



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TALLMAN

Hometown: HAMBURG

THOMAS L.

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:

Thomas L. Tallman honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Tallman retired from Moore Business Forms Systems in Amherst, New York / Tallman was the founding member of Hamburg Holidays, a former Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 400 in Hamburg and a past School Board Member of SS Peter & Paul Catholic School / Tallman earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Empire State College in Buffalo, New York at the age of 61 years old / Thomas L. Tallman passed away on 19 March 2023 at the age of 91 years old and interred at SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TEGLER**

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

LEROY

H.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY-AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

LeRoy H. Tegler honorably served in the United States Army-Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

LeRoy H. Tegler passed away on 25 May 2013 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

The United States Air Force was established by transfer of personnel from the Army Air Forces with the enactment of the National Security Act of 1947 / It is the second youngest branch of the United States Armed Forces and the fourth in order of precedence / The United States Air Force articulates its core missions as air supremacy, global integrated intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, rapid global mobility, global strike, and command and control



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TENHAGEN**

Hometown: BUFFALO

JOHN G.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

John G. Tenhagen honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / John Tenhagen received a Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John G. Tenhagen passed away on 19 August 2022 and is interred at Saint Stanislaus Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

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: **TETREULT**
TOM

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

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:

Tom Tetreault honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Tom Tetreault worked at Union Carbide (Linde) for more than 35 years / Tom Tetreault passed away on 11 January 2025 at the age of 96 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THILL

Hometown: HOLLAND

FRANCIS

A.

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:** KOREA

Service Notes:

Francis A. "Corky" Thill honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Francis Thill was a lifetime member of Clutch Artists, Inc. / Francis A. "Corky" Thill passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 90 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMAS

Hometown: TONAWANDA

LEE

R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Lee R. Thomas honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Lee Thomas enlisted in the U.S. Air Force at the age of 17 years old

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force, Lee Thomas attended and graduated from Buffalo State Teachers College in 1961, receiving his Masters Degree in Education Administration / Thomas taught Fourth Grade at Starpoint Elementary School for 38 years, retiring in 1998 / Lee R. Thomas passed away on 27 June 2023 at the age of 88 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMAS SR

Hometown: BUFFALO

RICHARD A.

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:

Richard A. Thomas, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Thomas was retired from the United States Postal Service and the City of Buffalo / Richard A. "Dick" Thomas, Sr. passed away on 24 May 2024 at the age of 92 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: THOMPSON

Hometown: BUFFALO

KENNETH L.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

569TH ORDNANCE COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

ARMY OF OCCUPATION OF GERMANY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Kenneth L. Thompson honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Kenneth Thompson was deployed to Korea / CPL Thompson was a Leadership Instructor at Aberdeen Proving Ground prior to serving in Germany as part of the Allied-Occupation Force

Base Assignments:

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Aberdeen, Maryland - APG is the U.S. Army's oldest active proving ground, established on October 20, 1917 / Its location allowed design and testing of ordnance materiel to take place near contemporary industrial and shipping centers / At the peak of World War II, APG had billeting space for 2,348 officers and 24,189 enlisted personnel / Although civilian contractors produced the major portion of conventional munitions for World War I, the United States government built federally owned plants on Aberdeen Proving Ground for the manufacture of toxic gas / From 1917 to the present, the Edgewood area of Aberdeen conducted chemical research programs, manufactured chemical agents, and tested, stored, and disposed of toxic materials

Kornwestheim, Germany - Kornwestheim is a town in the district of Ludwigsburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany / It is situated about 6 miles north of Stuttgart, and 3 miles south of Ludwigsburg / On 21 April 1945, the United States military troops occupied the town as part of the Allied Occupation of Germany following the defeat of Nazi Germany / American troops were stationed at the Wilkin Barracks in Kornwestheim until 1993

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth L. Thompson graduated from Avon Park High School, Florida prior to joining the Army / Moving to Western New York after his Honorable Discharge, Thompson worked for Bethlehem Steel, General Motors and Toledo Scales / Thompson went to work for Erie County Weights and Measures, becoming the Department Director before retiring in 1991 / Thompson was a member and Lieutenant in the West Seneca Auxiliary Police for many years and a member of the West Seneca Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) / An avid sportsman, Thompson was a life member of



