



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RAHAM

RODNEY D.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

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:

Rodney D. "Rod" Raham honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Rodney Raham was a a retired Chief with U.S. Customs and Border Protection / Rodney Raham was a 41-year Life Member and Past President of the Grand Island Fire Co. / Rodney D. "Rod" Raham passed away on 25 June 2019 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RAJ**

ROBERT J.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

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 J. Raj honorably served in the United States Navy / Robert Ray served with a Seabees Construction Battalion

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Raj worked as an Electrician at Bethlehem Steel in Lackawanna and retired from the Public Works Department for the City of Buffalo / Robert J. Raj passed away on 3 February 2025 at the age of 87 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RALABATE, JR.

FRANK

C.

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:

Frank C. Ralabate, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army as an Army Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank C. Ralabate, Jr. passed away on 14 June 2020 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York

Army 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RALPH

JAMES S.

Hometown: DERBY

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT (1/5) (MECHANIZED), 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON

ARMY DRIVER BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class James Salvatore Ralph honorably served in the United States Army as a Truck Driver

James S. Ralph was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 22 September 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Salvatore Ralph passed away on 25 June 2022 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Saint Anthonys Roman Catholic Cemetery, Brant, New York

During the Vietnam War, the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mechanized), served with the 2d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division / The 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry was sent to Vietnam in January 1966 and it was one of the few mechanized units to serve in that war / During its time in Vietnam, from 19 January 1966 to 30 April 1971, the 1/5 Infantry earned twelve campaign streamers, a Presidential Unit Citation, a Valorous Unit Citation, and several decorations from the Republic of Vietnam

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



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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

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 U.S. Army Driver Badge is given to operators with a high degree of skill in operation or maintenance of government-owned vehicles excluding aircraft

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: RANAHAN

PATRICK J.

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:

Patrick J. Ranahan honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Ranahan retired from the Milk-Bone manufacturing facility in Buffalo / Patrick J. Ranahan passed away on 11 May 2024 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RASTELLI**
NICHOLAS

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:

Nicholas Rastelli honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Nicholas Rastelli passed away on 9 January 2013



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RATAJCZAK

FLORIAN

M.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: FISHER ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Florian M. Ratajczak honorably served in the United States Army / Florian Ratajczak was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Florian M. Ratajczak passed away on 6 February 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, 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

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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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: RAUSCH

ROBERT E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

12TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 460TH TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE WING, 7TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

AIR MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Major Robert E. Rausch honorably served in the United States Air Force / Major Robert Rausch was a Pilot and Navigator and was Killed in Action on 16 April 1970 over Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

On 16 April 1970, an RF-4C Phantom with a two man crew of Major Ayers and Captain Robert E. Rausch departed Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon to conduct reconnaissance along the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Vietnam as well as the adjacent area of Savannakhet Province, Laos / They refueled in flight and advised their controller that they were heading north to another target area / The new target area was known to be a high threat area with 37mm and other anti-aircraft weapons / They were last reported over Savannakhet Province but did not return from their mission and were declared missing in action / During the period he was reported missing, Robert E. Rausch was promoted to the rank of Major

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Major Robert E. Rausch was 35 years of age at the time of his death

In the first four full months of operation in Southeast Asia, crews of the 12th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron flew 2,014 combat sorties against pinpoint, strip, and area cover targets in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, and



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Laos. Approximately two-thirds of these were flown at night / Continuous information on enemy supply movements, troop concentrations, and fortifications was obtained from aerial photography taken by the 12th / In addition, photography taken by the unit was used in bomb damage assessment, base defense planning, and enemy air defense site detection / The 12th flew more than 26,000 combat sorties and 53,000 hours over a 5-year period. This was more than in both World Wars and Korea combined

The Phantom, used by Air Force, Marine and Navy air wings, served a multitude of functions including fighter-bomber and interceptor, photo and electronic surveillance. The two man aircraft was extremely fast (Mach 2), and had a long range (900 - 2300 miles, depending on stores and mission type). The F4 was also extremely maneuverable and handled well at low and high altitudes. Most pilots considered it one of the "hottest" planes around

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 Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created in 1942 and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

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

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has



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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: RAY

WILLIAM P.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

SILVER STAR

BRONZE STAR (2)

PURPLE HEART

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

William P. Ray honorably served in the United States Army / William Ray was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star for acts of bravery during combat operations / Ray was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, William Ray went to work for the United States Postal Service, retiring as a Mail Carrier / William P. Ray passed away on 15 October 2023

The Silver Star Medal (SSM) is the United States Armed Forces' third-highest military decoration for valor in combat / The Silver Star Medal is awarded primarily to members of the United States Armed Forces for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States / The gallantry displayed must have taken place while in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REAMSNYDER

GEORGE E.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

USS GAINARD (DD-706)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

George E. Reamsnyder honorably served in the United States Navy / George Reamsnyder was trained as a Radarman and served 24 months active duty including 22 months Foreign-Sea Service on the USS Gainard (DD-706) an Alan Sumner Class Destroyer

George Reamsnyder was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 9 August 1964

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Reamsnyder passed away on 25 September 2025 and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

A Radarman was a rating in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard during, and after, World War II / The radarman was generally required to attend and complete a U.S. Navy Class "A" radar school at a designated Naval Training Centers (NTC) in the United States / Once assigned to a ship or shore station, the radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarmen were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas / Radarman also operates radar, navigation, and communications equipment in shipboard and combat information centers (CICs) or bridges / They detect and track ships, planes, and missiles. They operate and maintain IFF (identification friend or foe) systems

USS Gainard (DD-706), was an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer of the United States Navy and named after Joseph Aloysius Gainard / Gainard was born on 11 October 1889 in Chelsea, Massachusetts and enlisted in the



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United States Naval Reserve on 23 November 1917 / He received the Navy Cross for distinguished service while Master of the American merchant steamer SS City of Flint, seized by a German cruiser on the high seas on 9 October 1939 but returned to him in a Norwegian fjord on 3 November / Recalled to active duty on 30 July 1941, he commanded the submarine decoy ship USS Big Horn in the Caribbean, then commanded the attack transport USS Bolivar in the Pacific / He died from illness in the U.S. Naval Hospital at San Diego, California, on 23 December 1943 / The USS Gainard was commissioned on 23 November 1944 and departed Pearl Harbor on 12 March and staged at Saipan for the forthcoming invasion of Okinawa, acting as a part of a decoy task force that made feints against the southeastern coast between 1 and 2 April 1945 while the landings were effected on the western beaches / The Gainard operated as radar picket and fighter director ship throughout the bloody Okinawa Campaign, detecting enemy air raids, providing early and continuous information to friendly forces / The destroyer arrived off Honshū, Japan, on 17 September 1945 and served as air-sea rescue ship until 21 February 1946 when she sailed for the United States / The USS Gainard was decommissioned on 26 February 1971 and struck from the Naval Register / On 26 March 1974, Gainard was sold to be broken up for scrap / Gainard received the Navy Unit Commendation for extraordinary heroism in action off Okinawa and one battle star for World War II service



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REBMANN**

THADDEUS J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Thaddeus J. Rebmann honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Thaddeus Rebmann served for a total of 10 years, 4 months from 1966-1977, including over 8 years of active duty / SSgt Rebmann served as an Administration Supervisor and was deployed for 9 months in Vietnam / SSgt Rebmann Thaddeus taught English to the Vietnamese in the evenings and became a black belt in Judo and was an instructor in the service

Thaddeus Rebmann received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 2 February 1977

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thaddeus Rebmann was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Thaddeus J. Rebmann passed away on 1 August 2023 at the age of 75 years old

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



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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 Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for award to members of the armed forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force after March 24, 1958, shall have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement and service / The degree of merit must be distinctive, though it need not be unique / Acts of courage which do not involve the voluntary risk of life required for the Airman's Medal may be considered for the Air Force Commendation Medal

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 Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REDMOND**

DANIEL E.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel E. Redmond honorably served in the United States Army National Guard / Daniel Redmond was assigned as a Field Command Crewman

Daniel Redmond received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 16 April 1964

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:

Daniel Redmond was a former Buffalo Police Inspector for 39 years with the Buffalo Police Department / Daniel E. Redmond passed away on 4 March 2026 at the age of 86 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: REED

ROGER A.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

ARMY 10TH EVAC HOSPITAL

Medals / Citations:

ARMY SOLDIER'S MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist 5th Class Roger Alan Reed honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 Roger Reed served 12 months of combat duty in Vietnam with the Aeromedical Services as a Medical Specialist

Specialist 4th Class Reed was also awarded several weapons qualification badges / Roger Reed received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 10 June 1971

Base Assignments:

Fort George Meade, Maryland - Fort Meade became an active Army installation in 1917 and was named in honor of Major Gen. George Gordon Meade, whose victory at the Battle of Gettysburg proved a major factor in turning the tide of the Civil War in favor of the North / Fort Meade was used as a World War II recruit training post / In September 1943, the first shipment of 1,632 Italian and 58 German prisoners arrived at Fort Meade

Miscellaneous:

Roger Alan Reed passed away on 12 October 2018

The 10th Field Hospital ("Mountain Medics") is a Field Hospital of the United States Army first constituted on 23 June 1942 in the Army of the United States as the 10th Field Hospital / The mission of the 10th Field Hospital was to provide hospitalization support to U.S. Forces within the theater of operation in support of combat operations or operations other than war



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The Soldier's Medal is an individual decoration of the United States Army / It was introduced as Section 11 of the Air Corps Act, passed by the Congress of the United States on July 2, 1926 / The Army' Soldier's Medal is equivalent to the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, the Air Force and Space Force's Airman's Medal, and the Coast Guard Medal / Prior to the creation of the Airman's Medal in 1960, airmen were awarded the Soldier's Medal / The medal is "awarded to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, including Reserve Component soldiers not serving in a duty status at the time of the heroic act, distinguished himself or herself by heroism not involving conflict with an enemy"

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 Combat Medical Badge (CMB) is an award of the United States Army which was first created in January 1945 / Any member of the Army Medical Department, at the rank of colonel or below, who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit of brigade or smaller size which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat is eligible for the CMB / According to the award criterion, the individual must be performing medical duties while simultaneously being engaged by the enemy; strict adherence to this requirement and its interpretation (e.g., distant mortar rounds vs. direct small arms fire) will vary by unit

