



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SABO

THOMAS

W.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** MAJ GEN

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 2001

**Unit / Squadron:**

MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM (MACV)

409TH PERSONNEL SERVICES COMPANY

98TH DIVISION 4TH BRIGADE

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR

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

**Service Notes:**

Major General Thomas W. Sabo was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Officer's Training Corps at Canisius College and then assigned as a platoon leader and company commander with the 24th Infantry Regiment in Germany / While in Vietnam, Sabo served as an executive officer in the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) / Sabo joined the 98th Division (Training) in 1970 and became the division's deputy adjutant general in 1974 / Following his promotion to lieutenant colonel in 1980, Sabo served as deputy commander of the 98th Division's 4th Brigade / In 1981, he became adjutant general of the 98th Division (Training) and in 1984 he was promoted to colonel and named commander of the 4th Brigade / In 1980, Sabo was promoted to brigadier general and named as commanding general of the 98th Division in 1992 / In 1993, Thomas W. Sabo was promoted to major general / Sabo relinquished his command in 1996 and retired from the Army Reserves in 2001

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Riley, Kansas - Located in north central Kansas, Fort Riley is named in honor of Major General Bennet C. Riley, who led the first military escort along the Santa Fe Trail / The fort was established in 1853 as a military post to protect the movement of people and trade over the Oregon, California, and Santa Fe trails / In the years after the Civil War, Fort Riley served as a major United States Cavalry post and school for cavalry tactics and practice / The post was a base for skirmishes with Native Americans after the Civil War ended in 1865, during which time George A. Custer was stationed at the fort / America's entry into World War I resulted in many changes at Fort Riley, when facilities were greatly expanded to accommodate 30,000 to 50,000 men / With America's entry into World War II, approximately 125,000 soldiers were trained at these facilities / Notable



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trainees included heavyweight boxing champion, Joe Louis, Indy car driver Walt Faulkner, and motion picture stars such as Mickey Rooney / The post also received a presidential visit by Franklin Roosevelt on Easter Sunday 1943 / During the Korean War, recruits from all over the United States came to Fort Riley and received basic training / In 1965, during the Vietnam War, a provisional basic combat training brigade was organized at Fort Riley and in February 1966, the 9th Infantry Division was reactivated / Reserve Officer Training Corps summer camps were also held at the fort, which permitted troops to demonstrate and teach their skills to aspiring second lieutenants / On 5 June 1999, Fort Riley once again became a Division Headquarters with the reactivation of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) / On June 1, 2006, Fort Riley began training Military Transition Teams, or MiTTs / These 10-15 man teams from across the Army, Navy and Air Force trained at Fort Riley's Camp Funston for 60 days / Transition Team training is focused training preparing teams to train, mentor and advise Iraqi and Afghan security forces

## *Miscellaneous:*

Thomas W. Sabo graduated from Cardinal Dougherty High School and attended Reserve Officer's Training Corps at Canisius College prior to joining the Army Reserves / While in the reserves, Sabo also worked for Micahel P. Guastella & Associates, an insurance company, as a vice president of operations / Sabo and his wife of 45 years, Lorie E. Foroscij, had two children / Army Reserve Major General Thomas W. Sabo passed away on 18 October 2016

Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) was created on 8 February 1962, in response to the increase in United States military assistance to South Vietnam. MACV was first implemented to assist the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) Vietnam, controlling every advisory and assistance effort in Vietnam, but was reorganized on 15 May 1964 and absorbed MAAG Vietnam to its command

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 (Initial Entry Training) / 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)



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**Name:** **SACCOMANNO**  
**JOSEPH**

**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:**

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (RIFLE)

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Joseph Saccomanno served as a Pharmacy Specialist while stationed for 12 months on active duty in South Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Saccomanno was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 1 February 1961 / Joseph Saccomanno passed away on 26 March 2018

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



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for the Marine Corps

**Name:** SAFAROWICZ  
MICAHEL

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**



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**Name:** **SALGY**

**LARRY**

**J.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**



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**Name:** **SAMPSON III**

**JOHN**

**F.**

**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:**

**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 / Sampson is interred at Prospect Lawn Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SANDERS

DENNIS

M.

