



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FAHRENHOLZ**  
**HOLGER**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Holger "Butch" Fahrenholz honorably served in the United States Navy / Holger Fahrenholz was stationed in Rota, Spain

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Holger Fahrenholz retired from the Louis Freyfus Corporation in 1998 / Fahrenholz retired to Port Charlotte, Florida / Holger "Butch" Fahrenholz passed away on 27 November 2015 at the age of 80 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FALCONE**

**ROBERT**

**D.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert Dennis Falcone honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Falcone graduated from Burgard Vocational High School / Robert Falcone was a licensed commercial pilot, flight instructor, ground school instructor and corporate pilot / Falcone was also was an accomplished stunt flyer / Robert Falcone established an aircraft maintenance and restoration service in Hangar 5 at Niagara Falls International Airport, which he operated for more than 40 years / In 2008, the Federal Aviation Administration recognized Robert Falcone with its prestigious Charles M. Taylor Master Mechanics Award, named after the mechanic for the Wright Brothers / Robert Dennis Falcone passed away on 2 April 2016 at the age of 78 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FALKNER**  
**WILLIAM**

**Hometown:** WALES

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

William Falkner honorably served in the United States Army / William Falkner was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Falkner is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Rademacher VFW Post #5861

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

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

The 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



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present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FALTISCO**

**ROBERT T.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1963

**Unit / Squadron:**

184TH CHEMICAL PLATOON (COMBAT SUPPORT)

**Medals / Citations:**

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (CARBINE)

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert T. Faltisco honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert Faltisco was assigned as an Ammunition Storage Helper / SP4 Faltisco was attached to the US Army Ordnance Corps and served 2 years of foreign duty

SP-4 Robert Faltisco was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 14 February 1963

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert T. Faltisco passed away on 14 July 2021

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps mission was to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapon systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility material during World War II to provide combat power to the U.S. Army

The 184th Chemical Platoon was activated 22 August 1960 / The Platoon's mission was two-fold / Firstly, to conduct Army Training Program and secondly, to operate the Fort Meade Chemical Field Maintenance Shop

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



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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FANNING, SR.

PAUL

P.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Paul P. Fanning, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Paul Fanning was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Paul P. Fanning, Sr. passed away on 7 November 2019 at the age of 68 years of age and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

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

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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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**Name:** **FARON**

**WILLIAM H.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

William Henry Faron honorably served in the United States Navy / William Faron was deployed to Vietnam as a Hospital Corpsman / Faron served in both the Navy and Marine Corps / William Faron was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for acts of valor in a combat zone

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Faron was born in Traverse City, Michigan before moving to Buffalo / William Faron graduated from Riverside High School in 1965, later earning a Bachelor's Degree from Medaille University (Buffalo) / After his Honorable Discharge from military service, Faron went to work for Bristol Myers - Squibb until his retirement in 2002 after 32 years / Faron moved to Annapolis, Maryland after his retirement / William Henry Faron passed away on 27 July 2023 at the age of 75 years old

Medical Corpsman is a military enlisted person trained to give first aid and minor medical treatment / The Medical Corps consists of commissioned medical officers who are physicians / A combat medic is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment at a point of wounding in a combat or training environment / U.S. Army Medics and U.S. Navy Corpsmen were the enlisted "first responders" of the Vietnam War

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



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The Navy Achievement Medal is awarded to recognize outstanding achievement or meritorious service of military personnel who were not eligible to receive the higher Commendation Medal or the Meritorious Service Medal / The Navy Achievement Medal (NAM), is the United States Navy version of the Achievement Medal / The U.S. Navy was the first branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to award such a medal, doing so in 1961, when it was dubbed the "Secretary of the Navy Commendation for Achievement Medal" / This title was shortened in 1967 to simply, the "Navy Achievement Medal" / On August 19, 1994, to recognize those of the United States Marine Corps who had received the Navy Achievement Medal, the name of the decoration was officially changed to the "Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal" / The award is still often referred to in shorthand speech as the "Navy Achievement Medal" or "NAM" for short / The "V" device is authorized for wear if the award is for acts or services involving direct participation in combat operations



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**Name:** **FARRELL**  
**DAVID J.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** GMT2

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Gunners Mate Second-Class David J. Farrell honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

David Farrell worked most of his life as an Industrial Electrician / David F. Farrell passed away on 16 August 2022 at the age of 73 years old



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**Name:** FARRELL

DONALD

K.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Donald K. Farrell honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald Farrell graduated from Kensington High School in 1966 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Donald Farrell received a degree in Sociology from the State University of New York at Buffalo / Donald Farrell worked for over 30 years for New York State in mental health; and as a foreman for the Erie County Highway Department / Donald K. Farrell passed away on 29 July 2025 at the age of 77 years old



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**Name:** FARRELL

WILLIAM P.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 198 OAKMONT AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 50TH INFANTRY, B COMPANY

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/"V" DEVICE

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/"V" DEVICE

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class William Peter Farrell honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Farrell was deployed to Vietnam on 1 September 1967 as an Infantry Indirect Fire Crewman / PFC William Farrell was Killed In Action on 10 December 1967 during a combat operation some 9 kilometers south of Tam Quan in Binh Dinh Province

On 10 December 1967, Company "D" engaged the enemy in the vicinity of the My An hamlet / During the ensuing fire fight, a NVA sniper was in the trees above the company and hit PFC William Farrell in the chest, killing him instantly

Fourteen 50th Infantry men were killed in the Battle of Tam Quan, which was the major battle of the 1st Air Cavalry Division's "Operation Pershing" on the coastal Bong Son Plains in and around Binh Dinh Province

Private First-Class William Peter Farrell was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a combat zone / PFC Farrell distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous action on 10 December 1967, while serving as a rifleman with Company D, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry during a combat mission near Bong Son, Republic of Vietnam / When his unit came under intense hostile fire and sustained several casualties, Private First-Class Farrell, though wounded himself, moved through the enemy fire to carry his injured comrades to safety / While returning to his vehicle, Private First-Class Farrell was mortally wounded



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## *Base Assignments:*

## *Miscellaneous:*

William Farrell graduated from Bishop Turner High School and worked at the Western Electric Company before entering the Army / William Peter Farrell was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

William Peter Farrell is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 31e, Line 73

An Indirect Fire Infantryman works as a member of a platoon or a mortar squad / Among their responsibilities include participating in various combat operations, setting up and firing different types of mortars, locating and recovering mines, cleaning and organizing weapons and other supplies, and overseeing members  
Indirect Fire Infantryman

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action

The 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry served in Vietnam from 22 September 1967 to 13 December 1970 in II Corps (Central Highlands), providing combat power to major unit, when and where it was most needed / At times we were attached to the 1st Cavalry Division, 4th Infantry Division, 173d Airborne Brigade and 1st Field Force Vietnam

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

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



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members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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

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

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

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



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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:** FARRELL JR

ALBERT J.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 64 LILAC STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, B COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Albert James Farrell, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Albert Farrell was deployed to Vietnam on 5 February 1970 as a Rifleman / PFC Albert Farrell died on 12 March 1970 from a reported accidental self-inflicted injury in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

After finishing his night watch PFC Albert Farrell, Jr. went to his bunker, at Hill 22, 4 kilometers southeast of Tuy Loan Bridge to have breakfast and was having coffee when he picked by an M79 that belonged to another Marine and loaded a live round into the chamber / Albert pointed the M79 with his finger on the trigger at the Marine who told Albert to stop pointing the weapon at him / Albert reversed the M79 with his fingers on the trigger and looked down the bore of the M79 which discharged killing Albert / Cause of death was listed as Accidental Self Destruction

Another account states that PFC Farrell died when his .45-caliber pistol accidentally fired when he jumped for cover during an enemy attack

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Pendleton, California - Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is the major West Coast base of the United States Marine Corps and is one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the US. It is on the Southern California coast in San Diego County / The base was established in 1942 to train U.S. Marines for service in World War II / By



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October 1944, Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent installation," and by 1946 it became the home of the 1st Marine Division / It 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 / Camp Pendleton trained the country's fighting force for the Korean and Vietnam Wars, approximately 200,000 Marines passed through the base on their way to the Far East during World War II

## *Miscellaneous:*

Albert Farrell left Emerson High School after his Junior year to join the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968 / Albert James Farrell, Jr. was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Albert James Farrell, Jr. is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 13w, Line 117

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

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 / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

1st Battalion, 1st Marines (1/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Pendleton, California, consisting of anywhere from 800 to 2,000 Marines and Sailors, but the number fluctuates depending on the battalion's mission / Falling under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division, they are commonly referred to as "The First of the First" / The battalion has been organized around fire and maneuver warfare in tropical, woodland, desert, or Arctic environments / 1/1 deployed to Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam in August 1965 and were reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division / They remained in Vietnam until May 1971, serving in or around Da Nang, Đông Hà, Con Thien, Quảng Trị, Huế, Phu Bai and Khe Sanh / They returned to Camp Pendleton, California, in May 1971



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

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The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established



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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 / 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FARSMIL, JR.**

**JOHN J.**

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

John J. Farszmil, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / John Farszmil was deployed to Vietnam for a one year tour

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Farszmil was a retired Buffalo Police Officer / John J. Farszmil, Jr. passed away on 19 February 2026 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Buffalo New York

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FASSEL

GARY

C.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 46 ALBERT AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 12TH INFANTRY, C COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Gary Carl Fassel honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Gary Fassel was deployed to Vietnam on 14 November 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantry / CPL Gary Fassel was Killed In Action on 27 May 1969 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire when his patrol was ambushed at Vic Kontum River and LZ (landing zone) Nicole, Kontum Province, South Vietnam

The 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry lost eight men, including its Commanding Officer, in engagements at LZ Nicole and on the Kontum River on 27 May 1969