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

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 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: REEDER

BRENT A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, MARINE AIR CONTROL GROUP 18 (MACG-18), MARINE AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON (MASS) 2

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS 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:

Private Brent Alexander Reeder honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PVT Brent Reeder was deployed to Vietnam on 12 November 1967 as an Air Traffic Controller / PVT Brent Reeder was Killed In Action on 15 November 1968 from multiple fragmentation wounds received during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Brent Alexander Reeder was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, California

Brent Alexander Reeder is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 39w, Line 71

Marine Air Traffic Controllers assist in the control of air traffic and vehicles within designated areas / Air Traffic Controllers in charge of ensuring all landing, taking off and traffic movement inside an airport are performed safely and smoothly



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Town of West Seneca, New York

The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is an aviation unit of the United States Marine Corps that serves as the Aviation Combat Element of the III Marine Expeditionary Force / The wing is headquartered at Camp Foster on the island of Okinawa, Japan / Activated in 1940, the wing has seen heavy combat operations during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War / The mission of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is to conduct air operations in support of the Fleet Marine Forces to include offensive air support, anti-air warfare, assault support, aerial reconnaissance including active and passive electronic countermeasures (ECM), and control of aircraft and missiles

Marine Air Support Squadron 2 (MASS-2) is a vital component of Marine Air Control Group 18 (MACG-18), which operates under the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW) / MACG-18: This group is one of five within the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. It comprises several squadrons and units, including MASS-2, Marine Air Control Squadron 4 (MACS-4), Marine Wing Communications Squadron 18 (MWCS-18), Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 18 (MTACS-18), and Personnel Support Detachment 18 (PSD-18) / MASS-2's Role: MASS-2 provides Direct Air Support Center (DASC) capabilities / Their mission involves controlling and coordinating aircraft that operate in direct support of Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) forces / In August 1967, MASS-2 became part of the newly activated MACG-18 within the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Notably, in January 1969, the squadron assumed operational control of the Vandegrift DASC, located near Route 9, just south of the "Rockpile" / Hill 55 ASRT near DaNang was deployed by helo-lift to Fire Support Base Cunningham to support the 9th Marines in Operation DEWEY CANYON / When DEWEY CANYON was completed, an ASRT was deployed to Fire Support Base Birmingham to support more 101st Airborne Division operations in the Ashau area / On 18 April 1969, the Squadron's Command Post was moved by convoy from DaNang to Dong Ha / On 10 July 1969, the Vandegrift DASC was re-designated a Helicopter Direction Center and continued to operate in this capacity in support of the remaining units of the 3d Marine Division / The Squadron redeployed to Iwakuni, Japan, in 1969 and, in 1973, became home-based at Futenma, Okinawa

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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REEVE

CALVIN L.

Hometown: COLDEN

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:

Calvin L. Reeve honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Calvin Reeve was a member of the Boston Volunteer Fire Company / Calvin L. Reeve passed away on 26 June 2023



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REEVES

CHARLES A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Charles Anthony Reeves honorably served in the United States Army and stationed in Germany as a Military Policeman (MP)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Reeves graduated from South Park High School / Reeves attended the Buffalo Police Academy and received an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Erie County Community College / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Reeves joined the Erie County Sheriff's Department where he was a Deputy in the Special Crimes Unit / Charles Reeves also worked for Burt Manufacturing in Cheektowaga and for the Springville Police Department / Reeves was a member of the Carroll Rod & Gun Club, Randolph Lodge #359 Free & Accepted Masons, Frewsburg Samuel Derby American Legion Post #556 (formerly Springville American Legion) and West Seneca Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Reeves retired to Onoville but illness put him into the Jennie B. Richmond Nursing Home in Springville, New York / Charles Anthony Reeves passed away on 19 August 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REEVES

GERALD J.

Hometown: BLASDELL

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:

Gerald J. Reeves honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Reeves worked for Bethlehem Steel for 16 years and was a Buffalo Public School Teacher for 28 years / Reeves was a member of the Matthew Glab Post #53 and a lifetime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #898 / Gerald J. Reeves passed away on 11 October 2025 at the age of 78 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REGAN**

RICHARD J.

Hometown: EDEN

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 J. Regan honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard J. Regan passed away on 19 May 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Epiphany of Our Lord Cemetery, North Collins, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REGAN**

ROBERT P.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert P. Regan honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert Regan was deployed to Vietnam for eighty-nine days and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic service in combat action / Regan served 4 years and 19 days in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Robert Regan attended Bryant and Stratton College and D'Youville College / Regan became the Branch Manager for the Burnham Service Corp, a trucking company for IBM / Robert P. Regan passed away on 17 February 2023

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REGAN**
TIMOTHY

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:

Timothy Regan honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy Regan retired as an Inspector from the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agency / Timothy Regan passed away on 23 September 2023 and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REICH
ROBERT

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1964

Unit / Squadron:

USS INDEPENDENCE (CV/CVA-62)

Medals / Citations:

- Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Robert Reich honorably served in the United States Navy for four years and served aboard the USS Independence

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Reich passed away on 20 October 2024 at the age of 82 years old

The fifth USS Independence (CV/CVA-62) was an aircraft carrier of the United States Navy / She was the fourth and final member of the Forrestal class of conventionally powered supercarriers / She entered service in 1959, with much of her early years spent in the Mediterranean Fleet / The Independence was decommissioned in 1998 after 39 years of active service / Stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, the ex-Independence was towed beginning on 10 March 2017 to Brownsville, Texas for scrapping / She arrived on 1 June 2017 and dismantling was completed by early 2019



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REICHERT

JOSEPH R.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE, 17TH CAVALRY, E TROOP

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

PARACHUTIST BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Joseph Richard Reichert honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Joseph Reichert was deployed to Vietnam on 6 August 1966 as an Armor Intelligence Specialist / SSGT Joseph Reichert died on 3 January 1967 from a military jeep crash in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam

On 3 January 1967, SSGT Reichert was the driver of a military vehicle which attempted to pass another vehicle and overturned / SSGT Joseph Reichert suffered fatal injuries in the accident

SSGT Joseph Reichert was posthumously award the Bronze Star Medal for heroism in a combat zone

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Richard Reichert was 26 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Grandview Cemetery, Monessen, Pennsylvania

Joseph Richard Reichert is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 13e, Line 113



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Town of West Seneca, New York

An Armor Intelligence Specialist in the U.S. Army plays a crucial role in gathering and analyzing information related to military operations / Serves as a member of a scout squad, intelligence staff section, or armor surveillance radar section / Collects, interprets, analyzes, evaluates, and disseminates intelligence information and data / Understands the organization, mission, and function of military intelligence units providing intelligence and counterintelligence information to command / Demonstrates proficiency in photo interpretation, air-ground operations, and tactical missions

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 17th Cavalry Regiment is a historical organization within the United States Army that began as a regiment of cavalry after the Pancho Villa Expedition / The unit was constituted on 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as the 17th Cavalry at Fort Bliss, Texas / Troop B, 1st Squadron, 17th Cavalry was the ground reconnaissance element of the 3rd Brigade, 82d Airborne Division in Vietnam / It arrived in Vietnam on 18 February 1968 and departed South Vietnam on 11 December 1969 / The 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry was originally deployed to Vietnam on 12 December 1967 as the ground cavalry squadron of the 101st Airborne Division, but as the division changed to an airmobile mode the squadron was converted to an air cavalry status during the period December 1968 - June 1969 / The entire squadron was involved in intense aerial combat during the Operation Lam Son 719 invasion of Laos, when the helicopters supported the Army of the Republic of Vietnam's drive and retreat directly / This action took place between February and April 1971 / The squadron departed Vietnam on 8 February 1972 / The 17th Cavalry Regiment was reorganized as a part of the U.S. Army Regimental System, an ongoing effort to maintain the lineage and history of the U.S. Army through its units / Today, the 17th Cavalry Regiment is found across the army within the combat aviation brigades, where the squadrons, now constituted as attack/recon helicopter squadrons, carry on the legacy of the 17th Cavalry Regiment

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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

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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REICHLIN, JR.

JOSEPH

A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 569 EAST AMHERST STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: WO1

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST AVIATION BRIGADE, 282ND AVIATION COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Warrant Officer 1 Joseph Albert Reichlin, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / WO1 Joseph Reichlin was deployed to Vietnam on 15 January 1968 as a Helicopter Gunship Pilot / WO1 Joseph Reichlin was Killed In Action on 10 May 1968 when his helicopter was hit by enemy gunfire and killing WO1 Reichlin in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

On 10 May 1968, WO1 Joseph A. Reichlin Jr. was piloting U.S. Army helicopter UH-1B, tail number 64-13916, a "Frog" gunship from the 282nd Assault Helicopter Company / While in flight the aircraft came under hostile small arms fire (AK-47) / A single round entered the cockpit area through the windshield, striking WO1 Reichlin in the head / The helicopter was able to continue flight and landed safely / The attack resulted in a fatal injury to WO1 Joseph Reichlin / Reichlin was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Fort Wolters, Texas - Fort Wolters was a United States military installation four miles northeast of Mineral Wells, Texas / The fort was originally named Camp Wolters in honor of Brigadier General Jacob F. Wolters, commander of the 56th Cavalry Brigade of the National Guard, which used the area as a summer training ground / It was an Army camp from 1925 until 1946 / During World War II, Camp Wolters was at one time the largest infantry replacement training center in the United States / Camp Wolters also served as a German POW camp during the war / After the World War II, the camp was deactivated and purchased for private use / Due to rising tensions in the Cold War, the site was reactivated as Wolters Air Force Base in 1951 / Wolters Air Force Base was one of the facilities that trained Special Category Army Personnel With the Air Force (SCARWAF) units, and later the Aviation Engineer Force that replaced them / It also was used as a storage depot for Air Force equipment / In 1956, Camp Wolters reverted to the United States Army to house the United States Army Primary Helicopter School / In 1963, it was designated a "permanent" military base and renamed Fort Wolters / In June 1963, the post was re-designated Fort Wolters, a permanent military installation and U.S. Army Primary Helicopter Center / The base was deactivated in 1973