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**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:**

**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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SAPIENZA**

**RICHARD**

**P.**

**Hometown:** TOWN OF TONAWANDA

**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 Paul Sapienza served in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Sapienza was a graduate of the University of Buffalo and spent his career with the New York State Department of Corrections / Richard Paul Sapienza passed away on 3 April 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





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**Name:** **SARGIS**

**GEORGE (BOB) R.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** 85 FRENCH LEA ROAD

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

23RD INFANTRY DIVISION - AMERICAL

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth Class George Sargis was assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) and stationed at the U. S. Army base at Chu Lai

**Base Assignments:**

Fort 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)

Chu Lai, Vietnam - Located approximately 56 miles southeast of Da Nang, Chu Lai was a U.S. military base from 1965 to 1971 during the Vietnam War / Originally established by the Marines, the base was handed over to the U.S. Army's Task Force Oregon in April 1967 and subsequently became the headquarters and base area for the 23rd Americal Division from September 1967 until November 1971

**Miscellaneous:**

After an Honorable Discharge, George (Bob) Sargis became the Assistant Manager at the AM&A's Shoe Department at the Thruway Plaza, later moving up to Department Manager

The 23rd Infantry Division, more commonly known as the Americal Division, of the United States Army was



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activated 27 May 1942 on the island of New Caledonia immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor / This division was the only division formed outside of United States territory during World War II (a distinction it would repeat when reformed during the Vietnam War) / At the suggestion of a subordinate, the division's commander, Major General Alexander Patch, requested that the new unit be known as the Americal Division—the name being a contraction of "American, New Caledonian Division" - This was unusual, as most U. S. divisions are known by a number / After World War II the Americal Division was officially re-designated as the 23rd Infantry Division / The Americal was reactivated 25 September 1967 at Chu Lai in Vietnam from a combination of units already in Vietnam and newly arrived units / The Americal Division never lost a major battle in Vietnam, accounting for thousands of enemy dead and wounded, and is noted for its exemplary performance during the Tet Offensive, The Battle of LoGiang, the Battle of Nui Hoac Ridge (Hill 352) and throughout its approximate 6 year deployment in Vietnam / Americal casualties in Vietnam numbered 4,041 during 2,111 days of combat / The division was inactivated following its withdrawal from Vietnam in November 1971.



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**Name:** SAUER

FRANKLIN

R.

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**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 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



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**Name:** **SCANLON, III**

**THOMAS**

**C.**

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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**Name:** **SCHAEFFER**

**GEORGE**

**W.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**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 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 courses in 1963 at Erie County Technical Institute (Erie Community College) / After his military service, Schaeffer



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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SCHIEDER

DONALD

E

**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:**

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist 5 Donald E. Schieder drove and maintained reconnaissance tanks / 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, Schieder went to work for the City of Buffalo and retired in July 2009 as a Maintenance Supervisor



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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





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**Name:** SCHIFFERLE SR.

DOUGLAS

M.

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Douglas Michael Schifferle Sr. received training in law enforcement and attended sentry dog school

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Douglas Schifferle worked as a New York State Corrections officer for 29 years, starting at the Fishkill Correctional Facility and spent the bulk of his career in corrections at the Wende Correctional Facility in Alden, retiring in 2010 / Douglas Michael Schifferle Sr. passed away on 21 May 2022



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**Name:** SCHIRMER

E.

K.

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

34TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION)

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 ARMY OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS

EXPERT BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant (E-5) E. Kurt Schirmer served as a Personnel Specialist in Vietnam assigned to the 34th Engineer Group (Construction)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

E. Kurt Schirmer passed away at the age of 74 years old on 29 April 2022

The 34th Engineering Battalion originally posted at Bien Hoa and Saigon in 1967, then to Phu Loi in '198, finally re-deploying from Vinh Long in 1971

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



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

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

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



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**Name:** SCHIRMER

E.

K.

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

34TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONSTRUCTION)

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: EXPERT - M-16 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist 5th Class E. Kurt Schirmer served as a Personnel Specialist

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

E. Kurt Schirmer was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 16 August 1969 / E. Kurt Schirmer passed away on 29 April 2022

The 34th Engineer Group originally posted at Bien Hoa and Saigon in 1967, then to Phu Loi in 1968 and finally re-deploying from Vinh Long in 1971

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

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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

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

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

A 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:** SCHLMAN

WAYNE

F.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

"B" BATTERY, 6TH BATTALION FIELD ARTILLERY

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant (E-5) Wayne Fred Schlman served as a Field Artillery Crewman

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Wayne F. Schlman was inducted into the U.S. Army on 6 January 1966 and was Honorably Discharged on 21 December 1967 / Wayne Schlman was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The Field Artillery is one of the Army's combat arms, traditionally one of the three major branches (with Infantry and Armor) / It refers to those units that use artillery weapons systems to deliver surface-to-surface long range indirect fire / Indirect fire means that the projectile does not follow the line of sight to the target

The 6th Battalion was a field artillery battalion of the United States Army / The 6th Battalion Field Artillery participated in the Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase 11, 111, IV, V, VI and the Tet 69/Counteroffensive / The battalion was inactivated 16 January 1988

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



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

**Name:** **SCHMALL**

**RICHARD**

**C.**

**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 C. Schmall 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SCHMEICHEL

JAN

N.

