivated / The 4th Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment was inactivated along with its parent headquarters, the 170th Infantry Brigade (Separate) in Baumholder, Germany



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 127th Armor traces its origins as far back as 1838, to a company also known as the "Buffalo City Guards" / The 127th Tank Battalion (formed 1950) reorganized and redesignated as 127th Armor, a CARS parent regiment, on 16 March 1959 / The regiment then consisted of the 1st Medium Tank Battalion, an element of the 27th Armored Division (United States) / Circa 2005 the 1st Battalion was a tank unit of the 3rd Brigade, 42nd Infantry Division (United States) in Buffalo, NY

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado / The division was first activated in 1917 and has served in World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom1 / The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a battalion of the United States Army and assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado

The 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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SENN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

WAYNE

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY/AIR FORCE

Rank: E-3/O3

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

U>S ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD W/2 OAK LEAF

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (SMALL ARMS)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Wayne J.C. Senn honorably served in the United States Army and the United States Air Force / PFC Wayne Senn served our nation for a total of 15 years of military duty / PFC Senn served almost 2 years of active duty in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1961-1963 as a Power Generator Specialist

PFC Wayne Senn received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 1 September 1963

In addition, Wayne J.C. Senn served in the US Air Force Active Reserves from 1965-1976 as an Executive Support Officer and Administration Officer / He received his promotion to the rank of Captain (O-3) in 1969, and he had 2 years, 9 months of foreign service in England, assigned to the Royal Air Force (RAF) Bentwaters (Air Force Strategic Command) / Captain Senn received his honorable retirement from the U.S. Air Force on 18 October 1976

Base Assignments:

Royal Air Force Bentwaters or more simply RAF Bentwaters, now known as Bentwaters Parks, is a former Royal Air Force station about 80 miles northeast of London and 10 miles east-northeast of Ipswich, near Woodbridge, Suffolk in England / Its name was taken from two cottages ('Bentwaters Cottages') that had stood on the site of the main runway during its construction in 1943 / The station was used by the Royal Air Force (RAF) during the Second World War, and by the United States Air Force (USAF) during the Cold War, being the primary home for the 81st Fighter Wing under various designations from 1951 to 1993 / For many years the 81st Fighter Wing also



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

operated RAF Woodbridge, with Bentwaters and Woodbridge airfields being known by the Americans as the "Twin Bases" / Currently, Bentwaters airfield is inactive as a military facility

Miscellaneous:

Wayne J.C. Senn passed away on 21 February 2024 at the age of 85 years old

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was authorized on 16 March 1802 and is a direct reporting unit and 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 chief of engineers/commanding general / 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 required / For the military construction mission, the chief of engineers 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

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

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.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SERENA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

NORMAN

L.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Norman L. Serena honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Serena was a retired Electrician from General Mills / Norman L. Serena passed away on 11 April 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SERWON**

EDWARD

W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CV/CVA/CVS-39)

Medals / Citations:

OCCUPATIONAL SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Edward W. Serwon honorably served in the United States Navy / Edward Serwon in the US Navy for 24 months, from July of 1954 to July of 1956 aboard the USS Lake Champlain

In 1976, Edward Serwon entered the Army Reserves as a Practical Nurse, serving for 5 years / Serwon entered the Army Reserve Development Programs and advanced to Bio Med Equipment Specialist, serving for 8 years and 4 months and earning the rank of Sergeant First Class / In 1990, Mr. Serwon was called to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, serving from 21 November 1990 to 5 April 1991, in Southwest Asia / He was honorably discharged after 23 years of service to our nation in 1996 at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward W. Serwon passed away on 7 December 2024 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

USS Lake Champlain (CV/CVA/CVS-39) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers completed during or shortly after World War II for the United States Navy / She was the second US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named for the Battle of Lake Champlain in the War of 1812 and commissioned on 3 June 1945 / Lake Champlain did not participate in World War II, but did serve as a transport, bringing troops home from Europe as part of Operation Magic Carpet / Like many of her sister ships, she was decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, but was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s, and redesignated as an attack carrier (CVA) /



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

She participated in the Korean War but spent the rest of her career in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean / In the late 1950s, she was redesignated as an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / As flagship of Carrier Task Force 77 (TF 77), the Champlain sailed from Yokosuka on 11 June 1953 and arrived off western Korea on 14 June 1953 / The carrier's air group immediately launched sorties cratering runways; assaulting enemy troops; attacking trenches, bunkers, gun positions; and giving close air support to hard pressed ground forces / Her planes also escorted B-29 Superfortress heavy bombers on their way to enemy targets / Lake Champlain continued to strike at the enemy until the truce was signed on 27 July 1953 / Relieved by Kearsarge on 11 October 1953, Lake Champlain headed toward the South China Sea arriving Singapore on 24 October / Bidding farewell to the Pacific Ocean on 27 October 1953, she steamed toward home, touching at Colombo, Port Said, Cannes, and Lisbon before arriving Mayport, Florida, on 4 December 1953 / Lake Champlain completed her last major duty on 29 August 1965 when she served as the primary recovery ship for Gemini 5 / Shortly afterward, she sailed to Philadelphia Navy Yard, where she commenced inactivation / She was decommissioned on 2 May 1966 and was laid up in the Reserve Fleet / The 24-year-old Lake Champlain was stricken from the Navy List on 1 December 1969, and sold by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) for scrapping on 28 April 1972

The Navy Occupation Service Medal was 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 United States 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 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SEUFERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

DWIGHT

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Dwight R. Seufert honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dwight Seufert was a retired Town of Hamburg Police Officer / Seufert was a volunteer member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Team / Dwight R. Seufert passed away on 27 January 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SHANOR, JR.

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John R. "Jack" Shanor, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jack Shanor the Owner and Operator of Shanor Electric Supply, Inc. / John R. "Jack" Shanor, Jr. passed away on 7 April 2022 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SHEEHAN**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMAN BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James P. Sheehan honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Sheehan worked as an Auditor for Erie County Savings Bank / Sheehan earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from SUNY University of Buffalo / James Sheehan moved to Southern California for a career with Empire of America Savings Bank, returning to West Seneca after a few years / James Sheehan worked as an Accountant with Key Bank in Cleveland, Ohio / Returning to West Seneca, Sheehan spent years on the West Seneca School Board / In 2009, James Sheehan relocated to Cornelius, North Carolina / James P. "Jim" Sheehan passed away in 2024 as a result of a traffic accident at the age of 76 years old

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SHEEHAN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP-26 (MAG-26)

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (PISTOL)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph P. Sheehan honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Joseph Sheehan was assigned as a Helicopter Mechanic (Reciprocating) and was stationed overseas for 12 month of foreign duty

Joseph Sheehan was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marines on 9 October 1964

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Air Station, New River, North Carolina - Marine Corps Air Station New River is a United States Marine Corps helicopter and tilt-rotor base in Jacksonville, North Carolina / In 1972, the airfield was named McCutcheon Field for General Keith B. McCutcheon, one of the fathers of Marine Corps helicopter aviation

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Sheehan attended Immaculate Conception School and graduated from East Aurora High School / Sheehan was a member of the American Legion, East Aurora Conservation Club, and Knights of St. John / Joseph Sheehan also volunteered with the South Buffalo Community Table / Joseph P. Sheehan passed away on 20 May 2022 at the age of 79 years old

Marine Aircraft Group 26 (MAG-26) is a United States Marine Corps aviation unit based at Marine Corps Air Station New River composed of seven MV-22 Osprey squadrons, one of which is the Fleet Replacement Squadron, an aviation logistics squadron, and a wing support squadron / It falls under the command of the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing and II Marine Expeditionary Force / Marine Aircraft Group 26 was commissioned on 16 June 1952 and its mission is to Exercise tactical command and control and provide responsive combat assault



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

support, aviation logistics support, and aviation ground support to Marine, Joint, and Coalition forces to enable amphibious and expeditionary operations

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SHEEHAN**
THOMAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thomas Patrick Sheehan honorably served in the United States Navy / Thomas Sheehan was stationed in San Diego, California and Portland, Oregon

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Sheehan graduated from Canisius High School and Canisius College / Sheehan went on to the University of Buffalo Medical School, earning his medical degree in 1967 / Thomas Sheehan joined the Rayhill, Miller and Sheehan family medical practice / Dr. Thomas Patrick Sheehan passed away on 31 May 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SHEER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

GLENN

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AE

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Aviation Electrician's Mate Glenn P. Sheer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Glenn P. Sheer was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / Glenn P. Sheer passed away on 22 September 2013 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is one of the unit awards of the United States Air Force / It was established in 1954 and was the first independent Air Force decoration created / The Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SHINNERS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

SEAN

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sean M. Shinnors honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Shinnors was trained as a Russian language interpreter

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Sean Shinnors graduated from Canisius High School and the University of Buffalo / In 1995 Sean Shinnors became President of Buffalo Tver Sister Cities, Inc., a company dedicated to the improvement of healthcare in the Tver region of Russia / Shinnors was the owner-operator of Parkside's Restaurant on West Oakwood Place in Buffalo from 1986 through 1990 / Sean M. Shinnors passed away on 13 January 2024 at the age of 78 years old

Interpreter/Translator is a military occupational specialty that tells soldiers how to translate language, interpret verbal statements, and give the whole meaning of passages



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SIEMKO

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

KENNETH

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CTOSN

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVB/CVA/CV-42)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Cryptologic (Communications Branch) Seaman Kenneth Michael Siemko honorably served in the United States Navy / CTOSN Kenneth Siemko was assigned as a Cryptographic Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth M. Siemko was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

Cryptologic Technician (CT) performs a wide range of tasks in support of the national intelligence-gathering effort, with an emphasis on cryptology and signal intelligence related products / Almost every detail surrounding the CT world from administration to operations to repair requires dedicated technicians with appropriate security clearances

USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVB/CVA/CV-42) was the second of three Midway-class aircraft carriers and commissioned on 27 October 1945 / To her crew, she was known as "Swanky Franky," "Foo-De-Roo," or "Rosie," with the last nickname probably the most popular / The USS Roosevelt spent most of her active deployed career operating in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the United States Sixth Fleet / From August 1966 to January 1967, Franklin D. Roosevelt made her only deployment to Southeast Asia, spending a total of 95 days "on the line" / Her embarked airwing, Carrier Air Wing One, consisted mainly of F-4 Phantom IIs and A-4 Skyhawks / Roosevelt received one battle star for her service during the Vietnam War / The ship was decommissioned in 1977 and was scrapped on 3 May 1978 / She was the first aircraft carrier of the United States Navy to be named in honor of a President of the United States



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

Name: **SIKORSKI**
FRANCIS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Francis B. Sikorski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis Sikorski worked at the Tonawanda Chevrolet Plant for over 40 years / Francis B. Sikorski passed away on 8 November 2024 and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SILVASHY, JR.**

JOHN

R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY A, 47TH ENGINEER BATTALION, THIRD US ARMY

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PARACHUTIST BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class John R. Silvashy, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 John Silvashy was assigned as a Concrete Paving Equipment Operator / SP5 Silvashy completed training in Concrete Paving Equipment Operations: Basic Airborne,, Chemical, Biological, Radiological (CBR); and Escape, Evasion & Survival

SP5 John Silvashy, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 22 May 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Silvashy graduated from Tonawanda High School in 1966 / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Silvashy worked for the US Postal Service until his retirement / John Silvashy was a member of the Gastown Sportsmens Club / John R. Silvashy, Jr. passed away on 26 September 2022 at the age of 74 years old

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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold War

The Army's Basic Parachutist Badge is awarded to all military personnel of any service who complete the US Army Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia / It signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SIMCHICK**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Ronald Simchick honorably served in the United States Air Force during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Simchick was a lifetime member of American Legion Matthew Glab Post # 1477 / Simchick was retired from General Motors and was a member of the Local #774 Autoworkers Union / Ronald Simchick passed away on 3 September 2018



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SIMON**

GENE

M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gene M. Simon honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gene M. Simon passed away on 15 December 2024 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SINGLETARY, JR.**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James Singletary, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy / James Singletary was assigned as a Radioman during his U.S. Navy service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Singletary, Jr. graduated from East High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, James Singletary earned his Bachelor's Degree from Buffalo State College and a Masters degree from Canisius College / Singletary served as an Assistant Principal at Seneca High School and a Secondary Assistant principal at Hutchinson Central Technical High School / James Singletary also served as the Director of Non-Instructional Personnel/Affirmative Action, hiring hundreds of people for Civil Service positions / James Singletary, Jr. passed away on 23 December 2023 at the age of 76 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 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

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

Name: SITARSKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

JOHN

M.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John M. Sitarski honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Sitarski was a volunteer firefighter with the Williamsville Fire Department / John M. Sitarski passed away on 6 July 2024 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SKINNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

JACK

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Jack E. Skinner honorably served in the United States Air Force for over 37 years

During his military service, Jack Skinner visited over 60 countries and 49 states

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

Miscellaneous:

Jack Skinner graduated from Chautauqua Central School and Niagara University / Skinner was a member of the Aero Club of Buffalo, Buffalo Audubon, Buffalo Geological Society / Jack Skinner was a member of the Grand Island American Legion and a life member of the Mayville Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Jack E. Skinner passed away on 18 January 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SKRETNY, JR.**
ANTHONY V.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Anthony V. Skretny, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony V. Skretny, Jr. passed away on 23 December 2020



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SLAWINOWSKI**
DONALD M.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Donald M. Slawinowski honorably served in the United States Army as a Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Slawinowski worked at Buffalo General Hospital for 43 years as a Mental Health Counselor / Slawinowski was very active coaching little league baseball teams / Donald M. Slawinowski passed away on 15 September 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Pembroke, New York

Army Medical Corpsman is a military enlisted person trained to give first aid and minor medical treatment / The Medical Corps consists of commissioned medical officers who are physicians / A combat medic is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at a point of wounding in a combat or training environment / U.S. Army Medics and U.S. Navy Corpsmen were the enlisted "first responders" of the Vietnam War



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SLIFKA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

KARL

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Karl Slifka honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl Slifka passed away on 25 September 25 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SLIFKA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

KARL

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Karl F. Slifka honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl F. Slifka passed away on 25 September 2025 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SMACZNIAK, JR.**

JOSEPH

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5-E5

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1975

Unit / Squadron:

85TH QUARTERMASTER

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMY MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Joseph Smaczniak, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Located near Trenton, New Jersey, Fort Dix was established on 16 July 1917 as Camp Dix, named in honor of Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, and a former United States Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Governor of New York / Ft. Dix was used for the mobilization, training and demobilization of soldiers from World War I through April 2015 / On 1 October 2009, Fort Dix was consolidated with an adjoining U.S. Air Force and Navy facility to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL)

Fort Lee - Opened in 1918, Fort Lee in Prince George County, Virginia was named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee / Fort Lee was the headquarters for the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM)/ Sustainment Center of Excellence (SCoE), the U.S. Army Quartermaster School, the U.S. Army Ordnance School, The U.S. Army Transportation School, the Army Logistics University (ALU), Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), and the U.S. Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)

Nahbollenbach Army Depot - Nahbollenbach Army Depot in Idar-Oberstein is approximately seven miles from Strassburg Kaserne, southwest Germany. Nahbollenbach was a German Army depot until the end of World War II when it was turned over to the French Army / In 1950, the Depot it was turned over to the US Army and used as a Quartermaster Depot, a General Depot and as a US Army Depot. US Army Depot / Nahbollenbach was the headquarters of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, Europe (MATCOM) / Nahbollenbach was deactivated in 1975.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Smaczniak, Jr. graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Cheektowaga and attended Bryant & Stratton Business College where he graduated in June 1969 / Smaczniak enlisted in the U.S. Army in July 1969

Quartermaster Corps. - The United States Army Quartermaster Corps is a Sustainment, formerly combat service support (CSS), branch of the United States Army / It is also one of three U.S. Army logistics branches, the others being the Transportation Corps and the Ordnance Corps / The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of general supply, Mortuary Affairs, subsistences, petroleum and water, material and distribution management during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army / The officer in charge of the branch for doctrine, training, and professional development purposes is the Quartermaster General

The Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

A 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

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SMEAL**
LEON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 34 SAWYER AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: T/SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant Leon Smeal honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Thailand

The brother of T/SGT Leon Smeal, Army Sergeant Robert Smeal, was Killed In Action on 15 March 1968 when his helicopter crashed after receiving enemy groundfire in Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

DARWIN

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS SEALION (LPSS- 315)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Darwin Eugene Smith honorably served in the United States Navy / Darwin Smith served as Chefs Cook on the USS Sealion (LPSS- 315), with 2 years 10 months sea service operating off the coast of Key West

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Darwin Smith worked at the Dunlop Plant in the Town of Tonawanda / Darwin Eugene Smith passed away on 22 March 2025 at the age of 79 years old

USS Sealion (LPSS-315), a Balao-class submarine, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for the sea lion, any of several large, eared seals native to the Pacific / She is sometimes referred to as Sealion II, because her first skipper, Lieutenant Commander Eli Thomas Reich, was a veteran of the first Sealion (SS-195), serving on her when she was lost at the beginning of World War II / Sealion was the only US and Allied submarine that sank an enemy battleship during the Second World War / The USS Sealion was commissioned on 8 March 1944 and assigned to Submarine Division 222 (SubDiv 222), sailed for the Pacific, arrived at Pearl Harbor on 17 May 1944 and headed west on her first war patrol / During World War II, the Sealion continued to patrol in the Pacific sinking cargo freighters and tankers / On 21 November 1944, the USS Sealion intercepted a powerful surface fleet consisting of the battleships Yamato, Nagato, and Kongō, the cruiser Yahagi, and the destroyers Hamakaze, Isokaze, Urakaze, Yukikaze, Kiri, and Ume, sinking the Japanese battleship Kongō / The USS Sealion was the only American submarine to sink an enemy battleship in World War II / The USS Sealion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for her six war patrols and was decommissioned on 2 February 1946 / On 2 November 1948, the Sealion was recommissioned as a Submarine, Transport, with the hull classification



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

symbol SSP-315 and utilized for training exercises off the southern California coast / On 30 June 1960, Sealion was again decommissioned at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she remained as a reserve training submarine until reactivated a year later / In August 1961, she was towed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for overhaul; on 20 October, she was recommissioned, and on 18 December, she rejoined SubRon 6 at Norfolk / In September 1969, the USS Sealion was decommissioned in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she was decommissioned and placed in the inactive fleet on 20 February 1970 / Stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 15 March 1977, Sealion was sunk as a target off Newport, Rhode Island, on 8 July 1978 / The USS Sealion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with five battle stars, World War II Victory Medal and the National Defense Service Medal with star

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

EDWARD

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (GRENADE LAUNCHER)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class Edward R. Smith honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Edward Smith was assigned as an Enlisted Aide and was stationed for two years at Army Headquarters, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Base Assignments:

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade was used as a World War II recruit training post / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at Fort Meade / Fort Meade is the Army's second largest installation by population with more than 64,000 employees that represent the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force / Fort Meade's more than 120 partner agencies include the DoD's newest Combatant Command - US Space Force, as well as the National Security Agency, DISA/JFH DODIN Combatant Command - U.S. Space Force, U.S. Cyber Command - the National Security Agency, Defense Information Systems Agency/Joint Forces Headquarters for the Department of Defense Information Network, Defense Media Activity, and several non-DoD agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency and Architect of the Capitol

Miscellaneous:

Edward R. Smith passed away on 25 November 2022 at the age of 74 years old and interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Joseph P. Smith honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph P. Smith passed away on 25 March 2024 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

MICHAEL

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Michael A. Smith honorably served in the United States Army / SFC Michael Smith was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

MICHAEL

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael A. Smith honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Smith was a retired West Seneca Police Lieutenant / Michael A. Smith passed away on 13 June 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SMITH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert J. Smith honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Smith was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania / Robert J. Smith passed away on 11 November 2015 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SMOLINSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: NORTH BOSTON

JAMES

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

3RD INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James A. "Smoker" Smolinski honorably served in the United States Army with the 3rd Infantry

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Smolinski was an operating Engineer and Master mechanic for the International Union of Operating Engineers (I.U.O.E.) Local #17 for more than 55 years, retiring in 2000 / James A. "Smoker" Smolinski passed away on 21 April 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Mary's Cemetery, East Eden, New York

The 3rd Infantry Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army / It currently has three active battalions, and is readily identified by its nickname, The Old Guard / From 1840 to 1843, the 3rd Infantry fought in the Seminole War in Florida / The 3rd Infantry saw extensive service during the United States Civil War and was credited with 12 campaigns / During World War II, the 3rd Infantry served most of the war as a separate regiment and was not assigned to a combat division until 50 days before the German surrender / On 1 June 1966, the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry regiment was activated at Fort Benning, Georgia and assigned to the 199th Light Infantry Brigade (199th LIB) / The 199th LIB deployed to South Vietnam in December 1966 operating throughout III Corps / The 199th LIB returned to the United States in 1970 and the 2nd Battalion was inactivated on 15 October 1970 at Fort Benning



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: SNYDER

JOHN

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AKRON

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John F. Snyder honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Snyder graduated from Akron Central High School in 1966 / John F. Snyder passed away on 19 June 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SOBCZAK**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James E. Sobczak honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Sobczak was 3rd degree member of the Knights of Columbus Father Baker Council #2243 and a member of the Knights of St. John Commandery #391 / Sobczak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Weber Post #898 / James E. Sobczak passed away on 24 December 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SOBIERAJSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

JAMES

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

214TH SQUADRON, NIAGARA FALLS AIRBASE

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant James A. Sobierajski honorably served in the United States Air Force Reserves / SSGT James Sobierajski served as an Airport Administration Specialist

Staff Sergeant James Sobierajski was honorably discharged from the Air Force Reserves on 22 January 1970

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

Miscellaneous:

James Sobierajski worked for Sears in Buffalo, New York for 30 years and owned a liquor store / James A. Sobierajski passed away on 15 December 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Union Cemetery, Springbrook, New York

Airport Administration Specialist are responsible for routine airport safety inspections, maintenance coordination, oversight of airport pavements, Visual Navigational Aids and Facilities, airfield components, and



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the enforcement of DoD or Host Nation airfield design criteria

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SOCHA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JAMES

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1975

Year Discharged: 1978

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COMBAT CREWMAN QUALIFICATION BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James Edward Socha honorably served in the United States Air Force / James Socha served 3 years 5 months as a Construction Equipment Operator at Edwards Air Force Base, California

James Socha was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 4 August 1978

Base Assignments:

Edwards Air Force Base, California - Edwards AFB is a United States Air Force installation in California / Most of the base sits in Kern County, but its eastern end is in San Bernardino County and a southern arm is in Los Angeles County / Established in the 1930s as Muroc Field, the facility was renamed Muroc Army Airfield and then Muroc Air Force Base before its final renaming in 1950 for World War II USAAF veteran and test pilot Capt. Glen Edwards / Edwards is the home of the Air Force Test Center, Air Force Test Pilot School, and NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center / It is the Air Force Materiel Command center for conducting and supporting research and development of flight, as well as testing and evaluating aerospace systems from concept to combat / It also hosts many test activities conducted by America's commercial aerospace industry / Notable occurrences at Edwards include Chuck Yeager's flight that broke the sound barrier in the Bell X-1, test flights of the North American X-15, the first landings of the Space Shuttle, and the 1986 around-the-world flight of the Rutan Voyager

Miscellaneous:

James Edward Socha passed away on 3 March 2025 at the age of 68 years old

The Combat Crew Badge was established by the United States Air Force on 1 September 1964 / It was worn by those USAF personnel serving in positions where they were accruing creditable service towards the Combat



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Readiness Medal (Any member who have accomplished sustained individual combat mission readiness in an Air Force or Space Force weapon system or who have undertaken the preparedness for direct weapon-system employment) / It was a qualification badge and not a medal; it was therefore not a permanent award / The Air Force eliminated the Combat Crew Badge from wear in August 1993 / This was done under the auspices of addressing uniform accoutrements to eliminate duplication, achieve standardization, and promote an uncluttered appearance

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SOMMER**

PETER

K

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Peter K. Sommer honorably served in the U.S. Army / 1ST LT Peter Sommer was assigned to the Army Corps of Engineers and Army Reserve as a Post Engineer / Lieutenant Sommer served 23 months of foreign duty with the Engineer District Europe in Vogelsberg District, Germany

Peter K. Sommer was Honorably Discharged from active duty on 9 June 1969

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter K. Sommer passed away on 22 November 2021

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was authorized on 16 March 1802 and is a direct reporting unit and 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 chief of engineers/commanding general / 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 required / For the military construction mission, the chief of engineers is directed and supervised by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

installations, environment, and energy, whom the President appoints and the Senate confirms / Military construction relates to construction on military bases and worldwide installations

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SOSNOWSKI**
THEODORE S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

8TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Theodore S. Sosnowski honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Theodore Sosnowski was attached to the 8th Infantry in Germany

Base Assignments:

Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana - Fort Benjamin Harrison was a U.S. Army post located in suburban Lawrence Township, Marion County, Indiana, northeast of Indianapolis, between 1906 and 1991 / It is named for the 23rd United States president, Benjamin Harrison / Fort Benjamin Harrison saw its highest levels of activity during World War I and World War II / The Fort Benjamin Harrison Reception Center (for inducting draftees) opened in 1941 and by 1943 was the largest reception center in the United States / Fort Benjamin Harrison was closed as part of the 1991 Base Realignment and Closure Commission / The site of the base has since been redeveloped, and includes residential neighborhoods, a golf course, and is the site of Fort Harrison State Park

Miscellaneous:

Theodore Sosnowski attended Bishop Duffy High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 31 October 1967, Sosnowski attended Niagara County Community College earning an Associate's Degree / Sosnowski went to work for the Carborundum Corporation as a Data Processor / Attending Capital University in Ohio, Sosnowski earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration / In the early 1970's, Sosnowski joined the Sherwood Corporation, a division of the Hill Acme Corporation and was Plant Controller in 1979 / After Hill Acme was acquired, Sosnowski became a Vice President of Finance and Administration and went back to Sherwood, where he was head of Human Resources / Sosnowski retired from Sherwood in 2000 and went on to serve seven years as Business Administrator for Christ the King Catholic Church in Snyder / Sosnowski volunteered as an Assistant Scoutmaster for many years / Theodore S. Sosnowski passed away on 14 October



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

2023 at the age of 81 years old

The 8th Infantry Division, ("Pathfinder") was an infantry division of the United States Army during the 20th century / The division served in World War I, World War II, and Operation Desert Storm / Initially activated in January 1918, the unit did not see combat during World War I and returned to the United States / Some units would serve in the American Expeditionary Force to Siberia / Activated again on 1 July 1940 as part of the build-up of military forces prior to the United States' entry into World War II, the division saw extensive action in the European Theatre of Operations / Following World War II, the division was moved to West Germany, where it remained stationed at the Rose Barracks in Bad Kreuznach until it was inactivated on 17 January 1992

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SROKA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

JEROME

T.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Jerome T. Sroka honorably served in the United States Army / Jerome Sroka was trained as a Light Vehicle Driver at Fort Devens, Massachusetts

Jerome Sroka was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on 14 June 1964

Base Assignments:

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort Devens is a United States Army Reserve military installation in Worcester County in Massachusetts and was established on 5 September 1917 / It was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / The 1st, 32nd, and 45th Divisions trained at Devens during World War II / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / It was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

Miscellaneous:

Jerome T. Sroka passed away on 4 August 2025 at the age of 83 years old

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STACHELSKI**
EDWARD J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Edward J. Stachelski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Stachelski graduated from Bishop Fallon High School and the University of Buffalo. Edward Stachelski was retired from the Delaware North Company / Edward J. Stachelski passed away on 14 May 2025 at the age of 89 years old.



