



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PACHTER**

Killed in Action

*Hometown:*

**RICHARD**

**N.**

*Address:*

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

*Service Branch:* NAVY

*Rank:*

*Year Entered:*

*Year Discharged:*

*Unit / Squadron:*

*Medals / Citations:*

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

*Service Notes:*

Richard N. Pachter honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

*Base Assignments:*

*Miscellaneous:*

Richard N. Pachter passed away on 15 August 2017 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PALASZEWSKI

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

LEONARD

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SSGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Leonard A. "Murph" Palaszewski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / SSGT Leonard Palaszewski was deployed to Korea / SSGT Palaszewski served four years in the Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Leonard Palaszewski was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 and American Legion #735 / Leonard A. "Murph" Palaszewski passed away on 27 December 2010



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PALERMO, SR.

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOHN

N.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

John N. Palermo, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Palermo retired from the United States Postal Service (USPS) in Buffalo after 25 years and retired to Lake Placid, Florida / John N. Palermo, Sr. passed away on 14 October 2024 at the age of 88 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PASLAWSKY  
NICHOLAS

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Nicholas "Mykola" Paslawsky honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Nicholas Paslawsky retired as a production worker at the Ford Motor Company / Nicholas Paslawsky was a member of the Ukrainian American Veterans Wolodymyr Holynskij Post #23 / Nicholas "Mykola" Paslawsky passed away on 30 May 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PATERSON**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** ANGOLA

**ROBERT**

**G.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert G. Paterson honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert G. Paterson passed away at the age of 91 years old on 1 July 2017 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Forest Avenue Cemetery, Angola, New York

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PATRZYK, SR.**

**RICHARD J.**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1953

**Unit / Squadron:**

A BATTERY, 633RD ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (GUN) BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

ARMY OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Richard John "Dick the Barber" Patrzyk, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Richard Patrzyk was assigned as an Anti-Aircraft Chief in Wiesbaden, Germany for 12 months

CPL Richard Patrzyk, Sr. was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 13 March 1953

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Patrzyk was a Grand Knight of the KFC Father Justin Council #5670 and a former member of of the Depew Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company #1 / Richard Patrzyk was the former owner of Patrzyk's Knob Hill Barber Shop / Richard John "Dick the Barber" Patrzyk, Sr. passed away on 8 May 2021 at the age of 91 years old

The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes

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

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



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

**Name:** PATTERSON

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

STEPHEN

W.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** CDR

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Commander Stephen W. Patterson honorably served in the United States Navy / CDR Stephen Patterson retired after 20 years as Commander and pilot

Commander Stephen Patterson also served during World War II and was deployed to Vietnam during the Vietnam War

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Stephen Patterson worked 30 years with General Motors, retiring as Superintendent from Tonawanda Engine / Stephen W. Patterson passed away on 13 December 2013 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PAWLOWSKI

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

FLORYAN

P.

**Address:** TE3

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1955

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS DENNIS J. BUCKLEY (DDR-808)

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATION MEDAL W/EUROPE CLASP

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

**Service Notes:**

Petty Officer Third-Class Floryan P. "Floyd" Pawlowski honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Floryan Pawlowski served nearly four years aboard the USS Dennis J. Buckley as a Teleman (TE) and completed three tours in the Mediterranean Sea

PO3 Floryan P. Pawlowski was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 27 October 1955

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Floryan P. Pawlowski was employed by the Buffalo News and retired as manager in the engraving department after 38 years of employment / Floryan "Floyd" P. Pawlowski passed away on 1 May 2022 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

USS Dennis J. Buckley (DD/DDR-808) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy / The ship was named after Fireman First Class Buckley, who was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for displaying exceptional courage in attempting to salvage the German blockade runner Karin which had been intercepted by his ship, the destroyer USS Eberle on 10 March 1943 / The explosion of demolition charges planted by the blockade runner's crew took his life / In March 1949, the USS Buckley was reclassified as a Radar Picket Destroyer (DDR) / The USS Buckley spent 1949, 1952 and 1955 on duty in the Mediterranean Sea and patrolled the Pacific region during the 1960's / The Buckley was commissioned on 2 March 1945 and decommissioned on 2 July 1973 / The USS Dennis J. Buckley was sold for scrap on 29 April 1974

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PEINKOFER

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

JOSEPH

S.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1950

**Year Discharged:** 1952

**Unit / Squadron:**

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

**Medals / Citations:**

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Joseph S. Peinkofer honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Joseph Peinkofer was deployed to Korea as a Lineman for 19 months

CPL Joseph Peinkofer received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 3 October 1952