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

ABLE COMPANY, 4TH BATTALION (MECHANIZED), 61ST INFANTRY REGIMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

PURPLE HEART (2)

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Jan Norman Schmeichel trained as a Green Beret and served multiple tours in Vietnam over 18 months as a Light Weapons Infantryman / E-4 Schmeichel was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service and was awarded two Purple Hearts for wounds suffered during combat operations

**Base Assignments:**

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

**Miscellaneous:**

Jan Schmeichel received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 20 October 1967 / Schmeichel retired as a Pipe Fitter from Dupont / Schmeichel was a member of the Masons, DAV, VVA, VFW and Band of Brothers and dedicated 53 years volunteering with the Boy Scouts and Explorers / Jan Norman Schmeichel passed away on 3 February 2023





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Town of West Seneca, New York

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 / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

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

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

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

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

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an 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 Army Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / 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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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 61st Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Army traditionally associated with the 5th Infantry Division / The regiment's campaign honors include the Vietnam War, where it took part in Operation Montana Mauler on the Khe Sanh plateau in 1969, and the United States invasion of Panama in 1989 / The 1st Battalion of the 61st Infantry Regiment is one of the Basic Combat Training (BCT) units within the US Army / The 61st "Roadrunners" are located in Fort Jackson, South Carolina / There are six companies, Alpha "Gators", Bravo "Bulldogs", Charlie "Roughnecks", Delta "Dragons", Echo "War Eagles", and Foxtrot "Phantoms" with four platoons in each Company



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SCHOENE**

**GARY**

**R.**

**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:**

After serving active duty in the Air Force from 1972 through 1975, serving 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 Reserve Command military installation and is located adjacent to Niagara Falls International Airport, New York /



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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SCHUELER**

**ARTHUR**

**L.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:** SP-4

**Year Entered:** 1970

**Year Discharged:** 1972

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY "A", 6TH BATTALION, 61ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY (ADA) EBT 5

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/DEVICE

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Arthur Leroy Schueler served as a Power Plant Operator Corporal Schueler was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism in during combat operations

**Base Assignments:**

Camp 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:**

Arthur L. Schueler was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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

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



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members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / 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 61st Air Defense Artillery Regiment is an air defense artillery regiment in the United States Army / The 61st Air Defense Artillery was constituted and activated at Fort Moultrie 9 March 1918 as the 61st Artillery (CAC) from existing Regular and National Guard companies / It was redesignated for the 61st Battalion (Antiaircraft) on 10 June 1922. It was redesignated for the 61st Coast Artillery Regiment on 15 December 1939 / It was redesignated for the 61st Artillery Regiment on 19 December 1958 and was redesignated for the 61st Air Defense Artillery Regiment effective 1 September 1971





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SCHULTZ**

**LAWRENCE**

**A.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**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 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 service / While deployed with the Sixth Fleet on 23 January 1961, a serious fire broke out in Saratoga's number



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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:** SCHWEGLER J.

EDWARD

L.

**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:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward L. Schwegler J. passed away on 21 April 2022





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SCOTT  
BARRY**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**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:**

First-Class Petty Officer 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



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/ 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



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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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SCULLY**

**BRYAN**

**P.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

ABLE COMPANY, 54TH SIGNAL BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CROSS OF GALLANTRY W/PALM;

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Bryan Patrick Scully served as a Teletype Operator during his 12-month deployment to South Vietnam, assigned to Able Company, 54th Signal Battalion

**Base Assignments:**

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

**Miscellaneous:**

Bryan Scully received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 12 January 1967 / Bryan Patrick Scully passed away on 27 February 2023 while in Georgia

The 54th Signal Company was constituted 26 November 1943 in the Army of the United States as the 54th Signal Repair Company and participated during the battle Ryukyus during World War II / The Company was redesignated 2 November 1953 as the 54th Signal Company and participated in several battles in Vietnam

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by



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

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

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

The Army Meritorious Unit Award (MUA) is awarded to units of the United States Army who show exceptional meritorious conduct in their performance of duties for a period of at least 6 months during conflict with an armed enemy / While service in a combat zone is not necessary, their service must be directly related to the combat effort / Subsequent awards of the citation are displayed by wearing an Oak Leaf Cluster 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 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:** SCZEPANIK

JOHN

E.