Ft. Rucker, Alabama - Fort Rucker (Formerly Camp Rucker) is a U.S. Army post located primarily in Dale County, Alabama, United States / Opened on 1 May 1942, it was named for a Civil War officer, Confederate General Edmund Rucker / The post is the primary flight training installation for U.S. Army Aviators and is home to the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) and the United States Army Aviation Museum / Camp Rucker was also used to train dozens of units of less than division size; these included tank, infantry replacement, and Women's Army Corps units / During the latter part of the Second World War, several hundred German and a few Italian prisoners-of-war were housed in stockades near the railroad east of the warehouse area, on the southern edge of the post / The 91st Infantry Division was sent to Camp Rucker at the end of the war, being deactivated in December 1945 / Camp Rucker was inactive from March 1946 until August 1950 / It was reopened during the Korean War / The name was changed to "Fort Rucker" in October 1955 / The 2021 National Defense Authorization Act calls for the establishment of an eight-person committee to develop a plan to remove all names, symbols, displays, and monuments that honor or commemorate the Confederacy from all Department of Defense assets, including Fort Rucker / In 2021, the Moore family started a petition to rename the fort in honor of Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the first black brigadier general in the USAF

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Reichlin was a graduate of Bishop Fallon High School / Reichlin graduated in 1965 from the State University of Buffalo with a Associate's Degree in Business Administration / Joseph Albert Reichlin, Jr. was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Joseph Albert Reichlin, Jr. is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 58e, Line 14

Helicopter Gunship Pilots were skilled officers who controlled and flew the many helicopters operated by the Military Services / In the Vietnam War the helicopter became one of the most important elements in the daily operations of our war fighting successes / They were involved in every aspect of that war fighting, from medevac, to ammo, troop and supply delivery, to aerial fire support

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

In January 1967, the 282nd Aviation Company was deployed to Vietnam to the I and II Corps advisory effort to South Vietnam / The gauntlet of support rendered I and II Corps necessitated company personnel and aircraft to be garrisoned in selected and separate sites over the I and II Corps area / Ten aircraft were assigned to I Corps, two at Hue Citadel, two at Quang Ngai and six at Da Nang / Sixteen aircraft were assigned to II Corps, eight each at Pleiku and An Son / The unit supported a great variety of missions, carrying in its twenty six assigned aircraft, passengers that ranged from prisoners of war to military and government VIPs and cargo that ranged from medical supplies and ammunition to live animals for food supplies / An urgent mission for the "Alleycats" was called down well before first light on 8 July 1967 / Elements of the 1st ARVN Division were under heavy attack in an area north of Quang Tri / The gunship platoon ("Alleycats") responded immediately, deploying six gunships to the area / Making contact with the enemy, they distinguished themselves in a five hour battle by engaging the enemy in the open areas, tree lines and fortified bunkers / As a result of their superior performances, they were able to boast 193 enemy killed by air (body count) / Through their exemplary action, the ground troops were able to capture eleven prisoners, 68 individual weapons and 26 crew served weapons / This operation has been described as the biggest single victory for an ARVN unit

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

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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: REIDY

PETER B.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

44TH ARTILLERY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Peter B. Reidy honorably served in the United States Army / Peter Reidy was a decorated Disabled US Combat Veteran and awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat operations in Khe Sanh, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Reidy was a Supervisor with Laborer's Union Local 210 and Stadium Operations Supervisor for the Buffalo Bills in the 1990s / Peter B. Reidy passed away on 5 February 2023

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REILLY

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

William J. "Bill" Reilly honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. "Bill" Reilly passed away on 8 September 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REILLY JR
JOHN F.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MAJOR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain John F. Reilly, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / Captain John Reilly was deployed to Vietnam and was discharged from the United States Army with the rank of Major

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Reilly graduated from the State University Of New York At Buffalo School Of Medicine with his medical degree in 1964 / John Reilly completed his medical residency at Meyer Memorial Hospital (Erie County Medical Center) before entering the Army / Upon his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Reilly worked for decades in private medical practice in West Seneca, specializing in Internal Medicine, Endocrinology / Dr. Reilly was affiliated with the Buffalo Mercy Hospital and Our Lady of Victory Hospital, where he served as Chief of Medicine / Dr. Reilly also cared for patients in local nursing facilities and home care / John F. Reilly, Jr. MD passed away on 20 December 2023 at the age of 85 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REINARD**
JOHN T.

Hometown: GOWANDA

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:

John T. "Jack" Reinard honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Reinard graduated from Lake Shore High School in 1955 / John Reinard worked for the United States Postal Service for over 34 years at multiple offices, including Buffalo, Hamburg, Otto, Perrysburg, South Dayton and ultimately as Postmaster at the Gowanda office / Reinard was a member of the Gowanda Kiwanis Club, the American Legion, Slovenian Club, Moose Club, Perrysburg Conservation Club and the South Dayton Rod and Gun Club / John T. "Jack" Reinard passed away on 7 January 2026 at the age of 87 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **REINAUER**
EVERETT C.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

914TH AIR RESERVE GROUP, NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Everett C. Reinauer honorably served in the Air Force Reserve / Everett Reinauer served in the reserve from 1958 to 1977 and worked with the 914th Air Reserve Group in Niagara Falls

Everett Reinauer also served in the United States Army-Air Force during World War II

Base Assignments:

Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, Niagara Falls, New York - Originally named Niagara Falls Air Force Base (1955-1971), the base is an Air Force Reserve Command military installation operationally gained by Air Mobility Command / It is located adjacent to Niagara Falls International Airport, New York, 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

Miscellaneous:

Everett C. Reinauer passed away on 13 April 2012



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REINER, JR.

LLOYD A.

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:

Lloyd A. Reiner, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lloyd Reiner retired after 30 years as a General Foreman and water/sewer plant operator for the Village of Alden / Lloyd A. Reiner, Jr. passed away on 3 February 2026 at the age of 82 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REMENICKY
JAMES

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:

James Remenicky honorably served in the United States Military / James Remenicky was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REMINGTON

JAMES R.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal James R. Remington honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James R. Remington passed away on 15 August 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: REUMAN

WILLIAM J.

Hometown:

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY ARTILLERY BRANCH

1ST MISSILE BATTALION, 84TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class William J. Reuman honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 William Reuman's final duty assignment was with 1st Missile Battalion, 84th Artillery Regiment at Fort Sill, Oklahoma as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic

Base Assignments:

Fort Sill, Oklahoma - Fort Sill is a United States Army post north of Lawton, Oklahoma, about 85 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. It covers almost 94,000 acres / The fort was first built in 1869 during the Indian Wars and was home to the 7th Cavalry, the 19th Kansas Volunteers and the 10th Cavalry, a distinguished group of black "buffalo soldiers" / It was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and serves as home of the United States Army Field Artillery School, as well as the Marine Corps' site for Field Artillery MOS school, United States Army Air Defense Artillery School, the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade, and the 75th Field Artillery Brigade / Fort Sill is also one of the four locations for Army Basic Combat Training / Ft. Sill has played a significant role in every major American conflict since 1869

Miscellaneous:

William Reuman was a 54-year active member of the Marilla Fire Company, where he served as a past assistant chief, a member of the Board of Directors and Vigilance committee, and as the company safety officer / Reuman was also a member of the Erie County Fire Chiefs, NYS Association of Fire Chiefs, the Firefighters Association of the State of New York, a member of the Executive Board of the Erie County Conservative Party, a member of the Town of Marilla Zoning Board and a member of the Akron Mason's Lodge / William J. Reuman passed away as a result of a tragic auto accident on 27 May 2023



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Artillery is a class of heavy military ranged weapons that launch munitions far beyond the range and power of infantry firearms / Early artillery development focused on the ability to breach defensive walls and fortifications during sieges, and led to heavy, fairly immobile siege engines / As technology improved, lighter, more mobile field artillery cannons developed for battlefield use / This development continues today; modern self-propelled artillery vehicles are highly mobile weapons of great versatility generally providing the largest share of an army's total firepower / Originally, the word "artillery" referred to any group of soldiers primarily armed with some form of manufactured weapon or armor / Since the introduction of gunpowder and cannon, "artillery" has largely meant cannon, and in contemporary usage, usually refers to shell-firing guns, howitzers, and mortars (collectively called barrel artillery, cannon artillery or gun artillery) and rocket artillery

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 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: REYNOLDS

DAVID R.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 307-B LANGFIELD DRIVE

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE, 4TH BATTALION, 503RD INFANTRY, B 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:

Private First-Class David Richard Reynolds honorably served in the United States Army / PFC David Reynolds was deployed to Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC David Reynolds was Killed In Action on 21 November 1967 from enemy small arms fire on Hill 875, Kontum Province, South Vietnam

Private First Class David Richard Reynolds, who joined the U.S. Army from New York, was a member of Company B, 4th Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade / On 21 November 1967, he served as radio operator for Company B during a combat mission in South Vietnam / During a fight against enemy forces on Hill 875, PFC Reynolds was killed by enemy small arms fire / His body was left on the battlefield in the vicinity of (GC) YB 797 137 when his unit was forced to withdraw to allow artillery and air strikes on the hill / On 25 November 1967, U.S. troops initiated a three-day search of Hill 875 and the surrounding area / They recovered several sets of remains; however, PFC Reynolds was not among them / He is still unaccounted for following the incident / Private First Class Reynolds is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Reynolds was a graduate of School 82 and attended Kensington High School before entering the U.S. Army



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in January 1967 / David Richard Reynolds was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is memorialized at the Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial

David Richard Reynolds is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 30e, Line 60

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 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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

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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

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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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RHONEMUS**

PAUL A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

502ND ENGINEER COMPANY (FLOATING BRIDGE), 565TH ENGINEER BATTALION, 7TH ENGINEER BRIGADE

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 152ND ENGINEER BATTALION (ARMORED DIVISION)

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Paul A. Rhonemus honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Paul Rhonemus was a Bridge Specialist for the US Army Corps of Engineers / SP4 Paul Rhonemus was stationed in Karlsruhe, Germany for most of his active duty