CPL Gary Carl Fassel was featured in the 27 June 1969 LIFE magazine cover story entitled "The Faces of the American Dead in Vietnam: One Week's Toll" / Killed in the same action were Commanding Officer LTC Robert H. Carter, Morganton, NC; SP5 Kenneth M. Seward, Greeley, CO; SSG James Francis, Napa, CA; CPL Keith E. Bibson, Grand Rapids, MI; CPL Carey L. Grubbs, Torrance, CA; SP4 Harold J. Warmsley, Dallas, TX; and, PFC Matthew T. Tozano, San Antonio, TX

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Fort Bragg, North Carolina - In 1918, Congress established Camp Bragg, an Army field artillery site named for the Confederate General Braxton Bragg / Camp Bragg became a permanent Army post renamed Fort Bragg / Various units trained at Fort Bragg during World War II, including the 9th Infantry Division, 2nd Armored Division, 82nd Airborne Division, 100th Infantry Division, and various field artillery groups

Ft. Polk, Louisiana - An United States Army installation located in Vernon Parish, Louisiana, about 10 miles east of Leesville and 30 miles north of DeRidder in Beauregard Parish / Established in the 1940s, Ft. Polk began as a base for the Louisiana Maneuvers / The fort was named after New York soldier William Henry Johnson and encompasses about 198,000 acres / It served the 1st Armored Division in the 1950s, and became a basic training post during Vietnam War years of the 1960s and '70s / Fort Polk became Fort Johnson during a re-designation ceremony on June 13, 2023 in honor of Sgt. William Henry Johnson, a World War I Medal of Honor recipient

### *Miscellaneous:*

Gary Fassel graduated from All Saints School and Riverside High School in 1966 / Fassel was a Business Machine Operator for Blue Cross of Western New York before being drafted into the U.S. Army on 19 June 1968 / Gary Carl Fassel was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Gary Carl Fassel is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 24w, Line 116

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado / The division was first activated in 1917 and has served in World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom1 / The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a battalion of the United States Army and assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado

The 12th Infantry Regiment is a unit of the United States Army / Three 12th Infantry battalions deployed to South Vietnam with the 4th Division from August through October 1966 / The 3rd Brigade, 4th Division, to which the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry was assigned, set up base camp at Dau Tieng in III Corps while the rest of the 4th Division was assigned to the Central Highlands in II Corps alongside the 3rd Brigade of the 25th Division which had arrived in December 1965 / The 1st and 3rd Battalions returned in December 1970 with the 4th Division to Fort Carson, Colorado / The 12th Infantry has fought in seven wars from the Civil War to the Global War on Terrorism



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, 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

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

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

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

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FAUST**

**NORMAN H.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **NAVY**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Norman H. Faust honorably served in the United States Navy Reserves

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Norman Faust was a graduate of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / Faust was employed by New York Telephone (later Verizon) for over 32 years, serving as the Shop Steward for his union, the Communications Workers of America / After his retirement, Norman Faust moved to Stanfield, North Carolina / Norman H. Faust passed away on 24 February 2025 at the age of 89 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 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FAWCETT**

**LESTER**

**L.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Lester L. Fawcett honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Lester Fawcett was originally from Cherry Valley, California where he worked at Jayar Manufacturing in El Monte, California / Lester L. Fawcett passed away on 18 January 2023 at the age of 73 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FEDERICE**

**JOHN**

**M.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** CMC

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Command Master-Chief John M. Federice honorably served in the United States Navy / CMC Federice enrolled in flight-engineer school and became a crew member on the P-3 Orion / CMC Federice was deployed to Iceland, Spain and Italy to oversee flight operations tracking Russian submarines

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Federice graduated from Seneca Vocational High School before enlisting in the United States Navy / Federice retired from the Navy after thirty-one years of service / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, John Federice earned his Master Degree in Aviation Safety, ultimately teaching at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Cincinnati, Ohio / Federice eventually moved to Jacksonville, Florida / John M. Federice passed away on 11 February 2023

The Lockheed P-3 Orion is a four-engined, turboprop anti-submarine and maritime surveillance aircraft developed for the United States Navy and introduced in the 1960s / Over the years, the P-3 has seen numerous design developments, most notably in its electronics packages / Numerous navies and air forces around the world continue to use the type primarily for maritime patrol, reconnaissance, anti-surface warfare and anti-submarine warfare / A total of 757 P-3 Orion's have been built



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FEDUSKI**

**LAWRENCE M.**

**Hometown:** CLARENCE

**Address:**

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Lawrence M. Feduski honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Lawrence Feduski retired from Ingersoll Rand (aka Joy Manufacturing and Cooper Cameron) after 51 years of employment / Lawrence M. Feduski passed away on 31 August 2018 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at Harris Hill Cemetery, Clarence, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FEELEY

PATRICK T.

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** 2LT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Second Lieutenant Patrick T Feeley honorably served in the United States Army / Lt Feeley served six years as an Air Defense Artillery Officer and was stationed in Germany, Texas, Florida and North Carolina / After active duty, Lt Patrick Feeley joined the Army Reserve

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Patrick Feeley graduated from Lockport Senior High School and attended Niagara University on a ROTC scholarship / Feeley worked for Prolift Material Handling in Buffalo and retired from Buffalo Materials Handling in Depew / Patrick feeley was a salesman and trainer, working with many busin

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / The Army Reserve is meant to augment the needs of the active-duty force in times of conflict or declared war / Army Reserve soldiers can complete part-time service alongside civilian life / The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is responsible for all of the operational tasks involved in training, equipping, managing, supporting, mobilizing and retaining Soldiers under its commandesses in Western New York / Patrick T. Feeley passed away on 23 December 2024 at the age of 72 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FEGLEY**

**RAYMOND E.**

**Hometown:** SANBORN

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Raymond E. Fegley honorably served in the United States Air Force / Raymond Fegley was assigned as a Cable Splicer on the Minuteman Missileman Program in Cheyenne, Wyoming

**Base Assignments:**

Francis E. Warren Air Force Base, shortened as F.E. Warren AFB is a United States Air Force base (AFB) located approximately 3 miles west of Cheyenne, Wyoming / It is one of three strategic-missile bases in the U.S. / It was named in honor of Francis E. Warren in 1930 / Warren AFB is home of the 90th Missile Wing (90 MW), assigned to the Twentieth Air Force, Air Force Global Strike Command / The 90 MW operates the LGM-30G Minuteman III ICBM. It is also the home of Twentieth Air Force, which commands all U.S. Air Force ICBMs / Warren AFB is the oldest continuously active military installation within the Air Force, established in 1867 by the United States Army as Fort David Allen Russell / The facility came under the control of the United States Army Air Forces on 1 June 1947, and then of the United States Air Force (USAF) on 18 September 1947 / The 389th Air Base Group was established on 1 February 1958 to take control of the former ATC facilities as part of the transfer to Strategic Air Command (SAC) / The provisional 4320th Strategic Missile Wing was established that date with responsibility for 24 Atlas missile sites under SAC / Although not the first designated missile wing, Warren became the first fully operational ICBM base in the Air Force

**Miscellaneous:**

Raymond E. Fegley graduated from Trott Vocational High School (Niagara Falls) in 1963, prior to his enlistment into the Air Force / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Raymond Fegley became a member of Carpenters Local #280 for over 30 years, retiring in 2000 / Fegley was a member of the Sanborn Historical Society / Raymond E. Fegley passed away on 1 June 2022



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FEIDER SR**  
**RICHARD**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Richard Paul Feider, Sr. honorably served in in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Paul Feider, Sr. passed away on 9 October 2016



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FELDMAN**

**IRA**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY E, 1ST BATTALION, 3RD INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION  
ARMY QUARTERMASTER CORPS

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Ira "Bob" Feldman honorably served in the United States Army as an Armorer / SGT Ira Feldman was deployed to Vietnam from February-May, 1969 and was awarded the Purple Heart when wounded during combat operations

SGT Ira Feldman was Honorably Discharged from the Army on 17 July 1970

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Ira "Bob" Feldman passed away on 8 August 2020 at the age of 71 years old and is interred at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

The United States Army Quartermaster Corps, formerly the Quartermaster Department, is a sustainment, formerly combat service support (CSS), branch of the United States Army / It is also one of three U.S. Army logistics branches, the others being the Transportation Corps and the Ordnance Corps / The U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps mission is to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of general supply, Mortuary Affairs, subsistences, petroleum and water, material and distribution management during peace and war to provide combat power to the U.S. Army



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

The 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team was an infantry brigade based at Fort Knox, Kentucky and was constituted 24 May 1917 in the Regular Army

The 1st Infantry Division (1ID) is a combined arms division of the United States Army, and is the oldest continuously serving division in the Regular Army / It has seen continuous service since its organization in 1917 during World War and was officially nicknamed "The Big Red One" (abbreviated "BRO") after its shoulder patch and is also nicknamed "The Fighting First" / A few weeks after the American entry into World War I, the First Expeditionary Division, later designated the 1st Infantry Division, was constituted on 24 May 1917, in the Regular Army, and was organized on 8 June 1917, at Fort Jay, on Governors Island in New York / The 1st Infantry Division fought in World War I and World War II / During the Korean War, the Big Red One was assigned to occupation duty in Germany, while acting as a strategic deterrent against Soviet designs on Europe / 1st Infantry Division troops secured the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials and later transported seven convicted Nazi war criminals to Spandau Prison in Berlin / The division fought in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1970 / Arriving in July 1965, the division began combat operations within two weeks / By the end of 1965, the division had participated in three major operations: Hump, Bushmaster 1 and Bushmaster II / The division was involved in the Tet Offensive of 1968, securing the massive Tan Son Nhut Air Base / In the first half of 1969, the division conducted reconnaissance-in-force and ambush operations, including a multi-divisional Operation Atlas Wedge / The last part of the year saw the division take part in Dong Tien ("Progress Together") operations / These operations were intended to assist South Vietnamese forces to take a more active role in combat / The division officially departed South Vietnam on 7 April 1970 / During its involvement in the Vietnam War, the division lost 6,146 killed in action, with a further 16,019 wounded / Twenty of its number were taken as prisoners of war / 11 members of the division were awarded the Medal of Honor

