



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANLEY**

JAMES E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: LARKWOOD ROAD

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

2046TH COMMUNICATIONS GROUP - MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC)
1876TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON
1ACOMGP - STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND (SAC)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN RIBBON
AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON

VIETNAM SERVICE RIBBON
AIR FORCE COMMENDATION RIBBON
NYS MEDAL FOR MERIT

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James E. Manley, as a Data Communications Center Operator, advised 7th Air Force Computer Operations personnel in correct electrical communications procedures using the IBM 360/50 SEEK Data II computer at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and it was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Sheppard AFB, Texas - The base, located near Wichita Falls, was is named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941. Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / It was officially opened as a United States Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941, following the arrival of the first military members on 14 June. As the Army Air Corps became the Army Air Forces, facilities were completed sufficiently to allow the first class of 22 aviation mechanics to enter training that October; the class graduated 23 February 1942 / Sheppard Field reached its peak strength of 46,340 people while serving as a



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separation center for troops being discharged following World War II from September through November 1945 / Communications, refrigeration, air conditioning, and power production operator and repairman training were transferred to Sheppard in 1959

Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio - The base began with the establishment of Wilbur Wright Field in May 1917 / Wright-Patterson AFB was established in 1948 as a merger of Patterson and Wright Fields / The base is one of the largest, most diverse, and organizationally complex bases in the Air Force with a long history of flight tests spanning from the Wright Brothers into the Space Age / Wright-Patterson is also the headquarters of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the Air Force Research Laboratory

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

Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska - The base was named to honor First Lieutenant Jarvis Jennes Offutt (26 October 1894 – 13 August 1918), the first native of Omaha to become a casualty in World War I / Lieutenant Offutt died of injuries sustained when his SE-5 fighter crashed during a training flight near Valheureux, France / In November 1948, Offutt became the host base for Headquarters Strategic Air Command (SAC) / During the Cold War, a general and various support personnel from the base were airborne 24-hours a day on an EC-135 from February 1961 to July 1990 in Operation Looking Glass, creating an airborne command post in case of war / Operation Looking Glass carried out its mission without any mishaps or incidents during its 29 years of existence / Offutt AFB's legacy includes the construction of the first two bombers to drop atomic bombs and over 40 years as the headquarters for the former Strategic Air Command (SAC) and home for its associated ground and aerial command centers for the U.S. in case of nuclear war during the Cold War

Miscellaneous:

James E. Manley graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1966 / Prior to joining the U. S. Air Force, Manley worked in the Mail Room at Merchants Mutual Insurance Company / After an Honorable Discharge, Manley returned to Merchants as a Computer Operator / In 1980, Manley went to work for Biel's Micorofilm Corp as the Production Manager until downsizing in 1995 / With a Certificate in Records management, Manley went to work in the West Seneca Town Clerk's Office in 1997 until his retirement in 2010 / Manley graduated from Erie Community College (ECC) in 2003 with a degree in Computer Information Systems / James Manley is an active member of American Legion Post 735, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the West Seneca Veterans Committee

Originally part of the 1062nd USAF Communications Squadron, the squadron was redesignated as the 2046th Communications Squadron at Wright-Patterson AFB in January 1953 / The 2046th supported the mission of the Military Airlift Command (MAC)



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Name: **MONIN**

FRANCIS G.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 3407 CLINTON STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (MARDIV)

USS ESSEX (CV-9)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Francis G. Monin was Killed in Action on 5 July 1967, after getting hit by an enemy bullet while fighting near Quang Nam, South Vietnam / CPL Monin was a rifleman and had arrived for his tour duty in Vietnam a month prior to his death

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Francis Monin was a 1964 graduate of West Seneca Central School and later that year, in November, enlisted in the Marine Corp.

Corporal Francis G. Monin was 20 years of age at the time of his death

The USS Essex (CV/CVA/CVS-9) was an aircraft carrier built for the United States Navy during World War II / She was the fourth US Navy ship to benamed for Essex County, Massachusetts / Commissioned on 31 December 1942, the Essex participated in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning the Presidential Unit



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Citation and 13 battle stars / Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine aircraft carrier (CVS) / In her second career she served mainly in the Atlantic, playing a role in the Cuban Missile Crisis. She also participated in the Korean War, earning four battle stars and the Navy Unit Commendation. She was the primary recovery carrier for the Apollo 7 space mission / The USS Essex was decommissioned on 30 June 1969 and sold for scrap in 1975



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Name: **MORRIS**

MARK A.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM2

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. HENDERSON DD-785

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPPACT), Long Beach, California - Beginning in 1938, the Navy occupied the Long Beach Naval Complex on the south side of Terminal Island in Long Beach and Los Angeles under various functions and missions / The complex covered approximately 1,095 acres of land and harbor areas that included two naval activities: the Naval Station and the Naval Shipyard / The Naval Station was established on 15 November 1946, as a homeport for Pacific Fleet ships, providing port facilities, fleet support personnel, and recreational facilities / The Long Beach Naval Shipyard was established in February 1943 as a facility to repair and refit Navy ships / The Naval Station was closed on 30 September 1994 and the Naval Shipyard was closed on 30 September 1997

Miscellaneous:

Mark Morris graduated from Bishop Neumann High School in 1973 prior to entering military service / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Morris went to work at the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) as a Pipefitter. Later he was promoted to Chief Stationary Engineer and held that position until his retirement in June 2013 / In 1989, Mark Morris enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserves joining the Seabees / Morris served with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 13 (NMCB13) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 21 (NMCB21) / Mark A. Morris retired from the Seabees in 2004 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO)

The USS Henderson (DD-785) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the second Navy ship of that name, and the first named for United States Marine Corps Major Lofton R. Henderson / The Henderson was commissioned on 4 August 1945 in Seattle, Washington / During the Korean Conflict, the Henderson supported



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the American assault into Inchon Bay, Korea during September 1950 by destroying mines and bombarding the Inchon waterfront preparatory to the invasion / The USS Henderson received 8 Battle Stars for her service during the Korean Conflict and shared in the Navy Unit Commendation given her task unit for its part in the Inchon landings / In January 1967, during the Vietnam Conflict, the Henderson was sent to Vietnam for four months to support attack carrier operations and conduct shore bombardment assignments / In April 1968, the Henderson returned to Vietnam to conduct shore bombardments and escort duties in the South China Sea until September 1968 / During her service in Southeast Asia, the Henderson received seven Battle Stars for her support during the Vietnam Conflict / In 1973, following her Vietnam assignment, the USS Henderson spent the next six years conducting reserve training operations out of Long Beach. The destroyer spent the majority of her time sailing in local operating areas, though the warship also conducted reserve unit training cruises to Pearl Harbor or the Pacific Northwest on an annual basis / The USS Henderson (DD-785) was decommissioned on 30 September 1980