**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: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John E. "Murph" Sczepanik passed away on 12 April 2023





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SEGOOL**

**ARTHUR**

**F.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**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 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

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Arthur Segool was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 4 September 1959 / 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:** **SEGOOL**

**ROBERT**

**A.**

**Hometown:** BLASDELL

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

SILVER STAR MEDAL (2)

PURPLE HEART (5)

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION WITH ONE SERVICE STAR

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

MARSKMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

BRONZE STAR MEDAL (4)

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL WITH 1 SERVICE STAR

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Petty Officer Robert A. Segool was a US Marine Corps First Recon and Navy veteran of the Vietnam War / Segool was a decorated Marine with 2 silver Stars, four Bronze Stars with Combat Valor and 5 Purple Hearts / Segool was the original founding member of the Studies and Observations Group (SOG) / Robert Segool earned 67 medals during his service to our country

While serving as a petty officer in Vietnam in 1969, Robert Segool's Marine unit was ambushed while on patrol / Segool put his life on the line to save his fellow Marines and ward off a second enemy attack / Robert Segool was awarded one of his Bronze Stars for his heroic action

Petty Officer Robert Segool was awarded one of his Bronze Stars for heroic achievement on the early morning of 6 September 1969 while voluntarily serving as a member of a five-man patrol from Civic Action Platoon 2-7-5, III Marine Amphibious Force in the Republic of Vietnam / When his patrol, whose mission was the security of Bien Ky Hamlet, was ambushed by a numerically superior enemy force and pinned down by a barrage of rocket, mortar, and automatic weapons fire, Petty Officer Segool immediately began to lay down a base of fire and directed the fire of marines near his position / Observing a seriously wounded Marine about to run into the path of intense fire, Petty officer Segool left his position of cover, wrestled the man to the ground and, although wounded himself, managed to assist in eventually removing the Marine to the safety of the patrol base / Petty Officer Segool later aided in halting a second enemy attack by manning a machine gun and by directing the fire of helicopters arriving on the scene / By his heroic actions throughout, he was instrumental in saving the life of



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a Marine and in averting an attack on Bien Ky Hamlet

Petty Officer Robert Segool was assigned to the Combine Action Platoon (CAP) with a mission to protect the Bien Ky Hamlet from Communist infiltration, and given the nickname "Frenchy" / The battle lasted over four hours and Segool, along with four others took on a 25 to 30-member North Vietnamese heavy weapons platoon / Despite being injured and exhausted, when he returned to the base, he volunteered to go back and help stop the advancing enemies / When evacuation helicopters and gunships arrived he exposed himself to enemy fire and helped to direct the gunfire causing the enemy to retreat, selflessly refusing to be Medevacked because they were short of men.

While in Vietnam, Petty Officer Robert "Frenchy" Segool did much more than help his fellow soldiers; he also felt the need to take care of the South Vietnamese who were displaced due to the war / Frenchy did what he could to care for children who lost their families or were abandoned, including a young boy named Chue

## *Base Assignments:*

## *Miscellaneous:*

Robert Segool received his Honorable Discharge from active duty on 8 January 1970 and transferred in the US Navy Reserves, finishing his military service on 16 April 1974 / Segool sent letters to his U.S. Marine Corps unit in Vietnam trying to locate the young boy named Chue that he saved in Vietnam, but was unable to locate the boy / Bob Segool did have an opportunity to sponsor two refugees from South Vietnam who came to live with him in Western New York / Robert Segool became the Chaplain of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 187, took the lead in the effort to create the Purple Heart Memorial Buffalo Naval & Military Park in downtown Buffalo, and worked with Russell Salvatore on the creation of the Purple Heart monument now located in Patriots and Heroes Park on Transit Rd. in Lancaster / Robert A. Segool passed away on 26 March 2019

The Studies and Observations Group (MACV-SOG) was a highly classified, multi-service United States special operations unit which conducted covert unconventional warfare operations prior to and during the Vietnam War / Composed of Green Berets, Navy SEALs, Recon Marines, Air Commandos, and their indigenous allies, SOG primarily conducted reconnaissance and direct action operations, such as ambushes, in South Vietnam and across the border

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



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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SEITZ

PAUL

E.

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**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 served 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

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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 / Paul E. Seitz passed away on 30 July 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

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



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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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SEUFERT

DWIGHT

R.

**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:**

**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





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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SHEEHAN

JOSEPH

P.