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

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

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FENNESSEY

DAVID L.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 114 NORTH LEGION DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SSG

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE, 4TH BATTALION, 503RD INFANTRY, D COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

PARACHUTIST BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant David Lee Fennessey honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT David Fennessey was deployed to Vietnam on 13 April 1967 as an Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist / SSGT David Fennessey was Killed In Action on 20 May 1967 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Ft. Benning, Georgia - Fort Benning is a United States Army post straddling the Alabama–Georgia border next to Columbus, Georgia and is named after Henry L. Benning, a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War/ Fort Benning supports more than 120,000 active-duty military, family members, reserve component soldiers, retirees and civilian employees on a daily basis / Since 1909, Fort Benning has served as the Home of the Infantry / Fort Benning is one of ten U.S. Army installations named for former Confederate generals / The congressionally mandated Naming Commission has recommended it be renamed Fort Moore after



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Lieutenant General Hal and Julia Moore

## *Miscellaneous:*

David Fennessey attended St. Teresa's School in South Buffalo / David Lee Fennessey was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

David Lee Fennessey is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 20e, Line 56

Intelligence Specialists play a key role in ensuring that military operations are planned using the most accurate, current information about enemy forces and capabilities / They oversee efforts to collect, exploit, develop, analyze, and produce intelligence information for dissemination to key military leaders

The 173rd Airborne Brigade ("Sky Soldiers") is an airborne infantry brigade combat team (IBCT) of the United States Army / Activated in 1915, as the 173rd Infantry Brigade, the unit saw service in World War II but is best known for its actions during the Vietnam War / The brigade was the first major United States Army ground formation deployed to South Vietnam, serving there from 1965 to 1971 and losing 1,533 soldiers / Noted for its roles in Operation Hump and Operation Junction City, the 173rd is best known for the Battle of Dak To, where it suffered heavy casualties in close combat with North Vietnamese forces / Brigade members received over 7,700 decorations, including more than 6,000 Purple Hearts / The brigade returned to the United States in 1972, where the 1st and 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, were absorbed into the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), and the 3rd Battalion, 319th Field Artillery was reassigned to Division Artillery in the 101st / The remaining units of the 173rd were inactivated

The 503rd Infantry Regiment, formerly the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment (503rd PIR) and the 503rd Airborne Infantry Regiment (503rd AIR), is an airborne infantry regiment of the United States Army / The regiment served as an independent regiment in the Pacific War during World War II; at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; in Okinawa, Japan; and in Germany. Regimental elements have been assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division, the 11th Airborne Division, the 24th Infantry Division, 25th Infantry Division, the 82nd Airborne Division, 101st Airborne Division, and the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team / Regimental elements have participated in campaigns in the Vietnam War, Operation Enduring Freedom–Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom / In May 1965, two battalions of the 503rd Infantry deployed as part of the 173rd Airborne Brigade to Vietnam as the first major U.S. Army ground combat unit to be deployed, joined later by 4-503rd Inf and 3-503rd Inf / During its six years in Vietnam, the four battalions of the 503rd participated in fourteen campaigns, earning two more Presidential Unit Citations and a Meritorious Unit Commendation / The 3rd Battalion, 503rd was relieved and reactivated as 3rd-187th 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate) and on 14 January 1972 reassigned to 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) / The regiment claims 15 Medal of Honor recipients: two from World War II, ten from Vietnam, and three from Afghanistan

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

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



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

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

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

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

The Army's Basic Parachutist Badge is awarded to all military personnel of any service who complete the US Army Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia / It signifies that the soldier is a trained military parachutist, and is qualified to participate in airborne operations

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

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



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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FENNIE

PATRICK J.

**Hometown:** LAKE VIEW

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1971

**Year Discharged:** 1973

**Unit / Squadron:**

BATTERY A, 1ST BATTALION, 76TH FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT

**Medals / Citations:**

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (GRENADE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (FLAME THROWER)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Patrick J. "Pat" Fennie honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Patrick Fennie was stationed for 15 months active duty in Germany, Europe / SP4 Fennie finished his military service career in the Army National Guard Reserves

SP4 Patrick Fennie received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 1 September 1973

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Patrick Fennie was a graduate of Lackawanna High School / Fennie was a property manager throughout his full-time career and continued seasonal employment after retirement / Patrick J. "Pat" Fennie passed away on 13 March 2019 at the age of 66 years old battle after a battle with cancer

The 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment (1-76th FAR) is an inactive field artillery battalion of the United States Army / The battalion has been assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division, 7th Infantry Division, 2nd Infantry Brigade, and as a separate field artillery battalion / The battalion has participated in World War I, World War II, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom / The battalion inactivated in 2015 as part of Army force reductions

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



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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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FERGUSON**

**ROBERT F.**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert F. Ferguson honorably served in the United States Army / Robert F. Ferguson was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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

The 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:** **FERRERI**

**SALVATORE L.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Salvatore L. Ferreri honorably served in the Army Reserves

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Salvatore Ferreri graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute and attended Niagara University / Ferreri operated nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Western New York / Salvatore Ferreri was a longtime Board Member of Empire State Association of Assisted Living Facilities / Ferreri helped develop New York State's Assisted Living Program, shaping the policies and regulations / Until his passing, Salvatore Ferreri was the owner and operator of the Briarwood Manor / Salvatore L. Ferreri passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 84 years old

The United States Army Reserve (USAR) is a reserve force of the United States Army / The Army Reserve is meant to augment the needs of the active-duty force in times of conflict or declared war / Army Reserve soldiers can complete part-time service alongside civilian life / The U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) is responsible for all of the operational tasks involved in training, equipping, managing, supporting, mobilizing and retaining Soldiers under its command



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FIERAMUSCA, JR.**

**CHARLES T.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Charles T. Fieramusca, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles Fieramusca was past president and founding member of the Italian American Police Association / Fieramusca served as a Criminal Deputy with the Erie County Sheriff's Department and the Buffalo Police Department, retiring as Chief of Homicide in 1996 / Charles Fieramusca graduated from the FBI Academy and taught Criminal Justice at Medaille College / Charles T. Fieramusca, Jr. passed away on 27 March 2026 at the age of 82 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FILSINGER**  
**WILLIAM**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

William Filsinger honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Filsinger served as a Boy Scout leader and was a member of the New York Walleye Association / William Filsinger passed away on 7 October 2024 at the age of 84 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:** **FINLEY SR**

**ROBERT**

**P.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Robert P. Finley Sr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Finley was employed as the Chief Engineer at the Buffalo Water Department / Robert P. Finley Sr. passed away on 18 May 2023 at the age of 76 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FINO**  
**THOMAS**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Thomas Fino honorably served in the United States Military / Thomas Fino was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FIGRELLA**

**SALVATORE F.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1965

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND-SIGNAL PLATOON

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Salvatore Frank Fiorella honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Salvatore Frank "Sam" Fiorella passed away on 5 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old

The 1st Logistical Command was activated during the Korean War and arrived in Saigon, South Vietnam on 1 April 1965 / No unit was more critical to the buildup of American forces in Vietnam than the 1st Logistical Command / Prior to 1965, the U.S. Army in Vietnam was supplied by the Army's Pacific Command through the small U.S. Army Support Group, Vietnam, which served under the 9th Logistical Command in Okinawa / In mid-1965, the 1st Log Command, as it was commonly called, could process 70,000 tons of incoming material per month through Cam Ranh Bay, Qui Nhon, and Saigon / One year later, that figure had risen tenfold, to 700,000 tons a month, not counting critical items brought in by air / Under its command were truck units, boat companies, railroad facilities, and airlift and airdrop capabilities / Almost every piece of Army equipment sent to Vietnam was processed, transported, issued, and maintained by the 1st Log / Not only was the 1st Log responsible for providing the Army troops with the basic weapons of war, but it also clothed and fed them and supplied them with virtually every amenity available in Post Exchanges / The 1st Logistical Command was redeployed to Fort Hood on 7 December 1970



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FISCHER

CHARLES

P.

**Hometown:** TONAWANDA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Charles P. Fischer honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Charles P. "Chuck" Fischer passed away on 19 December 2024 at the age of 82 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FISCHER

LEE

J.

**Hometown:** CLARENCE CENTER

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Lee J. Fischer honorably served in the United States Air Force / Lee Fischer served 4 years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Lee Fischer was a 1955 graduate of Kenmore High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Lee Fischer began his career in insurance working for the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company in 1960 / From 1964-1983, Fischer served as President of the Del-Ton Insurance Agency / In 1985-1987, Lee Fischer became the Risk Manager for Sarasota County, Florida and in 1987-1999, Fischer was the President of the Mount Vernon Insurance Company / Lee Fischer served on the board of the YMCA; the Independent Insurance Agents Association; Director and Chairman of the Board of Sarasota Credit Union; Sheridan Drive Lions Club and the Sun Coast Kiwanis Club, Venice, Florida / Lee J. Fischer passed away on 28 December 2025 at the age of 88 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FISCHER  
MICHAEL

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Michael Fischer honorably served in the United States Military / Michael Fischer was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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**Name:** **FISCUS**

**ROBERT E.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** MR3

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS TIDEWATER (AD-31) / USS HARRY E. YARNELL (DLG-17)

USS PARKER (DE-369)

USS PURDY (DD-734)

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Machinery Repairman Petty Officer Third-Class Robert E. Fiscus honorably served in the United States Navy / MR3 Robert Fiscus was assigned to the Naval Reserve Surface Division (NRS 3-60 (L))