Prior to active duty with the Army Paul Rhonemus served 2 years in the New York National Guard from 1961-1963 and was attached to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 152nd Engineer Battalion (Armored Division) in Buffalo, NY

PFC Paul Rhonemus was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 29 December 1965

Base Assignments:

Karlsruhe, Germany - Of the kasernes still in use to this day, the Rhineland Kaserne in Ettlingen, about ten kilometers southwest of Karlsruhe, is the oldest / The first buildings of this complex were created in 1870 to house the troops of the Second Reich / Immediately after the war (WW II), the kaserne was used to house displaced persons flooding into Western Germany from the Soviet satellites and East Germany / During the period from 1946 until 1950, the kaserne constantly was quartering 2,000 DP's / In 1950, American troops moved into the kaserne / In 1958, it was occupied by the 39th Engr Gp, elements of the 552nd FA Bn, and three



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German Labor Service Groups / The base was vacated by the Army in the later 1990's

Miscellaneous:

After leaving military service, Rhonemus served as a civilian employee of the Army Corps of Engineers until his retirement in 1996 / Paul A. Rhonemus passed away on 8 March 2021

The 502nd Engineer Company Assault Float Bridge was first constituted on 19 March 1942 / In April 1942 the 502nd was activated at Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a Light Pontoon Bridge Company / During World War II, the 502nd participated in the following campaigns: Normandy (with arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe / It led several assault river crossings, making possible the Allied drive across France and into Germany / Soldiers of the 502nd Engineer Company (Assault Float Bridge) and the 4th Engineer Company of the German army participated in a combined US/German ribbon bridge crossing of the Rhine River 2 kilometers west of Ketsch, Germany on 7 October 1999 / The partnership Rhine crossing marked the first time American and German armies had combined to construct a bridge since crossing the Elbe River in June 1998 / One-hundred-ten American soldiers and 80 German soldiers participated in the event / Following the events of 11 September 2001, the 502nd Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge) deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from January to September 2003 and constructed the longest float bridge ever in combat: the Birthday Bridge in Tikrit, Iraq spanning 580 meters / During a second deployment to Iraq, from September 2004 to September 2005, the 502nd Engineer Company removed the longest Mabey-Johnson Float Bridge in Iraq, the Hait Jordan / The unit moved to Fort Knox, Kentucky in June 2008, as part of a restructuring of US Army elements in Germany and the transformation of the US Army as a whole to the modular force structure / There the 502nd Engineer Company was assigned to the 19th Engineer Battalion

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RIBIC**

MARK S.

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:

Mark S. Ribic honorably served in the United States Military / Mark Ribic was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RICE

HERBERT C.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CAPT

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

14TH AIR COMMANDO WING, 4TH AIR COMMANDO SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

SILVER STAR

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL W/2 OAK CLUSTERS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED STATES AVIATOR BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Captain Herbert Charles Rice honorably served in the United States Air Force / Captain Herbert Rice was deployed to Vietnam on 28 December 1966 as a Tactical Aircraft Pilot / CAPT Herbert Rice was Killed In Action on 29 March 1967 when his AC-47 Dragon-ship was hit by groundfire and crashed in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

Captain Herbert Rice Herbert graduated in 1957 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Air Force / CAPT Rice reported to primary flying school at Graham Air Force Base in Marianna, Florida and then to Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas, for multi-engine basic training / After earning his silver wings, Captain Herbert Rice was assigned to Strategic Air Command, first to B-47 training at McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas and then to B-52s / He completed five years as a B-52 pilot with the Strategic Air Command at Loring Air Force Base in Maine / 1965, Rice was selected for an Air Force Institute of Technology-sponsored MBA program at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles / In June 1966 after graduation, he received orders for Vietnam / Rice trained at Hurlbert Field as a pilot in the AC-47 gunship / He departed for Vietnam on December 26, 1966

On 29 March 1967, Captain Herbert Rice volunteered to fill in as copilot for an ill crewmember on an AC-47 gunship mission / He was on a mission aboard AC-47D #44-76534 of the 4th Air Commando Squadron detachment at Danang / They had been dispatched to help defend an outpost near Hoi An, about 10 miles



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south of Danang /

The aircraft arrived over the target and established perimeter orbit, but they were hit by intense automatic weapons fire and crashed a few miles from Hoi An / All seven crewmen died in the crash
Captain Herbert Charles Rice was an alumnus of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY / He selected Air Force and received his commission as a 2nd Lt in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation / He was one of 335 men from West Point who died or are MIA in Southeast Asia/Indochina during the period October, 1957 – September, 1972

The AC-47 Dragon-ship, used for close air support, carried a crew of seven / Nicknamed "Puff the Magic Dragon", the converted AC-47s flew in tight circles while firing, making them vulnerable to ground fire

Captain Herbert Rice was awarded the Silver Star and the Air Force Commendation Medal for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States

Base Assignments:

Hurlburt Field, Florida – Hurlburt Field is a United States Air Force installation located in Okaloosa County, Florida, immediately west of the town of Mary Esther / It is part of the greater Eglin Air Force Base reservation and is home to Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), the 1st Special Operations Wing (1 SOW), the USAF Special Operations School (USAFSOS) and the Air Combat Command's (ACC) 505th Command and Control Wing / The field was named for First Lieutenant Donald Wilson Hurlburt, who died in a crash at Eglin / In the early 1960s, Hurlburt was utilized as a Strategic Air Command dispersal base for B-47s of the 306th Bomb Wing at MacDill AFB, Florida / The USAF Special Operations School (USAFSOS) trains US Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and US government civilian personnel in a variety of courses, including courses in Dynamics of International Terrorism, and the Middle East Orientation Course

Graham Air Force Base, Marianna, Florida - Graham AB was a United States Air Force base located in Marianna, Florida / The airfield opened on 8 August 1942 and was used as a training base for the Southeast Army Air Force Training Command / The Army Air Forces Pilot School (Advanced-Single Engine) was activated on 1 September 1942, with the 17th Single Engine Flying Training Group being the Operational Training Unit / Aircraft used during training were P-40 Warhawks and AT-6 Texans / During World War II, the mission of the base was changed from the training of pilots for single-engine pursuit fighter aircraft to training of combat crews for the A-26 Invader light bomber aircraft / The Air Force closed Graham AB in late 1960 and was reused as Marianna Municipal Airport

Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama - Maxwell AFB, officially known as Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, is a United States Air Force (USAF) located in Montgomery, Alabama, United States / Occupying the site of the first Wright Flying School, it was named in honor of Second Lieutenant William C. Maxwell, a native of Atmore, Alabama / The base is the headquarters of Air University (AU), a major component of Air Education and Training Command (AETC), and is the U.S. Air Force's center for Joint Professional Military Education (PME) / The field served as a repair depot during World War I and trained U.S. military aviators and their support teams for wartime service during World War II

Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Texas - Lubbock Field officially opened on 22 January 1942 and was originally known as the Lubbock Army Air Corps Advanced Flying School and offered primary flight training to cadets &



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instrument training for pilots / The base was renamed to the Lubbock Army Flying School in early 1943, and then to Lubbock Army Airfield later that year / Aircraft flown from the base during WW2 included the T-6 Texan, AT-17 Bobcat, and AT-9 Jeep / The base was closed at the end of 1945, after graduating 7,009 pilots / In the post-WW2 years, the base was reportedly used as a meeting place for National Guard, Air Reserve, and Naval Reserve units / Lubbock was reactivated by the Air Force in 1949 as a multiengine pilot-training base / It was named Lubbock Air Force Base, until being renamed Reese Air Force Base in late 1949 / Reese Air Force Base is named in honor of 1st Lt Augustus F. Reese, Jr., of Shallowater, Texas, who lived about ten miles north of the base / He was killed in action at Cagliari, Sardinia, 14 May 1943, while flying a P-38 on a voluntary mission to destroy a railroad supply train / Lieutenant Reese was honored when his name was selected for the base at the suggestion of a committee of Lubbock residents / The main aircraft used at Reese during this period was the TB-25 Mitchell bomber, which was used to train student officers & aviation cadets / The AT-6 Texan was also used starting in 1949 to augment multi-engine pilot training / The last AT-6 training mission took place at Lubbock on 19 May 1953 / The TB-25 was used at Reese until the base was converted to single-engine jet training in 1959 / The supersonic T-38 was used at Reese starting in 1963 to permit qualification of pilots for quicker transition to larger and faster aircraft / The Reese Air Force Base was closed in 1997 / In its history, Reese had trained a total of 25,349 pilots

McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas - McConnell AFB is a United States Air Force base located four miles southeast of the central business district of Wichita, a city in Sedgwick County, Kansas / The airbase was named in honor of the brothers Fred and Thomas McConnell of Wichita, who had both been Air Force pilots and veterans of World War II / It is the home of Air Mobility Command's 22nd Air Refueling Wing (22 ARW), Air Force Reserve Command's 931st Air Refueling Wing (931 ARW), and the Kansas Air National Guard's 184th Wing / McConnell's primary mission is to provide global reach by conducting air refueling and airlift where and when needed

Miscellaneous:

Herbert Rice, a native of Olean and moved to Hamburg in 1945 / Rice graduated from Hamburg Central School / Herbert Rice was a 1957 graduate of the United States Military Academy / Herbert Charles Rice was 32 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at United States Military Academy, Post Cemetery, West Point, New York

Herbert Charles Rice is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 17e, Line 69

The 14th Air Commando Wing was activated at Nha Trang on 8 March 1966 and was the host unit at the base until 15 October 1969 when it moved to Phan Rang Air Base / The airfield was managed by the 14th Combat Support Group / On its establishment the 14th Wing assumed control of all USAF squadrons at Nha Trang and the 1st Air Commando Squadron (before it moved to Pleiku Air Base) and it later assumed control of the 20th Helicopter Squadron / In January 1967 Flight C from the 4th Air Commando Squadron equipped with AC-47 Spooky gunships began operating from the base / In late December 1968, the 71st Special Operations Squadron equipped with AC-119G Shadow gunships arrived from Lockbourne Air Force Base and began operations from the base / On 1 June 1969 the 17th Special Operations Squadron equipped with AC-119G gunships was activated at Nha Trang and it replaced the 71st Special Operations Squadron which returned to Bakalar Air Force Base for inactivation / In mid-1969, as part of the process of Vietnamization, USAF units at Nha Trang began to relocate