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STAHL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROBERT

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

502ND ADMINISTRATION COMPANY, 2ND ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert L. Stahl honorably served in the United States Army / Robert Stahl served 24 months active duty trained as a Personnel Specialist with the 502nd Administration Company, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas

Robert Stahl was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on 24 October 1967 with reserve obligation ending 24 October 1971

Base Assignments:

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Miscellaneous:

Robert Stahl worked and retired from Bethlehem Steel, Lackawanna, New York / Robert L. Stahl passed away on 21 July 2025 at the age of 80 years old

The 2nd Armored Division ("Hell on Wheels") was an armored division of the United States Army. The division



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

played important roles during World War II in the invasions of Germany, North Africa, and Sicily and in the liberation of France, Belgium, and the Netherlands / During the Cold War, the division was primarily based at Fort Hood, Texas, and had a reinforced brigade forward stationed in Garlstedt, West Germany / After participation in the Persian Gulf War, the division was inactivated in 1995



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STANKE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

RONALD

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Ronald August Stanke honorably served in the United States Navy / Ronald Stanke served aboard the amphibious force command ship, USS Mt. McKinley

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Ronald Stanke was employed with Trico in Buffalo / In 1991, Ronald Stanke founded Grand Island Enterprises and worked until his retirement / Stanke played a significant role in the development and support of the Miracle League WNY and the Charles N. DeGlopper Memorial Expansion / Ronald Stanke was a member of the Rotary Club of Grand Island and assisted the Neighbors Foundation, the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, the Zonta Foundation, and many other charities / Ronald August Stanke passed away on 15 January 2022 at the age of 81 years old

USS Mount McKinley (AGC-7/LCC-7) was the lead ship of the Mount McKinley class of amphibious force command ships / She was named after the highest mountain in North America / She was designed as an amphibious force flagship, a floating command post with advanced communications equipment and extensive combat information spaces to be used by the amphibious force's commander and landing force commander during large-scale operations / The USS Mount McKinley was commissioned on 1 May 1944 / On 28 September 1944, the Mount McKinley joined the Pacific Fleet and sailed to proceed to Ngesebus Island to provide shore bombardment coordination / Mount McKinley left the area 14 October 1944 after Peleliu and the chain's other main islands were secure / After a stop at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, the ship sailed to San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, for the assault on Leyte and Ormoc / While in San Pedro Bay, the force was under constant air attack, but Mount McKinley was not hit / On 15 December 1944, the ship participated in the invasion of Mindoro and proceeded to Lingayen Gulf to direct shore bombardment on 9 January 1945 / On 21 March 1945, Mount



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

McKinley proceeded to Kerama Retto off the southern coast of Okinawa / Six days prior to the last major assault of the war, Mount McKinley directed the landing of the 77th Infantry Division / For the next two months, she remained at anchorage at Kerama Retto, threatened by constant air attacks, before returning to Pearl Harbor / Returning to the United States 12 February 1946, she sailed in the early summer for Bikini Atoll where she was flagship for Operation Crossroads, during the atomic tests. Following the atomic bomb tests in July 1946, the ship operated out of San Diego for the next 18 months / In early 1948, she was the command ship for the atomic bomb test at Eniwetok / Upon completion of these tests, she returned to San Diego to resume coastal operations / On 26 June 1950, the ship proceeded from Japan to direct the landing of American reinforcements at Pohang at the beginning of the Korean War / In early September 1950, General Douglas MacArthur was aboard, directing the amphibious assault at Inchon which forced the North Koreans to retreat north / The Mount McKinley participated in three tours of duty in the Korean War area / On 3 June 1956, the ship returned to San Diego and on 9 January 1957, the ship deployed to the Mediterranean / In October 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Mount McKinley served at flagship for ComPhibLant and ComPhibGru / Following the Cuban quarantine, she sailed for the Mediterranean 10 January 1963 to act as command flagship for the Amphibious Strike Force / During the Vietnam War, the USS Mount McKinley was the flagship of the Commander, 7th Fleet Amphibious Force / She provided communications support for search and destroy operations against the Vietcong and People's Army of Vietnam forces / Relieved in mid-January 1968, the ship sailed east for CONUS and home, arriving San Diego 10 February 1968 / The ship's designation was changed from AGC-7 to LCC-7 on 1 January 1969 / Following her arrival back in CONUS, she was engaged in type training and amphibious exercises on the west coast as flagship of ComPhibGru 3 into 1969 / Mount McKinley was decommissioned on 26 March 1970 and stricken on 30 July 1976 / She was sold for disposal in 1976 / Mount McKinley received four battle stars for World War II service, eight stars for Korean service, and a Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: STARR

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

FLOYD

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Floyd E. Starr honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Floyd Starr retired from General Motors / Floyd E. Starr passed away on 8 October 2025 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEC**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ELMA

DONALD

G.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Donald G. Stec honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Stec was a long-time volunteer for Meals on Wheels / Donald G. Stec passed away on 24 October 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEFFANS**
EDWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 396 TONAWANDA STREET

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Edward Steffans honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of Edward Steffans, Marine Corps Private Marshall George Steffans, was Killed In Action on 2 July 1967 as a result of wounds suffered from small arms fire when ambushed on Route 56,1 NE of Con Thien, Quang Tri province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEIGER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

MICHAEL

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT 2

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 3RD BATTALION, 35TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Second-Class Michael C. Steiger honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Michael Steiger was assigned as a Cannoneer and served 15 months of foreign duty in Germany, attached to Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 35th Artillery Regiment, US Army Europe

Private Michael Steiger received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 26 October 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael C. Steiger moved to Canandaigua, New York where he passed away on 15 September 2023 at the age of 63 years old

A Cannoneer commands or assists the commander of field artillery units; plan, coordinates, and directs field artillery activities within the command; serves in positions requiring knowledge of field artillery systems, experience at various staff levels; directs technical fire control and firing operations using both manual and computer techniques; coordinates the collective employment of joint and combined fire support assets to include non-lethal systems in support of the combined arms commander; participates in the planning and development of doctrine, organization, training, material, leadership and soldier initiatives to support the field artillery's role in combined arms operations

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 / As these personnel do not fall inside one of the regular line companies of the battalion, brigade, or division, the HHC is the unit to which they are administratively assigned / The typical personnel strength of an average HHC is 80 to 110

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEIN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

RICHARD

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard H. Stein honorably served in the United States Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Stein joined the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance as a Tax Examiner in 1963 in the Buffalo District Office and was promoted to Senior Corporation Tax Examiner in 1972 and Associate Corporation Tax Examiner in 1974 / Stein was later promoted to Principal Corporation Tax Examiner/Corporation Tax Section Head in 1981 and Tax Administrator in 1989 and then two years later he was promoted to District Audit Manager of the Buffalo District Office / Richard Stein retired in 1997 after 34 years of service with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Richard H. Stein passed away on 7 October 2025 at the age of 87 years old

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / Together, the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard constitute the Army element of the reserve components of the United States Armed Forces / Army Reserve Soldiers receive the same training as active-duty Soldiers / Army Reserve Soldiers combine civilian experience with military training to provide specialized skills for military missions around the world / The reserve components of the United States Armed Forces are military organizations whose members generally perform a minimum of 39 days of military duty per year and who augment the active duty military when necessary



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEINKIRCHNER**
LAWRENCE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 130 BURNS COURT

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Lawrence Steinkirchner honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of Lawrence Steinkirchner, Army Specialist Fourth-Class James Lewis Steinkirchner, died on 27 February 1971 from a non-hostile accident (premature detonation of a white phosphorus round) in Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: STERNS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

JOANNE

R,

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1996

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Joanne R. Dye Sterns honorably served in the United States Army Reserve as a Hand Grenade Instructor

Before serving in the United States Army Reserve, Joanne Sterns served as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps from 1955-1958

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joanne R. Dye Sterns worked for the Buffalo Veterans Administration Medical Center, retiring after 30 years / After retirement, Sterns has volunteered over 20 years at the Buffalo VA Center



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STETTER JR**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

Address: 104 DONNA LEA DRIVE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private Charles G. Stetter, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of Charles Stetter, Army Second Lieutenant Ronald Stetter, was Killed In Action on 25 April 1968 from enemy small arms fire along Highway 547, 15 km SW of Hue, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort Bragg, North Carolina - In 1918, Congress established Camp Bragg, an Army field artillery site named for the Confederate General Braxton Bragg / Camp Bragg became a permanent Army post renamed Fort Bragg / Various units trained at Fort Bragg during World War II, including the 9th Infantry Division, 2nd Armored Division, 82nd Airborne Division, 100th Infantry Division, and various field artillery groups

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEVENSON**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

ROBERT

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert Shaun Stevenson honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed in Chofu, South Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Stevenson graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1967 / Stevenson was employed by the New York Telephone Company from 1969-1983 / Robert Stevenson then went to work for AT&T in 1990 as a Sales Account Executive-Financial Consultant until 1996 / Stevenson later went to work for the Sweet Home School District as a Bus Driver in 1996 until his retirement in 2016 / Robert Shaun Stevenson passed away on 5 December 2023 at the age of 87 years old

The 7th Infantry fought in the Pacific Ocean theater of World War II where it took heavy casualties engaging the Imperial Japanese Army in the Aleutian Islands, Leyte, and Okinawa / During World War II, soldiers of the 7th Infantry Division were awarded three Medals of Honor, 26 Distinguished Service Crosses, one Distinguished Service Medal, 982 Silver Star Medals, 33 Legion of Merit Medals, 50 Soldier's Medals, 3,853 Bronze Star Medals, and 178 Air Medals / The division received four campaign streamers and a Philippine Presidential Unit Citation during the war



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STEWART**
JAMES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James E. Stewart honorably served in the United States Navy / James Stewart served 4 years in the Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Stewart was a retiree and member of Union Local #41, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (I. B. E. W.) / James E. Stewart passed away on 10 December 2012



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STIDHAM**
AURORA **M.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1954

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Captain Aurora M. (nee Mondo) Stidham honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Commonly abbreviated MCB Quantico, Marine Corps Base Quantico is a United States Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia, covering nearly 86.169 square miles) of southern Prince William County, Virginia, northern Stafford County, and southeastern Fauquier County / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps" / In 1917, Marine Barracks, Quantico was established and thousands of Marines were trained at Quantico during World War I / In 1934, Amphibious Warfare Doctrine, along with special amphibious landing crafts for World War II were developed at Quantico / These Amphibious Warfare techniques, developed in the years before World War II, made victory possible in the Pacific theater / Quantico trained over 15,000 USMC and other service officers in Amphibious Warfare techniques / The first Marine Aircraft Wing was developed at Quantico, as well as the Corps' first helicopter squadron, Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1), the first helicopter squadron to provide rapid transportation for Presidents of the United States ("Marine One")

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C. - The Washington Navy Yard (WNY) is the former shipyard and ordnance plant of the United States Navy in Southeast Washington, D.C / It is the oldest shore establishment of



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the U.S. Navy and was established on 2 October 1799 / The Yard currently serves as a ceremonial and administrative center for the U.S. Navy, home to the Chief of Naval Operations, and is headquarters for the Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Reactors, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Naval History and Heritage Command, Navy Installations Command, the National Museum of the United States Navy, the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps, Marine Corps Institute, the United States Navy Band, and other more classified facilities

Miscellaneous:

Aurora M. Stidham was born in Utica, New York to Italian immigrants / Stidham graduated from Thomas Proctor High School in 1949 and earned a scholarship to Syracuse University where she majored in Sociology / Stidham enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1954 / Aurora M. (nee Mondo) Stidham passed away on 12 February 2024 after a short illness at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Williamsville Cemetery, Williamsville, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STOCKMAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

EARL

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Earl Lawrence Stockman honorably served four years in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Earl Stockman was employed by American Airlines for over 34 years / Stockman moved to La Crescent, Minnesota / Earl Lawrence "Larry" Stockman passed away on 9 July 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STREEBEL JR**
KENNETH J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Kenneth J. Streebel Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth J. Streebel Jr. passed away on 26 March 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **STRIBICK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

EDWARD

G

Address: SENECA CREEK ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

35TH ARTILLERY AIR DEFENSE (AD)

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 17TH ARTILLERY GROUP

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth Class Edward G. Stribick honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Edward Stribick was a Missile Master Crewman in the Army Air Defense Command (AADC)

Base Assignments:

Fort George G. Meade, Maryland - Located in Maryland, midway between the cities of Baltimore, Annapolis and Washington, DC, Fort George G. Meade's primary mission is to provide a wide range of services to 95 partner organizations from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, as well as to several federal agencies including the National Security Agency, the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, the Defense Information School, the Defense Courier Service, the U.S. Army Field Band and most recently the U.S. Cyber Command / Initially called Camp Annapolis Junction, the post was opened as "Camp Admiral" in 1917 and renamed Camp Meade Cantonment by 1918 / The post was originally named Camp Meade for Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863 proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / During World War II, Fort Meade was used as a recruit training post and prisoner of war camp, in addition to a holding center for approximately 384 Japanese, German, and Italian immigrant residents of the U.S. arrested as potential fifth columnists / The Second U.S. Army Headquarters transferred to the post on June 15, 1947 and in 1957, the post became headquarters of the National Security Agency / From the 1950s until the 1970s, the Fort Meade radar station had various radar equipment and control systems for air defense and had the first Nike Ajax surface-to-air missiles in December 1953

Miscellaneous:

Edward G. Stribick has been a member of the West Seneca American Legion Post #735 for forty-six years



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SYHLOWY**

DAVID

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff-Sergeant David J. Syhlowy honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Syhlowy was retired from the Ford Motor Company / David J. Syhlowy passed away on 9 February 2021 at the age of 72 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZATKOWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert J. Szatkowski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Szatkowski was a retiree from the United States Postal Service / Robert J. Szatkowski passed away on 8 November 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZCZUBLEWSKI**

STANLEY

H.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Stanley H. Szczublewski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stanley Szczublewski was an exempt member of the Lake View Volunteer Company / Szczublewski was a member of American Legion Post #527 / Stanley H. Szczublewski passed away on 25 March 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZEFLER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

MICHAEL

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER: (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class (E-3) Michael John Szefler honorably served in the United States Army as a Quartermaster Supply Clerk

Michael J. Szefler was inducted into the U.S. Army on 8 July 1964 and received his Honorable Discharge on 21 April 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Szefler was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps was responsible for procuring and delivering various supplies to units in all theaters of war during World War II / Quartermaster units were charged with providing food (steady supply of food and rations), clothing, petroleum products (gasoline, kerosene, aviation fuel, diesel oil, fuel oil and petroleum-based lubricants) and general supplies (diverse items as rope, soap, candles, knives, forks and spoons, etc.) to troops stationed in the United States and to the far-flung armed forces around the world / More than 32,000 officers, officer cadets and key enlisted personnel received their training at the Quartermaster School between 1 July 1940 and 3 December 1945 / The physical conditioning of entrants was emphasized from the beginning of the training program / In addition, the rigorous military training entailed learning to use all armed methods of protection, crawling through simulated battlefields, taking refuge in foxholes (of their own digging), making technical decisions regarding rations, and learning every aspect of ammunition supply points (ASPs)