**Base Assignments:**

Great Lakes Training Center, Illinois - Home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Naval Station Great Lakes is the second largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Brooklyn Ship Yard, New York - Purchased in 1801, and the property became an active US Navy shipyard five years later, in 1806 / The USS Ohio was the first ship built at Brooklyn Navy Yard and was launched on 30 May 1820 / In 1937, the battleship North Carolina was laid down / In 1938, the yard employed about 10,000 men, of whom one-third were Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers / The battleship Iowa was completed in 1942, followed by Missouri, which became the site of the Surrender of Japan on 2 September 1945 / On 12 January 1953, test operations began on Antietam, which emerged in December 1952, from the yard as America's first angled-deck aircraft carrier / At its peak, during World War II, the yard employed 70,000 people, 24 hours a day / The Brooklyn Naval Hospital, constructed 1830–1838, and rebuilt 1841–1843, was decommissioned in the mid-1970s and was one of the oldest naval hospitals in the United States / The Navy decommissioned the Brooklyn Ship Yard in 1966, but has become an area of private manufacturing and commercial activity

Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia - Norfolk Naval Base supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces



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Command, operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / In 1917 the Fifth Naval Headquarters was constructed at Norfolk and the Naval Operating Base (NOB) and other facilities were established / On 1 January 1953, the name of the naval base was officially changed to Naval Station Norfolk (NS Norfolk), after being known as the NOB / On 26 January 2017, NS Norfolk celebrated its one hundredth year of service

## *Miscellaneous:*

After graduating from Bennett High School, Robert E. Fiscus enrolled at Erie County Technical Institute / Fiscus joined the Navy after graduation / After receiving an Honorable Discharge, Fiscus joined the West Seneca Police Department as a Police Officer / Fiscus retired after 31 years of service on the police force, attaining the rank of Detective / Robert Fiscus is a member of American Legion Post #735

USS Tidewater (AD-31) was a Shenandoah-class destroyer tender named for the Tidewater region of Virginia and was commissioned on 19 February 1946 / Between late 1951 and early 1954, the Tidewater operated exclusively along the eastern seaboard of the United States / In 1954, she headed across the Atlantic for her first deployment with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean / Over the next 13 years, the Tidewater made 10 deployments to the Mediterranean, alternating that service with 2nd Fleet duty along the Atlantic coast of the United States / Tidewater completed her tenth Mediterranean deployment on 2 May 1969 and resumed tender duty with the warships of the Atlantic Fleet out of Norfolk and remained so occupied through the end of the year and into 1970 / On 20 February 1971, The USS Tidewater was decommissioned and leased to the Indonesian Navy

USS Harry E. Yarnell (DLG/CG-17), a Leahy-class guided missile cruiser, named in honor of Admiral Harry E. Yarnell (1875–1959) / Commissioned on 2 February 1963, the Yarnell was originally called a "destroyer leader" or frigate and in 1975 she was designated a cruiser in the Navy's ship reclassification / She was the second of the "double-end" Leahy-class guided missile frigates to join the fleet / In April 1963, the Yarnell participated in the search for the USS Thresher (SSN-593), the nuclear submarine later found 8,000 feet down on the Atlantic Ocean bottom / She made her first Atlantic crossing on 8 September 1964 and crossed the Arctic circle on 21 September 1964 / The Yarnell served in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean before being deployed back to the Mediterranean in early 1967 / From 1973 through 1980, the Yarnell operated off of Western Europe and the Mediterranean / The USS Harry E. Yarnell was decommissioned 20 October 1993, and sold 14 April 1995 for scrapping at Quonset Point, RI, but the scrap contract was terminated 1 December 1996 and the hulk returned to Philadelphia for storage / Scrapping was ultimately completed in April 2002

USS Thaddeus Parker (DE-369) was a John C. Butler-class destroyer escort acquired by the U.S. Navy during World War II / Commissioned on 25 October 1944, the ship was named in honor of Thaddeus Parker who was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart medal and the Silver Star Medal for his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign / The primary purpose of the destroyer escort was to escort and protect ships in convoy, in addition to other tasks as assigned, such as patrol or radar picket / During World War II, Thaddeus Parker was assigned to an antisubmarine screen in the vicinity of Peleliu and served as an air-sea rescue ship in Kossol Roads in the Palaus / She rescued a Marine pilot on 19 May and saved another on 18 July / On 27 June 1945, she shelled enemy installations at the Koror Naval Base / Thaddeus Parker was at Okinawa when hostilities with Japan ceased and placed out of commission, in reserve, on 31 May 1946 / Post-war, she returned home proudly with one battle star to her credit / In March 1951, during the Korean War, Thaddeus Parker was placed back on active duty /



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Between 1953 and 1957, the Thaddeus Parker operated in Europe and the Atlantic seaboard / Thaddeus Parker was activated for the Cuban crisis, operating off Cuba from 2 October 1961 to 1 August 1962, before being decommissioned again and returning to the Reserve fleet at Port Newark, New Jersey / Almost a decade later, the Thaddeus Parker was decommissioned and struck from the Navy list on 1 September 1967 / The USS Thaddeus Parker was sold for scrap on 9 July 1968

The USS Purdy (DD-734), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was commissioned on 18 July 1944 and is the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Lieutenant Commander Frederick Warren Purdy, who was awarded the Silver Star for his rescue efforts while the destroyer USS Strong was sinking on 5 July 1943 / During World War II, The Purdy arrived at Leyte 17 March 1945 to rehearse the invasion of Okinawa / The Purdy helped screen transports during the Okinawa invasion / A bomb from a downed Japanese plane pierced the plating of the USS Purdy and exploded to kill 15, seriously wound 25, and cause extensive damage / After extensive repairs, the Purdy sailed in European waters from September 1948 to January 1949 / During October 1951 and January 1952, the Purdy operated off the coast of Korea / In 1957, the Purdy was deployed to Chile and to Europe in 1958 before sailing to the Dominican Republic in 1961 to support U.S. efforts to maintain stability in the Caribbean / In 1962, she helped implement the Cuban Quarantine during the Cuban Missile Crisis / From 1965 to 1970, the Purdy trained naval reservists, served as a school ship for Naval Destroyer School officer students, and tested and evaluated new equipment / The Purdy was decommissioned on 1 July 1973 and sold as scrap in June 1974 / The USS Purdy earned one battle star during World War II and 3 during the Korean War

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FISH**

**JAMES R.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1968

**Unit / Squadron:**

"A" COMPANY, 20TH ENGINEER BATTALION

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14)

OVERSEARS BARS (2)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

James R. Fish honorably served in the United States Army / James Fish was deployed to Vietnam for a 25 month tour of duty as a Loader Operator / Fish was stationed in Cam Rahn Bay, Vietnam building air fields, roads and bridges

James Fish was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 6 October 1968

**Base Assignments:**

Cam Ranh Air Force Base, Vietnam - Located on Cam Ranh Bay in Khánh Hòa Province, Vietnam, it was one of several air bases built and used by the United States Air Force (USAF) during the Vietnam War / Cam Ranh Air Force Base was part of the large Cam Ranh Bay logistics facility built by the United States / It was the major military seaport used by the United States for the offloading of supplies, military equipment and as a major Naval base / Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force units all had compounds and units assigned to the Cam Ranh Bay facility from its opening in 1965 until its closure in 1972 as part of the drawdown of United States military forces in South Vietnam

Ft. Lewis, Washington - Fort Lewis is a United States Army base located 9.1 miles south-southwest of Tacoma, Washington / Fort Lewis was originally established in 1917 and was merged with McChord Air Force Base on 1 February 2010, to form Joint Base Lewis–McChord (JBLM) / Fort Lewis, named after Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was one of the largest and most modern military reservations in the United States, consisting of 87,000 acres / From 1942 to 1943, 42 Japanese, German, and Italian Americans were held at Fort



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Lewis as part of the government's "enemy alien" internment program during World War II / The Japanese and Italian internees were transferred to Fort Missoula and the Germans to Fort Lincoln, and the temporary detention facility closed on 30 March 1943 / Joint Base Lewis-McChord (Fort Lewis) is the home of much of the 2nd Infantry Division, along with Headquarters, the 7th Infantry Division, 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and the 1st Special Forces Group / The mission of the base is to provide support to mission commanders and the joint base community, to serve as an enabler to the soldiers as they train and project America's combat power

## *Miscellaneous:*

James R. Fish passed away on 9 February 2025 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

Loader Operator uses scoop loaders and helps plan, coordinate, and supervise activities pertaining to organization, training, and tactical and technical operations of unit concerned primarily with construction; assists in planning construction procedures, specifications, work schedules, and materiel needs; schedules use of heavy equipment; assists in development of troop training schedules; adapts training guides, programs, and tests to fit needs; schedules use of training aids and facilities; inspects training activities to insure standards are met and methods of instruction are effective; keeps records of training and construction projects; assists in appraisal of construction intelligence, operations, and training situations; inspects structures and facilities; collects, prepares, and disseminates material and data pertaining to construction intelligence, operations and training

The 20th Engineer Brigade is a combat engineer brigade assigned to the XVIII Airborne Corps of the United States Army stationed at Fort Liberty / Although the brigade was identified as an airborne unit, not all of its subordinate units were airborne qualified, despite the airborne tab as part of the unit patch / Soldiers of the 20th Engineer Brigade provide various supportive duties to other Army units, including construction, engineering, and mechanical work on other Army projects / In response to the buildup of U.S. forces in South Vietnam, the brigade headquarters was reactivated 1 May 1967, at Fort Liberty and deployed to Vietnam in August 1967 / During the Vietnam War, the brigade numbered over 13,000 officers and enlisted men organized into three engineer groups, with 14 battalions and 31 separate companies and detachments / One of these soldiers, Al Gore, would later become Vice President of the United States / The brigade provided all non-divisional engineer support in Military Regions III and IV during eleven campaigns / Units cleared more than one-half million acres of jungle, paved 500 kilometers of highway, and constructed bridges totaling more than six miles in length / As American forces were withdrawing from Vietnam, the brigade was inactivated 20 September 1971

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960-) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

The 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:** FITZERY

DENNIS J.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Dennis J. Fitzery honorably served in the United States Army / Dennis Fitzery was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Dennis Fitzery Dennis was a retired Bus Driver with the Niagara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA) / Fitzery was a member of the Evans Rod and Gun Club and a member of Col. Weber Post #898 / Dennis J. Fitzery passed away on 7 June 2020 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FIX**

