



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.

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. served as an Army Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank C. Ralabate, Jr. passed away on 14 June 2020



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RALPH

JAMES

S.

Hometown: DERBY

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT (1/5) (MECHANIZED), 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON

ARMY DRIVER BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class James S. Ralph served as a Truck Driver

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James S. Ralph was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 22 September 1968 / James Salvatore Ralph passed away on 25 June 2022

During the Vietnam War, the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mechanized), served with the 2d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division / The 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry was sent to Vietnam in January 1966 and it was one of the few mechanized units to serve in that war / During its time in Vietnam, from 19 January 1966 to 30 April 1971, the 1/5 Infantry earned twelve campaign streamers, a Presidential Unit Citation, a Valorous Unit Citation, and several decorations from the Republic of Vietnam

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

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



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

The U.S. Army Driver Badge is given to operators with a high degree of skill in operation or maintenance of government-owned vehicles excluding aircraft

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



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Name: RAUSCH

ROBERT

E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☒ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

12TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 460TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE WING, 7TH
AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Major Robert E. Rausch, a Pilot and Navigator, was Killed in Action on 16 April 1970 over Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

On 16 April 1970, an RF-4C Phantom with a two man crew of Major Ayers and Captain Robert E. Rausch departed Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon to conduct reconnaissance along the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Vietnam as well as the adjacent area of Savannakhet Province, Laos / They refueled in flight and advised their controller that they were heading north to another target area / The new target area was known to be a high threat area with 37mm and other anti-aircraft weapons / They were last reported over Savannakhet

Province but did not return from their mission and were declared missing in action / During the period he was reported missing, Robert E. Rausch was promoted to the rank of Major

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Major Robert E. Rausch was 35 years of age at the time of his death

In the first four full months of operation in Southeast Asia, crews of the 12th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron flew 2,014 combat sorties against pinpoint, strip, and area cover targets in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, and



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Laos. Approximately two-thirds of these were flown at night / Continuous information on enemy supply movements, troop concentrations, and fortifications was obtained from aerial photography taken by the 12th / In addition, photography taken by the unit was used in bomb damage assessment, base defense planning, and enemy air defense site detection / The 12th flew more than 26,000 combat sorties and 53,000 hours over a 5-year period. This was more than in both World Wars and Korea combined

The Phantom, used by Air Force, Marine and Navy air wings, served a multitude of functions including fighter-bomber and interceptor, photo and electronic surveillance. The two man aircraft was extremely fast (Mach 2), and had a long range (900 - 2300 miles, depending on stores and mission type). The F4 was also extremely maneuverable and handled well at low and high altitudes. Most pilots considered it one of the "hottest" planes around



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Name: RAY

WILLIAM

P.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

SILVER STAR

BRONZE STAR (2)

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

William P. Ray served in Vietnam and was awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star for acts of bravery during combat operations / Ray was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, William Ray went to work for the United States Postal Service, retiring as a Mail Carrier / William P. Ray passed away on 15 October 2023

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

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

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



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

Name: **REBMANN**

THADDEUS J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Thaddeus J. Rebmann served in the US Air Force for a total of 10 years, 4 months from 1966-1977, including over 8 years of active duty / SSgt Rebmann served as an Administration Supervisor and was deployed for 9 months in Vietnam / SSgt Rebmann Thaddeus taught English to the Vietnamese in the evenings and became a black belt in Judo and was an instructor in the service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus Rebmann received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 2 February 1977 / Rebmann was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Thaddeus J. Rebmann passed away on 1 August 2023



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REED

ROGER

A.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY 10TH EVAC HOSPITAL

Medals / Citations:

ARMY SOLDIER'S MEDAL

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class Roger Alan Reed served 12 months of combat duty in Vietnam with the Aeromedical Services as a Medical Specialist

Specialist 4th Class Reed was also awarded several weapons qualification badges

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:

Roger Reed received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 10 June 1971 / Roger Alan Reed passed away on 12 October 2018