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZYMANSKI**
DAVID J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

BATTERY C, 2ND BATTALION, 44TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT, FOURTH U.S. ARMY

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class David J. Szymanski honorably served in the United States Army SP4 David Szymanski classification was as a Cook with the Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 44th Artillery Regiment, Fourth U.S. Army

David Szymanski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 22 July 1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. Szymanski passed away on 20 July 2017

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service operations; and food and supply ordering

The 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 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment is an Air Defense Artillery regiment of the United States Army, first



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

constituted in 1918 in the Regular Army during World War I. During World War II the unit served as the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment / The 2nd Missile Battalion, 44th Artillery Regiment was the first Pershing 1 missile battalion in June 1962 under the 1st Field Artillery Missile Brigade at Fort Sill, Oklahoma

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **SZYMANSKI**
MICHAEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael "Mick" Szymanski honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Upper Heyford, England

Base Assignments:

Royal Air Force Upper Heyford (RAF Upper Heyford), England - Heyford is a former Royal Air Force station located 5 miles north-west of Bicester near the village of Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, England / In the Second World War the airfield was used by RAF Bomber Command / During the Cold War, Upper Heyford was one of the former RAF bases chosen to house the United States Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC) nuclear-capable bombers on 90-day TDY (Temporary Duty) deployments until 1959, SAC Reflex Alert deployments from 1959 until 1965, from 1966 United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) tactical reconnaissance aircraft, and from 1970 General Dynamics F-111 Aardvark strike aircraft / On 15 December 1993 the flight line at RAF Upper Heyford was closed and transferred to Shaw AFB, South Carolina / On 30 September 1994, the U.S. Air Force returned the airfield to the British Ministry of Defense

Miscellaneous:

Michael Szymanski was a drummer for a local band, "Alyn Syms Group (ASG) and many soul groups / Szymanski later became an Episcopal Deacon / Szymanski worked as a Social Worker and Director for the Lackawanna Youth Bureau for 18 years / Deacon Michael "Mick" Szymanski passed away on 10 November 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TAGGART IV**
REGIN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Regin B. "Bart" Taggart IV honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Regin B. "Bart" Taggart IV passed away on 18 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TAKAC, SR.**
ROBERT

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert C. Takac, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert C. Takac, Sr. passed away on 25 October 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TANNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

WILLIAM

B.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

107TH COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant William B. Tanner honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT William Tanner was assigned as a Security Policeman during 11 months of active duty in Korea / Sgt Tanner served in the U.S. Air Force for 3 years, 10 months including active duty from 1968-1972

William Tanner received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 11 June 1969

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William B. Tanner Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / William B. Tanner passed away on 16 May 2018 at the age of 73 years old

Military Air Police perform law enforcement duties on Air Force installations or operations under combat conditions / Its focus is on ensuring that Air Force values are upheld, laws are enforced and providing security for Air Force personnel and property within the Air Force training environment

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **THOMAS**
ARTHUR J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Arthur J. Thomas honorably served in the United States Army and was stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas

Arthur Thomas was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 22 June 1964 with reserve obligation ending 17 June 1968

Base Assignments:

Ft. Bliss, Texas - Fort Bliss is a United States Army post in New Mexico and Texas, with its headquarters in El Paso, Texas / Named in honor of LTC William Bliss (1815–1853), a mathematics professor who was the son-in-law of President Zachary Taylor, Ft. Bliss has an area of about 1,700 square miles; it is the largest installation in FORSCOM (United States Army Forces Command) and second-largest in the Army overall (the largest being the adjacent White Sands Missile Range) / Fort Bliss is home to the 1st Armored Division, which returned to US soil in 2011 after 40 years in Germany / The division is supported by the 1st Armored Division Sustainment Brigade / The installation is also home to Joint Task Force North (JTF), a joint service command / Fort Bliss trained thousands of U.S. Soldiers during the Cold War / As the United States gradually came to master the art of building and operating missiles, Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range became more and more important to the country, and were expanded accordingly

Miscellaneous:

Arthur J. Thomas passed away on 31 May 2019 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMASULA

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

MICHAEL

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Michael A. Thomasula honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael A. Thomasula passed away on 3 March 2019 and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMPSON

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

RICHARD

R.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard R. Thompson honorably served in the United States Air Force as an Egress Systems Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard R. Thompson passed away on 21 August 2022

Aircrew Egress Systems technicians ensure that pilots can safely eject from aircraft in the event of an emergency / By performing precise maintenance and coordination of seats, hatches, canopies and modules, these professionals make sure that every component is in perfect working order so that Airmen can make a safe escape when necessary



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TIBERIO**
JOHN

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: SM

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Seaman John L. Tiberio honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Tiberio was a Barber for over 60 years / Tiberio was a member of the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, Holy Name Society OLV, South Park Hall of Fame 2017 Harvard Cup recipient and the Lake Erie Italian Club / John Tiberio was a member of the American Legion Matthew Glab Post #1477 / John L. Tiberio passed away on 23 September 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TITUS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

MICHAEL

J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael J. Titus honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Titus worked with the F.B.I. in the Joint Terrorism Task Force and retired from the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol / Michael J. Titus passed away on 15 July 2025 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TOMAKA
EDWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Edward V. Tamaka honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward V. Tamaka passed away on 9 January 2025 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TOMAKA**
THADDEUS C.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thaddeus "Ted" C. Tomaka honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus "Ted" C. Tomaka passed away on 5 June 2022 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TOMAKA, JR.**
LOUIS S.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL (BERLIN)

GOOD CONDUCT

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Louis S. Tomaka, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Louis Tomaka was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman and deployed for 18 months of foreign duty

PFC Louis Tomaka, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 9 September 1959

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Louis S. Tomaka, Jr. passed away on 17 December 2020

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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TOMASI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

CARMEN

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A2C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman Second-Class Carmen Tomasi honorably served in the United States Air Force / A2C Carmen Tomasi was assigned as a Corpsman at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey, where he worked in a hospital, helping deliver babies

Base Assignments:

McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey - McGuire AFB/McGuire, the common name of the McGuire unit of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, is a United States Air Force base in Burlington County, in the U.S. state of New Jersey, approximately 16.1 miles south-southeast of Trenton / McGuire is under the jurisdiction of the Air Mobility Command / It was consolidated with two adjoining US Army and Navy facilities to become part of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB MDL) on 1 October 2009 / The host unit at McGuire AFB is the 87th Air Base Wing (87 ABW), United States Air Force Expeditionary Center, AMC / McGuire originated in 1941 as Fort Dix Army Airfield / Closed briefly after World War II, it reopened in 1948 as McGuire Air Force Base / The base was named after Major Thomas B. McGuire Jr., Medal of Honor recipient, and the second leading ace in American history / Many hundreds of thousands of Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel have left the United States for overseas locations from McGuire AFB / Airplanes from McGuire have provided the flyovers for Philadelphia Eagles games and Major League Baseball All-Star and World Series games played in Philadelphia at the end of the National Anthem

Miscellaneous:

Carmen Tomasi was a retired Zone Administrator for the Western New York Trade Zone / Carmen Tomasi passed away on 15 October 2022 at the age of 80 years old

Hospital Corpsmen are medical professionals who provide health care to service people and their families / They serve as pharmacy technicians, medical technicians, nurse's aides, physician's or dentist's assistants, battlefield



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

corpsman, and more / All work falls into several categories: first aid and minor surgery, patient transportation, patient care, prescriptions and laboratory work, food service inspections, and clerical duties / Also issued to corpsmen attached to Marine Corps units

Name: **TOMASZEWSKI**

DANIEL

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Daniel E. Tomaszewski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Tomaszewski retired from Bethlehem Steel and was a member of the United Steelworkers of America / Daniel E. Tomaszewski passed away on 28 January 2024 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TOPOLSKI**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William Topolski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Topolski retired from Trico and the United States Postal Service / William Topolski passed away on 19 December 2024 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TRACY**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

RICHARD

D.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 8TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (MACHINE GUN)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16 RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Richard "Dick" D. Tracy honorably served in the United States Army / SSgt Richard Tracy was on active duty in Baumholder, Germany as an Armor Reconnaissance Specialist / SSgt Tracy also served in the Air National Guard from 1970 through 1977 as a Squad Leader with the 152nd Construction Engineer Battalion in Buffalo, New York

Richard Tracy received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army 14 March 1970 and his Honorable Discharge from the Army National Guard on 2 February 1977

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Tracy was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders of New York and a member of the American Legion Honor Guard / Richard "Dick" D. Tracy passed away on 7 August 2017

In June 1898 the 13th Infantry Regiment was sent to Cuba and led the 1st Infantry's attack on San Juan Hill, capturing the Spanish flag / Major William Auman was the first commanding officer to reach the top of San Juan Hill / The regiment saw combat in the Philippines during the Philippine–American War, and was assigned to the 8th Infantry Division in June 1918 / As a member of this organization, the regiment did not participate in World War I / In 1939 the regiment was ordered to the Panama Canal Zone and a year later, after having been disbanded, was reconstituted at Camp Jackson, South Carolina / The regiment found itself fighting through the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

hedgerows of France in July 1944 as a member of the 8th Infantry Division and led the drive to the Aa River / The regiment spent ten months in combat in Normandy, Northern France, The Rhineland and Central Europe / It occupied a position on the Siegfried Line and was involved in the Battle for Brest and the Battle of Hurtgen Forest / In January, 1958 the 1st Battle Group, 13th Infantry Regiment moved from Neu Ulm to Sandhofen, Germany / The First Battalion was posted to Baumholder whilst the Second Battalion was posted to Mannheim, Germany and remained there until 1 August 1988 when it was inactivated and relieved from assignment to the 8th Infantry Division

The 152nd Engineer Battalion served as part of the New York Army National Guard from 1946 until 2007. At that time it had been part of the 42nd Infantry Division's Engineer Brigade of three engineer battalions

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

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 Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TRAINER**

JOHN

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John J. Trainer honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / John Trainer served during the Vietnam Era and retired after 33 years in the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Trainer was a member of the Red Castle Club, Iris Hill Hunting Club and the Bath Rod and Gun Club / John J. Trainer passed away on 28 November 2024 at the age of 91 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TREMANE**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3RD BATTALION, 6TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, US
ARMY, BERLIN, GERMANY

Medals / Citations:

ARMY OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary C. Tremane honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Gary Tremane was assigned as a Pay Disbursement Clerk deployed with the 3rd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, US Army, Berlin, Germany for 20 months

Gary Tremane received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 6 October 1969

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary C. Tremane passed away on 16 December 2017 at the age of 70 years old

The 6th Infantry Regiment ("Regulars") was formed 11 January 1812 / Zachary Taylor, later the twelfth President of the United States, was a commander of the unit / The motto, "Regulars, By God!" derives from the Battle of Chippawa, in which British Major General Phineas Riall noticed that the approaching regiment had on the uniforms of militia, which the British had defeated at Queenston Heights / Instead, the Americans pressed the attack / Riall is believed to have said, "Those are Regulars, By God!", though the only source of this was opposing U.S. General Winfield Scott / The regiment participated in the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War, the American Civil War, the Indian Wars (1823-1879), the Spanish-American War, Philippine-American War (1899-1913), the Pancho Villa Expedition (1916-1917), World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War / The headquarters and headquarters company is a company sized military unit



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II / Because of the legal status of West Berlin as an occupied territory, the Army of Occupation Medal was issued for forty-five years until the unification of Germany in 1990, making it one of the longest active military awards of both the Second World War and the Cold War / To be awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, a service member was required to have performed at least thirty consecutive days of military duty within a designated geographical area of military occupation

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TRIMPER, SR.

JAMES

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GETZVILLE

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A2C

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Airman Second-Class James P. Trimper, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A2C James Trimper was classified as an Aircraft Maintenance Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Trimper was the President and Owner of Denton, Cottier & Daniels, Past Vice-President of National Association of Music Merchants, Past District Deputy for the Boy Scouts of America, a Trustee at St. Pius X Church, Master of Ceremonies at St. Pius X Church, Music Director at St. Pius X, Past Grand Knight St. Pius X Knights of Columbus and Past President of the Holy Name Society at St. Pius X Church / James P. Trimper, Sr. passed on 19 November 2023 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TROUST**

GARY

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gary Allan Troust honorably served in the United States Army and had tours of duty in Japan and Korea between 1956 and 1958

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Gary Troust ran his family hardware business, Troust Supply Center, Orchard Park for over 25 years / Troust was a member of the Aurora Players Community Theater in East Aurora / Troust retired to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania / Gary Allan Troust passed away on 21 September 2024 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TRUDEAU, SR.**
MICHAEL L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Michael L. Trudeau, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael L. Trudeau, Sr. passed away on 11 October 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TYCZKA, JR.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

EDWARD

A.