**EUGENE E.**

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1970

**Unit / Squadron:**

3RD MARINE AIR WING, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Eugene E. "Gino" Fix honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Eugene Fix was assigned as a Supply Administrative Man with the 3rd Marine Air Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California

Corporal Eugene Fix was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 27 August 1970

**Base Assignments:**

Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California - Marine Corps Air Station El Toro was a United States Marine Corps Air Station located near Irvine, California / The Air Station was 4,682 acres and home of Marine Corps aviation on the West Coast / The base headquarters was established on 4 November 1942 and the first landing occurred in late November / By the end of 1944, the base would be home to 1,248 officers and 6,831 enlisted personnel / Four parcels of land comprising the former MCAS El Toro was sold in February 2005 ending the use of the Air Station by the Marine Corps / While it was active, all U.S. Presidents in the post-World War II era landed in Air Force One at this airfield

**Miscellaneous:**

Eugene E. "Gino" Fix passed away at the age of 69 years old on 16 March 2017

A Supply Specialist is responsible for supervising and maintaining all Marine Corps supplies and equipment / Specialists operate an automated supply system and perform functions in property accountability, supply chain management, and procurement / Supply Specialists also safely secure and control weapons and ammunition in security areas



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The 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (abbreviated as 3rd MAW) is the major west coast aviation unit of the United States Marine Corps / It is headquartered at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, in San Diego, California and provides the aviation combat element for I Marine Expeditionary Force / The wing is made up of a headquarters squadron, four flying groups, an aviation command and control group and an aviation engineering group /The mission of the 3rd Wing is to provide combat ready expeditionary aviation forces capable of short notice worldwide deployment to Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF), fleet and unified commanders

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FLAGG, JR.

LEROY J.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone      Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Leroy J. Flagg, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Leroy J. Flagg, Jr. passed away on 2 November 2025 at the age of 77 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FLANIGAN II**  
**THOMAS F.**

**Hometown:** KENMORE

**Address:** 81 NASSAU AVENUE

- Vietnam Era*  
 *Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** CPT

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST AVIATION BRIGADE, 164TH AVIATION GROUP, 221ST AVIATION COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL  
UNITED STATES AVIATOR BADGE  
VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS  
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL  
ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION  
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Lieutenant Thomas F. Flanigan, II honorably served in the United States Army / LT Thomas Flanigan was deployed to Vietnam on 7 April 1968 as a Fixed Wing Aviation Unit Commander (Pilot) / Lieutenant Thomas Flanigan died of an air crash on land (non-hostile action) on 15 September 1968 when his aircraft and another went down in Phong Dinh Province, South Vietnam

While serving in Vietnam, Lieutenant Thomas Flanigan, II was awarded a Commendation Certificate from the Republic of South Vietnam for reconnaissance flying / In July 1968, LT Flanigan discovered an enemy location and directed operation troops to advance / Five Viet Cong soldiers were killed in action, three prisoners of war captured and a special cache of munitions seized

Lieutenant Thomas F. Flanigan, II was posthumously promoted to Captain

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thomas Flanigan attended St. Paul's School / Flanigan attended Cardinal Dougherty High School for two years, transferring and graduating from Kenmore West Senior High School / Thomas graduated from Canisius College in 1966 with a degree in Accounting / Flanigan entered the U.S. Army shortly after college graduation / Thomas F. Flanigan, II was 24 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

York

Thomas F. Flanigan, II is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 44w, Line 62

The 1st Aviation Brigade is an aviation brigade of the United States Army, stationed at Fort Novosel in Alabama / In accordance with The Naming Commission recommendations Fort Rucker was renamed Fort Novosel in early 2023 / The 1st Aviation Brigade traces its origins to the Vietnam War / In April 1965 the U.S. Army Aviation Brigade (Provisional) was activated with the existing 13th, 14th, 52nd, and 145th Aviation Battalions already in South Vietnam / In August 1965 it became the 12th Aviation Group, which then doubled in size and was used to form the 1st Aviation Brigade in March 1966 / The companies supporting Army of the Republic of Vietnam units were located in centralized positions to best provide support / The brigade assigned one combat aviation battalion headquarters in direct support of each infantry division and this battalion headquarters normally worked with that division no matter how many companies might be assigned for a specific mission / The Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company was located in Saigon from May 1966 until August 1967 / The HQ then moved to Long Binh where it remained until Long Binh was closed in the early autumn of 1972 / The HQ then moved to the MACV compound at Tan Son Nhut, where it stayed until withdrawal

The 164th Aviation Group is a former group of the United States Army that was operational during the Vietnam War as part of the 1st Aviation Brigade / It was constituted 20 December 1967 in the Regular Army as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 164th Aviation Group, and activated in Vietnam / It was officially formed on 1 February 1968

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

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

A United States Aviator Badge refers to three types of aviation badges issued by the United States Armed Forces, those being for Air Force, Army, and Naval (to include Marine and Coast Guard) aviation / Air Force Pilot and Army Aviator Badges are issued in three ratings: Basic, Senior, and Command (Air Force)/Master (Army) / The higher degrees are denoted by a star or star with wreath above the badge. Air Force regulations state that the basic rating denotes completion of specified training and that the advanced ratings denote experience levels / The Naval Aviator Badge is issued to pilots upon designation as a Naval Aviator for Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aviators who successfully complete flight training / There is a single badge design regardless of an individual's further qualifications



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FLATTERY, SR.

WALTER J.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Walter John Flattery, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Walter John Flattery, Sr. passed away on 25 January 2025 at the age of 86 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FLICKINGER**  
**WILLIAM**

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

William Flickinger honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

William Flickinger attended Nichols School and graduated from Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire in 1955 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, William Flickinger joined the S.M. Flickinger, Inc., the family owned food wholesaling and distribution company / William Flickinger passed away on in March 2026 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FLOWERS

MICHAEL J.

**Hometown:** LANCASTER

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

509TH ARB (AIRBORNE) INFANTRY REGIMENT, LIGHT TRUCK ENGINEERS

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/ 1960 DEVICE

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS W/ PALM

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/ 2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

ARMY MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Michael J. Flowers honorably served in the United States Army / Michael Flowers was trained as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic at Fort Dix, New Jersey / Michael Flowers was deployed to Vietnam for 19 months where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement during combat operations

Michael Flowers was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 23 December 1971

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

**Miscellaneous:**

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Michael Flowers joined the Buffalo Police Department, retiring from the Police Department as a Lieutenant / Michael J. Flowers passed away on 15 January 2025

The 509th Infantry Regiment, also known as the 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, is an airborne infantry regiment of the United States Army / It was activated in October 1941 and is known for its pioneering role in airborne warfare during World War II / The regiment's 1st and 3rd Battalions remain active today, with the 1st



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Battalion serving as the Opposing Force (OPFOR) at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, Louisiana, and the 3rd Battalion assigned to the 11th Airborne Division in Alaska / The regiment's history includes the first American combat parachute jump and several significant engagements in North Africa and Europe

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

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

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FLYNN

JOSEPH E.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SFC

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

2 OVERSEAS BARS

MARKSMAN BADGE: EXPERT (M-16 RIFLE)

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/60 DEVICE

AIRCRAFT CREW BADGE

MARKSMAN BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant First-Class (E-7) Joseph Edward Flynn honorably served in the United States Army / SFC Joseph Flynn was deployed to Vietnam as a Radio Maintenance Supervisor / SFC Flynn attended Instructor Training and Transistor Repair School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Monmouth, New Jersey - Fort Monmouth is a former installation of the Department of the Army in Monmouth County, New Jersey / Originally called Camp Alfred Vail, in 1925 the Fort was renamed Fort Monmouth / It was named in honor of the soldiers of the American Revolutionary War who died in the Battle of Monmouth / At its peak during World War II, Fort Monmouth measured 1,713 acres and had billeting space for 1,559 officers and 19,786 enlisted personnel / The Eastern Signal Corps Training Center and other communication units, including the Pigeon Breeding and Training Center, were consolidated into Fort Monmouth after World War II ended / The pigeon service was discontinued in 1957; the birds were either sold at auction or donated to zoos / Slated by the Pentagon for closure, Fort Monmouth was officially closed on 15 September 2011

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph E. Flynn was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2940

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



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

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

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

The Aircrew Badge, commonly known as Wings, is a qualification badge of the United States military that is awarded by all five branches of armed services to personnel who serve as aircrew members on board military aircraft / The badge is intended to recognize the training and qualifications required by aircrew of military aircraft / In order to qualify as an aircrew member and receive the Aircrew Badge, such personnel typically undergo advanced training in aircraft in-flight support roles

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

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a military award presented to members of the United States Armed Forces who distinguished themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service to the United States in a designated combat theater / The meritorious acts or services rendered must be comparable to that required for the Legion of Merit but in a duty of lesser, though considerable, responsibility

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 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FOGLE, JR.

JAMES F.