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Peinkofer was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Pvt. Leonard Post VFW #6251 / Joseph S. Peinkofer passed away on 18 October 2018 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at United German & French Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

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

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

award for service or participation in operations in the Korean area between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1954 / Bronze service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PETERSON

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

ALBERT

N.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS GOODRICH (DD/DDR-831)

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Albert N. Peterson honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Albert Peterson retired from the General Motors Powertrain Plant in Tonawanda, NY / Albert N. Peterson passed away on 8 December 2022 at the age of 89 years old

USS Goodrich (DD/DDR-831) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, named for Rear Admiral Caspar F. Goodrich (1847–1925), and his son, Lieutenant Caspar Goodrich (died 1907) and commissioned on 24 April 1945 / After shakedown training in the Caribbean, Goodrich transited the Panama Canal on 12 November 1945 to support the occupation of Japan / She patrolled between principal Japanese ports until October 1946; then she based at Tsingtao, China, for patrol along the coast of Korea / Goodrich was reclassified a radar picket destroyer, DDR-831, on 18 March 1949 / When the Middle East crisis erupted in 1956, the Goodrich was sent to the Mediterranean Sea in November 1956 to protect Americans in that area / The destroyer supported the landing of Marines at Beirut, Lebanon, on 14 July 1958 / The Goodrich was on Project Mercury recovery station on 12 February 1962 as Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, USMC, made his successful orbital space flight / Goodrich went on alert again with the 6th Fleet during 24 October to 20 November 1962 when the Navy responded to President John F. Kennedy's call for a quarantine of Cuba that choked off the flow of military supplies and enforced the American demands for the withdrawal of the Soviet missile experts and equipment / Goodrich was reclassified DD-831 on 1 January 1969, and was decommissioned on 30 November 1969 / Berthed at Orange, Texas, Goodrich was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 February 1974 / The USS Goodrich was sold on 12 September 1977, and broken up for scrap



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PETRIE**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**EDMUND**

**F.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PVT

**Year Entered:** 1948

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

519TH MILITARY POLICE BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA WAR SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private Edmund F. Petrie honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Edmund Petrie was deployed to Korea and assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion as a Military Policeman / PVT Peterie was wounded in action during combat action on 15 September 1950 and passed away from his wounds on 16 September 1950 / Private Edmund Petrie served 15 days in Korea before being wounded

Prior to his deployment to Korea, PVT Petrie was stationed in Japan during the Spring of 1949, before being transferred to Korea in August 1950

The remains of Private Edmund F. Petrie were returned to the United States aboard the transport ship "Virginia City" and funeral services were held in Buffalo, New York

Edmund F. Petrie is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edmund Petrie attended St. Martin's School before entering South Park High School / Petrie completed his High School education after enlisting in the U.S. Army / Edmund F. Petrie was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The 519th Military Police Battalion began its service as the 15th Military Police Battalion on 18 October 1927 / In over 80 years of service, the 519th Military Police Battalion participated in 14 campaigns around the globe, providing invaluable combat support through World War II, the Korean War, and in expeditions in Panama and the Middle East / The 519th Battalion earned a Valorous Unit Award, five Meritorious Unit Commendations, three Army Superior Awards, and a Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Award

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

**Name:** **PETRUS**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** NORTH COLLINS

**ROBERT**

**H.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert H. Petrus honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Petrus was a thirty-year retiree of General Motors / Robert H. Petrus passed away on 13 July 2025 at the age of 90 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PHALEN

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** DEPEW

CLIFFORD

P.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Clifford P. Phalen honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Clifford Phalen was a member of the Knights of Columbus / Clifford P. Phalen passed away on 6 March 2025 at the age of 90 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PHILLIPS  
JAMES F.

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

James F. Phillips honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

James Phillips retired from the North Tonawanda School Board where he was a Custodian for over thirty years / James F. "Doc" Phillips passed away at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PIAZZA**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**PETER**

**F.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Peter F. Piazza honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Peter Piazza was employed by the United States Postal Service and retired after 33 years of service / Peter F. Piazza passed away on 2 April 2023



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PIERAKOS**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:**

**JAMES**

**L.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1954

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 19TH ENGINEER COMBAT GROUP, 8TH US ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal James Louis Pierakos honorably served in the United States Army / CPL James Pierakos was deployed for 15 months in South Korea as a Chief Intermediate Speed Radio Operator

Corporal James Pierakos received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 22 May 1954