The 10th Field Hospital ("Mountain Medics") is a Field Hospital of the United States Army first constituted on 23 June 1942 in the Army of the United States as the 10th Field Hospital / The mission of the 10th Field Hospital was to provide hospitalization support to U.S. Forces within the theater of operation in support of combat operations or operations other than war



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The Soldier's Medal is an individual decoration of the United States Army / It was introduced as Section 11 of the Air Corps Act, passed by the Congress of the United States on July 2, 1926 / The Army' Soldier's Medal is equivalent to the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Air Force and Space Force's Airman's Medal, and the Coast Guard Medal / Prior to the creation of the Airman's Medal in 1960, airmen were awarded the Soldier's Medal / The medal is "awarded to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, including Reserve Component soldiers not serving in a duty status at the time of the heroic act, distinguished himself or herself by heroism not involving conflict with an enemy"

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

The Combat Medical Badge (CMB) is an award of the United States Army which was first created in January 1945 / Any member of the Army Medical Department, at the rank of colonel or below, who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit of brigade or smaller size which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat is eligible for the CMB / According to the award criterion, the individual must be performing medical duties while simultaneously being engaged by the enemy; strict adherence to this requirement and its interpretation (e.g., distant mortar rounds vs. direct small arms fire) will vary by unit

The 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

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

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



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Name: REEVE

CALVIN

L.

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: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Calvin L. Reeve served in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Calvin Reeve was a member of the Boston Volunteer Fire Company / Calvin L. Reeve passed away on 26 June 2023



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Name: **REGAN**

ROBERT

P.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL I

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert P. Regan served eighty-nine days in Vietnam / Regan served 4 years and 19 days in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Robert Regan attended Bryant and Stratton College and D'Youville College / Regan became the Branch Manager for the Burnham Service Corp, a trucking company for IBM / Robert P. Regan passed away on 17 February 2023

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

The 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 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



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served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REGAN

TIMOTHY

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: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Timothy Regan served in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy Regan retired as an Inspector from the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agency /
Timothy Regan passed away on 23 September 2023 and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REIDY

PETER

B.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☐ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

44TH ARTILLERY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Peter B. Reidy was a decorated Disabled US Combat Veteran and awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat operations in Khe Sanh, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Reidy was a Supervisor with Laborer's Union Local 210 and Stadium Operations Supervisor for the Buffalo Bills in the 1990s / Peter B. Reidy passed away on 5 February 2023

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REILLY

WILLIAM

J.

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

William J. "Bill" Reilly was a US Navy veteran of Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. "Bill" Reilly passed away on 8 September 2023



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REILLY JR

JOHN

F.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain John F. Reilly, Jr. served in Vietnam and was discharged from the United States Army with the rank of Major

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Reilly graduated from the State University Of New York At Buffalo School Of Medicine with his medical degree in 1964 / John Reilly completed his medical residency at Meyer Memorial Hospital (Erie County Medical Center) before entering the Army / Upon his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Reilly worked for decades in private medical practice in West Seneca, specializing in Internal Medicine, Endocrinology / Dr. Reilly was affiliated with the Buffalo Mercy Hospital and Our Lady of Victory Hospital, where he served as Chief of Medicine / Dr. Reilly also cared for patients in local nursing facilities and home care / John F. Reilly, Jr. MD passed away on 20 December 2023 at the age of 85 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REMINGTON

JAMES

R.

Hometown: AMHERST

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: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal James R. Remington served in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James R. Remington passed away on 15 August 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RHONEMUS

PAUL

A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

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 & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 152ND ENGINEER BATTALION (ARMORED DIVISION)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

☐ Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Paul A. Rhonemus was a Bridge Specialist for the US Army Corps of Engineers / 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

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 German Labor Service Groups / The base was vacated by the Army in the later 1990's

Miscellaneous:



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Paul Rhonemus was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 29 December 1965 / 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

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



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Name: **RIEDEL**

PAUL

F.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

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:

Paul F. Riedel served as an Engineer and deployed to Vietnam for three months

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, Paul Riedel worked for the Army Corp of Engineers for ten years / Riedel was one of five engineers who worked on the American Falls (Niagara Falls) when it was blocked to study the rocks and debris below the Falls / Riedel then went to work for the Elia Corporation before becoming the owner of the Holiday Motel on Main Street in Williamsville / Riedel, along with his wife, ran the hotel from 1973 until his retirement in 2007 / Riedel was Chairman of the NYS Hotel/Motel Association / Paul F. Riedel passed away on 10 September 2023



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Name: **RIEDY**

JAMES

D.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **E-5**

Year Entered: **1967**

Year Discharged: **1968**

Unit / Squadron:

"E" COMPANY, 3/87TH 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTE BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant (E-5) James Dennis Riedy served on a Mortar Team / Sgt Riedy was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism under combat conditions / Sergeant Riedy received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James D. Riedy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

A mortar is usually a simple, lightweight, man-portable, muzzle-loaded weapon, consisting of a smooth-bore (although some models use a rifled barrel) metal tube fixed to a base plate (to spread out the recoil) with a lightweight bipod mount and a sight / They launch explosive shells in high-arching ballistic trajectories / Mortars are typically used as indirect fire weapons for close fire support with a variety of ammunition

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 / Its unique battlefield mobility and high level of training have kept it in the vanguard of U.S. land combat forces in recent conflicts



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

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

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

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

The Army'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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RIEDY**

PETER

B.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

44TH ARTILLERY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Peter B. Riedy served with the 44th Artillery Division while stationed in Khe Sanh, Vietnam / Riedy was wounded in combat operations while serving in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Riedy was a decorated Disabled U.S. Combat Veteran of the Vietnam War / Riedy worked as a supervisor in the construction industry with Local 210 / Some of his larger projects included the Buffalo Rapid Transit System, Canisius College athletic field and the Buffalo Bills practice field / During the 1990's Riedy worked for the Buffalo Bills football team as the Stadium Operations Manager / After his retirement, Riedy moved to North Carolina and then to Lake Wales, Florida / Peter B Riedy passed away at the age of 76 years old on 5 February 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RIEDY**

PETER

B.

Hometown:

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAMESE GALLANTRY CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) Peter B. Riedy was awarded the Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal by the Government of South Vietnam for heroism under combat conditions

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter B. Riedy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

The Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal was awarded by the Vietnam Government to military personnel who have accomplished deeds of valor or displayed heroic conduct while fighting the enemy and have been cited individually at the regiment, brigade, division, corps, or armed forces level



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**

DAVID

F.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AF MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

AF LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/2 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

AF TRAINING RIBBON

AF OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD RIBBON

AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/HOURLASS DEVICE

ARMY SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Franklin Roberts 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 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



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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 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 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 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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**
HAROLD A.

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 served in the United Air Force for five years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold A. Roberts passed away on 30 May 2018



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROCHELLE**

BUDDIE

R.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

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

USMC MERITORIOUS MAST

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Buddie R. Rochelle served as a Bulk Fuel Man with 1st Bulk Fuel Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group (FSSG)

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 Rochelle received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 9 August 1977 - 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 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



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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGERS**

JOHN

J.

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John J. Rogers passed away on 2 June 2023



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGERS**

RONALD

W.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

6TH BATTALION, 71ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (RIFLE)

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Ronald W. Rogers served as a Relay and Carrier Attendant while serving 7 months in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Rogers was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 6 April 1966 / Ronald W. Rogers passed away on 4 June 2021

The 71st Air Defense Artillery was a regiment in the United States Army constituted in May 1918 / The Battalion served in both World War I and World War II / The 6th Battalion of the 71st Artillery was a mobile HAWK missile battalion located first at Qui Nhon / In 1966, as part of the 97th Artillery Group, the battalion was relocated to Cam Ranh Bay, where it remained until departing Vietnam

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The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for



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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHLOFF**
AL

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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROLICZEK**

ALFRED

J.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

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:** **VIETNAM**

Service Notes:

Alfred J. "Fred" Roliczek enlisted in the U.S Army from 1968 - 1971 and was stationed in Vietnam where he served as a Medic / Roliczek also served in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1986 through 2004 / Roliczek served in Operation Desert Storm from 1990 to 1991 and Operation Desert Shield from 2003 - 2004

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Roliczek was born in Lenz, Austria and raised in Buffalo, NY / Roliczek graduated from Burgard Vocational School / Al Roliczek was employed by Republic Steel, CB Concrete and was a Diesel Mechanic for the Buffalo Board of Education / Roliczek was a member of American Legion 702 in Wellsville / Alfred J. "Fred" Roliczek pass away on 12 August 2022 at the age of 74 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROSEN

ROBERT

W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: MELROSE STREET

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

1ST COMBAT ENGINEERS BATTALION

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER/M-79 GRANADE
LAUNCHER

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER/RIFLE

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert W. Rosen served as a Portable Bridge Erection Specialist

Base Assignments:

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border

Ben Cat, "Iron Triangle", South Vietnam

Miscellaneous:

Robert W. Rosen graduated from Kensington High School in 1963 and was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Structural Inspector prior to entering military service / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Rosen worked for 2 years at Bergman Tool & Die as an apprentice, followed by employment at the J.H. Williams & Company as an Apprentice Toolmaker and Journeyman / Rosen joined the Buffalo Forge Company where he was employed for 9 years as a Head Toolmaker / Changing professions, Rosen became a Security Officer, eventually working for GHS Security as an Armed Bank Protection Officer at the Bank of America / After 10 years at GHS Security, Rosen retired, but not before earning commendations for security operations during the Flight 3406 disaster, Top Gun Competition in 2007 and a Safety Commendation Award from GHS

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border - Guerrilla troops known as Viet Cong (VC) dug tens of thousands of



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miles of tunnels, including an extensive network running underneath the Cu Chi district northwest of Saigon / Soldiers used these underground routes to house troops, transport communications and supplies, lay booby traps and mount surprise attacks, after which they could disappear underground to safety / To combat these guerrilla tactics, U.S. and South Vietnamese forces trained soldiers known as "tunnel rats" to navigate the tunnels in order to detect booby traps and enemy troop presence / Now part of a Vietnam War memorial park in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), the Cu Chi tunnels have become a popular tourist attraction

"Iron Triangle", South Vietnam - In December 1966, intelligence reports indicated that large units of both Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops were garrisoned in an area about 12 miles northwest of Saigon known as the "Iron Triangle," bordered by the Saigon River on the southwest leg, the Thi Tinh River to the east and a line between the villages of Ben Suc and Ben Cat to the north / In 1967-68, American forces launched two campaigns to try to oust the Viet Cong from the "Iron Triangle", Operation Cedar Falls and Operation Junction City / The two operations resulted in approximately 3,500 of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese killed at an American cost of 350 lives



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS**

DAVID

C.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS JR**

GEORGE

R.

Hometown: **ANGOLA**

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **SSGT**

Year Entered: **1968**

Year Discharged: **1970**

Unit / Squadron:

716TH MILITARY POLICE, COMPANY "A"

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant George Robert "Big G" Ross, Jr. served in Vietnam as a Military Policeman

SSGT George Ross, Jr. served 12 years in the US Army Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Ross was a 12 year member of the Evans Center Volunteer Fire Company and coached Little League Baseball in Cheektowaga for 25 years / Ross was a Cubmaster for Pack 54 for 10 years and Assistant Scoutmaster for 4 years / Ross retired from the Town of Cheektowaga where he had been employed in both the Sewer and Highway Departments for 37 years / Ross was an originating member of the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission and a Life Member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / George Robert "Big G" Ross, Jr. passed away on 21 October 2023 and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Cheektowaga, New York