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or inactivate and by October 1969 all USAF units had left the base and only 800 USAF personnel remained there to support operations until the handover of the base to the RVNAF in 1970

The Silver Star Medal (SSM) is the United States Armed Forces' third-highest military decoration for valor in combat / The Silver Star Medal is awarded primarily to members of the United States Armed Forces for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States / The gallantry displayed must have taken place while in action against an enemy of the United States, while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force

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 Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for award to members of the armed forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Force after March 24, 1958, shall have distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement and service / The degree of merit must be distinctive, though it need not be unique / Acts of courage which do not involve the voluntary risk of life required for the Airman's Medal may be considered for the Air Force Commendation 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

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

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



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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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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: **RICH**

RICHARD A.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Richard A. Rich honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Rich graduated from School 77 and Lafayette High School in 1953 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Richard Rich earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Buffalo / Rich started in the Real Estate field in 1964, later joining the Corcoran Real Estate Agency in Eggertsville, New York / The Agency became Brassel, Higgins and Rich, with Richard Rich in charge of Internal Operations and coordinating the sales representatives / In 1974, Rich teamed with an associate to form Rich Associates and collaborated with four other agencies to form Realty1, the area's biggest agency / Rich was President of Realty World/Realty1 before selling his agency / In 1986, Rich became Manager of the Century 21-MJ Peterson Agency in Clarence for residential sales / Richard Rich served as the Director at Large of the New York Association of Realtors and the Western New York Regional Vice President / After leaving sales in the late 1980's, Rich taught courses to prisoners at the Erie County Correctional Facility / Richard Rich became an Assistant Professor of Business Administrative at Erie Community College in Amherst, New York / Rich was the founder and President of the Williamsville Business Association and was appointed in 2014 by the Village of Williamsville as a Real Estate Liaison to market the village to prospective businesses / Richard Rich helped start the Glen Park Art Festival in 2009 and was also a member of the Town of Amherst Arts and Culture in Public Places Board / Rich was a Past President of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce and Daemen College Associates / Richard A. Rich passed away on 6 February 2025 at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RICHARDSON**
RONALD

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:

Ronald Richardson honorably served in the United States Military / Ronald Richardson was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RICHARDSON**

WILLIAM H.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class William H. Richardson honorably served in the United States Army Reserve for two years

Base Assignments:

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - Fort Leonard Wood is a U.S. Army training installation located in the Missouri Ozarks / The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood, a distinguished American Soldier who served for 40 years (later became Military Chief of Staff) / Originally intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center / During World War II Italian and German POWs were interned at the fort / In 1984, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, most of the U.S. Army Engineer School's operations were consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood / Before that, officer training was conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Miscellaneous:

William Richardson graduated from Hamburg High School in 1951 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from St. Lawrence University in 1956 / In 1958, Richardson joined the investment firm of Trubee Collins and Company (Trubee Wealth Advisors), becoming a General Partner in 1961 / Richardson became the Managing Partner in 1974 and became President and Chief Executive Officer in 1992 / William Richardson retired from the firm in 2021 / Richardson was a member of the Board of Governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers from 1992 to 1994 and served a term on the NASD District 13 Committee / William Richardson was a former Board Member of the First Federal Savings and Loan of Hamburg, the Prospect Lawn Cemetery Association, the Bond Club of Buffalo and the Better Business Bureau of Western New York / Richardson became President of the Board of Directors at Buffalo Raceway in 1990 and served until his death / Richardson was a member of the Springville Country Club, the Red Jacket Ski Club, the Willow Bend Tennis and Swim Club and the Hamburg Indoor Tennis Association / William H. Richardson passed away on 26 June 2024 at the age of 91 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RICHTER

RICHARD F.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

79TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT RIFLE (M-14)

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/1960 DEVICE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Richard F. Richter honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Richard Richter was assigned as an Aircraft Armament Repairman and was deployed to Vietnam with the 79th Transportation Company, based in Qui Nhon, Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard F. Richter passed away on 31 August 2025 at the age of 83 years old

Aircraft Armament Repairman maintained mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic aircraft armament components / Repairman diagnose and repair malfunctions in AH-64 armament, electrical, instrument, and fire control systems and components including solid state and transistorized subsystems according to technical manuals, directives, and safety procedures / Performs maintenance, authorized modifications, and alignment on AH-64 weapons components, fire control units, sighting elements, electronic and mechanical devices, and instruments / Performs operational checks, ammunition loading/unloading, and weapon subsystems configuration changes for all AH-64 fire control systems

During the Vietnam War, the Transportation Corps played a crucial role in ensuring the movement of troops, supplies, and equipment / The Transportation Movements Officer (TMO) was responsible for coordinating and overseeing transportation operations within the military / They supervised personnel performing various duties, including Motor Transport Operators, Traffic Management Coordinators, and Terminal Operations Coordinators



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/ During the Vietnam War, the Transportation Corps adapted to its role in the use and sustainment of rotary-wing aviation / They fielded new aircraft, and aviation maintainers adopted the motto of "Find 'em, Fix 'em, and Fly 'em" to keep the helicopters operational

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RICHTER

ROBERT F.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

USS TURNER (DD/DDR-834)

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Robert F. Richter honorably served in the United States Navy / PO Richter served onboard the USS Turner as a Radarman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Richter passed away on 27 March 2024 at the age of 79 years old

A Radarman was a rating in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard during, and after, World War II / The radarman was generally required to attend and complete a U.S. Navy Class "A" radar school at a designated Naval Training Centers (NTC) in the United States / Once assigned to a ship or shore station, the radarman was required to operate and maintain the installed radar and electronic warfare equipment / Radarmen were specially trained in emergency repair procedures, as their assigned vessels went into combat areas / Radarman also operates radar, navigation, and communications equipment in shipboard and combat information centers (CICs) or bridges / They detect and track ships, planes, and missiles. They operate and maintain IFF (identification friend or foe) systems

USS Turner (DD/DDR-834) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the third Navy ship named for Captain Daniel Turner (1794 (circa)–1850) / The Turner was commissioned on 12 June 1945 and began undergoing conversion to destroyer picket ship at Boston, Massachusetts / In December 1945, the Turner departed the Hawaiian Islands and proceeded to Japan / She operated out of Japanese ports with Task Group



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55.4, Task Force 54, and other elements of the 5th Fleet until 24 March 1946 when she departed Yokosuka and proceeded via Midway to Pearl Harbor / She remained at Oahu until 29 May 1946 when she got underway and proceeded to Roi Island / In June and July, she participated in "Operation Crossroads", the atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll, during which she was flagship of Destroyer Squadron 5 and supported air operations for Section Baker of the tests / She returned to Pearl Harbor on 30 July 1946, got underway again on 7 August 1946, and steamed into San Diego harbor on the 13th of August / The ship operated along the west coast until August 1947, mainly participating in hunter-killer and fleet exercises / The Turner was reclassified as a radar picket destroyer on 18 March 1949 and throughout the 1950's, she conducted reserve training cruises, participated in fleet exercises, and frequently made 6th Fleet deployments / On her eighth Mediterranean cruise in 1958, she acted as a picket ship for Task Force 61 during the Lebanon crisis / Armed conflict flared in the Caribbean in April 1965; and, from 8 through 25 May 1965, Turner operated with Task Force 128 in support of the American presence in the Dominican Republic / She again provided assistance to the American space program in February 1966 when she patrolled an alternate recovery station, at a point midway between South America and Africa, not far from the equator, as a backup site for a Project Apollo test flight / Early in 1969, she completed her 15th Mediterranean deployment and returned to the United States / In April 1969, she arrived at Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, Florida and was decommissioned there on 26 September 1969 / Her name was struck from the Navy list that same day, and, on 13 October 1970, she was sold to Southern Scrap Material, Ltd., New Orleans, Louisiana, for scrapping

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 Third Dominican Republic Civil 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

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: RIEDEL

PAUL

F.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Paul F. Riedel honorably served in the United States Army / Paul Riedel was assigned as an Engineer and deployed to Vietnam for three months

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the US Army, Paul Riedel worked for the Army Corp of Engineers for ten years / Riedel was one of five engineers who worked on the American Falls (Niagara Falls) when it was blocked to study the rocks and debris below the Falls / Riedel then went to work for the Elia Corporation before becoming the owner of the Holiday Motel on Main Street in Williamsville / Riedel, along with his wife, ran the hotel from 1973 until his retirement in 2007 / Riedel was Chairman of the NYS Hotel/Motel Association / Paul F. Riedel passed away on 10 September 2023



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RIEDY**

JAMES D.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

"E" COMPANY, 3/87TH 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTE BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant (E-5) James Dennis Riedy honorably served in the United States Army / SGT James Riedy was deployed to Vietnam and assigned to a Mortar Team / Sgt Riedy was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism under combat conditions / Sergeant Riedy received the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James D. Riedy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

A mortar is usually a simple, lightweight, man-portable, muzzle-loaded weapon, consisting of a smooth-bore (although some models use a rifled barrel) metal tube fixed to a base plate (to spread out the recoil) with a lightweight bipod mount and a sight / They launch explosive shells in high-arc ballistic trajectories / Mortars are typically used as indirect fire weapons for close fire support with a variety of ammunition

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Its unique battlefield mobility and high level of training have kept it in the vanguard of U.S. land combat forces in recent conflicts



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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

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 / 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'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 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: **RIEDY**

PETER

B.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

44TH ARTILLERY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAMESE GALLANTRY CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) Peter B. Riedy honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Peter Reidy was deployed to Khe Sanh, Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat operations / Corporal Riedy was awarded the Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal by the Government of South Vietnam for heroism under combat conditions

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Riedy worked as a supervisor in the construction industry with Local #210 / Riedy worked on some large projects which included the Buffalo Rapid Transit System, Canisius College athletic field and the Buffalo Bills practice field / Peter Riedy worked in the 1990's for the Buffalo Bills as the Stadium Operations Supervisor / Peter Riedy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940 / After his retirement, Riedy moved to North Carolina and then to Lake Wales, Florida / Peter B. Riedy passed away on 5 February 2023 at the age of 76 years old

