



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAILY**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RALPH

G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DALY

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

RICHARD D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DALY, JR.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

RICHARD J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard John Daly, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Daly graduated from Lackawanna High School in 1950 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy / Daly worked decades as an engineer at South Buffalo Railway and as a fireman with the Lackawanna Fire Department / Richard Daly was a member of the American Legion / Richard John Daly, Jr. passed away on 12 November 2025 at the age of 93 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DASEY

Hometown: HAMBURG

JAMES J.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James Joseph Dasey honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Dasey earned a degree in Economics from Niagara University / Dasey had a successful career in sales / James Dasey moved to Mount Juliet, Tennessee after his retirement / James Joseph Dasey passed away in September 2024 and is interred at Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DAUM

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

RICHARD C.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

595TH RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (RM) SERVICE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAVIS**
MICHAEL

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Michael Davis honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Davis graduated from Nichols School and Cornell University, where he studied government / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Michael Davis was employed by Hurwitz Brothers Iron and Metal as an executive for more than 40 years / Davis retired to Phoenix, Arizona / Michael Davis passed away on 11 February 2026 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo New York



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June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DAVIS**
ROLAND

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/2ND CLASP

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roland Davis passed away on 27 February 2017 and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

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

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

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



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Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DE REU

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

CLAYTON

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: UT2

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

USS SUTTON (DE-771)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN DEFENSE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Navy Seabees, form the U.S. Naval Construction Force (NCF) / Naval Construction Battalions were conceived of as replacements for civilian construction companies in combat zones after the attack on Pearl Harbor / At the time civilian contractors had roughly 70,000 men working U.S. Navy contracts overseas / International law made it illegal for civilian workers to resist an attack and by doing so would classify them as guerrillas and could lead to summary execution / With roots dating back to World War II, the Seabees were formally established on 5 March 1942, to meet the Navy's growing need to construct bases, build airfields, conduct underwater construction and build roads, bridges and other support facilities while providing protection for themselves and those around them as part of the war effort / The Seabees were deployed to Vietnam twice in the 1950s to survey and map the roads / Seabee teams (501 and 502) arrived in January 1963 as the first Seabees of the Vietnam War / The



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last battalion withdrew late 1971 with the last Seabee teams out a year later / When it was over, 137 Seabee teams were sent to Vietnam and had built 15 CB camps and deployed 22 battalions / In the over seven decades since its founding, Seabees have gone on to serve in most major U.S. conflicts

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

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

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

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

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The Navy Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the



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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: DEAN

Hometown: BLASDELL

RICHARD A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard Allen Dean honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Richard Dean was assigned as an Aerographer's Mate (AG) while deployed to Navy #103 Base in Argentia, Newfoundland for 22 months

Richard Dean was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 28 October 1954

Base Assignments:

Naval Station Argentia, Newfoundland - Navy #103 Base is a former base of the United States Navy that operated from 1941 to 1994 / It was established in the community of Argentia in what was then the Dominion of Newfoundland, which later became the tenth Canadian province, Newfoundland and Labrador / Established under the British-US destroyers for bases agreement of 1940, the base was first occupied on 25 January 1941 / United States Army Coast Artillery Corps troops were first deployed to Argentia in early 1941, at first a single coast defense battery with two or four 155 mm guns and an anti-aircraft battery / In the spring of 1943 a 7,000 ton floating drydock was installed at Argentia, along with a ship repair facility. In August 1943, Task Force 24 Flag Headquarters moved ashore to permanent facilities / In 1944, Argentia served as one of the two stopover bases for the refueling, maintenance, and crew changes of the six United States Navy (USN) K-class blimps that made the first transatlantic crossings of non-rigid airships / Naval Air Station Argentia was decommissioned and the land transferred in 1975 to the Government of Canada

Miscellaneous:

Richard Allen Dean passed away on 8 December 2019

Aerographer's mate (abbreviated as AG) is a United States Navy occupational rating, devoted to collection and analysis of data related to weather, radar ocean conditions

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DEKARZ, JR.