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1963

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

James F. Fogle, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / James Fogle was assigned as a Teletype Security Agent

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

James F. Fogle, Jr. passed away on 20 January 2026 at the age of 85 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FOLEY**

**BRIAN R.**

**Hometown:** CLARENCE

**Address:** 9303 HUNTING VALLEY ROAD

- Vietnam Era  
 Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SSG

**Year Entered:** 1969

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY, B COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Staff Sergeant Brian Robert Foley honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Brian Foley was deployed to Vietnam on 4 December 1970 as an Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist / SSG Brian Foley was Killed In Action on 7 February 1971 as a result of hostile enemy small arms fire in Long Khanh Province, South Vietnam

At approximately 1600 hours on 6 February 1971, elements of 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, were inserted into the Nui Be Mountains in III Corps, a region known as the Iron Triangle in Binh Duong Province, RVN / The objective was to run patrols and seek out the NVA over the next several days / The 33rd NVA Division in the area, however, had no misgivings about letting the Americans know they were there, and that night began banging on pots, smoking marijuana, and making all manners of noise / They probed the U.S. position after dark, keeping everyone on edge / At daybreak, Blackfoot Platoon was sent into the area of noise where they came upon a blue communications wire laid out in a ravine / The find was reported to the company CO (commanding officer) who admonished them not to follow the wire as it was an ambush / For reasons unknown, the lieutenant leading the patrol decided to follow the wire and he was the first to be killed in the ambush / A reaction platoon was sent in to aid the besieged patrol and a seventeen-hour firefight ensued / More troops were sent in, but the thick jungle and rugged terrain delayed their arrival / Six members of B Company, 2/8th were lost in the engagement, including Staff Sergeant Brian Robert Foley / The other five members of B Company who were Killed In Action were SSGT Bruce A. Van Dam, 1LT Thomas P. King, SGT



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Richard S. Kulwicki, CPL Theodore R. Mason, and SGT Lewis R. Yates

Staff Sergeant Brian Robert Foley attended Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) School before being deployed to Vietnam

### *Base Assignments:*

Ft. Polk, Louisiana - An United States Army installation located in Vernon Parish, Louisiana, about 10 miles east of Leesville and 30 miles north of DeRidder in Beauregard Parish / Established in the 1940s, Ft. Polk began as a base for the Louisiana Maneuvers / The fort was named after New York soldier William Henry Johnson and encompasses about 198,000 acres / It served the 1st Armored Division in the 1950s, and became a basic training post during Vietnam War years of the 1960s and '70s / Fort Polk became Fort Johnson during a re-designation ceremony on June 13, 2023 in honor of Sgt. William Henry Johnson, a World War I Medal of Honor recipient

Ft. Benning, Georgia - Fort Benning is a United States Army post straddling the Alabama–Georgia border next to Columbus, Georgia and is named after Henry L. Benning, a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War/ Fort Benning supports more than 120,000 active-duty military, family members, reserve component soldiers, retirees and civilian employees on a daily basis / Since 1909, Fort Benning has served as the Home of the Infantry / Fort Benning is one of ten U.S. Army installations named for former Confederate generals / The congressionally mandated Naming Commission has recommended it be renamed Fort Moore after Lieutenant General Hal and Julia Moore

### *Miscellaneous:*

Brian Foley was a 1967 graduate of Clarence Central High School and a graduate of New Castle Business School, Pennsylvania / Foley was drafted into the U.S Army in 1969 / Brian Robert Foley was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Clarence Fillmore Cemetery, Clarence, New York

Brian Robert Foley is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 05w, Line 83

Intelligence Specialists play a key role in ensuring that military operations are planned using the most accurate, current information about enemy forces and capabilities / They oversee efforts to collect, exploit, develop, analyze, and produce intelligence information for dissemination to key military leaders

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 8th Cavalry Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army formed in 1866 during the American Indian Wars / The 8th Cavalry continued to serve under a number of designations, fighting in every other major U.S. conflict since, except World War I, when it was not deployed to Europe because it was already engaged in the Punitive Expedition in Mexico from 1916 to 1920 / It is currently a component of the 1st Cavalry Division / The regiment originally was organized as horse cavalry in 1866, a designation under U.S. military doctrine that emphasized both light cavalry and dragoon-type mounted and dismounted fighting roles, until 1942 / It served on foot during World War II and Korea, with some elements converting to airmobile infantry for Vietnam, while others were detached and assigned to West Germany as part of an armored task force to resist any potential Soviet incursion / In 1965, 1st Battalion (ABN), 8th Cavalry Regiment arrived in Vietnam, and participated in numerous campaigns in South Vietnam and Cambodia / The battalion was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations, the Valorous Unit Citation, and four soldiers were awarded with the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor

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

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

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

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

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

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FORCUCCI**

**THOMAS M.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1955

**Year Discharged:** 1957

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Deacon Thomas M. Forcucci honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Thomas Forcucci was classified as a Field Artillery Radar Crewman and served 17 months of foreign duty in Germany, assigned to a Field Artillery Unit (TBD) in Germany

PFC Thomas Forcucci was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 9 April 1957

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Deacon Thomas M. Forcucci passed away on 14 December 2023 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, 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 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FORD, JR.**  
**HENRY**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Henry Ford, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Henry Ford, Jr. passed away on 4 May 2022 at the age of 76 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FORKL**

**ROBERT W.**

**Hometown:** HOLLAND

**Address:** S-8125 CENTER STREET

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 2ND SQUADRON, 1ST CAVALRY, TROOP A

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert Wayne Forkl honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert Forkl was deployed to Vietnam on 10 August 1967 as a Subsistence Supply Specialist / SP4 Robert Forkl was Killed In Action on 1 January 1968 when he was fatally injured by mortar fragments during an attack on his base in Kontum Province, South Vietnam

On 30 January 1968 the VC's TET Offensive began / The 4th Infantry Division was then stationed in Kontum and Pleiku Provinces in the Central Highlands / The Division lost ten men as a result of the first day's fighting around Kontum City, including Specialist Fourth Class Robert Wayne Forkl / By the time Kontum City was declared secure on 08 February 1968, 33 Americans had been killed in the fighting

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert Forkl graduated from Holland Central School in 1965 / Forkl entered the U.S Army on 29 September 1966 / Robert Wayne Forkl was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Griffins Mills Cemetery, Griffins Mills, New York

Robert Wayne Forkl is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Wall, Panel 35e, Line 70

In the U.S. Army, a Subsistence Supply Specialist plays a crucial role in ensuring the availability and proper handling of food supplies for military personnel / Ensures the wholesomeness and safe storage and issue of subsistence items; assists in the collection and consolidation of ration requisitions; provides and ensures accountability and storage of subsistence items before distribution to requesting units; unloads and uploads rations using MHE and manual methods; ensures stored rations are properly segregated and maintained according to established guidelines; maintains serviceability of assigned equipment

The 4th Infantry Division is a division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado / The division was first activated in 1917 and has served in World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom1 / The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry is a battalion of the United States Army and assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Cavazos, Texas and was formed in 1921 / The 1st Cavalry Division has served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, with the Stabilization Force in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the Iraq War, in the War in Afghanistan as well as Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Operation Inherent Resolve / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence / The 1st Cavalry was deployed to Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1965 and 26 March 1971 officially marked the end of duties in Vietnam for the 1st Cavalry Division / The service of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Vietnam War was not without a price / As a grim reminder of their remarkable legacy, the 1st Cavalry Division experienced casualties of 26,592 Wounded and 5,464 Killed In Action

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

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

6 December 1941

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FORKL III**

**JOSEPH J.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:** SMSGT

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

914TH REFUELING WING

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Senior Master Sergeant Joseph John Forkl III honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam / SMSgt also served in Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom / SMSgt Forkl retired from the United States Air Force after 33 years of active duty

**Base Assignments:**

Niagara Falls Air Base, Niagara Falls, New York - The Niagara Falls Air Base was established in 1955 and is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally-gained by the Air Mobility Command / It is located 4.7 miles east-northeast of Niagara Falls, New York / The station is the last "federal" USAF installation in the state, the other remaining USAF installations falling under the Air National Guard) / The host unit for the base is the 914th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command which operates the KC-135 Stratotanker / The 107th Attack Wing of the New York Air National Guard is also stationed at the base / A Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for all five branches of the U.S. is also located at the station / In July 1968, approximately 400 members of the 107th were deployed to Tuy Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam, for almost a year attached to the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Forkl was born in Buffalo but grew up in Colden, New York / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force, Forkl moved to North Carolina, where he served as a Kinston Sentinel and First Aid Instructor / Joseph John Forkl III passed away on 24 August 2023 at the age of 73 years old

The Kinston Sentinel Program represents a partnership between the community and the police department / These volunteers provide the citizens of Kinston with an enriched program of police services without additional cost to citizens



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

The 914th Air Refueling Wing is a wing of the United States Air Force based out of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, New York / Assigned to Air Force Reserve Command, it is operationally-gained by Air Mobility Command / Prior to June 2017, the unit was known as the 914th Airlift Wing, flying Lockheed C-130H Hercules airlift aircraft / After that date, it transitioned to an aerial refueling mission with the Boeing KC-135R Stratotanker and was redesignated the 914th Air Refueling Wing / The mission of the 914th Air Refueling Wing is to train and equip air force reservists to perform the combat mission of air refueling of combat and mobility aircraft



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FORMAN**  
**JAMES**

**C.**

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

James Clark Forman honorably served in the United States Army and assigned to the Infantry

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Dix - Trenton, New Jersey - Fort Dix was established in 1917 and named for Major General John Adams Dix, a veteran of the War of 1812 and the Civil War / Dix served as a training and staging ground during World War II and a demobilization center after the war / Ten divisions and many smaller units trained and staged here before entering the battlefields of World War II / At the end of the war, the reception center became the separation center, returning more than 1.2 million Soldiers to civilian life

Fort Devens, Massachusetts - Fort Devens is a United States Army Reserve military installation in Worcester County in Massachusetts and was established on 5 September 1917 / It was named after jurist and Civil War general Charles Devens / In 1940, at the onset of World War II, Fort Devens was designated a reception center for all men in New England who would serve one year as draftees / The 1st, 32nd, and 45th Divisions trained at Devens during World War II / Devens also housed a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946 / It was designated as early as 1942 for detaining "enemy aliens" of Italian, German and Japanese birth / The U.S. Army post which resided at Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service

**Miscellaneous:**

James Forman graduated from Nichols High Scholl in 1956 and graduated from Trinity College, Connecticut in 1960 where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish and Finance / Forman managed the Janney Montgomery Scott Financial office in Williamsville before retiring in 2019 / James Clark Forman passed away at the age of 85 on 1 November 2022

Infantry refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns,



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

grenades, mortars, etc

**Name:** **FORSTER**

**JOSEPH**

**D.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Joseph Donald Forster honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Forster was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Mary Star of the Sea Council 4752, Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, Trinity Assembly / Joseph Donald Forster passed away on 19 January 2014 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FOSER**

**EDWARD**

**G.**

**Hometown:** KENMORE

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Edward G. Foser honorably served in the Army National Guard for 15 years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward Foser retired from Niagara Mohawk after 40 years of service / Edward G. Foser passed away on 18 March 2026 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Kenmore, 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FOSER**