**Hometown:** ELMA

**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:**

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: PISTOL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Joseph P. Sheehan served as a Helicopter Mechanic (Reciprocating) and was stationed overseas for 12 month of foreign duty

**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 was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marines on 9 October 1964 / Joseph P. Sheehan passed away on 20 May 2022

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 support, aviation logistics support, and aviation ground support to Marine, Joint, and Coalition forces to enable amphibious and expeditionary operations

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





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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SHEER**

**GLENN**

**P.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**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

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Glenn P. Sheer was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SICURELLA**  
**CHARLES**

**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:**

Charles Sicurella served in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles Sicurella passed away on 10 September 2023 and is interred at Western new York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SIEMKO

KENNETH

M.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**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 served as a Cryptographic Operator

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Kenneth M. Siemko was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SILVASHY JR**

**JOHN**

**R.**

**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:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Silvashy Jr. 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 R. Silvashy Jr. passed away on 26 September 2022 at the age of 74 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SIMCHICK**  
**RONALD**

**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 served 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SKOTWICKI

WILLIAM

J.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

507TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal (E-4) William Joseph Skotwicki served as an Aircraft Engine Repairman

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William J. Skotwicki was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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

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:** **SMACZNIAK JR.**

**JOSEPH**

**E.**

**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 RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

**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.



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## *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.



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SMITH

EDWARD

W.

**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: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Edward W. Smith served two tours of duty in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward Smith graduated from West Seneca High School in 1963, then attended the University of Buffalo before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps, Smith worked for and managed the Pierce Arrow Restaurant, later becoming the regional director of Marketing for the Holiday Inn Hotel chain / In 1982 Smith became the Executive Director of Melody Fair in North Tonawanda, but the summer dome went bankrupt and closed / Edward Smith bought and reopened Melody Fair in 1987 / Smith also started staging shows at Kleinhans Music Hall and at Shea's Performing Arts Center / In 1990, Smith managed the Tralfamadore Café, renaming it as the Marquee at the Tralf / Smith opened a summer concert venue at the Starlite Music Theater, losing his lease in 1997 / Smith shut Crawdaddy's Restaurant on the Buffalo waterfront and closed Melody Fair in 1998 / In 1990, Edward Smith was the Executive Producer of the Variety Club of Buffalo and produced the Club's Variety Telethon on WKBW-TV for many years / Smith was also the Chairman of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and served on the New York State Board of Camp Good Days and Special Times / In the 2000s, Smith was the Chairman of the Niagara Falls Convention and Visitors Bureau and operated The Funhouse in Lackawanna, which booked talent for various venues / Edward W. Smith passed away at the age of 77 years old on 8 November 2022 after a long illness at the Batavia Veterans Affairs Medical Center



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SMITH

JAMES

A.

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-3

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class James A. Smith was attached to an Artillery Division

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After receiving an Honorable Discharge, James Smith was employed by General Motors, Power Train Division, where he retired.



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SOJDA

EDWARD

G.

**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: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward Sojda worked for Buffalo Forge and HVAC Equipment before his retirement / Edward G. Sojda passed away on 11 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:** **SOMMER**

**PETER**

**K**

**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 served in the U.S. 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

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Peter K. Sommer was Honorably Discharged from active duty on 9 June 1969 / Peter K. Sommer passed away on 22 November 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:** **SOSNOWSKI**

**THEODORE**

**S.**

**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

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialst Fourt-Class Theodore S. Sosnowski served with 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 2023 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

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:** **SPEAKER**

**KENNETH**

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

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

**Service Notes:**

Kenneth Speaker served in Vietnam from January through December 1968 / Speaker received the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SPRIEGEL**

**DENNIS**

**A.**

**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:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Dennis Spriegel graduated from West Seneca Senior High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Spriegel worked for national Fuel Gas Company until his retirement / Dennis A. Spriegel passed away on 3 October 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:** STANIASZEK

DANIEL

J.