Hometown: MARILLA

EDWARD H.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward H. Dekarz, Jr. honorably served in the Army National Guard for over 40 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward H. Dekarz, Jr. passed away on 27 August 2024 at the age of 93 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DELL**

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

CHARLES R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Charles R. Dell honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Dell retired from the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) / Richard R. Dell passed away on 27 April 2025 at the age of 91 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEMER**

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

EDMUND D.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Edmund D. Demer honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Edmund Demer was stationed in the European Theater during the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Edmund Demer earned his Doctor of Optometry degree from Ohio State University / Demer began his Optometry career in Cincinnati, Ohio / Dr. Edmund Demer moved back to Cheektowaga and opened his own optometry practice / Edmund Demer was a member of the Transit Valley Country Club / Edmund D. Demer passed away on 23 September 2025 at the age of 96 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DENK

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

EUGENE

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Eugene Denk honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Denk was a distributor for Forest Hill Dairy / Eugene Denk was a life member of the George F. Lamm American Legion Post #622, a member of the 82nd Airborne Division and former member of Local Voiture 51, Forty and Eight and was a founding member of St. Gregory the Great Parish / Eugene Denk passed away on 20 October 2025 at the age of 96 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEPETERS**

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOSEPH

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DERNER**

Hometown: CITY OF TONAWANDA

ROBERT

W.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "K", NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert W. Derner honorably served in the United States Navy / Robert Derner also served in the New York Army National Guard after his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Derner was a 1950 graduate of Tonawanda High School / Derner was a General Contractor and helped develop North Tonawanda's Wadsworth Court and River Edge Townhouses / Robert W. Derner passed away on 2 March 2023 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DERRICK

Hometown: TONAWANDA

EDWIN

R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edwin R. Derrick honorably served in the United States Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin Derrick graduated from McKinley High School & Hutchinson Tech as a metallurgist / Derrick worked for Pratt and Letchworth in Buffalo, New York and later Miner Enterprises in Geneva, Illinois where he retired after 35 years / Edwin Derrick was member of the Town of Tonawanda Police Neighborhood Crime Watch and an Erie County election poll worker / Edwin R. Derrick passed away on 23 December 2025 at the age of 90 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DETITTA

Hometown:

AUGUST

R

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

August Ray DeTitta honorably served in the United States Army / August DeTitta was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

August DeTitta grew up in Ridgefield, New Jersey attending St. Matthews Elementary in Ridgefield, New Jersey and graduating from St. Cecilia in Englewood, New Jersey / DeTitta was a graduate of Fordham University and earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree at New York University / August DeTitta's career was in corporate finance and, later, management consulting / August Ray DeTitta passed away on 17 April 2026 at the age of 94 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DEVANEY**

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS CO., 7TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph P. Devaney passed away on 3 March 2017

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

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

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DICKMAN**

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

ALLAN

C.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DIEFENBACH**

Hometown: BUFFALO

WILLIAM F.

Address: MARINE CORPS

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DIMARCO

Hometown: BOWMANSVILLE

HAROLD

M.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DIXON

Hometown: WEST SENECA

PAUL A.

Address: 23 GREENFIELD AVENUE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY G, 3RD BATTALION, 1ST MARINES

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

UNITED NATIONS KOREA SERVICE MEDAL

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

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

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

Miscellaneous:

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DOHERTY

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOHN

V.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DOLE

Hometown: EDEN

DONALD R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Donald R. Dole honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Donald Dole was employed by Conrail where he worked as a Carman, retired after 44 years of service / Dole was a member of the Hamburg Knights of Columbus, Orchard Park Seniors and the Eden American Legion / Donald R. Dole passed away on 6 April 2023 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery, East Eden, New York



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DOMBROWSKI**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

EUGENE L.