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Harvey D. Morin, VFW #2940 and American Legion Post #735 in West Seneca / Kenneth L. Thompson passed away on November 1, 2019 at the age of 90 and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The 569th Ordnance Medium Automotive Maintenance (MAM) Company was activated on 18 June 1947 at Allach (Munich), Germany / The Company's mission at that time was to support, in conjunction with the 558th Ord MAM Co, wheeled vehicles and small arms in the Munich Military Post area / In addition to military personnel, the Company supervised, together with the 558th, approximately 1,500 German personnel in the maintenance, repair and supply of ordnance material / On 1 April 1953, the unit was reorganized and redesignated as the 569th Ordnance Company, Direct Automotive Support (DAS)

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 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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Name: THOMSON
DONALD

Hometown: TOWN OF 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:

Donald Thomson honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald Thomson passed away on 21 February 2024 at the age of 94 years old and is interred at Elmwood Memorial Park, Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **THRUN**

Hometown: BUFFALO

EDWARD J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1952

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward J. Thrun honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Thrun graduated from East Aurora High School / Edward Thrun worked for Bethlehem Steel as a Machinist / Edward J. Thrun passed away on 2 December 2025 at the age of 97 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TODARO**
RUSSELL

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

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:

Russell Todaro honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Russell Todaro retired as an Engineer with the New York State Department of Transportation / Russell Todaro passed away on 31 July 2025 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TOLLEY

Hometown: DEPEW

RODNEY

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:**

Service Notes:

Rodney P. Tolley honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Rodney Tolley retired from Maryvale Schools after teaching math for more than 20 years / Tolley was a member of the Buffalo Schwaben Chor / Rodney P. Tolley passed away on 2 March 2026 at the age of 94 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TOMASIC

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

STEPHEN J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Stephen J. Tomasic honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Stephen Tomasic was assigned as an Aircraft Communication System Technician during his duty tour / CPL Tomasic had been serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserves until he was called to active duty on 11 January 1953

CPL Stephen Tomasic received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 10 January 1955

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Tomasic owned and operated the Ridge Maintenance Corporation in Blasdell, NY since 1960 and prior to that, was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation for 32 years / Stephen J. Tomasic passed away on 22 August 2017 at the age of 84 years old and his remains cremated

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TRUAX**

Hometown: DEPEW

THOMAS G.

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:

Thomas G. Truax honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Traux was a member of Knights of St. John, Commandry #204 / Thomas G. Truax passed away on 14 February 2026 at the age of 95 years old and is interred at St. Matthew Cemetery, West Seneca, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TRZENSKI

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

WALTER J.

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:

Walter J. Trzenski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter J. Trzenski passed away on 6 August 2022 at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TRZEPACZ

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

DANIEL J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1954

Unit / Squadron:

USS JAMES C. OWENS (DD-776)

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

NAVY OCCUPATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel J. Trzepacz honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Daniel Trzepacz was assigned as a Machinist's Mate and deployed to Korea aboard the USS James C. Owens for over 38 months / While operating off Songjin, Korea on 7 May 1952, the USS James C. Owens engaged enemy shore batteries and silenced several of them, but sustained six direct hits / When his ship went to battle stations, Daniel Trzepacz, ran across the deck and an enemy shell landed at his feet / He proceeded to pick the shell up and throw it overboard / It exploded as he threw it and he suffered shrapnel injuries which remained in both his wrists until his death / He never sought any medical care outside of the corpsman on the ship or reported being injured when he returned to port as he felt he was just blessed to have survived when so many died

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Trzepacz was a highly mechanically inclined Hydraulics Engineer who served as the Chief Hydraulics Engineer for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation / In the early 1980's, Trzepacz owned Northeast Hydraulics Services, Inc. family business for eighteen years called / Trzepacz was an active member of the Western New York Gas & Steam Engine Association and the Niagara Frontier Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society / Daniel Trzepacz was a lifetime member of the Hamburg American Legion Post #527 / Daniel J. Trzepacz passed away on 21 July 2020 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery, Eden, New York

USS James C. Owens (DD-776), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, is the only ship of the United States Navy FRAM II class to be named for Lieutenant James C. Owens Jr., a member of Torpedo Squadron 8 on board USS Hornet / His entire squadron was lost in an attack against Japanese aircraft carriers 4 June during the Battle of Midway / Lt. Owens received