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

James Pierakos was the former Executive Deputy Director of the Buffalo Streets Sanitation Department, President of the Abbott-South Park Business Association, Inc., President of the Men's Sustaining Society of Mercy Hospital, President of the Federation of South Buffalo Community Organizations and AFCME Local #254 / James Pierakos was member of South Buffalo Post #721 American Legion / James Louis Pierakos passed away on 9 June 2023 and is interred at WNY National Cemetery in Pembroke, New York

Intermediate Speed Radio Operators install and operate tactical field radio transmitting and receiving equipment; sends and receives messages by International Morse Code (CW, ICW, or tone) signals and by light signals / Normally operates in divisional, brigade, and equivalent radio nets

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Headquarters Company provides command, staff, administrative, supply and maintenance, communication, engineer, and medical support for the battle group

The Eighth Army is a U.S. field army which commands all United States Army forces in South Korea / It is headquartered at the Camp Humphreys in the Anjeong-ri of Pyeongtaek, South Korea / Eighth Army relocated its headquarters from Yongsan to Camp Humphreys in the summer of 2017 / It is the only field army in the U.S. Army / It is responsible to United States Forces Korea and United States Army, Pacific / The unit first activated on 10 June 1944 in the United States / The Eighth Army took part in many of the amphibious landings in the Southwest Pacific Theater of World War II, eventually participating in no less than sixty of them / The first mission of the Eighth Army, in September 1944, was to take over from the U.S. Sixth Army in New Guinea, New Britain, the Admiralty Islands and on Morotai, in order to free up the Sixth Army to engage in the Philippines Campaign (1944–45) / During the Korean War, the Eighth Army was deployed to the war zone in July 1950 / The Eighth Army was decisively defeated at the Battle of the Chongchon River and forced to retreat all the way back to South Korea / The defeat of the U.S. Eighth Army resulted in the longest retreat of any U.S. military unit in history / The Eighth Army slowed and ultimately halted the Chinese advance at the battles of Chipyeong-ni and Wonju / It then counter-attacked the Chinese, re-took Seoul, and drove to the 38th parallel, where the front stabilized / During the aftermath of the Korean War, the Eighth Army remained in South Korea

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

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

The 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 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 19th Engineer Battalion is a United States Army combat engineering unit / This unit provides general engineering support during military operations / The 19th Engineer Battalion deploys engineer forces to provide mission command and general engineer support to decisive action in support of Expeditionary, Army, Joint, or Combined Military Operations



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

world-wide / The 19th Engineer Battalion participated in World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom

**Name:** PIOTROWSKI

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

STANLEY

V.

**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:**

Stanley V. Piotrowski honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Stanley Piotrowski worked for Bethlehem Steel for over 40 years / Stanley V. Piotrowski passed away on 16 February 2025 at the age of 97 years old

# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **POWERS**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**DONALD**

**R.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** PO2

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1954

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS CJ BADGER (DD-657)

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Petty Officer Second-Class Donald R. Powers honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Donald Powers served aboard the USS CJ Badger

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald R. Powers passed away on 18 December 2021

USS Charles J. Badger (DD-657) was a Fletcher-class destroyer of the United States Navy, named for Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger (1853–1932), whose service included the Spanish–American War and World War I / The badger was commissioned on 23 July 1943 and on 17 December 1943 reported at Adak, Alaska for patrol and escort duty around the Aleutians until August 1944 / On 8 August 1944, she sailed to San Francisco and Pearl Harbor to join an assault convoy and sailed on 14 October for the Philippines campaign / Entering Philippine waters, she escorted transports during the assault landings at Dulag, Leyte / On the eve of the Battle for Leyte Gulf, Badger guarded the retirement of empty transports to New Guinea then returned to Leyte convoying reinforcements / On 8 January 1945, as she entered Lingayen Gulf, her convoy was attacked by Japanese kamikazes, one of which crashed into Kitkun Bay / Two days later Charles J. Badger escorted Kitkun Bay to San Pedro, then took up patrol duties / On 7 April she joined a force moving north to intercept the last Japanese naval force; Yamato and Yahagi with eight destroyers. However, an attack by carrier aircraft sank Yamato, Yahagi and all but four of the destroyers before the surface forces could engage / In the early morning on 9 April, while on her fire support station, a Japanese army Maru-ni, suicide boat, dropped a depth charge close to the ship / The explosion knocked out Badger's engines and caused significant flooding / Damage control work minimized the flooding and a tug brought the destroyer to Kerama Retto / After temporary repairs, she proceeded for an overhaul to Bremerton, Washington / In February 1952, the Badger arrived at her new home port, Newport, R.I. / From this base, she operated along the east coast and in the Caribbean, maintaining and providing services for the training of other types / Her first Atlantic crossing came from 9 June to 23 July 1953, when she sailed to visit Portsmouth, England, in company