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 Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American



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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 Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal was awarded by the Vietnam Government to military personnel who have accomplished deeds of valor or displayed heroic conduct while fighting the enemy and have been cited individually at the regiment, brigade, division, corps, or armed forces level



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RINE

ARTHUR W.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Arthur W. Rine honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Arthur Rine was deployed to Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division / SP-4 Arthur Rine was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered on the battlefield and was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action against enemy forces

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. 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

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border - Guerrilla troops known as Viet Cong (VC) dug tens of thousands of miles of tunnels, including an extensive network running underneath the Cu Chi district northwest of Saigon /



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Soldiers used these underground routes to house troops, transport communications and supplies, lay booby traps and mount surprise attacks, after which they could disappear underground to safety / To combat these guerrilla tactics, U.S. and South Vietnamese forces trained soldiers known as "tunnel rats" to navigate the tunnels in order to detect booby traps and enemy troop presence / Now part of a Vietnam War memorial park in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), the Cu Chi tunnels have become a popular tourist attraction

Dau Tieng Base Camp (also known as LZ Dau Tieng or Camp Rainier) is a former U.S. Army and Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) base in the town of Dau Tieng in Bình Dương Province in southern Vietnam / The base was established in October 1966 and was located in the Dau Tieng District, 60 km northwest of Tan Son Nhut Air Base (outside of Saigon) / It was a base camp and stopping off point for many Infantry units, such as the 3rd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division, who made their command and control headquarters there / On 24 June 1967 a Vietcong (VC) mortar attack on Camp Rainier (Dau Tieng) disabled 29 UH-1 helicopters of the 188th Assault Helicopter Company / On 4 July 1968 the base was subjected to a heavy People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) rocket and mortar attack followed by probes on the base perimeter resulting in 5 U.S. and 16 PAVN killed / On 23 February 1969 the base was attacked and overrun by PAVN sappers / SSGT Robert W. Hartsock would be posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the attack as 21 U.S. and 73 PAVN were killed in the attack / Currently, part of the base appears to remain in use by the PAVN / The airfield is no longer used but remains visible on satellite images

Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Rine graduated from West Seneca Senior High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Arthur Rine worked for 32 years at National Fuel Gas

The 25th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Tropic Lightning") is a United States Army division based at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii / The division, which was activated on 1 October 1941 in Hawaii, conducted military operations primarily in the Asia-Pacific region / When the Korean War began in June 1950, the division was deployed to South Korea, where it fought in the defense of and the breakout from the Pusan Perimeter in mid-1950, with elements advancing as far as the Amnok River in November 1950 / The division defended Seoul against Chinese Communist attack from May 1953 to the July armistice, returning to Hawaii in late 1954 / After undergoing major reorganizations in 1957 and 1963 to adapt to changing tactics, the division deployed to South Vietnam to fight in the Vietnam War between late 1965 and early 1966 / The 25th served in Vietnam until its withdrawal back to Hawaii in 1970–1971, participating in Operation Attleboro, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Junction City, the Battle of Saigon during the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive, and the Cambodian Incursion / It was reorganized as a light infantry division in 1985, and elements have participated in the Iraq War and the War



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in Afghanistan / Its present deployment is composed of light infantry and aviation units / Tropic Lightning soldiers regularly train with other U.S. military branches to practice and maintain joint operations capabilities

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 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 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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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**

DAVID F.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

- | | |
|---|--|
| AF OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD RIBBON | GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL |
| AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER | ARMY SERVICE RIBBON |
| AF LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/2 LEAF CLUSTERS | AIR FORCE TRAINING RIBBON |
| ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/HOURLASS DEVICE | NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS |
| GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER | |

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Franklin Roberts honorably served in the Air Force as a Personnel Specialist / Sgt. Roberts was assigned to the Consolidated Base Personnel Offices in California and Texas / After his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 13 January 1970, Roberts served 22 more years from 1981 - 2006 in various units of the US Air Force Reserve, Texas Air National Guard, Oklahoma Air National Guard, Texas Army National Guard, Tennessee Army National Guard and the Tennessee Air National Guard / Sgt. Roberts was deployed during the War on Terrorism / Promoted to the rank of Technical Sergeant (E-6), David Roberts was Honorably Discharged from the National Guard in Nashville, Tennessee in November 2016

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David F. Roberts served his country in uniform 25 1/2 years / David Franklin Roberts passed away on 26 September 2021

The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is one of the unit awards of the United States Air Force / It was established in 1954 and was the first independent Air Force decoration created / The Outstanding Unit Award is awarded to any unit of the U.S. Air Force (including the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard) which



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performs exceptionally meritorious service, accomplishes specific acts of outstanding achievement, excels in combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or conducts with distinct military operations involving conflict with, or exposure to, a hostile action by any opposing foreign force

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-EM) is a United States Armed Forces award created by George W. Bush on 12 March 2003, through Executive Order 13289 / The medal recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terror from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined / Prior to 30 April 2005, the medal was awarded for service within Iraq and Afghanistan, but has been replaced with the Iraq Campaign Medal and Afghanistan Campaign Medal and now serves primarily as recognition for personnel who have deployed in support of the War on Terror to locations beyond Iraq and Afghanistan

The Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal was established by the Secretary of the Air Force on 1 April 1964 and is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency and fidelity during a four-year period while serving in an enlisted status in the U.S. Air Force Reserve

The Army Service Ribbon (ASR) is a military award of the United States Army and is awarded to all members of the Regular (Active) Army, and Army National Guard and United States Army Reserve in an active reserve status, for successful completion of initial-entry training, which for officers is considered to be successful completion of their basic/orientation or higher-level course / Enlisted soldiers will be awarded the ribbon upon successful completion of their initial military occupational specialty (MOS)-producing course

The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a military award established by Air Force General Order 60, on 25 November 1957 by General Thomas D. White, Air Force Chief of Staff / The award was primarily created as an Air Force equivalent to the service stripes used by other branches of the United States military to denote years of military service / The award is retroactive to the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as an independent service in September 1947 and for any service with the U.S. Army Air Forces, U.S. Army Air Corps, or U.S. Army Air Service prior to the creation of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service as long as the serviceman was on active duty on or after 18 September 1947 / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is awarded for completing four years of Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The Air Force Training Ribbon is awarded to U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force service members on completion of initial accession training after 14 August 1974 / It is officially hallmarked by the U.S. Institute of Heraldry / If a member completes two accession training programs, such as BMT and OTS, a bronze oak leaf cluster is worn on the ribbon

The Armed Forces Reserve Medal (AFRM) is a service medal of the United States Armed Forces that has existed since 1950 / The medal recognizes service performed by members of the reserve components and is awarded to both officers and enlisted personnel / The medal is considered a successor award to the Naval Reserve Medal and the Marine Corps Reserve Ribbon, which were discontinued in 1958 and 1967, respectively / If the medal is awarded for periods of service, it is accompanied by an hourglass device / Depending on the length of service, a bronze, silver, gold, or bronze and gold hourglass are worn on the suspension ribbon and service ribbon, indicating 10, 20, 30, or 40 years of service, respectively



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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS**
HAROLD A.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Harold A. Roberts honorably served in the United Air Force for five years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold A. Roberts passed away on 30 May 2018



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBERTS, JR.**

HARRY W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: O-2

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

136TH TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON (TFS), NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD (NYANG)
7TH TACTICAL FIGHTER WING
27TH TACTICAL FIGHTER WING

Medals / Citations:

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS	AIR MEDAL (13)
VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL	REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL
AIR FORCE AVIATOR BADGE	MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (SMALL ARMS)
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL	

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Harry W. Roberts, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / Harry Roberts attended Officer Training School (OTS) at Lackland AFB in July 1965, commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant / 2nd Lieutenant Roberts spent a year of pilot training at Craig AFB / Following graduation from pilot training, Roberts was temporarily assigned to the 27th Tactical Fighter Wing at Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico, for six months of training on the F-100C Super Sabre aircraft / 2nd LT Harry Roberts was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in February 1968 / 1st LT Harry Roberts and the 136th Tactical Fighter Squadron (TFS) were mobilized to Tuy Hoa AFB, South Vietnam, in June 1968 / 1st LT Roberts flew 256 combat missions in Southeast Asia and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 13 Air Medals for his service / In December 1968, LT Roberts survived his first plane crash when he was forced to eject from his F-100 aircraft after it lost oil pressure following small gunfire upon takeoff / 1st LT Harry Roberts was rescued from the South China Sea within 15 minutes of his ejection

First Lieutenant Harry Roberts served with the Air National Guard before and after the active duty, earning the rank of Captain

1st LT Harr Roberts was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 26 June 1969

Base Assignments:



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Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Bexar County, Texas / The base is under the jurisdiction of the 802d Mission Support Group, Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and an enclave of the city of San Antonio / It is the only site for Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) / Lackland AFB is part of Joint Base San Antonio, an amalgamation of the Fort Sam Houston, the Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base, which were merged on 1 October 2010 / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico – Cannon AFB is a United States Air Force base, located approximately 7 miles southwest of Clovis, New Mexico / The host unit at Cannon is the 27th Special Operations Wing (27 SOW) also known as "The Steadfast Line" / It is under the jurisdiction of Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) which activated at the base on 1 October 2007 / The 27 SOW plans and executes specialized and contingency operations using advanced aircraft, tactics and air refueling techniques to infiltrate, exfiltrate and resupply special operations forces (SOF) and provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and close air support in support of SOF operations / A variety of special operations aircraft are stationed at Cannon, including the AC-130J Ghost Rider, MC-130J Commando II, MQ-9 Reaper, CV-22 Osprey and U-28 Draco