Address: 129 TUDOR BOULEVARD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY-AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Eugene Leo Dombrowski honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force / MSGT Eugene Dombrowski was deployed to Korea

Eugene L. Dombrowski also served in World War II

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Leo Dombrowski passed away on 21 December 1980 at the age of 62 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DOMBROWSKI**

Hometown: DEPEW

EUGENE

H.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Eugene Henry Dombrowski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Eugene Dombrowski was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Harvey D. Morin VFW Post #2940 and American Legion Post #735 / Eugene Henry Dombrowski passed away on 11 June 2007 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DONAHUE

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DONHAUSER
NORBERT**

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Norbert Donhauser honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norbert Donhauser Norbert was an Eucharistic Minister and a former member of the Boy Scouts of America / Norbert Donhauser passed away in 2019



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DRAINVILLE

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

PAUL N.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Paul N. Drainville honorably served in the United States Air Force Reserve / MSGT Paul Drainville was trained as a Flight Engineer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Drainville was born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island before moving to Grand Island / After his retirement, Paul Drainville moved to Port St. Lucie, Florida / Paul N. Drainville passed away on 3 June 2019 at the age of 87 years old

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DRAJEM

Hometown: BUFFALO

LEONARD R.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DRESSLER

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

NORMAN J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DROZDOWSKI

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RICHARD B.

Address: 768 MILL ROAD

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSG

Year Entered: 1948

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART (2)

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

Service Notes:

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

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

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

Base Assignments:



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DRYJA

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

ARTHUR J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Arthur J. Dryja honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Arthur Dryja served in the Merchant Marines during WWII in both the Atlantic War Zone and the Mediterranean Middle East War Zone / Merchant Mariners who served in WWII are officially recognized as Veterans / Dryja joined the Merchant Marines at the age of 16 and served 6 years / Dryja was later drafted during the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur J. "Whitey" Dryja passed away on 19 August 2017 at the age of 89 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DUDEK

Hometown: DEPEW

VICTOR F.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

39TH AIR ARTILLERY BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUDZIAK**

Hometown: CLARENCE

THOMAS L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **DUGGAN**

Hometown:

MICHAEL P.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CW5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

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

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DUNKEL

Hometown: FARNHAM

RAYMOND H.

Address:

- Korean Era
- Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGM

Year Entered: 1947

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

4TH INFANTRY, PANEL BRIDGE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

SGM Raymond Dunkel was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army in 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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



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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: DURNI

Hometown: BUFFALO

TED

E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: HM3

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Hospital Corpsman Third-Class Ted Evan Durni honorably served in the United States Navy / HM3 Ted Durni enlisted in the United States Naval Reserves in 1951 and reported for active duty in 1953 and was trained as a Hospital Corpsman / HM3 Durni served at the Jacksonville Naval Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida until 1955 / HM3 Ted Durni was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1957

Base Assignments:

Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Jacksonville, Florida - Founded in 1941, Naval Hospital Jacksonville has been under strict charge of the department of defense to "treat the heroes of the United States" both at home and abroad / This not only requires the staff of the hospital to treat sailors and marines at the Naval Air Station, but deploy doctors, nurses and corpsman with active duty Navy and Marine Corps Fleet units in support ongoing operations / Naval Hospital Jacksonville serves a single main purpose, to provide the highest level of care and treatment to all members of the armed services in need / The hospital is equipped to handle any sort of medical procedure and emergency both onsite and in the field / Navy doctors and corpsman operate a full medical program that is capable of treating all sailors and marines stationed in the surrounding area, civilian and Department of Defense employees, retired service members and dependents of active duty personnel

Miscellaneous:

Ted Durni graduated from Woodlawn High School and attended Alfred State College, majoring in Horticulture / After his Honorable Discharge from the navy Ted Durni was employed by Verizon (formerly Bell Telephone, New York Telephone and AT&T) for 36 years and Alaska Electrical for 8 years / Durni moved to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in 1999 and then moving to Kissimmee, Florida in 2019 / Ted Evan Durni passed away on 8 June 2024 at the age of 92 years old

The Navy Reserve is a branch of the United States Navy made up of qualified sailors who serve part-time while working in civilian jobs or attending school / Members of the Navy Reserve are categorized as being in either the Selected Reserve (SELRES), the Training and Administration of the Reserve (TAR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Retired Reserve / They provide invaluable expertise, experience, and leadership while delivering critical support to global operations and



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planning / The Navy Reserve provides strategic depth and delivers operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team in a range of military operations from peace to war