Address: BOSSE LANE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

3RD BATTALION, 8TH MARINES

USS BOXER (LPH-4)

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant (E-5) Edward Adam Tyczka, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SGT Edward Tyczka was classified as an Infantry Anti-Tank Assault Man / Sergeant Tyczka was deployed during the Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962, stationed in the Caribbean Sea onboard the aircraft carrier, the USS Boxer / Sgt Tyczka successfully completed the Marine Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) course and the Rocket Launcher Course

Base Assignments:

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Located in Jacksonville, North Carolina, construction on Camp Lejeune was begun in 1941 and named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / As a military training facility, the Camp's 14 miles of beaches make it a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments

Clarksville Base, Tennessee - Built in 1942 and operated by the U.S. Navy from 1948 through 1969, Clarksville Base was a heavily-guarded Cold War secret / The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) built more than 240 buildings and logistic structures within Fort Campbell for the sole purpose of transporting, storing and assembling the nation's fast-growing stockpile of nuclear weapons / At one time, one-third of America's nuclear weapons were stored at Clarksville / Operations at Clarksville Base ended in 1965, and control of the facility was transferred to the Army in 1969

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Edward Tyczka was a graduate of Seneca Vocational High School prior to his service in the Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge, Tyczka joined the West Seneca Police Department / Tyczka retired as a Detective after 34 years on the Police Force / Edward Tyczka was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 and is an active lifetime member and an past officer of American Legion Post #735

An Anti-tank Assaultman was a front-line military job that supported ground infantry and tasked with tankbusting and breaching / In the past, Marine Corps Infantry Assault had been referred to as "grunts" for their hard, grueling work in combat / Assaultman were responsible for anti-armor operations and tactical vehicle operations / These servicemembers provided medium and heavy anti-armor fire in support of the infantry battalion

The 3rd Battalion 8th Marines (3/8) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina consisting of approximately 1,100 Marines and Sailors / The battalion was deactivated 26 March 1946 following World War II and was reactivated on 15 January 1951 at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and assigned to the 2nd Marine Division / During the 1960s they participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis from October to December 1962 and Operation Powerpack in the Dominican Republic in 1965

The USS Boxer (CV/CVA/CVS-21, LPH-4) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers of the United States Navy, and the fifth ship to be named for the HMS Boxer, which had been captured from the British during the War of 1812 / The Boxer was commissioned on 16 April 1945, too late to see action in World War II / The USS Boxer supported the Inchon landings and subsequent invasion of North Korea, and was among the ships that provided support during the Chinese counteroffensive against an under-prepared and spread out United Nations (UN) force / She saw three subsequent combat tours in Korea conducting close air support and strategic bombing in support of UN ground troops fighting along the 38th parallel / The Boxer was awarded eight battle stars for her service in Korea / During the 1960's, the USS Boxer operated mainly out of the Caribbean as an amphibious assault carrier / During this duty, she was on station during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis / In 1964, she undertook her first tour to the Mediterranean when she took part in Operation Steel Pike, the largest amphibious exercise in history / The USS Boxer was decommissioned on 1 December 1969 after 25 years of service, and sold for scrap on 13 March 1971

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **URSHEL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

DANIEL

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Daniel Henry Urshel honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Urshel was a member of the Cheektowaga Baptist Church for over 50 years / Daniel Henry Urshel passed away on 1 July 2025 at the age of 80 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VAINE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

WILLIAM

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William Vaine honorably served in the United States Army / William Vaine served 4 years in the Army Military Police

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Vaine worked for 40 years as a dispatcher for NFTA Metro, and as a school bus driver / William Vaine passed away on 5 December 2017 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VALENTINE**
GERALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SPRINGVILLE

W.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gerald Valentine honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Valentine was a profession Truck Driver for over 40 years / Valentine was a charter member of AMVETS Boston Post 219 / Gerald Walter Valentine passed away while traveling in Argentina on 18 March 2024 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VANDERHEID**
WILLIAM

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Sergeant William Carl Vanderheid honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Ft. Meade, Maryland

The brother of William Vanderheid, Marine Corps Lance Corporal Mark Edward Vanderheid, was Killed In Action on 28 June 1968 from enemy mortar fire during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade was used as a World War II recruit training post / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at Fort Meade

Miscellaneous:

William Carl Vanderheid passed away on 21 December 2022 at the age of 76 years old in Mason, Ohio



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VANOVERSTRAETE**
ROGER J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Roger Jon VanOverstraeten honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Born in Blue Island, Illinois, Roger VanOverstraeten moved to Buffalo / VanOverstraeten started his career in Buffalo as the Director of Dietary at Mercy Hospital / Roger VanOverstraeten went to work for McCullagh Coffee as the Vice President of Operations and later worked for Premium Coffee in Buffalo, New York as an Account Executive and Master Roaster / VanOverstraeten volunteered with the Boy Scouts and Coached Evans Youth Baseball / Roger Jon VanOverstraeten passed away on 18 December 2024 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: VASI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

ROBERT

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

510TH ENGINEER COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert F. Vasi honorably served in the United States Army / Robert Vasi was deployed to France for 17 months as an Ordnance Parts Specialist with the 510th Engineer Co.

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Vasi passed away on 31 May 2024, at the age of 90 years old

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VERNON, JR.**

SAMUEL

J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Samuel J. Vernon, Jr. Honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Samuel Vernon attended Hamburg High School / Vernon worked for Cassens Transport in Niagara Falls, New York / Vernon was the Crew Chief for the stock car "Jake Vernon Racing Team" / Samuel Vernon was a volunteer fireman for the East Eden Fire Department and a member of the Hamburg American Legion Post #527 / Samuel J. Vernon, Jr. passed away on 10 August 2024 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at St. Mary's Church Cemetery, Eden, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VERRASTRO**

JAMES

P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **AIR FORCE**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James P. Verrastro honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Verrastro was a 1974 graduate of the University of Buffalo / Verrastro was an Attorney and senior partner at Spadafora & Verrastro, LLP / James Verrastro was a member of the New York State and Erie County Bar Associations / Verrastro served as a Confidential Law Clerk and Assistant District Attorney / James P. Verrastro passed away on 18 January 2025 at the age of 75 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VILLANI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

KURT

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Kurt M. Villani honorably served in the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kurt Villani was a graduate of LaSalle High School / Villani operated Gui's Lumber-Ace Hardware since the mid-eighties, expanding to seven locations in Western new York / Kurt M. Villani passed away on 6 August 2022 at the age of 72 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VODRASKA**
STANLEY L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Stanley Luis Vodraska honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. navy, Stanley Vodraska earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree (with honors) in Philosophy from St. John's University (Minnesota) / Vodraska continued his education as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Louvain in Belgium / Prof. Vodraska earned a Master of Arts (MA) degree as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at the University of Chicago and joined the faculty of Canisius College (Buffalo) in 1964 / Vodraska later earned a PhD in philosophy from the University of London, Warburg Institute / Professor Stanley Vodraska taught philosophy at Canisius College for over 40 years, and also served on its faculty senate (1972-1988) / Prof. Vodraska later focused on Philosophy of the Family, a subject he often taught from 1991 until his retirement in 2008 / Professor Vodraska published an anthology, "Philosophical Essays concerning Human Families" in 2014 / Stanley Vodraska was a member of the American Legion / Professor Stanley Luis Vodraska passed away in Lancaster, New Hampshire on 15 October 2025 at the age of 90 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **VOGEL**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: AMHERST

CHARLES

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Charles E. Vogel honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Vogel was a graduate of Kenmore East Senior High School and attended the University of Buffalo / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Vogel was employed by the Ford Motor Company as an Industrial Electrician for over 36 years / Charles E. Vogel passed away on 25 June 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WACKOWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOHN

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

B BATTERY, 2ND HOWITZER BATTALION, 31ST ARTILLERY, 4TH US ARMY

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

John J. Wackowski honorably served in the United States Army / John Wachowski served stateside for 24 months at Fort Sill, Oklahoma

John J. Wackowski received his Honorable Discharge on 16 May 1962

Base Assignments:

Fort Sill, Oklahoma - Fort Sill is a United States Army post north of Lawton, Oklahoma, about 85 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. It covers almost 94,000 acres / The fort was first built in 1869 during the Indian Wars and was home to the 7th Cavalry, the 19th Kansas Volunteers and the 10th Cavalry, a distinguished group of black "buffalo soldiers" / It was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and serves as home of the United States Army Field Artillery School, as well as the Marine Corps' site for Field Artillery MOS school, United States Army Air Defense Artillery School, the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, and the 75th Field Artillery Brigade / Fort Sill is also one of the four locations for Army Basic Combat Training / Ft. Sill has played a significant role in every major American conflict since 1869

Miscellaneous:

John Wackowski enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 26 years old / John J. Wackowski passed away on 15 June 2025 at the age of 90 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade is an air defense artillery brigade of the United States Army based at Fort Sill, Oklahoma / The 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade was constituted on 1 January 1918, during World War I / The brigade earned four battle streamers for participation in the campaigns Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne, and Champagne 1918 / During World War II, the 31st deployed to the European Theater where it participated in and earned three more battle streamers for campaigns in Rome-Arno, Southern France, and the Rhineland / This unit would encounter numerous activations and inactivation over the years to come to include a 1946 inactivation in Germany, reactivation in 1948 at Fort Bliss, Tex. and in 1958 was reorganized as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 31st Artillery Brigade / The headquarters was inactivated in 1960 at McChord Air Force Base, Wash. and then reactivated on 15 December 1961 at Lockport Air Force Station, N.Y., as the 31st Artillery Brigade / In February, 1996, the brigade was moved to Fort Bliss, Texas and then to Fort Sill, Oklahoma in July 2009

Fourth Army, was constituted in the Regular Army on 9 August 1932 and allotted to the Seventh Corps Area / The headquarters was organized on 15 August 1932 at Omaha, Nebraska / Fourth Army remained in the continental United States during World War II, largely responsible for the defense of the West Coast and training tactical units to operate efficiently in combat / During the 1960s, Fourth Army operated "Tigerland", an infantry training school at Louisiana's Fort Polk that prepared recruits for infantry combat in Vietnam / In July 1971, Fourth Army was consolidated with Fifth United States Army at Fort Sam Houston / Between 1984 and 1991, Fourth Army was based at Fort Sheridan, Illinois until the Fourth Army was inactivated in 1991



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WADSWORTH**
GARY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gary Wadsworth honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Wadsworth was a graduate of LaSalle High School / Gary Wadsworth was a retiree from DuPont in Niagara Falls where he worked for 35 years / Gary Wadsworth passed away on 20 June 2015 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WAGNER**
DANIEL

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CVA-67)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Daniel A. Wagner honorably served in the United States Navy Daniel Wagner was assigned as a Machinist Mate and served 15 months of foreign/sea service on the USS John F. Kennedy (CVA-67), a Ford Class Aircraft Carrier

Daniel Wagner received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy on 1 December 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Wagner worked for IOUE Local 17, Operating Engineers, as a Crane Operator in Buffalo, New York, retiring after 40 years / Wagner was a member of Randolph American Legion Post #181 and the Road Vultures Motorcycle Club / Daniel A. Wagner passed away on 31 July 2025 at the age of 72 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Machinist's Mate (Surface) (MM) Machinist's Mates operate and maintain steam turbines and reduction gears used for ship propulsion and auxiliary machinery such as turbogenerators, pumps and oil purifiers / They also maintain auxiliary machinery outside of main machinery spaces, such as electrohydraulic steering engines and elevators, refrigeration plants, air conditioning systems and desalinization plants / They may also operate and maintain compressed gas producing plants / The duties performed by MMs include: aligning piping systems for oil, water, air and steam, and controlling the operation of ship boilers and steam turbines used for ship propulsion and service systems; controlling operation of turbogenerators used to produce electrical power; leaning, adjusting, testing and performing other preventive maintenance on a ship's boilers, main engines, turbogenerators and other auxiliary machinery including steering engines, elevators, winches, pumps and



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

associated valves; operating and maintaining desalinization plants (distilling plants) to make fresh water from sea water; maintaining refrigeration plants, air conditioning systems and galley equipment; repairing or replacing valves, pumps, heat exchangers, compressors, steam turbines and hydraulic or pneumatic control devices; making entries in and analyzing machinery operating records and reports / Machinist's mates work within the hull of a ship in fire rooms, boiler rooms, engine rooms or shops

USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) (formerly CVA-67), is an aircraft carrier, and considered a supercarrier / She is the last conventionally powered carrier built for the Navy / The Kennedy was commissioned on 7 September 1968 / The USS Kennedy was named after John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States / The Kennedy was originally designated a CVA, for fixed wing attack carrier, however the designation was changed to CV, for fleet carrier / John F. Kennedy's maiden voyage, and several of her subsequent voyages, were on deployments to the Mediterranean during much of the 1970s to help deal with the steadily deteriorating situation in the Middle East / During the 1970s John F. Kennedy was upgraded to handle the F-14 Tomcat and the S-3 Viking aircraft / On 20 June 1975, the John F. Kennedy was the target of possible arson, suffering eight fires, with no injuries, while at port in Norfolk, Virginia / In August 1980, the John F. Kennedy left Norfolk, Virginia and voyaged to the Mediterranean Sea / In January 1982, the John F. Kennedy, with Carrier Air Wing Three (AC), sailed as the flagship for Carrier Group Four (CCG-4) from Norfolk, Va. on her first visit to the Indian Ocean after port visits to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Malaga, Spain, and transiting the Suez Canal / In October 1983 John F. Kennedy was diverted to Beirut, Lebanon from her planned Indian Ocean deployment, after the Beirut barracks bombing killed 241 U.S. military personnel taking part in the Multinational Force in Lebanon, and spent the rest of that year and early 1984 patrolling the region / On 4 December 1983 ten A-6 aircraft from John F. Kennedy along with A-6 and A-7 aircraft from USS Independence took part in a bombing raid over Beirut, in response to two U.S. F-14 aircraft being fired upon the previous day / In August 1988 John F. Kennedy departed on her twelfth overseas deployment / During this deployment, a pair of MiG-23 Flogger fighter aircraft from Libya approached the carrier task force, which was 81 miles off the shore of Libya near the declared Libyan territorial waters of the Gulf of Sidra / John F. Kennedy launched two F-14 Tomcats from VF-32 "Fighting Swordsmen" to intercept the incoming MiGs / The U.S. planes were sent to escort the MiGs away from the task force but during the course of the intercept, the MiGs were determined to be hostile and were both shot down / During the 11 September attacks of 2001 unfolded, John F. Kennedy and her battle group were ordered to support Operation Noble Eagle, establishing air security along the mid-Atlantic seaboard, including Washington, D.C. / The John F. Kennedy was decommissioned on 23 March 2007 and on 6 October 2021, the John F. Kennedy was sold for one-cent to International Shipbreaking Limited

The Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon is awarded to Navy and Marine Corps units that distinguish themselves through feats of valor in combat or exceptional service in non-combat circumstances / It is given for outstanding heroism in combat against a hostile foreign force or for extremely meritorious service / The award is comparable to the Bronze Star for individual actions / It is distinct from the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon and is awarded by SECNAV, CNO, or CMC

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WALIGORA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: COLDEN