Craig Air Force Base, Selma, Alabama - Craig AFB, was a U.S. Air Force undergraduate pilot training (UPT) installation that closed in 1977 / Originally built by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1940 to accommodate the growing number of flight trainees before World War II, Craig Field was one of the first training fields to offer single-engine training. Its first graduating class of 1941 / The base is named to honor 1st Lt Bruce Kilpatrick Craig, who was killed when his B-24 Liberator bomber crashed in June 1941 / Lt. Craig was born in Selma and was initially commissioned as an officer in the Infantry Reserve prior to transferring to the U.S. Army Air Forces and attending flight training / During the Korean War, the AFB focused its efforts on pilot instructor training / In 1974, Craig AFB was selected as one of two UPT bases to be closed in a post-Vietnam economic move / In 1977, Air Training Command closed Craig Air Force Base along with Webb Air Force Base in Texas / Today the facility is a civilian airport known as Craig Field Airport and Industrial Complex

Miscellaneous:

Harry Roberts graduated from Riverside High School, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at Canisius College in 1965 / Roberts worked first at General Motors' Chevrolet Division, then at Honeywell, until February 1971, when he accepted a position as Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) / Harry Roberts earned his commercial pilot's license and flew over 4,000 hours during his career, divided between military jet and general aviation aircraft / As part of his duties with the Bureau, Roberts worked as Aircraft Coordinator, providing air surveillance in support of investigations conducted by the Buffalo, New York office / Harry Roberts survived his second plane crash in May 1986 when Roberts conducted a test flight of a privately owned seaplane which he was evaluating for possible use on an official mission of the FBI / The owner of the plane attempted a landing on the Niagara River, with Roberts as passenger / The landing was unsuccessful, and the aircraft crashed into the river, where the water temperature was about 40 degrees / With hypothermia setting in, Roberts rescued the dazed, 74-year-old pilot from the sinking aircraft and kept him alive and afloat for 20 minutes before they could be retrieved from the water / For this, Harry was honored with a Hero's Award, presented by the 100 Club of Buffalo / Harry Roberts served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 27 years / Following his retirement from the Bureau in 1998, Harry Roberts worked as a



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licensed Private Investigator until 2010 / Harry W. Roberts passed away on 12 September 2023 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York

Developed as a fighter-bomber from the F-100A, the F-100C prototype first flew in March 1954 / A long list of improvements included greatly increased fuel capacity, in-flight refueling, six hard points under the wings for carrying bombs or drop tanks, and the Low Altitude Bombing System (LABS) which allowed the aircraft to carry and deliver nuclear weapons / Over four hundred and seventy "C" models were built / Super Sabres flew extensively in Vietnam and continued in Air National Guard service until 1979 / Many F-100s were converted to QF-100 drones for use as remotely piloted targets

The Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / The medal was established on July 2, 1926, and is currently awarded to any persons who, after April 6, 1917, distinguish themselves by single acts of heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight / Both heroism and extraordinary achievement are entirely distinctive, involving operations that are not routine

The Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created in 1942 and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

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

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,



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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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Name: **ROBINSON**
RICHARD

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Richard (Dick) Robinson honorably served in the United States Army / Richard Robinson was deployed to Vietnam in 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Robinson was a graduate of Tonawanda High School and the University of Wyoming / Robinson was a former Grand Island M & T Bank manager, member of the Rotary Club, and recipient of the Chamber Grand Island Citizen of the Year Award for Business / After moving to Summerfield, Florida, Richard Robinson managed a Bank of Barnett and in later years operated a Bed & Breakfast in Palm Coast, Florida / Richard (Dick) Robinson passed away on 2 February 2013 at the age of 71 years old



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Name: **ROBINSON, SR.**

ARTHUR E.

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:

Arthur E. "Art" Robinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur E. "Art" Robinson, Sr. passed away on 17 April 2019 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROBINSON, SR.**

RICHARD J.

Hometown:

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:

Major Richard (Dick) J. Robinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / Major Richard Robinson served three full years of service and another fourteen in the Army Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Robinson graduated from Bishop Timon High School and Canisius College, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and participated in the ROTC program / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Richard Robinson became a self-employed State Farm agent before retiring at the age of eighty-five, creating a lasting legacy of fifty-eight years of service / Robinson was a member of the Board of Trustees at Bishop Timon High School where he was Chairman for several years and joined the board of Directors at the South Buffalo Community Table / Richard Robinson was a charter member of the MSGR Nash Council and the American Legion for sixty-five years / Richard (Dick) J. Robinson, Sr. Passed away on 18 April 2024, at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROCHELLE**

BUDDIE R.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BULK FUEL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST FORCE SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP (FSSG)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

USMC MERITORIOUS MAST

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Buddie R. Rochelle honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Buddie Rochelle was assigned as a Bulk Fuel Man with the 1st Bulk Fuel Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group (FSSG) at Camp Pendleton, California

Lance Corporal Buddie Rochelle received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps on 9 August 1977

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 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

Miscellaneous:

Buddie R. Rochelle passed away on 4 September 2023 and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

7th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB) provides general engineering support of an expeditionary nature to the



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Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), to include mobility, counter mobility and survivability enhancements, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), and general supply support to include the handling, storage and distribution of bulk water and fuel

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

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

USMC Meritorious Mast is a formal and ceremonial acknowledgment recognizing an enlisted person being awarded a Letter of Appreciation, Certificate of Commendation, or a personal decoration whenever personal performance is considered noteworthy or commendable beyond the usual requirements of duty by a demonstration of exceptional industry, judgment, or initiative

USMC Letter of Commendation is a letter of appreciation issued for exceptional performance of duty above and beyond that which is normally required and expected of an officer or enlisted person



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RODRIGUEZ**
RAUL

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTIST BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Raul Rodriguez honorably served in the United States Army / Raul Rodriguez was deployed to Vietnam as a Weapons Instructor / Raul Rodriguez was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action / Rodriguez was a Disabled Army Veteran

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raul Rodriguez was originally born in Manhattan, New York / Rodriguez was an Assistant Associate Director for the Erie County Police Academy / Rodriguez was an Honorary Member of the New York State Sheriff's Institute / Raul Rodriguez was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association, life member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and The Disabled American Veterans / Raul Rodriguez passed away on 11 November 2024 from surgical complications at the age of 76 years old and is interred at the Leicester Cemetery, Leicester, New York

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into hostile areas with a U.S. Department of Defense mandate to be "on-call to fight anytime, anywhere" at "the knife's edge of technology and readiness / Primarily based at Fort Liberty, North Carolina, the 82nd Airborne Division is part of the XVIII Airborne Corps / The 82nd Airborne Division is the U.S. Army's most strategically mobile division / The division was organized on 25 August 1917, at Camp Gordon, Georgia and later served with distinction on the Western Front in the final months of World War I / Since its initial members came



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from all 48 states, the division acquired the nickname All-American, which is the basis for its "AA" on the shoulder patch / The division later served in World War II where, in August 1942, it was reconstituted as the first airborne division of the U.S. Army and fought in numerous campaigns during the war / In April 1965, the "All-Americans" invaded the Dominican Republic / Spearheaded by the 3rd Brigade, the 82nd deployed in Operation Power Pack / During the Vietnamese Tet Offensive, which swept across South Vietnam in January/February 1968, the 3rd Brigade was enroute to Chu Lai within 24 hours of receiving its orders / The 3rd Brigade performed combat duties in the Hue – Phu Bai area of the I Corps sector / Later the brigade moved south to Saigon, and fought in the Mekong Delta, the Iron Triangle and along the Cambodian border, serving nearly 22 months

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Established in 1918, the 101st Division was first constituted as an airborne unit in 1942 / During World War II, it gained renown for its role in Operation Overlord (the D-Day landings and airborne landings on 6 June 1944, in Normandy, France); Operation Market Garden; the liberation of the Netherlands; and its action during the Battle of the Bulge / The 101st Airborne was allotted to the Regular Army in June 1948 and reactivated as a training unit at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky the following July, only to be inactivated the next year / It was reactivated in 1950 following the outbreak of the Korean War, again to serve as a Training Center at Camp Breckenridge until inactivated in December 1953 / From 1965 to 1967, the 1st Brigade operated independently as sort of a fire brigade and earned the reputation as being called the "Nomads of Vietnam" / They fought in every area of South Vietnam from the Demilitarized Zone up north all the way down the Central Highlands / The rest of the 101st was deployed to Vietnam in November 1967 and the 1st Brigade rejoined its parent division / The 101st was deployed in the northern I Corps region, operating against the People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) infiltration routes through Laos and the A Shau Valley for most of the war / Notable among these were the Battle of Hamburger Hill in 1969 and Firebase Ripcord in 1970 / The division began withdrawing from South Vietnam on 15 May 1971 with the departure of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry / Most major units of the Division had redeployed by January 1972 / In the seven years that all or part of the division served in Vietnam, it suffered 4,011 killed and 18,259 wounded in action / The division, during this time, participated in 12 separate campaigns and 17 of the division's Medal of Honor recipients are from this period of time – all this giving the 101st Airborne Division a combat record unmatched by any other division

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



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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'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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROEMER**

DONALD P.

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

Address: 510 NEW ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 3RD BATTALION, 22ND INFANTRY, 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:

Specialist Fourth-Class Donald Peter Roemer honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Donald Roemer was deployed to Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman on 14 December 1967 / SP4 Donald Roemer was Killed In Action on 19 February 1968 from enemy small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

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 (Ft. Benning was renamed as Fort Moore on 11 May 2023)

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



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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:

Donald Roemer attended Attica and Williamsville Central High School / Roemer entered the U.S. Army in April 1967 / Donald Peter Roemer was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Buffalo Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Donald Peter Roemer is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 40e, Line 30

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 25th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Tropic Lightning") is a United States Army division based at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii / The division, which was activated on 1 October 1941 in Hawaii, conducts military operations primarily in the Asia-Pacific region / When the Korean War began in June 1950, the division was deployed to South Korea, where it fought in the defense of and the breakout from the Pusan Perimeter in mid-1950, with elements advancing as far as the Amnok River in November 1950 / The division defended Seoul against Chinese Communist attack from May 1953 to the July armistice, returning to Hawaii in late 1954 / After undergoing major reorganizations in 1957 and 1963 to adapt to changing tactics, the division deployed to South Vietnam to fight in the Vietnam War between late 1965 and early 1966 / The 25th served in Vietnam until its withdrawal back to Hawaii in 1970–1971, participating in Operation Attleboro, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Junction City, the Battle of Saigon during the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive, and the Cambodian Incursion / It was reorganized as a light infantry division in 1985, and elements have participated in the Iraq War and the War in Afghanistan / Its present deployment is composed of light infantry and aviation units / Tropic Lightning soldiers regularly train with other U.S. military branches to practice and maintain joint operations capabilities

The 22nd Infantry Regiment is a parent regiment of the United States Army / It was deployed to South Vietnam as part of the 2d Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division and conducted operations in the Central Highlands / It was inactivated in August 1984 at Fort Carson, Colorado / Currently the 2nd Battalion is active, with the regimental colors residing at Fort Drum, New York / The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Battalions have been inactivated

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



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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

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 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
25th Infantry Division, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, B Company

Name: ROESCH

CARL

J.