**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: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Daniel Staniaszek was a retiree of the Ford Motor Company / Daniel J. Staniaszek passed away at the age of 78 years old on 8 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:** **STANKIEWICZ**

**STANLEY J.**

**Hometown:**

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 BRONZE SERVICE STAR

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Stanley John Stankiewicz served as a Combat Engineer / PFC Stankiewicz was stationed in South Vietnam for 13 months

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Stanley John "Renegade" Stankiewicz was a member of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA) and the Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club (VVMC) / Stanley John Stankiewicz passed away on 20 October 2021

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 Combat Action Ribbon (colloquially "CAR"), is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The 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:** STAWARSKI

TED

J.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** ORCHARD AVENUE

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST ARMORED DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL / 2 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist (E-4) Ted J. Stawarski was deployed to Vietnam during the Tet Offensive and served as a Power Plant Engineer at Camp Holloway in Pleiku from January 1968 through August 1969

**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)

Fort Belvoir, Virginia - The base 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 Fort Belvoir in the 1930s in recognition of the Belvoir plantation that once occupied the site, but the adjacent United States Army Corps of Engineers Humphreys Engineer Center retains part of the original name / Fort Belvoir was initially the home of the Army Engineer School prior to its relocation in the 1980s 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, all agencies of the United States Department of Defense

Fort Hood, Texas - Located in Killeen, Texas, the United States Army post was named after Confederate General





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

John Bell Hood and is the largest military base in the world (by area) with more than 215,000 acres / During the late 1960's, 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 fort's divisions

Camp Holloway, Pleiku, Vietnam - Camp Holloway was a United States Army helicopter base at Pleiku in the Central Highlands of Vietnam from 1962 through the early 1970s / The camp was named in 1963 for CH-21 helicopter pilot Warrant Officer Charles E. Holloway, who in December 1962, became the first aviator assigned to the 81st Transportation Company to be killed in action / At its peak, Camp Holloway was home to two additional UH-1 "Huey" assault helicopter companies, a CH-47 "Chinook" company, an O-1 Bird Dog reconnaissance airplane company, a CH-54 "Skycrane" company, and other supporting units

## *Miscellaneous:*

Prior to his enlistment in the Army, Ted Stawarski graduated from Hutchinson Central Technical High School, (informally known as Hutch-Tech) in Buffalo / Following an Honorable Discharge from the Army, Stawarski was employed by Buffalo Forge Company

The Tet Offensive was one of the largest military campaigns of the Vietnam War, launched on 30 January 1968, by forces of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese People's Army of Vietnam against the forces of the South Vietnamese Army of the Republic of Vietnam, the United States Armed Forces, and their allies / It was a campaign of surprise attacks against military and civilian command and control centers throughout South Vietnam / Though initial attacks stunned both the US and South Vietnamese armies, causing them to temporarily lose control of several cities, they quickly regrouped, beat back the attacks, and inflicted heavy casualties on North Vietnamese forces / The name of the offensive comes from the Tết holiday, the Vietnamese New Year, when the first major attacks took place



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **STEIGER**

**MICHAEL**

**C.**

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**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:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

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

**Service Notes:**

Private Second-Class Michael C. Steiger served a Cannoneer in the United States Army / and served 15 months of foreign duty in Germany, assigned to Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 35th Artillery Regiment, US Army Europe

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael Steiger received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 26 October 1972 / Michael C. Steiger moved to Canandaigua, New York where he passed away on 15 September 2023

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 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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:** **STEPHEN**

**CHARLES**

**W.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**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:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Charles W. Stephen was a disabled veteran of the Vietnam War

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles W. Stephan was born in Buffalo and attended Alden High School / After his military enlistment was completed, Stephan returned to Moog Inc. in East Aurora as an Apprentice Machinist / After his advancement to a Tool and Die Machinist, Stephen retired in 2007 as a Supervisor / Stephen was an avid train collector and enthusiastic outdoorsman / Both Stephen and his wife of 35 years, Mary Kathleen Horn, raised three children, one daughter and two sons / Charles W. Stephen passed away on 3 November 2016



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **STERLACE**

**ROBERT**

**A.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

(NO OTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE)

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **STEWARD**  
**ALTON L.**

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

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

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (M-14 RIFLE)

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist 5th Class Alton L. Steward was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months where he served as a Cargo Handler

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Alton Steward received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 13 September 1968 / Alton L. Steward passed away on 15 March 2019

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,



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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:** **STRAW**

**MICHAEL R.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

RVN CROSS OF GALLANTRY W/PALM & FRAME

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/DEVICE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Michael Richard "Mike" Straw served as a Special Communications Operator and was deployed overseas for three years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael Straw received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 25 June 1970 / Michael Richard "Mike" Straw passed away on 24 June 2017

Headquarters Battalion provides communications and information systems network, motor transportation, security, administration and personnel support to the 1st Marine Division in order to facilitate the Division's ability to command and control / The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of more than 19,000 personnel. It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The 1st Marine Division The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

## operational environment

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

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

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The 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:** STREEBEL JR

KENNETH J.