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert J. Waligora honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Waligora organized the St. Mary's Car Show for 20 years and helped with the Colden Fire Company car show for 3 years / Robert Waligora was employed for over 60 years, including former employers AMOCO Town for 36 years, CID, and Trophy Point / Robert J. Waligora passed away on 8 April 2025 at the age of 86 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WALLS III**
WALTER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Walter Scott Walls III, honorably served in the United States Army / Walter Walls was attached to the U.S. Army Medical Corps and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal in 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Walls III graduated from the Park School in 1956 and then attended Cornell University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1961 / Shortly after, Walls attended the University of Buffalo School of Medicine, where he pursued a residency and fellowship in Obstetrics and Gynecology / Walls joined the Hamburg OB-GYN in Hamburg, New York as a Board Certified Physician of Obstetrics and Gynecology (FACOG) / Over his 25 year career, Walls affiliated with South Buffalo Mercy Hospital, Children's Hospital of Buffalo and Buffalo General Hospital / Walls also volunteered at the Buffalo Zoo as a Docent / Walter Walls retired to Bainbridge Island, Washington / Walter Scott Walls III, MD battled against Parkinson's Disease before passing away on 29 January 2023 at the age of 84 years old

The Medical Corps (MC) of the U.S. Army is a staff corps (non-combat specialty branch) of the U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) consisting of commissioned medical officers – physicians with either an M.D. or a D.O. degree, at least one year of post-graduate clinical training, and a state medical license / The MC traces its earliest origins to the first physicians recruited by the Medical Department of the Army, created by the Second Continental Congress in 1775 / The US Congress made official the designation "Medical Corps" in 1908, although the term had long been in use informally among the Medical Department's regular physicians



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



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

Name: **WALSH**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

MAURICE

F.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Captain Maurice F. "Maury" Walsh honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Maurice Walsh was a heavy construction equipment salesman for 50 years / Maurice F. "Maury" Walsh passed away on 24 January 2017 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at hitehaven Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WANGELIN**
NORMAN **L.**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HOLLAND

Address: PARTRIDGE ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Norman L. Wangelin honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman L. Wangelin passed away on 11 March 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WAPPMAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

RAYMOND

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Raymond E. Wappman honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Wappman worked as a Civil Engineer for the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for over 30 years / Wappman moved to Forestville, New York / Raymond E. Wappman passed away on 26 January 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WARD**

JAMES

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James S. Ward honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Ward was a Supervisor with the United States Postal Service / Ward was a Volunteer Fireman for 54 years / James S. Ward passed away on 4 May 2025 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WARD**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

ROBERT

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert J. Ward honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WARNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

GARY

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1958

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Gary L. Warner honorably served in the United States Army

SP4 Gary Warner was Honorably Discharged from active duty in the U.S. Army and served 4 years in the Army reserved

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Warner graduated from Kenmore West Senior High School, earning First Team All-League and All-NFL honors in Basketball / Warner became a member of the Eldredge Bicycle Club in 1961 / Gary Warner graduated from Medaille College with honor distinctions / Warner had a 36 year career in Sales Management with Buffalo Hotel Supply, being named Sales/Marketing Person of the Year in 1983 / Gary Warner retired in 2009 / Gary L. Warner passed away on 12 March 2025 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WASHINGTON**
CHARLES

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank: **E-3**

Year Entered: **1970**

Year Discharged: **1974**

Unit / Squadron:

USS HAWKINS (DD-873)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Seaman Charles Edward Washington honorably served in the United States Navy / SN Charles Washington was assigned as a Machinist aboard the USS Hawkins / During Seaman Washington's deployment, the USS Hawkins supported the Apollo Space Missions and operated the Standing Naval Force Atlantic in Northern Europe waters

Seaman Charles Washington was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 26 April 1974

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Edward Washington passed away on 8 May 2017

USS Hawkins (DD-873) was a Gearing-class destroyer in the United States Navy / Hawkins, originally to be named Beatty, but renamed on 22 June 1944 and was commissioned on 10 February 1945 / Following World War II, the ship saw service in the Korean War / During her four months of Korean duty, Hawkins screened the mobile aircraft carrier forces during strikes on enemy positions and supply lines, provided antisubmarine protection, and controlled jet aircraft in combat air patrols / In 1961 she operated with a special Task Group in connection with American space experiments and missile tests off Cape Canaveral, Florida / When the introduction of offensive missiles into Cuba in 1962 threatened the security of the United States, Hawkins joined with other ships in quarantining that Caribbean country, cruising the Caribbean from late October until December / Hawkins took part in the United States space project in November 1969 when it was assigned to the Apollo 12 Atlantic Recovery Force / The ship was fitted with special capsule recovery gear and practiced along with a Navy Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) to be prepared to recover the space capsule in the Atlantic if the Pacific



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

landing was aborted / On 9 February 1971, Hawkins again participated in the space program as a backup recovery ship in the Atlantic for Apollo 14 / The USS Hawkins was decommissioned on 16 October 1998 The ship was stricken from the Navy List on 1 October 1979 and sold to the Taiwan in 1983 / The ship was scrapped in the late 1990s

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WATERS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

WILLIAM

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William J. Waters honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

brian lange porterville



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WATKINS**
GEORGE P.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

VMT-1, 2ND MARINE AIR WING, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal George P. Watkins honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL George Watkins was assigned as a Jet Aircraft Mechanic with the 2nd Marine Air Wing

Corporal George Watkins was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marines on 4 November 1960

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, North Carolina - MCAS Cherry Point is a United States Marine Corps airfield located in Havelock, North Carolina, in the eastern part of the state / Cherry Point was built in 1941, and was commissioned in 1942 and is currently home to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing / Cherry Point's primary World War II mission was to train units and individual Marines for service to the Pacific theater / The air station also served as a base for anti-submarine operations, with an Army Air Corps (22d Antisubmarine Squadron) and later a Navy squadron each being responsible for the sinking of a German U-boat just off the North Carolina coast during 1943 / Cherry Point's contribution to the Korean War effort was to provide a steady stream of trained aviators and air crewmen as well as maintenance and support personnel as replacements to forward deployed aviation units / During the Vietnam War, Cherry Point deployed three A-6 Intruder squadrons to the Far East and again provided a constant source of replacements for aircrews and enlisted aviation personnel / The air station and its associated support locations occupy more than 29,000 acres / Its runway system is large enough that the air station served as an alternate emergency landing site for the Space Shuttle launches out of Cape Canaveral, Florida

Miscellaneous:

George P. Watkins passed away on 8 January 2018 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (2nd MAW) is the major east coast aviation unit of the United States Marine Corps and is headquartered in Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina / The Wing provides the aviation combat element for the II Marine Expeditionary Force / The mission of the 2nd MAW is to conduct air operations in support of the Marine forces to include Offensive air support, anti air warfare, assault support, aerial reconnaissance, electronic warfare, and control of aircraft and missiles / As a collateral function, the MAW may participate as an integral component of naval aviation in the execution of such other Navy functions as the Fleet Commander may direct / During the Vietnam War, 2nd MAW supplied combat-ready units and personnel to operations in the Asian Theater / The VMT-1 (Marine Corps Torpedo Squadron) squadron has trained Marines on a variety of aviation platforms, but was officially tasked with the mission of training Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier pilots



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WATZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JAMES

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Captain James H. Watz honorably served in the United States Army / CPT James Walz was an officer in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps at Canisius and Boston College / Placed on active duty, Captain Walz was assigned to the Judge Advocate Generals Corps and was a chief of military justice / CPT James Walz joined the faculty at the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he was an associate professor of law

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Walz was a 1959 graduate of Riverside High School, where he was an all-state tennis player / James Walz earned a Bachelor's Degree from Canisius College in 1963 and graduated summa cum laude from Boston College Law School / Walz became a partner in the law firm of Phillips Lytle LLP whose specialty was commercial real estate / James Walz was chairman of the board for the Christian Foundation for the Performing Arts Festival Chorus and was a member of the Grand Island Historical Society and the Friends of the Grand Island Library / Walz was a tour guide and volunteer at Old Fort Niagara / James Walz was honored as a Grand Island Citizen of the Year in 2013 / James H. Watz passed away on 22 march 2022 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEAVER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOSEPH

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Joseph H. Weaver honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Joseph Weaver was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corp on 30 November 1973

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph H. Weaver passed away on 24 January 2018 at the age of 65 years old and is interred at Saint Matthews, Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEBB**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

EDWIN

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: TSGT

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant Edwin M. Webb honorably served in the United States Air Force / TSGT Edwin Webb served a 20-year career and was stationed in South Carolina, Florida, Okinawa, Germany, California, Thailand, Alaska and Virginia

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin Webb was a member of the Villanova Grange, the Randolph American Legion, VFW of Grand Island and a lifetime member of the Silver Creek AMVETS / Edwin M. Webb passed away on 4 February 2011 at the age of 72 years old and is interred at Randolph Cemetery, Randolph, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEBER**
LEE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lee Weber honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lee Weber owned and operated, Weber's Kendall Station, Weber's Bait and Tackle and the Angola Taxi, in Angola for many years / Lee Weber passed away on 27 November 2024

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEDGWOOD**

WILLIAM

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WALES

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William E. "Bill" Wedgwood honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Wedgwood retired from United Association (U.A.) Local #22 Plumbers and Steamfitters / Wedgwood was also a former Real Estate Agent for Tank Real Estate / William E. "Bill" Wedgwood passed away on 13 April 2025 at the age of 85 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEIS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

WILLIAM

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William E Weis honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Weis graduated from Kenmore West Senior High School / Weis was a lifetime member and former President of the Grand Island Volunteer Fire Company / William Weis worked for the Grand Island Highway Department until retiring in 2011 / Weis moved to the Villages, Florida in 2013 / William E Weis passed away on 10 January 2018 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Florida



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEISS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

ROGER

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

24TH US ARMY MISSILE DETACHMENT, 512TH U.S. ARMY FIELD ARTILLERY GROUP, 59TH
ORDNANCE BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Roger C. Weiss honorably served in the United States Army / SP Roger Weiss had 12 months of foreign service in Germany, assigned to the 24th US Army Missile Detachment, 512th U.S. Army Field Artillery Group, 59th Ordnance Brigade as a Field Artillery Rocket Crewman

SP5 Roger Weiss was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 15 February 1969

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roger Weiss graduated from Kensington High School in 1964 / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Weiss attended and graduated from Hilbert College and graduated Niagara University in 1972, majoring in mathematics and minored in physical education / Roger Weiss was employed by Joy Manufacturing Company (Cameron) for 40 years / Weiss broadcast local high school games on WGR 550 radio / Weiss was a volunteer with Friends of Fair for 12 years, World University Games, Wing Fest Judge and a Hospice Volunteer / Weiss received the Alan Wilson Media Award in 2022 from the Buffalo News / Roger C. Weiss passed away on 15 April 2023 at the age of 76 years old

A Field Artillery Rocket Crewman is a skilled military professional responsible for operating artillery weapons, which include cannons, howitzers, rocket launchers, and other large-caliber firearms / These crew members are vital in both offense and defense military strategies, providing long-range firepower to support ground forces in combat situations / Artillery crew members are trained to handle various artillery systems, from traditional



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

towed cannons to advanced self-propelled artillery vehicles / They work as a team to load, aim, and fire these powerful weapons accurately, following precise calculations and instructions from command officers / Their duties include maintaining the artillery pieces, ensuring ammunition supplies, and executing firing procedures with speed and precision / Additionally, artillery crew members play an important role in battlefield reconnaissance, target acquisition, and adjusting fire based on real-time observations

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility materiel during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

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 National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WELGOSS SR**
KENNETH

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: TONAWANDA

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Kenneth S. Welgoss, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth Welgoss retired from the Ken-Ton School District as a Phys Ed Teacher and Coach / Kenneth S. Welgoss, Sr. passed away on 18 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WENTLAND**

GARY

E.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: NORTH COLLINS

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Gary E. Wentland honorably served in the United States Army / Gary Wentland was stationed in Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Wentland was the owner of Wentland Funeral Home and Monuments / Gary E. Wentland passed away on 3 April 2025 at the age of 73 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WERTZ**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: HAMBURG

HOWARD

C.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

USS COLONIAL (LSD-18)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Howard C. "Howie" Wertz honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Howard Wertz served as an Electrician's Mate on the USS Colonial

PO2 Howard Wertz was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 30 October 1963

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard Wertz was a lifelong volunteer fireman for Lakeshore Fire Department and served as Fire Chief / Howard C. "Howie" Wertz passed away on 29 November 2019 and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

Electrician's Mates are responsible for the operation and repair of a ship's or station's electrical power plant and electrical equipment / They also maintain and repair power and lighting circuits, distribution switchboards, generators, motors and other electrical equipment / Specially qualified electrician's mates are employed onboard nuclear-powered ships to maintain the control subsystems in nuclear reactors

A dock landing ship (also called Landing Ship, Dock or LSD) is an amphibious warfare ship with a well dock to transport and launch landing craft and amphibious vehicles. A ship with a well deck (docking well) can transfer cargo to landing craft in rougher seas than a ship that has to use cranes or a stern ramp

USS Colonial (LSD-18) was a Casa Grande-class dock landing ship of the United States Navy, named in honor of the Colonial National Historical Park, which comprises Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown in southeastern



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Virginia / Colonial was commissioned on 15 May 1945 / From 1946 through late 1950, the Colonial participated in amphibious training out of Norfolk, conducting local, east coast, and Caribbean operations, and voyaging from Cuba and Puerto Rico as far north as Newfoundland / During the Korean War, the Colonial landed men and tanks of the 1st Marine Division at Inchon in September, and troops and equipment at Wonsan and Iwon in December 1950 / Colonial was one of the last ships to leave Hungnam in the evacuation of that area / From the close of the Korean War into 1960, Colonial continued to alternate local operations and training out of San Diego with periodic deployments to the Far East / Colonial served in several campaigns in the Vietnam War between 1965 and 1968 / The Colonial was decommissioned in 1970 at the Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility, Vallejo, California, and laid up in the Pacific Reserve Fleet, Mare Island / She was struck from the Naval Register on 15 October 1976 and sold to China for scrap / The USS Colonial received seven battle stars for Korean War service and six campaign stars for Vietnam War service

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: WESP

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DEBORAH

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Deborah Wesp honorably served in the United States Army /Deborah Wesp was assigned as a Military Police Officer on an Air Force Base in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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 Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WEST**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRANT ISLAND