**ROGER**

**A.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **ARMY**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Roger A. Foser honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roger Foser was the owner of Foser's Florist in Buffalo / Roger A. Foser passed away on 14 June 2024 at the age of 87 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FOX**

**JAMES E.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

James E. Fox honorably served in the United States Military

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

James E. Fox passed away on 14 January 2016 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **FOX**

**ROBERT**

**C.**

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert C. Fox honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert C. Fox passed away on 10 February 2022 and his remains were cremated

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FRAMPTON**

**Hometown:** EDEN

**EARL A.**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT (CVB/CVA/CV-42)

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Earl A. Frampton honorably served in the Navy Reserves / Earl Frampton served aboard the USS Franklin Roosevelt in the Atlantic ocean

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Earl Frampton graduated from Burgard Vocational School in 1956 as an Electrical Major / Frampton went to work for New York Telephone (later NYNEX, Bell Atlantic and Verizon) as a lineman, cable splicer and business installer for 35 years, retiring in 1991 / While at New York Telephone, Frampton became a Communications Workers of America (CWA) union organizer and served as Vice President and President of CWA Local 1115 and was CWA Western New York Council President for 11 years / Earl Frampton was an Executive Director for the Western New York AFL/CIO Area Labor Federation until retiring in 2007 / Frampton was named the AFL/CIO Council Labor Man of the Year in 1994 / Frampton was an Officer of the Eden 39ers Social Club and a Director of the Eden Corn Festival / Frampton ran unsuccessfully for the Eden Town Board in 1983 / Earl Frampton was a member of the Newell-Falkner American Legion Post #880 / Earl A. Frampton passed away on 8 October 2024 at the age of 86 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 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVB/CVA/CV-42) was the second of three Midway-class aircraft carriers / Roosevelt was commissioned on Navy Day, 27 October 1945, at the New York Naval Shipyard / The Roosevelt spent most of her active deployed career operating in the Mediterranean Sea as part of the United States Sixth Fleet / From September 1948 to January 1949, Roosevelt undertook a second tour of duty with U.S. Naval Forces, Mediterranean / In 1950, Roosevelt became the first carrier to take nuclear weapons to sea / In September and October 1952, she participated in Operation Mainbrace, the first major NATO exercise in the North Atlantic / Roosevelt operated with other major fleet units, including the aircraft carriers USS Midway, USS Wasp, and HMS Eagle, as well as the battleships USS Wisconsin and HMS Vanguard / The ship was decommissioned on 30 September 1977 and was scrapped shortly afterward / She was the first aircraft carrier of the United States Navy to be named in honor of a president of the United States



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FRANKLIN  
LEROY**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

LeRoy (Ben) Franklin honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LeRoy Franklin was deployed to the Lebanon crisis in 1958

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

LeRoy Franklin lifetime member of the Grand Island Fire Company / Franklin retired to Arizona for health reasons / LeRoy (Ben) Franklin passed away on 18 January 2023 at the age of 83 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FRANTZ**

**MAXWELL S.**

**Hometown:** EAST AURORA

**Address:** 472 BRIGGS PLACE

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** HN

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

3RD MARINE DIVISION, 3RD BATTALION, 9TH MARINES

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Hospitalman Maxwell Stowell Frantz honorably served in the United States Navy / HN Maxwell Frantz was deployed to Vietnam as a Hospitalman and was attached to the Marine Medical Corps in Da Nang, South Vietnam / HN Maxwell Frantz was Killed In Action on 22 July 1966 from Multiple Fragmentation Wounds suffered in combat action in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Maxwell Frantz was a graduate of Valley Forge Military Academy in Wayne, Pennsylvania / Maxwell Stowell Frantz was 23 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Oakwood Cemetery, East Aurora, New York

Maxwell Stowell Frantz is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 09e, Line 56

Hospitalmen (HN) perform duties as assistants in the prevention and treatment of disease and injury, including medical aid and preventive medicine procedures; assist with physical examinations; provide patient care and the administration of medicinals and parenteral solutions; perform general laboratory, pharmacy, and other patient support services; assist in the administrative supply and accounting procedures within medical departments



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

ashore, afloat, and with the Marine Corps; serve as sole medical personnel or battlefield Corpsman while assigned to field/operational units; perform tactical casualty combat care (TCCC); instruct medical and non-medical personnel in medical aid, self aid, personal hygiene, and health records maintenance and assist in the transportation of the sick and injured; assist in the maintenance of environmental health standards; and are prepared to assist in the prevention and treatment of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) casualties and other contingencies

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

The 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines (3/9) is an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I it served until the early 1990s when it was redesignated as 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines (3/4) during a realignment and renumbering of the Marine Corps' infantry battalions, following the deactivation of the 9th Marine Regiment / The 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines was initially a subordinate unit of the 9th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, but was later operationally transferred to the 1st Marine Division as a subordinate unit of the 7th Marine Regiment where it remained until its redesignation as 3/4 / The 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines became the first battalion-sized ground combat unit to be deployed to Vietnam when they landed on 8 March 1965 in Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam / Over the course of the next four and a half years, the battalion operated from Da Nang, An Hoa and Quảng Trị and participated in over 40 combat operations, including Operation Double Eagle, Operation Buffalo and Operation Dewey Canyon / The battalion redeployed on 13 August 1969, after four years of continuous combat operations / Kilo and India companies were deployed to Bien Hoa Air Base to provide ground support, for Marine Aircraft Group 12 (MAG-12) in May 1972 / They remained at Bien Hoa until January 1973

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

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FRAWLEY**

**MICHAEL J.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Michael J. "Mike" Frawley honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael Frawley was a graduate of Bishop Timon High School, where he is enshrined in the Athletic Hall of Fame / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Frawley joined the Buffalo Fire Department where he worked for 35 years / Michael J. "Mike" Frawley passed away on 7 March 2024 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FREBSCH, JR.**

**PETER**

**P.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **MARINE CORPS**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Peter P. Fensch, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Peter Fensch retired from Kensington High School after 20 years where he was a Special Education Teacher / Fensch founded the "Turn The Page Books" bookstore / Peter P. Fensch, Jr. passed away on 15 November 2024



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FREDENBURG**

**JAMES W.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

James W. Fredenburg honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

James W. Fredenburg passed away on 2 October 2024 at the age of 76 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FREEMAN**  
**DONALD P.**

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Donald P. Freeman honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald Freeman was a longtime employee of the Nigara Frontier Transit Authority (NFTA) Metro Bus and Rail / Donald P. Freeman passed away on 30 June 2024 at the age of 85 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FREEMAN, JR.**

**DONALD E.**

**Hometown:** ALDEN

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Donald E. Freeman, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald Freeman was past Treasurer of Finger Lakes and WNY Waterfowl Association and a lifetime member of Ducks Unlimited / Donald E. Freeman, Jr. passed away on 6 February 2025 at the age of 88 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FREER**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**MICHAEL E.**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** MSGT

**Year Entered:** 1961

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Master Sergeant Michael E. Freer honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / MSGT Michael Freer was deployed to Vietnam

MSGT Michael Freer an instructor at the rifle range at Parris Island Marine Corps Recruiting Station / MSGT Freer taught at the NCO School at Fort Chaffee

MSGT joined the New Army National Guard in 1973 and retired in 1993 / During his time in the guard, Freer was called to active duty for the Prison Guard Strike, the Blizzard of '77, the Connecticut St. Armory Fire and Desert Storm

**Base Assignments:**

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, South Carolina - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

Fort Chaffee, Ft. Smith, Arkansas - Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, also known as Fort Chaffee, is an



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Arkansas Army National Guard installation located in western Arkansas, adjacent to the city of Fort Smith / Established as Camp Chaffee in 1941, renamed to Fort Chaffee in 1956, it has served as a U.S. Army base, training camp, prisoner-of-war camp, and refugee camp / Fort Chaffee was originally named Camp Chaffee / The camp was named after Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr., an artillery officer who, in Europe during World War I, determined that the cavalry was outmoded and, unlike other cavalry officers, advocated for the use of tanks / The general objectives of the camp during World War II were not just to train soldiers, but also to host the war prisoners and the refugees / It hosted over 3,000 German prisoners during World War II / After the end of the war, the camp hosted the Fifth Armored Division, until 1957 / The base is more famous for the few days Elvis Presley spent at Ft. Chaffee and where he got his first military haircut, in building 803 / As a refugee camp, the fort played a major role during the Vietnam and Cambodia wars, hosting around 51,000 refugees from 1975 to 1976 / In 1980, it was the home of 23,000 Cuban refugees, after the Cuban government allowed the American boats to pick up the refugees from a local port

### *Miscellaneous:*

Michael Freer attended Holy Spirit Elementary School and graduated from Hutch-Tech Vocational High School / Freer received his undergraduate degree in Vocational Technology from SUNY Buffalo and his graduate degree from Canisius College / Michael Freer taught at Hutch-Tech Vocational High School for 36 years / Michael Freer was a member of the National Educational Association, NYS United Teachers, Buffalo Teachers Federation, Mohawk Gun Club, American Legion Post #0721, Marine Corps Association and Foundation, 74/174 Veterans Association and the WNY Shelby and Mustang Club / / Michael E. Freer passed away on 6 September 2017 at the age of 75 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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FRENCH

THOMAS R.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1963

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

USS ENTERPRISE (CVA-65)

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Ship's Cook Thomas Roy French honorably served in the United States Navy / Ship's Cook Thomas French was deployed to Vietnam as a Chef and Cook aboard the USS Enterprise

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thomas R. French was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