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

with two aircraft carriers and another destroyer / The Badger operated for 2 months on patrol off the Korean coast and in the Taiwan Straits / She escorted transports bringing prisoners of war who had elected to join the Chinese Nationalists from Inchon to Taiwan and took part in training operations off Japan until 22 May 1954, when she continued on around the world / Visits at Hong Kong, Singapore, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Naples, Villefranche-sur-Mer, and Lisbon, through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean to Newport / Badger completed two tours of duty with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean in early 1956 and in late 1956-early 1957, during the second of which she patrolled during the Suez Crisis / Badger was decommissioned on 20 December 1957 and placed in reserve at Boston, Mass. 20 December 1957 / The ship was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 February 1974, sold 10 May 1974 to Chile and cannibalized for spare parts / The USS CJ Badger received five battle stars for World War II service



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** POWERS

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** KENMORE

RAYMOND

P.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

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

**Service Notes:**

Raymond P. Powers honorably served in the United States Army / Raymond Powers was deployed to Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat action

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond Powers was a member of Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Company for over 55 years / Powers served as Chief (1976-77), President (1982-83), Commissioner (1985-94), as well as other roles / Raymond P. Powers passed away on 5 January 2024 at the age of 90 years old

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



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **POWERS**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**RICHARD 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:**

Richard J. "Dick" Powers honorably served in the United States Navy / Richard Powers served with the Naval Seabees, a unit of the U.S. Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Powers was a Licensed Master Plumber for 66 years and the retired Owner of Day & Night Sewer Company / Powers was a member of the Patriots Club and an Usher at Our Lady of Victory / Richard J. "Dick" Powers passed away on 18 February 2026 at the age of 91 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Navy Seabees, form the U.S. Naval Construction Force (NCF) / Naval Construction Battalions were conceived of as replacements for civilian construction companies in combat zones after the attack on Pearl Harbor / At the time civilian contractors had roughly 70,000 men working U.S. Navy contracts overseas / International law made it illegal for civilian workers to resist an attack and by doing so would classify them as guerrillas and could lead to summary execution / With roots dating back to World War II, the Seabees were formally established on 5 March 1942, to meet the Navy's growing need to construct bases, build airfields, conduct underwater construction and build roads, bridges and other support facilities while providing protection for themselves and those around them as part of the war effort / The Seabees were deployed to Vietnam twice in the 1950s to survey and map the roads / Seabee teams (501 and 502) arrived in January 1963 as the first Seabees of the Vietnam War / The last battalion withdrew late 1971 with the last Seabee teams out a year later / When it was over, 137 Seabee teams were sent to Vietnam and had built 15 CB camps and deployed 22 battalions / In the over seven decades since its founding, Seabees have gone on to serve in most major U.S. conflicts



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PRENTKI, JR.

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

ADAM

A.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Adam A. Prentki, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Adam Prentki was employed by the Ford Motor Company in Buffalo, retiring and moving to Bonita Springs, Florida / Prentki was a member of the Moose Lodge #1451, the John F. Murphy American Legion Post #303, the E.T. Brissom Detachment of the Marine Corps League and the Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #4254 / Adam A. Prentki, Jr. passed away after a long illness on 5 July 2023 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Stanislaus 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:** PRICE, JR.

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** CLARENCE CENTER

CHARLES J.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** A1C

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Airman First-Class Charles James Price, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / A1C Charles Price was deployed to Korea and assigned as a Medical Technician, working on airborne evacuations

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Charles Price attended the University at Buffalo and became a car inspector for the Pennsylvania Railroad / Price owned and operated Green Acres Dry Cleaners on Niagara Falls Boulevard in the Town of Tonawanda from the mid-1960s to the early 1980s / In 1982, Price became a manager for Budget Car Rental at Buffalo Niagara International Airport in Cheektowaga, retiring in 1999 / Charles Price was a member of Charles N. DeGlopper Post 9249, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), on Grand Island / Charles James Price, Jr. passed away on 22 August 2018 at the age of 89 years old



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **PTAK**

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**THADDEUS S.**

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Thaddeus S. Ptak honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thaddeus Ptak was a member of IUEC Local #14 / Thaddeus S. Ptak passed away on 21 January 2026 at the age of 97 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert's Cemetery, Lancaster, New York



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** PYSZ

Killed in Action

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

JOHN

E.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

John Edward Pysz honorably served in the United States Army / John Pysz was stationed in Japan

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, John Pysz earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology and worked at various industries throughout Western New York / John Edward Pysz passed away on 14 march 2025 at the age of 93 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Buffalo, New York