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the Navy Cross and the Presidential Unit Citation (US) posthumously / The James C. Owens was commissioned on 17 February 1945 / In June 1945, the Owens operated out of Okinawa until departing 20 September for Japan as part of the Wakayama Occupation Group / Arriving on 22 September, she supported occupation landings, patrolled off southern Japanese islands, and served as courier and escort ship / With the outbreak of war in Korea, the Owens arrived in the Western Pacific on 27 February 1950 for blockade and interdiction patrols along the Korean coast / While operating off Songjin 7 May 1950, she engaged enemy shore batteries and silenced several of them, but sustained six direct hits / Departing Korea 22 June, she steamed via the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean to Norfolk arriving on 19 August 1950 / She returned to Korean waters on 10 November 1953, and patrolled coastal waters to prevent violations of the armistice signed on 27 July 1953 / She remained on this important peace-keeping duty in the Far East until she departed Yokosuka, Japan, 11 March 1954 / For almost two years James C. Owens operated out of Norfolk and Guantanamo Bay on ASW and destroyer division maneuvers / While in the Caribbean during September 1955, she provided search and rescue assistance to the citizens of Puerto Rico after a destructive hurricane / The USS James C. Owens was decommissioned on 15 July 1973 and sold to Brazil and renamed Sergipe / She was finally scrapped in 1995 / The James C. Owens received two battle stars for World War II service and two for the Korean War

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 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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **TURCO**

Hometown: BUFFALO

LEWIS

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: YN

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS HORNET (CV/CVA/CVS-12)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Yeoman Third-Class Lewis P. Turco honorably served in the United States Navy / YN Turco was stationed aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Hornet

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Born in Buffalo, Lewis Turco was raised in Meriden, Connecticut and graduated from the Meriden High School in 1952 / Turco attended the University of Connecticut, earning a Bachelor's Degree in 1959 / Lewis Turco taught at Fenn College (now Cleveland State University) and founded and directed its poetry center / Turco founded and directed an undergraduate writing art program at SUNY Oswego, taking emeritus status in 1996 / Lewis Turco taught at the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writer's Conference in Vermont and at SUNY writer's festivals / In 1998, Turco led a writer's workshop at the Chautauqua Institution / Turco received the John Ciardi Award in 1999 for lifetime achievement in poetry / Lewis Turco published more than 50 books, chapbooks and monographs, along with hundreds of poems, stories, plays and essays / Turco retired to Dresden, Maine / Lewis P. Turco passed away on 25 October 2024 at the age of 90 years old

Yeoman perform administrative and clerical work / They receive visitors, answer telephone calls and sort incoming mail / They type, organize files and operate modern office equipment such as word processing computers and copying machines

USS Hornet (CV/CVA/CVS-12) is an Essex-class aircraft carrier built for the United States Navy (USN) during World War II / Commissioned on 29 November 1943, the ship was assigned to the Fast Carrier Task Force (variously designated as Task Force 38 or 58) in the Pacific Ocean, the navy's primary offensive force during the Pacific War / In early 1944, she participated in attacks on Japanese installations in New Guinea, Palau and Truk among others / The Hornet then took part in the Mariana and Palau Islands campaign and most of the subsidiary operations, most notably the Battle of the Philippine Sea in June that was nicknamed the "Great Marianas Turkey Shoot" for the disproportionate losses inflicted upon the Japanese / The ship then participated in the Philippines Campaign in late 1944, and the Volcano and Ryukyu



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Islands campaign in the first half of 1945 / She was badly damaged by a typhoon in June and had to return to the United States for repairs / After the war she took part in Operation Magic Carpet, returning troops to the U.S. and was then placed in reserve in 1946 / Hornet was reactivated during the Korean War of 1950–1953, but spent the rest of the war being modernized to allow her to operate jet-propelled aircraft / The ship was modernized again in the late 1950s for service as an anti-submarine carrier / She played a minor role in the Vietnam War during the 1960s and in the Apollo program, recovering the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 astronauts when they returned from the Moon / The Hornet was decommissioned on 26 June 1970 / She was eventually designated as both a National Historic Landmark and a California Historical Landmark, and she opened to the public as the USS Hornet Museum in Alameda, California, in 1998



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: TWOREK

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RAYMOND H.

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 Raymond H. Tworek honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond H. Tworek passed away on 6 December 2024 at the age of 95 years old and interred at St. Augustine Cemetery, Lancaster, New York