ROBERT

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Robert S. West honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert S. West passed away on 16 October 2022 at the age of 81 years old and his remains were donated to the UB Anatomical Gift Program



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WHALEN, SR.**

PAUL

F.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **NAVY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1964**

Year Discharged: **1965**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Paul F. Whalen, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was assigned to the Navy Reconnaissance Attack Squadron Thirteen

Paul Whalen was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy at Naval Air Station Sanford, Florida on 25 June 1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul F. Whalen, Sr. passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 78 years old

Navy Reconnaissance Attack Squadron Thirteen (RVAH-13) was a Reconnaissance Attack (Heavy) Squadron of the U.S. Navy / Originally established as Heavy Attack Squadron Thirteen (VAH-13) on 3 January 1961 it was redesignated as Reconnaissance Attack (Heavy) Squadron Thirteen (RVAH-13) on 1 November 1964 / With the increasing U.S. military involvement in Vietnam after 1964, RVAH-13 was added to the mix of RVAH squadrons participating in combat operations in Southeast Asia / In conducting pre- and post-strike reconnaissance, the RA-5C Vigilante aircraft would incur the highest loss rate of any U.S. Navy combat aircraft during the Vietnam War, and RVAH-13's experience would more than reflect this / With the end of the Vietnam War, RVAH-13 returned to stateside training and forward deployed Cold War presence operations aboard Fleet aircraft carriers / The squadron was disestablished on 30 June 1976



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WHEELER**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: KENMORE

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Ronald H. "Ron" Wheeler honorably served in the US Army / Ronald Wheeler served for two years, including 18 months deployment in Southeast Asia

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Wheeler graduated from Kenmore West Senior High School in 1964 and graduated from Westminster College in Pennsylvania in 1968 / Ron Wheeler spent most of his career as a Financial Investigator for the Law Enforcement Division of the United States Treasury Department in Rochester, New York / Wheeler also was part of the New York State Attorney General's Office of the Statewide Organized Crime Task Force and the United States Attorney's Office in Western New York / For nine years, Wheeler served as an Intelligence Analyst with the Anti-Terrorism Unit of the United States Attorney General's Office in both Western New York and Northern Virginia / Ron Wheeler also taught in the Hilbert College Economic Crime Investigation Program and was a Certified Football Official for five years with the NCAA Division 1 Football Program / Wheeler served as Kenmore West's High School Alumni Association Treasurer and a member of the Scholarship Foundation / Wheeler was a member of the WNY Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners / Ronald H. "Ron" Wheeler passed away on 27 April 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Elmwood Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIGDOR**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

DAVID

L.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

David L. Wigdor honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Wigdor retired from Arcata Graphics / David L. Wigdor passed away on 3 August 2025 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WILCOX, JR.**
HOWARD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GETZVILLE

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: COL

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1994

Unit / Squadron:

INFORMATION SYSTEMS COMMAND

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

ARMY OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON

DEFENSE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (4)

ARMY SERVICE RIBBON

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL (3)

DEFENSE SUPERIOR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (2)

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Colonel Howard E. "Bud" Wilcox, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / Colonel Howard Wilcox served our nation for a total of 26 years on active duty in the US Army from 1968-1994 / During his career he held the following Military Specialties: Personnel Programs Management Staff; Personnel Systems Management; Adjutant General, General; Ordnance, General; Operations Research, General; and Community Activities Management / Colonel Wilcox's last duty assignment was with the US Army Information Systems Command

Colonel Howard Wilcox received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 31 May 1994

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Howard E. "Bud" Wilcox, Jr. passed away on 5 November 2023 and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command (USAISEC) mission is to provide Command, Control, Computers, Communications, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C5ISR) systems engineering support that enables the mission command of the Army and joint warfighter worldwide / USAISEC provides engineering and associated support of Information Technology (IT) at Army posts, camps, and stations; interconnection between installations; extension to deployed forces; and subject matter expertise to Program



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Executive Offices (PEOs)

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

An Overseas Service Ribbon is a service military award of the United States military which recognizes those service members who have performed military tours outside the borders of the United States of America / There are different versions of the Overseas Service Ribbons for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard / Both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon

The Defense Meritorious Service Medal (DMSM) is an award presented in the name of the Secretary of Defense to members of the Armed Forces / It is the third-highest award that the Department of Defense issues, and is awarded to those who distinguish themselves through non-combat meritorious service or achievement, in a joint capacity

The Army Service Ribbon (ASR) is a military award of the United States Army and is awarded to all members of the Regular (Active) Army, and Army National Guard and United States Army Reserve in an active reserve status, for successful completion of initial-entry training, which for officers is considered to be successful completion of their basic/orientation or higher-level course / Enlisted soldiers will be awarded the ribbon upon successful completion of their initial military occupational specialty (MOS)-producing course

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 Defense Superior Service Medal (DSSM) is a military decoration of the United States Department of Defense, which is presented to United States Armed Forces service members who perform superior meritorious service in a position of significant responsibility / The decoration is most often presented to general and flag officers, followed by a lesser number of Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force colonels and Navy and Coast Guard captains / The medal is presented in the name of the United States Secretary of Defense and was established by President Gerald R. Ford on February 6, 1976, in Executive Order 11904 / It is analogous and senior to the Legion of Merit, albeit awarded for service in a joint duty capacity

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WILCZEWSKI**

JAMES

L.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James L. Wilczewski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James L. Wilczewski passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 83 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WILE**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

MARVIN

H.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Marvin H. Wile honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marvin H. Wile passed away on 12 January 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WILLIAMS**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JACK

S.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Jack S. Williams honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jack S. Williams passed away on 22 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WIRTH, SR.**
DAVID

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY C, 8TH MOTOR TRANSPORTATION BATTALION, FLEET MARINE FORCE

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal David E. "Poncho" Wirth, Sr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL David Wirth was assigned as a Motor Vehicle Operator with the 8th Motor Transportation Battalion

David Wirth received his Honorable Discharge from the US Marine Corps on 4 June 1971

Base Assignments:

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

Miscellaneous:

David E. "Poncho" Wirth, Sr. passed away on 24 October 2019

The United States Fleet Marine Forces (FMF) were combined general and special purpose forces within the United States Department of the Navy that were designed in engaging offensive amphibious or expeditionary warfare and defensive maritime employment / During World War II, the Fleet Marine Force had units in the western Pacific assigned to the United States Asiatic Fleet

The mission of the Motor Transportation Battalion was to provide intermediate maintenance support for the



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

motor transport equipment of the Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF)

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WISHMAN**
RONALD

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

E.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

105 MILITARY POLICE (MP), 3RD BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Command Sergeant-Master Ronald E. Wishman honorably served in the New York Army National Guard until retirement

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Wishman was a retired Buffalo Police Officer / Wishman was President of the Veteran Association 74th/174th and a member of Amvets Post #14 / Ronald E. Wishman passed away on 5 January 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

The 105th Military Police Company was deployed to northern Iraq in 2011 for its mission as a Police Transition Team / The unit conducted a broad range of missions from convoy and dignitary security to area and route security as well as training Iraqi police forces

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WISNIEWSKI**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

RICHARD

M.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

4TH MISSILE BATTALION, 41ST ARTILLERY REGIMENT, 56TH ARTILLERY GROUP

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY DRIVER & MECHANIC BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: RIFLE (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Richard M. Wisniewski honorably served in the United States Army / Richard Wisniewski was deployed for 10 months as a Field Artillery Missile Crewman while stationed in West Germany with the US Army Artillery branch

Richard Wisniewski received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 2 February 1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard M Wisniewski passed away on 6 February 2023 at the age of 80 years old

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 4th Missile Battalion, 41st Artillery Regiment was activated on 14 January 1963 per General Order 428 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, with four Pershing 1 missiles / The battalion began training and completed live fires at Fort Wingate, New Mexico / The battalion and equipment shipped aboard the USAT General Simon B. Buckner on 3 April 1964 bound for West Germany / The unit deployed to Schwäbisch Gmünd under the 56th Artillery Group and was garrisoned on Hardt and Bismark Kasernes / The battalion increased to six launchers in 1964 and to eight launchers in 1965 / The battalion exchanged the Pershing 1 missiles for 36 Pershing 1a missiles in 1969 / The battalion was inactivated on 29 September 1972 by General Order 1033 and reflagged as the 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery Regiment

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 Driver and Mechanic Badge is a military special skill badge of the United States Army which was first created in July 1942 / The badge is awarded to drivers, mechanics, and special equipment operators to denote the attainment of a high degree of skill in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles / The badge was originally referred to as the "Motor Vehicle Badge" and adopted its current title of Driver and Mechanic Badge during the Korean War / The Driver and Mechanic Badge is awarded to soldiers who have received training and have met specific qualification standards to operate or repair military motor vehicles / The Driver and Mechanic Badge for wheeled vehicles requires successful completion of military vehicle operations and maintenance training and be assigned duties and responsibilities as a driver or assistant driver of government vehicles for a minimum of 12 consecutive months or have driven at least 8,000 miles with no vehicle accidents or traffic violations before one can be awarded the badge

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WISNIEWSKI**
THOMAS R.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY D, 93RD SIGNAL BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Thomas R. Wisniewski honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 was assigned as a Radio Relay and Carrier Operator and was stationed in Germany for 18 months

SP4 Thomas R. Wisniewski received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 14 April 1965

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas R. Wisniewski passed away on 30 September 2017 at the age of 78 years old

The 93rd Signal Brigade is a unit of the United States Army which was active sporadically from 1941 to the present / Its mission has been to deploy, install, operate, and maintain a global tactical theater communications package, while supporting joint and combined operations / During World War II, the 93rd participated in the battles for Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe / The 93rd also served in Southwest Asia: Defense of Saudi Arabia; Liberation and Defense of Kuwait; Cease-Fire / The 93rd Signal Brigade was deactivated on 23 April 2007, and replaced by the 35th Signal Brigade / The Brigade was reactivated at Fort Eustis, Virginia on 16 July 2008 to support the 7th Signal Command (Theater)

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WITTENZELLNER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

WALTER

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Walter J. Wittenzellner honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Wittenzellner was a lifetime member of the Getzville Fire Company / Walter J. Wittenzellner passed away on 2 April 2024 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOODMAN**
WAYNE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown:

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Wayne Woodman honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wayne Woodman was the past Commander of AMVETS Post #14 and a member of the Sons of the Revolution /
Wayne Woodman passed away on 10 March 2020



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WOZNIAK**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

DAVID

J.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

David John "Peepa" Wozniak honorably served in the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Wozniak played drums in the Kenmore-Tonawanda Symphony Orchestra and sung in the Chopin Singing Society / Wozniak was a former employee of Dresser-Rand Corporation, Ernst Steel of Cheektowaga, Burns Copy Products of Buffalo and M&T Bank / David John "Peepa" Wozniak passed away on 13 March 2011 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at Maple Grove Cemetery, Grand Island, 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WRAZEN**

JAMES

T.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James T. Wrazen honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Wrazen worked for the Erie County Department of Health, Environmental Health Services / Wrazen owned several horses and held a New York State Owner's license and Racing license for harness racing competitions / James Wrazen was a volunteer for meal on Wheels and placed 2nd in the Nationwide Meal on Wheels "American Volunteer Contest" / James T, Wrazen passed away on 10 April 2025 at the age of 78 years old

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WRIGHT**

DAVID

A.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

David (Dave) Allan Wright honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Wright was a former Detroit Police Department Police Officer, and US Customs Special Agent / Wright was appointed as the Special Agent in Charge of the Buffalo US Customs Office, New York / Following his 34-year career in law enforcement, Dave Wright became a member of the Judges and Police Executives Conference of Erie County and the Western New York Police Pistol League / David (Dave) Allan Wright passed away on 26 May 2025 at the age of 87 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **WRUCK**

JEFFREY

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Jeffrey Wruck honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jeffrey Wruck was a member of the Du Drop Athletic Club and a member of AMVETS Buddy Knaus Post #14 /
Jeffrey Wruck passed away on 17 September 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YETMAN**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BLASDELL

KENNETH

O.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Kenneth O. Yetman honorably served in the United States Army as a Military Policeman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth O. Yetman passed away on 11 August 2022 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Prospect Lawn Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: YORK

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

GEORGE

F.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

George F. York honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George York was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania / George York retired as a corporate systems engineer with EMC Corporation / George York was a member of the Tri Five of WNY, the Free Wheelers of Niagara Falls and the Buffalo Launch Club / George F. York passed away on 9 January 2017 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lewiston, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YOUNG**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

WILLIAM

V.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

William V. Young honorably served in the United States Air Force / William Young was stationed in the Philippines

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Young graduated from St. Joseph Collegiate Institute and attended Canisius College / Young was a Sales Representative for Tri-Tech Electronics / William Young was an active member of the Rotary Club and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / William V. Young passed away on 3 April 2024 at the age of 79 after a lengthy battle with cancer and is interred at the Western New York National Veterans Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **YOUNG, SR.**
EDWARD

G.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: SPRINGVILLE

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Edward G. Young, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Young was born in Buffalo, New York / Young was a Battalion Chief for the Buffalo Fire Department / Edward Young was a member of the Safari Club / Edward G. Young, Jr. passed away on 31 March 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZAJDOWICZ

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

FREDERICK

P.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Frederick P. Zajdowicz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frederick Zajdowicz was an Arson Fire Investigator with the Buffalo Fire Dept. for 30 years / Frederick P. Zajdowicz passed away on 30 June 2012 at the age of 756 years old and is interred at Whitehaven Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZBOCH, SR.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

JERRY

A.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS STODDARD (DD-566)

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Jerry A. Zboch, Sr. honorably served in the United States Navy / Jerry Zboch was stationed aboard the United States destroyer, USS Stoddard (DD-566)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerry A. Zboch, Sr. passed away on 6 September 2023 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