**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:**

**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:** STRESING

JOHN

L.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **STRIBICK**

**EDWARD**

**G**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**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 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:** STRUEBEL

GEORGE

D.

**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: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

George Struebel was a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America / George D. Struebel passed away on 16 November 2022



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **STWORZYDLAK**

**DANIEL**

**E.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Daniel E. Stworzydlak served in Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Daniel Stworzydlak was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Hamburg Township Post #1419 and a member of the VFW Color Guard / Daniel E. Stworzydlak passed away on 24 October 2023 and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Cemetery, Hamburg, New York





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SUDBRINK**  
**ROBERT**

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

- ☐ Vietnam Era  
☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY A, 2ND BATTALION (AIRBORNE), 508TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

SOLDIER'S MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

2 OVERSEAS BARS

ARMY PARACHUTE BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-60 MACHINE GUN)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert Sudbrink was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and while on duty, saved a child from a burning hut, for which he received the prestigious Soldier's Medal

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Sudbrink was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 21 December 1971 / Robert Sudbrink passed away on 24 May 2021

The 508th Infantry Regiment ("Red Devils" or "Fury from the Sky") is an airborne infantry regiment of the United States Army, first formed in October 1942 during World War II / The 508th Parachute Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy between 6 and 9 June 1944, during the invasion of France / The Regiment landed by parachute shortly after 0200 hours, 6 June 1944 / The regiment secured its objectives through heroic determination and initiative / Every member performed his duties with exemplary aggressiveness and superior skill / The courage and devotion to duty shown by members of the 508th Parachute Infantry are worthy of emulation and reflect the highest traditions of the Army of the United States / The regiment served in combat during World War II, and regimental elements have served in combat in the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Iraq and Afghanistan



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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

The Army'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:** SULLIVAN

MICHAEL J.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** 79 FREMONT AVENUE

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** 1973

**Unit / Squadron:**

67TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL (SMBL)

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-16 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal (E-4) Michael Joseph Sullivan served as an Army Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael Joseph Sullivan 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:** SULLIVAN

PAUL

F.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** CSCS

**Year Entered:** 1964

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS PUGET SOUND (AD-38)

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL (CUBA)

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

**Service Notes:**

Commissaryman Senior Chief Petty Officer Paul Francis Sullivan served in the ship's Commissary as a Chef

**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:**

Paul F. Sullivan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post 2940

USS Puget Sound (AD-38) was a Samuel Gompers-class destroyer tender, the second ship of the United States Navy to bear the name Puget Sound / Commissioned on 27 April 1968, she served almost 29 years until decommissioned on 27 January 1996 / Puget Sound was designated to perform repairs and maintenance of the U.S. Navy's shore and seagoing equipment / Serving in the Atlantic Fleet for her life span, she was homeported in Newport, Rhode Island; Gaeta, Italy; and Norfolk, Virginia / The USS Puget Sound also participated in Operation Prime Chance, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, transported Kurdish refugees in Operation Provide Comfort, and participated in Operation Restore Hope / Instrumental to keeping the Atlantic Fleet afloat and mobile, she has repaired and resupplied most ships stationed or serving in the Atlantic Ocean,



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, and Persian Gulf / The USS Puget Sound was decommissioned on 2 January 1996 and scrapped in February 2009

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 Navy Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Navy which was established in August 1936 / The General Orders of the Department of the Navy which established the medal states, "The medal will be awarded, to the officers and enlisted men of the Navy who shall have actually landed on foreign territory and engaged in operations against armed opposition, or operated under circumstances which, after full consideration, shall be deemed to merit special recognition and for which service no campaign medal has been awarded" / The Navy Expeditionary Medal was retroactively authorized to February 12, 1874



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SUMMERS**  
**RICHARD**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

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

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP-4

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1966

**Unit / Squadron:**

573RD TRANSPORTATION DETACHMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal (SP-4) Richard Summers served as a Clerk Typist

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Summers was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

The 573rd Transportation Detachment was the very important maintenance unit within the 33rd Transportation Company, 118th Assault Helicopter Company / Normally commanded by a Transportation Corps officer, the Detachment was responsible for all the second and third echelon level maintenance on the helicopters / The front line maintenance was accomplished by the Crew Chief / Then he was backed up and supported by the 573rd Transportation Detachment

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





# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SWACK**

**RICHARD**

**A.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-3

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

ALL-WEATHER FIGHTER ATTACK TRAINING SQUADRON-202, MARINE CORPS TRAINING GROUP-20, 2ND MARINE AIR WING

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS UNIT CITATION MEDAL  
W/PALM & FRAME