The 716th Military Police Battalion is a military police battalion of the United States Army based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky / Constituted on 10 January 1942 in the Army as the 716th Military Police Battalion, it was activated during the Second World War at Fort Wadsworth, New York on 15 January 1942 / By late 1967 the 716th mission was security and law enforcement in the Saigon/Cholon/Tan Son Nhut metropolitan area, South Vietnam / Specific security missions, involving approximately 83% of the military police/security guard resources of the battalion, included the US Embassy, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) Complex, VIP and General's quarters, Bachelor Officers' Quarters (BOQ's), Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ's) and critical US facilities and installations throughout the city / This security mission was primarily aimed at deterring terrorist acts / The law enforcement mission involved normal military police functions in a metropolitan area, to



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include criminal investigations / The battalion supported the requirements of the provost marshal, US Army Headquarters Area Command, for military police/security guards within the resources available / During the Tet Offensive of January - February 1968, the unit played a major role in the defense of Saigon against Vietcong (VC) attacks, in particular the attack on the US Embassy, battle of Cholon and Phu Tho Racetrack and the attack on the Joint General Staff Compound / Company A was based at the Capitol BEQ 107 Dong Khanh St and inactivated on 29 March 1973 in South Vietnam / The unit served in the Gulf War (1990–91), Iraq War (2003-4 and 2007-8) and the War in Afghanistan (2001–2021), West Africa Ebola Response (2014-2015)



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROZELL**

EDWARD A.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 79 FLOHR AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

A CO, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (MARDIV), III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES (MAF)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Edward A. Rozell was Killed in Action on 31 January 1970 during a battle with Viet Cong forces near Da Nang, in the province of Quang Nam, South Vietnam

LCpl Rozell had served in the Marine Corp. for about a year and was sent to Vietnam as a Rifleman in September 1969

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Edward Rozell attended West Seneca High School prior to enlisting in the Marine Corp.

Lance Corporal Edward A. Rozell was 18 years of age at the time of his death

During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command / It consisted of both the 3d Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) / By the end of 1966, the two Marine divisions of III MAF were fighting two



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separate wars. In the north, the 3d Marine Division fought a more or less conventional campaign while the 1st Marine Division took over the counter-guerrilla operations in the populous south / the III Marine Amphibious Forces participated in the Vietnam War from May 1965 through April 1971 operating from Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Tin, and Quang Ngai



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUDICK**
CHARLES

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- ☐ Vietnam Era
☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank: LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM STAFF SERVICE MEDAL (1ST CLASS)

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Charles Rudick served three tours in the Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Rudick graduated from Bishop Timon High School in 1962 and attending the University of Buffalo, graduating in 1966 / Rudick taught Math and Science in the Buffalo School System until he received his draft notice and joined the US Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Charles Rudick served in the Navy Reserves / Rudick was employed by Loblaw's Companies, Ltd in Syracuse, New York / Charles Rudick also worked as a Refrigeration Engineer in Erie, Pennsylvania while working towards his Master's Degree at Gannon University / Later, Rudick was employed as a Stationary Engineer in the Buffalo Public School System / Rudick was a member of Local 409, AFL-CIO / Charles Rudick passed away on 12 April 2023 at the age of 78 years old

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

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



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

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

The Republic of Vietnam Staff Service Medal was a military award of South Vietnam established in 1964 / The medal was awarded in two classes and was awarded for outstanding initiative and devotion an individuals assigned staff duty / To be awarded the Staff Service Medal, a service member must have performed military duty, while serving on a military staff, of the Republic of Vietnam / Recipients must have shown, "...outstanding initiative and devotion to their assigned staff duty" / The Staff Service Medal was presented in two classes for such service with the first class for officers and the second class for non-commissioned officers and enlisted personnel



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUDNICKI

PAUL

E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: RESERVE ROAD

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CAPTAIN

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM (USARV)

56TH ARMY POSTAL UNIT (APU)

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Captain Paul E. Rudnicki was assigned to many Army bases, serving as a Military Judge / Rudnicki served in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps from 1968 to 1972 / While stationed in Long Binh Post, Vietnam, Captain Rudnicki served as Post Judge Advocate from 1969 to 1970

Base Assignments:

Long Binh Post, Vietnam - Long Binh Post is a former U.S. Army base located in Long Bình ward between Biên Hòa and Saigon, Vietnam / The base functioned as a U.S. Army base, logistics center, and major command headquarters for United States Army Vietnam (USARV) / By mid-1967, United States Army, Vietnam (USARV), 1st Logistical Command and many other Army units dispersed in Saigon were moved to Long Binh Post to resolve centralization, security, and troop billeting issues / Long Binh Post was a sprawling logistics facility and the largest U.S. Army base in Vietnam, with a peak of 60,000 personnel in 1969 / Long Binh Post was the target of several attacks, especially during the Tet Offensive in 1968 as well as 1969 / Long Binh Post included the Long Binh Stockade, a U.S. Army prison, from 1966 to the 1970s also known unofficially as "LBJ" or "Long Binh Jail"

Miscellaneous:

Prior to military service, Paul E. Rudnicki graduated from the University of Buffalo Law School in 1967 / After his Honorable Discharge, Paul Rudnicki began his post-military career as an attorney / Rudnicki is a lifetime member and Judge Advocate of American Legion Post 735 and a member of the Western New York Chapter 77 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, serving as President of the VALOR Committee / Paul Rudnicki is also a Rotarian



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Judge advocates are attorneys who perform legal duties while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces / They provide legal services to their branch of the armed forces and Legal Representation to members of the Armed Services / The duties of a Judge Advocate also focus on the areas of criminal law, legal assistance, civil/administrative law, labor/employment law, international/operational law and contract/fiscal law, and medical law

United States Army Republic of Vietnam (USARV) was an corps-level support command of the United States Army in the Vietnam War / USARV was created on 20 July 1965 out of the U.S. Army Support Command, Vietnam / USARV controlled the activities of all U.S. Army service and logistical units in South Vietnam until 15 May 1972, when its structure was merged with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) to become USARV/MACV Support Command, which was disbanded on 28 March 1973 after completion of withdrawal of all combat and support units / USARV controlled ten major support commands in Vietnam, and also supervised 71 smaller units

The 56th Army Postal Unit (APU) received the Meritorious Unit Commendation by distinguishing itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 19 March 1968 through 20 May 1969 / The Commendation cites the men and officers who exhibited resourcefulness and organizational expertise in the outstanding performance of difficult tasks inherent in the strategic support of Long Binh Post



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUGG**

RICHARD

W

Hometown: HOLLAND

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 served in the Air Force during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard W. Rugg passed away on 14 September 2017



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSHOK**
PAUL

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 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

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



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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 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 / 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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSINSKI**
GERALD E.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

- ☐ **Vietnam Era**
☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald E. "Jerry" Rusinski passed away on 2 April 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSELL**

DONALD

R.

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

Address:

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

8TH AERIAL PORT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Donald R. Russell served 11 months at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, South Vietnam, assigned as an Administrative Specialist

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Donald Russell received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 5 July 1970 / Donald R. Russell passed away on 11 September 2017

The Mission of the 8th Aerial Port Squadron's Mobility Operations Branch (8 APS MOB) was to assure that the C-7, C-123 & C-130's landing at remote airstrips were quickly and safely loaded and unloaded / Three to seven man teams served as "the airport" at remote, often quite dangerous locations "in the bush" / Most of the 8th's missions during 1970 were in support of the Fifth Special Forces and First Air Cav, but teams went about everywhere and supported a wide range of ground units - including the US and Vietnamese Marines / A MOB Team was at Khe Sanh throughout the infamous siege in 1968 / The 8th Aerial Port Squadron were at forward dirt airfields all along the border in May of 1970, when the war overflowed into Cambodia for a while / The 8th



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MOB crews - augmented with volunteers from Danang & Cam Ranh - that kept the supplies flowing into the places it was needed / The 8th MOB were at Khe Sanh and later as Lam Son 719 sent troops into Laos / 8th APS MOB not only covered III Corps and IV Corps. Artillery Outposts and Special Forces Camps, but went pretty much anywhere in the country in support of Tactical Airlift Missions in remote areas

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUSTAY

JAMES

C.

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 served 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