The USS Stoddard (DD-566) was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy, named for Master's Mate James Stoddard, who was awarded the Medal of Honor during the Civil War. She was the last Fletcher to be stricken from the U.S. Navy, in 1975 / The Stoddard was commissioned on 15 April 1944 and served in the North Pacific with Task Force 94 / During World War II, the mission of Task Force 94 was to harass Japanese outposts in the Kuril Islands, northeast of Japan proper and west of the Aleutian Islands / In June of 1945, she participated in the Battle of Okinawa / In January 1955, she embarked upon her first deployment to the western Pacific since World War II / Soon after her arrival, she participated in the evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from the Tachen Islands / Following that operation, she served on the Taiwan Strait patrol / Stoddard followed a schedule of deployments to the Far East alternated with west coast operations throughout the remainder of her career / On 4 June 1965, the Stoddard operated along the coast of Vietnam, providing gunfire support to American and Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) troops operating ashore against the forces of the Viet Cong (VC) insurgents and their allies, the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) regulars / On 28–29 July 1965, she joined USS John R. Craig in giving naval gunfire support to a Marine Corps unit, Hotel Company, 3rd platoon, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines north of Da Nang / At night with danger close, Craig fired 348 5-inch rounds, and Stoddard fired 148



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

rounds, saving Marines on and near the beach as well as a battalion of the ARVN 2nd Regional Force, who were badly outnumbered and threatened with being overrun / In doing so the ships effectively destroyed the VC 7th Battalion engaging Marines on the Ca De River Bridge and the northern sector of Da Nang / Stoddard spent the next twelve months operating with the 1st Fleet in the waters off the west coast of the United States / Her primary mission was to maintain operational readiness through training, which ran the gamut from antisubmarine warfare exercises to bombardment drills / The USS Stoddard earned three battle stars for World War II and three battle stars for the Vietnam War / The Stoddard was decommissioned on 26 September 1969 and sunk off Hawaii on 22 July 1997 as part of naval training exercises



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZEKAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

EDWARD

S.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Edward Stanley Zekas honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Stanley Zekas passed away on 30 July 2023 and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZEKAS

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

EDWARD

S.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Edward Stanley Zekas honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Zekas was under the care of social services / Edward Stanley Zekas passed away on 30 July 2023 and is interred at St Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZELIE

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

THOMAS

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Thomas Edward Zelie honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Edward Zelie passed away on 7 August 2025 at the age of 82 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZIELINSKI, SR.**
THADDEUS W.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: COAST GUARD

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Thaddeus W. Zielinski, Sr. proudly served in the United States Coast Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus Zielinski was a member of American Legion Post #336 / Thaddeus W. Zielinski, Sr. passed away on 9 March 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZIEMER**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: BUFFALO

JAMMES

P.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

James Pratt Ziemer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Ziemer was inducted into the Buffalo Baseball Hall of Fame / James Ziemer was a retired Buffalo Fireman with the rank of Lieutenant, serving the Buffalo Fire Department for over 32 years / James Pratt Ziemer passed away on 14 February 2025 at the age of 78 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ZILLIOX**

PAUL

N.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Paul N. Zilliox honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul N. Zilliox passed away on 30 June 2025 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZIMMER

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: ARMY

ARTHUR

T.

Address: BUFFALO

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Arthur T. Zimmer honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Zimmer was born in Buffalo and later moved to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia / Arthur T. Zimmer passed away on 22 September 2018 at the age of 69 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZIZZO

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

MICHAEL J.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Michael J. Zizzo honorably served in the United States Navy and assigned to the Navy Seabees

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Zizzo worked for the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority (BMHA) for 34 years / Zizzo was a member of the Navy Seabees of America for 24 years / Michael J. Zizzo passed away on 5 November 2024 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZMARZLY
ERWIN J.

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: TSGT

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

TIGER AWARD

AIR RESERVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (3)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (SMALL ARMS)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (2)

ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL

AIR FORCE GALLANT UNIT AWARD RIBBON (2)

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

ANTARTICA SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON (2)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

☐ Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant Erwin J. "Ed" Zmarzly honorably served in the United States Air Force / TSGT Erwin Zmarzly was assigned as a Personnel Specialist, Small Arms Instructor, Small Arms Repairman, Recruiter, and Combat Arms Training & Maintenance Craftsman / TSgt Zmarzly started the first Boy Scout Troop at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware / When transferred to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, Zmarzly served as a Commissioner for on-base Boy Scout Troop 18

Zmarzly served two years at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. as a Firing Range Instructor / During his military career, Erwin Zmarzly attended a number of schools, including Classification Specialist, Personnel Technician in 1059, Code of Conduct, Professional Investigation, Law Enforcement/Corrections, Federal Jail Operations, Non-Commission Officer Academy and Smith & Wesson School for Maintenance of Pistols and Automatics

After serving 11 years of active duty with the Air Force Erwin joined the Air Force Reserve and served as a Combat Arms Instructor for the Security Police, 107th Fighter Squadron, Niagara Falls, New York

Erwin J. "Ed" Zmarzly retired from the United States Air Force with over 37 years of combined service, active and reserve duty

Base Assignments:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Sampson Air Force Base, Geneva, New York - Sampson AFB was established initially by the United States Navy as a Naval Training Station (USNTS Sampson) in 1942 and named after Rear Admiral William T. Sampson / At the end of World War II, the base was closed, but with the outbreak of the Korean War, the United States Air Force took interest in the former Naval Station for use as a Basic Military Training (BMT) Base / In February 1951, training started for 16,000 Air Force recruits of the Air Training Command (ATC) / The mission of Sampson AFB was to provide formal basic training for all male and female enlisted personnel not having sufficient previous military training; to establish and operate such assembly, processing and separation station as specifically directed; to provide a comprehensive counseling program for Basic Indoctrinated personnel in order that these airmen may be most effectively assigned in accordance with Air Force requirements; and to maintain training programs for accomplishing rehabilitation of garrison prisoner / With the end of the Korean War and cutbacks in the military budget afterwards, Air Training Command discontinued its basic training school at Sampson AFB on 1 July 1956 / Shortly thereafter, ATC discontinued Sampson's 3650th Military Training Wing / By the time it was closed, over 300,000 airmen received basic training at Sampson AFB in preparation for service in the Korean War, as well as service in USAFE, Far East Air Force, and other United States Air Force major commands both in the United States and around the world / Today, the majority of the former Air Force base is abandoned

Dover Air Force Base, Dover, New York - Dover Air Force Base is a United States Air Force (USAF) base under the operational control of Air Mobility Command (AMC) and is located 2 miles southeast of the city of Dover, Delaware / Construction began in March 1941 and the facility was opened on December 17, 1941 / It was converted to a U.S. Army Air Corps airfield just weeks after the 7 December 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor and renamed Dover Army Airbase on 8 April 1943 / With the establishment of the United States Air Force (USAF) on 18 September 1947, the facility was renamed Dover Air Force Base on 13 January 1948 / In 1944, the Air Technical Service Command chose Dover as a site to engineer, develop, and conduct classified air-launched rocket tests / The information collected during these experiments resulted in the effective deployment of air-to-surface rockets in both the European and Pacific combat theaters / On 1 April 1952, Dover was transferred to the Military Air Transport Service (MATS) and became home to 1607th Air Transport Wing (Heavy) / During the Vietnam War, more than 20,000 dead American soldiers were brought back to the United States via Dover / The Vietnam War dead account for over 90% of all the remains processed at Dover before 1988 / Following the September 11 attacks, the 436 Air Wing (AW) and 512 Air Wing (AW) became major participants in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Bexar County, Texas / The base is under the jurisdiction of the 802d Mission Support Group, Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and an enclave of the city of San Antonio / It is the only site for Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) / Lackland AFB is part of Joint Base San Antonio, an amalgamation of the Fort Sam Houston, the Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base, which were merged on 1 October 2010 / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C - From its beginning, the installation has hosted elements of the Army Air Corps (predecessor to today's Air Force) and Navy aviation and support elements / Founded on 2 October 1917 as The Flying Field at Anacostia, it was the first military airfield near the United States Capitol / It was renamed Anacostia Experimental Flying Field in June 1918 / Bolling Field was opened 1 July 1918 and was named



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

for Colonel Raynal C. Bolling, the first high-ranking air service officer killed in World War I / In the late 1940s, Bolling Field's property became Naval Air Station Anacostia and a new Air Force base, named Bolling Air Force Base, was constructed just to the south on 24 June 1948 / Bolling AFB has served as a research and testing ground for new aviation equipment and its first mission provided aerial defense of the capital / Throughout World War II, the installation served as a training and organizational base for personnel and units going overseas / It also served as the aerial gateway to the nation's capital / The Air Force's first headquarters was established at the installation, as Army Air Forces Headquarters in 1941 and, with the creation of the United States Air Force, Air Force Headquarters in 1947 / In 1962, fixed-wing aircraft operations at the air force and naval installations ceased, due to congested airspace around Washington National Airport on the opposite shore of the Potomac River / The Air Force District of Washington (AFDW) was created and activated at Bolling on 1 October 1985 with the mission of providing administrative support to Air Force members

Andrews Air Force Base, Morningside, Maryland - Andrews Field was named on 7 February 1945 in honor of Lt Gen. Frank Andrews and in 1946, Andrews was a sub-base of Bolling Field (3 January 1946 – 20 November 1946) / The Strategic Air Command headquarters transferred from Bolling Field to Andrews and the command of CONAF's Radar Bomb Scoring detachments (e.g., at Dallas Love Field) transferred to Andrews on 17 March 1946 / Andrews was transferred from the Army to the Air Force in 1947, and it was a Headquarters Command installation from 1947 through 1952 / Andrews Air Force Base was designated on 24 June 1948, and in June 1950, Andrews rapidly became involved in combat readiness training for B-25 Mitchell medium bomber crews / Combat readiness training and proficiency flying for military pilots assigned non-flying duties in the Washington area have remained two key elements in the local mission since the establishment of the base / HQ Air Research and Development Command (later, Air Force Systems Command) moved to Andrews from Baltimore, 24 June 1958 / With the construction of new facilities beginning in 1959, Andrews had become by early 1962 the primary USAF flight installation serving the Washington, DC, area / Andrews' air defense role was strengthened in the 1950s with the latest in fighter-interceptor hardware appearing on the flight line / F-94 Starfires, F-102 Delta Daggers and finally, F-106 Delta Darts formed the backbone of the three fighter interceptor squadrons which operated from the base until 1963 / In the years since 1959, Andrews' flight operations and importance have increased greatly / In 1961, the last of the Military Air Transport Service's flying units at Washington National Airport transferred to Andrews / Andrews has become firmly established as the main port of entry for foreign military and government officials en-route to Washington and the United States / In July 1961, the official presidential aircraft was stationed here, known as "Air Force One" when the president is on board / The base is widely known for serving as the home base of two Boeing VC-25 aircraft which have the call sign Air Force One while the President of the United States is on board / The Boeing C-32A, which is used by the Vice President of the United States, is also based at Andrews / During Operation Desert Storm, Andrews handled 16,540 patients in makeshift hospital facilities

Miscellaneous:

Erwin Zmarzly attended Burgard High School in Buffalo where he studied to be an airplane mechanic / Erwin Zmarzly received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 14 September 1998 / After active duty, Zmarzly worked for the Erie County Sheriff's Department and In 1973, went to work for the West Seneca Police Department / Zmarzly was a Board Member of the West Seneca Senior Center / Ed Zmarzly was a long-time member of the West Seneca Auxiliary Police Department and held the rank of Sergeant / Zmarzly was a member of American Legion Post 735 and Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940 / Erwin J. "Ed" Zmarzly passed away on 21 August 2023 at the age of 84 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Seneca, New York

The "Tiger" Award is named in honor of General Charles A. Horner, and recognizes the accomplishments an individual who demonstrates the highest degree of professionalism, leadership, integrity, dedication and courage in the performance of their duties and conduct of their lives

Air Force Gallant Unit Citation Ribbon is awarded to Air Force active duty, Reserve and Air National Guard units for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force on or after Sept. 11, 2001 / The Air Force Gallant Unit Citation Ribbon (GUC) award will normally be earned by units that have participated in single or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans

The Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal was established by the Secretary of the Air Force on 1 April 1964 and is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity during a four-year period while serving in an enlisted status in the U.S. Air Force Reserve

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after 1 July 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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 Antarctica Service Medal (ASM) was established by the United States Congress on July 7, 1960 / The Antarctica Service Medal is considered an award of the United States Armed Forces, issued in the name of the U.S. Department of Defense, and is authorized for wear on active duty uniforms / To qualify for the Antarctica Service Medal, personnel must train or serve ten days stationed on the Antarctic continent, or aboard vessels in Antarctic waters, defined as south of 60 degrees latitude / Flight crews performing transport missions to Antarctica qualify for one day of service for each flight mission performed within a 24-hour time 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 / 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 Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

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

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

Technical Sergeant Erwin J. "Ed" Zmarzly was also awarded the following Military honors:

AIR FORCE TRAINING RIBBON

The Air Force Training Ribbon is awarded to U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force service members on completion of initial accession training after 14 August 1974 / It is officially hallmarked by the U.S. Institute of Heraldry / If a member completes two accession training programs, such as BMT and OTS, a bronze oak leaf cluster is worn on the ribbon

NEW YORK STATE NATIONAL GUARD LONG & FAITHFUL SERVICE AWARD RIBBON

The New York National Guard Long and Faithful Service Ribbon honors New York National Guard members who fulfill qualifying terms of service in an honorable manner and with an attendance rate of at least 90 percent for scheduled assemblies

NEW YORK STATE RECRUITING MEDAL

The New York State Recruiting Medal Ribbon is officially hallmarked by the U.S. Institute of Heraldry / This ribbon is awarded for securing the initial appointment/enlistment of three new members for any unit of the organized militia by any member

(The U.S. Institute of Heraldry is a small office within the Department of the Army, responsible for furnishing heraldic services to the President of the United States and all federal government agencies / It is the only organization devoted to the science and art of military heraldry and official symbolism / The Institute of Heraldry produces the nation's highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor / Its activities include research, design, development, and standardization of official symbolic items such as seals, decorations, medals, insignia,



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

and flags)

Name: **ZMUDA**

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

JOSEPH

A.

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ **Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Joseph A. Zmuda honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph A. Zmuda passed away on 25 July 2024 at the age of 68 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ZYBCZYNSKI

☐ Killed in Vietnam

Hometown: WEST SENECA

DENNIS

E.

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Dennis E. Zybczynski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Zybczynski was a graduate of Alfred State College / Zybczynski was a member of the Masons and a member of the Frank L. Gierlach Post in Sloan, New York / Dennis E. Zybczynski passed away on 23 February 2025 at the age of 75 years old