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Lance Corporal Richard A. Swack served as an Aircraft Communications/Navigation System Technician during 12 months of active duty in Vietnam servicing Grumman A-6 Intruders / LCpl Swack trained for seven months in Avionics Fundamentals Training

**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





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## *Miscellaneous:*

Richard A. Swack was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 30 September 1970 / Richard A. Swack passed away on 11 December 2020

All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron was the designator for squadrons equipped with all-weather variants of the Douglas AD Skyraider / It was discontinued with the demise of the wide-body Skyraiders from the Navy inventory, and squadrons equipped with newer all-weather attack aircraft such as Grumman A-6 Intruder received "plain" VA designators

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SWIATEK**

**DANIEL**

**A.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** MAJOR

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1973

**Unit / Squadron:**

11TH ARMORED CAVALRY

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION BLACKHORSE REGIMENT

1ST AIRBORNE BRIGADE, 3RD ARMORED DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NEW YORK STATE CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

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

**Service Notes:**

Major Daniel A. Swiatek served 9 years as an Army officer, including over 6 1/2 years active duty from 1955-1967 / Major Daniel A. Swiatek served 4 years with US Army Europe (Germany) and served in Vietnam with distinction in Vietnam, receiving the Bronze Star for valor

Major Swiatek was awarded the New York State Conspicuous Service Star by Governor George Pataki's Executive Office for his military service with distinguished military units in Vietnam, Germany and the United States

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Daniel Swiatek received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 1 July 1973 / Daniel A. Swiatek passed away on 3 December 2017

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Blackhorse Regiment") is a unit of the United States Army garrisoned at the Fort Irwin National Training Center in California / The regiment has served in the Philippine-American War, the Pancho Villa Expedition, World War II, the Vietnam War, Gulf War and Iraq War / The Blackhorse Regiment arrived in Vũng Tàu, South Vietnam on 7 September 1966 and participated in many campaigns against the Viet



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Cong / The 11th ACR serves as the opposing force (OPFOR) for the Army and Marine task forces, and foreign military forces that train at Fort Irwin

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 / In 1968, the 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne 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 3rd Armored Division (also known as "Spearhead", 3rd Armored, and 3AD) was an armored division of the United States Army / Unofficially nicknamed the "Third Herd," the division was first activated in 1941 and was active in the European Theater of World War II / The division was stationed in West Germany for much of the Cold War and also participated in the Persian Gulf War / On 17 January 1992, still in Germany, the division ceased operations / In October 1992, it was formally inactivated as part of a general drawing down of U.S. military forces at the end of the Cold War

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** SYHLOWY

DAVID J.

**Hometown:**

**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

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SYPOSS**

**ANDREW**

**B.**

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

☐ **Vietnam Era**

☒ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-3

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

RVN CROSS OF GALLANTRY W/PALM & FRAME

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/ 1 SERVICE STAR

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Lance Corporal Andrew "Abe" B. Syposs served in Vietnam for 11 months as a Rifleman/ Lance Corporal Syposs received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Andrew Syposs received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 9 September 1969 / Andrew "Abe" B. Syposs passed away on 17 February 2018 at the age of 70 years old

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / The mission of the 1st Marines is the deployment as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment / The 1st Marine Division fought with distinction in Vietnam / The division lost 7,012 men killed in action in South Vietnam

It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of more than 19,000 personnel. It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a





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multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed"

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

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

The 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

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SZEFLER**

**MICHAEL J.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

☒ **Vietnam Era**

☐ **Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-3

**Year Entered:** 1964

**Year Discharged:** 1966

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

SHARPSHOOTER: M-14 RIFLE

EXPERT BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class (E-3) Michael John Szefler served as a Quartermaster Supply Clerk

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael J. Szefler was inducted into the U.S. Army on 8 July 1964 and received his Honorable Discharge on 21 April 1966 / Szefler 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:** **SZEWCZYK**

**EDWARD**

**J.**

**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:** **VIETNAM**

**Service Notes:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward Szewczyk retired from American Brass / Edward J. Szewczyk passed away on 25 February 2023 at the age of 75 years old and is interred in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



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**Name:** SZYMANSKI

DAVID J.

**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 served as a Cook with the Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 44th Artillery Regiment, Fourth U.S. Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

David Szymanski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 22 July 1965 / David J. Szymanski passed away on 20 July 2017

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 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.



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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



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**Name:** SZYMANSKI

HENRY

S.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

☐ Vietnam Era

☒ Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **SZYMANSKI**  
**MICHAEL**

**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 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