USS Enterprise (CVN-65), formerly CVA(N)-65, is a decommissioned United States Navy aircraft carrier / She was the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and the eighth United States naval vessel to bear the name / Like her predecessor of World War II fame, she is nicknamed "Big E" / At 1,123 feet, she is the longest naval vessel ever built / Enterprise is the only ship of a class that was originally planned to have five other ships / Her 93,284-long-ton displacement ranks her class as the third-heaviest carrier class, after the Nimitz class and the Gerald R. Ford class / Enterprise had a crew of some 4,600 service members / In October 1962, Enterprise was dispatched to her first international crisis. Following revelations that the Soviet Union was constructing nuclear missile launch sites on Cuba, President John F. Kennedy ordered the United States Department of Defense to conduct a large-scale buildup / In November 1965, the Enterprise was transferred to the Seventh Fleet and in the following month, on 2 December, she became the first nuclear-powered ship to engage in combat when she launched aircraft against the Viet Cong near Biên Hòa City / The ship led Carrier Division Three, with Enterprise (redesignated CVAN-65), which had Carrier Air Wing Nine (CVW-9) aboard, Bainbridge; Barry; and Samuel B. Roberts / Enterprise launched 125 sorties on the first day, unleashing 167 short tons of bombs and rockets on



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

the enemy's supply lines / On 3 December, she set a record of 165 strike sorties in a single day / When the Enterprise departed the Gulf of Tonkin on 20 June 1967, her pilots had flown more than 13,400 battle missions during 132 combat days of operations / The Enterprise was commissioned on 25 November 1961 and decommissioned on 3 February 201 / As of 2020, the USS Enterprise was waiting recycling at HII Shipyard, Newport News, Virginia

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

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

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



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FRIDMANN

RICHARD W.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone    Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Richard W. Fridmann honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard W. Fridmann passed away on 13 June 2024 at the age of 77 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FRITSCH**

**HOWARD E.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1952

**Year Discharged:** 1958

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Howard E. Fritsch honorably served in the Army National Guard

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Howard Fritsch studied photography at Seneca Vocational High School, graduating in 1952 / Howard Fritsch was a railroad engineer, working for 37 years with New York Central, Penn Central and Conrail railroads / Fritsch also worked part time as a deputy for the Marin Division of the Erie County Sheriff's Office and retired from both positions in 1997 / Howard Fritsch was a member of the Erie County Deputy Sheriff's Badge and Shield Club and the Judges and Police Conference / Fritsch served as master of Parish United Lodge 292, F&AM, Eggertsville, in 1975, and was past district deputy grand master in 1983 / Howard Fritsch was a longtime member of the Ismailia Shrine and Scottish Rite / Howard E. Fritsch passed away on 16 September 2014 at the age of 80 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **FROEWISS**  
**GEOFFERY**

**Hometown:** AMHERST

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1974

**Year Discharged:** 1976

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Geoffery A. Froewiss honorably served in the United States Army / Geoffery Froewiss was assigned as a Missile Crewman at Fort Hamilton, New York

Geoffery Froewiss was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 21 June 1976

**Base Assignments:**

Fort Hamilton, New York - Fort Hamilton is a United States Army installation in the southwestern corner of the New York City borough of Brooklyn / Its mission is to provide the New York metropolitan area with military installation support for the Army National Guard and the United States Army Reserve / The original fort was completed in 1831, with major additions made in the 1870s and 1900s, however, all defenses except about half of the original fort have been demolished or buried / At present, U.S. Army Fort Hamilton Garrison is the home of the New York City Recruiting Battalion, the Military Entrance Processing Station, the North Atlantic Division Headquarters of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the 1179th Transportation Brigade and the 722nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

**Miscellaneous:**

Geoffery Froewiss was born in Long Island, New York / Froewiss was a graduate of Bay Shore High School class of 1971 and Buffalo State University, class of 1979 / Geoffery Froewiss retired from the New York State Department of Social Services / Geoffery A. Froewiss passed away on 25 May 2023 at the age of 69 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FROST

L.

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

L. Frost honorably served in the United States Military / L. Frost was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** FULLER

MICHAEL F.

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Michael F. Fuller honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Michael F. Fuller passed away on 2 May 2023



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**Name:** **FULLONE**  
**ANTHONY**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY C, 2ND BATTALION, 36TH INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fourth-Class Anthony "Tony" Fullone honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Anthony Fullone was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman and assigned duty in Germany for 19 months with the 36th Infantry

SP4 Anthony Fullone was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 18 June 1962

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Anthony "Tony" Fullone passed away on 10 April 2022

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry units lack the greater firepower, operational mobility and protection of mechanized or armored units, but possess greater tactical mobility and the ability to execute missions in severely restrictive terrain and in areas where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

The 36th Infantry Division ("Arrowhead", also known as the "Panther Division", "Lone Star Division", "The Texas Army", or the "T-patchers", is an infantry division of the United States Army and part of the Texas Army National Guard / It was organized during World War I from units of the Texas and Oklahoma National Guard / The division



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first saw action in World War II during the Italian campaign on 9 September 1943 / It was the first U.S. combat unit to fight on the European continent when it landed by sea at Paestum and fought in the Battle of Salerno against intense German opposition / On 15 August 1944, as part of the U.S. 6th Army Group, the division made another amphibious assault landing, against light opposition in the Saint-Raphaël-Fréjus area of southern France as part of Operation Dragoon, the Allied invasion of Southern France / The 36th Infantry Division suffered significant losses during World War II, twice earning the distinction of having "lost" a battalion during the war / In 2005 approximately 100 soldiers of the 36th Infantry Division deployed to Bosnia for Enduring Mission 3 / During the Global War on Terror, the 36th Infantry Division was involved in numerous military operations including Operation New Dawn, Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel, and Jump Start

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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**Name:** **FURMAN**

**LESLIE R.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:** EMPORIUM AVENUE

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1963

**Unit / Squadron:**

7TH COMMUNICATIONS BATTALION, , 1ST MARINE DIVISION

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Corporal (E-4) Leslie R. Furman honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Leslie Furman was assigned as a Radio Telegraph Operator trained in Mobile Radio Communications (MRC)

Leslie Furman was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps on 14 November 1963 / Corporal Furman also served in the Reserves from 1963 through 1966

Leslie Furman was among the founding members of the Patriot Guard Riders of New York (PGRNY)

**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

Camp Geiger, South Carolina - Camp Geiger is part of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune complex, and is home to the United States Marine Corps School of Infantry East for all Marines recruited through the Eastern Recruiting Region / Located about 10 miles south of Camp Lejeune, Camp Geiger was named in honor of General Roy Geiger, who was a Marine aviator and commander of the I Amphibious Corps, III Amphibious Corps, and the Tenth United States Army during World War II / Camp Geiger is one of two School of Infantry (SOI) locations where new Marines are instructed on modern Marine Corps infantry tactics in order to conduct expeditionary combat operations



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Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Located in Jacksonville, North Carolina, construction on Camp Lejeune was begun in 1941 and named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / As a military training facility, the Camp's 14 miles of beaches make it a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments

Camp Pendleton, California - Located in San Diego County, Camp Pendleton was established in September 1942 to meet the immediate need for additional amphibious force training facilities during World War II / Camp Pendleton was named in honor of World War I Major General Joseph H. Pendleton who had long advocated the establishment of a West Coast training base / The camp provides year-round training for Marines in addition to all other branches of the U.S. military

Twentynine Palms, California - The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), also known as 29 Palms, is a United States Marine Corps base located adjacent to the city of Twentynine Palms in southern San Bernardino County, California / During World War II, 29 Palms served as a naval auxiliary air station and redesignated on 6 February 1953 as a Marine Corps Training Center

Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii - Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), formerly Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay and originally Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay, is a U.S. Marine Corps facility and air station located on the Mokapu Peninsula of windward O'ahu in the City & County of Honolulu / Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay was built by the Navy in 1939 and in 1951, the Marines assumed control of the air station activities when naval aviation moved to Barbers Point Naval Air Station / The Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay was commissioned on 15 January 1952

## *Miscellaneous:*

Leslie Furman was an Eagle Scout from Troop #528 / Leslie Furman graduated from Eden High School and prior to joining the Marine Corps, Furman worked at Loblaw's in Hamburg as a Meat Cutter Apprentice / After his Honorable Discharge, Furman was employed by Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Class A Welder until the plant closed in 1983 / Les Furman later went to work for Eastern Railway Services, repairing locomotive cranes until his retirement / Furman was also a member of ABATE of New York which promotes Motorcycle Safety, Awareness, & Education and an adviser with the Erie County Sheriff's Explorer Post #505 / Leslie Furman was a Town of Evans Police Officer, Coordinator of the Erie County Civil Defense Program, Chief of the Town of Evans Auxiliary Police Department, founding member of the Patriot Guard Riders, member of the Disaster Response Team for the American Red Cross and volunteered for Toys4Tots / Leslie Furman was a Life Member of the Marine Corps League - Detachment 239 and a 37 year member of American Legion Post #735 / Leslie R. Furman passed away on 2 February 2026 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Angola, New York

The Marine Corps Radio Telegraph Operator operates and keeps in repair equipment used in radiotelegraph communications / Listens to telegraph signal, types message on form, and relays it to addressee by telephone or teletype / Manipulates key to call ships or stations by code, and to send messages after acknowledgment / Monitors emergency frequency for distress calls / Performs routine repairs and maintenance, such as changing tubes, resistors, and transmitters / Marine Radio Telegraph Operators can be assigned to any unit in the Marine Corps, including: Engineering, Artillery, Infantry, Tanks, Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV), Headquarters, Communications, RECON/MarSOC / The most experienced radiomen are usually assigned to battalion command



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and communication

The 7th Communication Battalion, activated in 1957 at Camp Pendleton, California with the mission to establish, maintain, and defend communication networks and services simultaneously for Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) command elements (CE), Marine component headquarters, and/or a Combined/Joint Task Force headquarters (C/JTF HQ) in order to facilitate a commander's ability to command and control forces / The 7th participated in the Vietnam War from 1966-1969 operating first from Chu Lai and later Da Nang and assigned to the 1st Marine Division until 1972 / The 7th Communications Battalion also participated in operations Eagle Pull and Frequent Wind at the official conclusion of the Vietnam conflict from December 1974 to May 1975 / The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

The 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 / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

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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