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:

Carl J. Roesch honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Carl Roesch was a retired Mathematics Teacher and a Cross Country Coach at Sweet Home Senior High School / Carl J. Roesch passed away on 13 May 2024 at the age of 90 years old



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Name: ROESE

ALAN J.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address: 357 WESTWOOD ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 16TH INFANTRY, A 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:

Sergeant Alan John Roese honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Alan Roese was deployed to Vietnam on 8 October 1966 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SGT Alan Roese was Killed In Action on 17 June 1967 from enemy small arms fire during the Battle of Xom Bo li, Phuoc Long Province, South Vietnam

Operation Billings (12-26 June 1967) was planned and conducted by the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division to destroy elements of the Viet Cong (VC) 271st Regiment, 9th Division which occupied base camp areas north of Phuoc Vinh in Binh Duong Province, RVN / The operation began with 1st Infantry battalions moving progressively north of Phuoc Vinh / Intelligence suggested that the 271st had moved to a large clearing designated Landing Zone (LZ) X-Ray / Third Brigade troops moved from another LZ overland to LZ X-Ray / On the morning of 17 June, the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment entered X-Ray / The 1/16th Infantry established a perimeter in the tree line around the clearing and waited for the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment to arrive / As the first units of 2/28th Infantry appeared, a patrol reported a group of VC approaching from the northwest / At 1:00 PM, the enemy attacked, penetrating the northern and northwestern perimeters before being forced back by artillery and gunship fire / The VC launched a second attack against the southeast perimeter, overrunning the defending platoon, the survivors withdrawing into the center of the perimeter / At 1:45 PM, air strikes forced the VC to withdraw, and they disengaged under cover of a steady mortar barrage / U.S. losses were 36 killed / They included: (B/2/28) PFC Richard A. Anderson, PFC Alan W. Denney, PFC Alan J. Farhat, SGT Bobby Minton, SP4 Michael J. Morrow, PFC Victoriano P. Sosa Jr., PFC James E. Starks, SP5 John H. Stout, and



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PFC Lloyd C. Wohlford Jr.; (HHC/1/16) PFC William N. Cole, PFC Gary J. Ernst, SP4 Sammy L. Holmes, SP4 Charles W. Hook, 1LT Douglas A. Logan (posthumously awarded the Silver Star medal), PFC Wallace G. Nye, SP4 Martin L. Plotkin, PFC Leroy Reed, and PFC Douglas D. Wallin (died of wounds 08/26/1967); (A/1/16) PFC John A. Brantley, PFC Emanuel K. Brickhouse, PFC Jerry R. Cook, SP4 Guy W. Clinger Jr., PFC Ronald D. Edenfield, PFC James M. Elchert, PFC Robert T. Harris, SGT Edward E. Heyer, SP4 Carl T. Johnson, PFC Charles P. Kelly, PFC Robert S. Maguire, SP4 Howard A. Mucha, SP4 Stephen M. Noggle, SP4 Wayne A. Pettersen, SGT Frank G. Romo (B/1/16), PFC Paul E. Kelly Jr., PFC Edward A. Smith and SGT Alan J. Roese / A search of the immediate area found 226 VC dead / Over the next few days, the Americans found more VC dead, including one assembly area where 35 were found killed by artillery and airstrikes

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alan Roese was a 1964 graduate of Lancaster Central High School and enlisted in the US Army in 1965 / Alan John Roese was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

Alan John Roese is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 22e, Line 2

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 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



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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 16th Infantry Regiment ("Semper Paratus") is a regiment in the United States Army and has traditionally been a part of the 1st Infantry Division / The 16th Infantry was constituted as the 11th U.S. Infantry on 4 May 1861 / During the Spanish-American War, the 16th participated in the capture of San Juan Hill as part of the First Brigade, First Division of the V Corps / During World War I, The 16th participated in the Battle of Argonne Forest and the Meuse-Argonne Campaign / The 16th fought throughout France during World War II / In 443 days of combat, the 16th Infantry had sustained 1,250 officers and men killed in combat / An additional 6,278 were wounded or missing in action / Its men had earned four Medals of Honor, 87 Distinguished Service Crosses, and 1,926 Silver Stars / Additionally, the regiment, or its subordinate units, was awarded five presidential unit citations and two distinguished unit citations from the United States, two Croix de Guerre and the Medaille militaire from the government of France, and the Belgian Fourragere and two citations from the government of Belgium / In 1965, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment and the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment became the first elements of the Division to deploy to South Vietnam / The 16th conducted "Search and Destroy" operations during Operations Mastiff, Bushmaster, Abilene, Birmingham, El Paso, Attleboro, Cedar Falls and Junction City / The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry arrived at Vung Tau, Vietnam, on 10 October 1965 with the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division / The battalion was initially moved to Camp Ben Cat in Phuoc Vinh Province north of Saigon / The battalion joined in a number of combat operations such as Bear Trap, Friendship, Kentucky Cougar, Iron Danger and Toan Thang IV / The First and Second battalions of the 16th Infantry fought in almost every campaign of the Vietnam War / In April 1970, the 1st/16th was withdrawn from Vietnam along with the rest of the 1st Infantry Division and the bulk of the division was relocated to Fort Riley, Kansas / During almost five years of combat, the 16th Infantry Regiment lost over 560 men, the regiment's soldiers were awarded 2 Medals of Honor (both posthumous), 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, and hundreds of Silver and Bronze Star Medals / The regiment was awarded 11 campaign streamers, as well as 2 Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry (with Palm) Streamers for 1965-1968 and 1969 and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal (First Class) Streamer for 1965-1970 / In addition, C Company, 2nd Battalion was awarded the Valorous Unit Award Streamer for its actions at the battle of Courtenay Plantation

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



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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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGALSKI, JR.**
EDWARD

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Edward Rogalski, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Edward Rogalski was stationed in Korea from 1956-1957 as a Clerk Typist

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Rogalski was employed at Wickwire Steel and Fedders Radiator / Edward Rogalski, Jr. passed away on 3 June 2025 at the age of 90 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGERS**

JOHN

J.

Hometown: SOUTH 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:

John J. Rogers honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John J. Rogers passed away on 2 June 2023 at the age of 73 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGERS**

RONALD W.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

6TH BATTALION, 71ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Ronald W. Rogers honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Ronald Rogers was assigned as a Relay and Carrier Attendant while serving 7 months in Vietnam

Ronald Rogers was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 6 April 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald W. Rogers passed away on 4 June 2021 at the age of 79 years old

The 71st Air Defense Artillery was a regiment in the United States Army constituted in May 1918 / The Battalion served in both World War I and World War II / The 6th Battalion of the 71st Artillery was a mobile HAWK missile battalion located first at Qui Nhon / In 1966, as part of the 97th Artillery Group, the battalion was relocated to Cam Ranh Bay, where it remained until departing Vietnam

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

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



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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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROGERS IV**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 703 PARKHURST BOULEVARD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, B COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS 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:

Lance Corporal William James Rogers, IV honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL William Rogers was deployed to Vietnam on 5 August 1968 as an Anti-tank Assaultman / LCPL William Rogers was Killed In Action on 26 March 1969 from an enemy explosive device during combat operations in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

On 26 March 1969, while providing security for a team of combat engineers conducting a road mine sweep, LCPL William Rogers was killed by a hostile explosive device that was detonated

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Rogers was born in Fort Lee, Virginia / William Rogers was a 1966 graduate of Kenmore East Senior High School / William James Rogers, IV was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

William James Rogers, IV is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 28w, Line 52



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An Anti-tank Assaultman was a front-line military job that supported ground infantry and tasked with tankbusting and breaching / In the past, Marine Corps Infantry Assault had been referred to as "grunts" for their hard, grueling work in combat / Assaultman were responsible for anti-armor operations and tactical vehicle operations / These servicemembers provided medium and heavy anti-armor fire in support of the infantry battalion

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, 5th Marines (1/5) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California consisting of approximately 800 Marines and sailors / Nicknamed "Geronimo", it falls under the command of the 5th Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion was formed in 1914 and has served in every major conflict that the United States has been involved in since then / On 25 May 1917, the battalion was activated and deployed to France on 1 June 1917. 1/5 participated in the following World War I campaigns: Aisne, Aisen-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Toulon-Troyon, Chateau-Thierry, Marabache, and Limey / During World War II, the Marines of 1st Battalion fought at Guadalcanal, New Guinea, Peleliu, and Okinawa / During October 1949, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines / During October 1949, the battalion was deployed to Korea and fought at Pusan Perimeter, Inchon, Seoul and Chosin Reservoir / From June 1966 to March 1971, 1/5 was deployed to South Vietnam / The battalion participated in action around Chu Lai, Danang, Quang Nam, Que Son Valley, Hoi An, Phu Loc and An Hoa / The unit was deactivated in June 1974, but once again was quickly reactivated in March 1975 / The battalion played a major role in the Battle of Hue during February 1968 / Engaging the enemy in the famous Citadel on the north side of the Perfume River, the battalion became known as the "Citadel Battalion"

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

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



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

Name: **ROGOWSKI**
JOHN

Hometown: SLOAN

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:

John "JR" Rogowski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John "JR" Rogowski passed away on 9 May 2025 at the age of 78 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHLOFF**
AL

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:

Al Rohloff honorably served in the United States Army / Al Rohloff was drafted and spent his enlistment with the US Army stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Al Rohloff graduated from Kensington High School prior to getting drafted / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Rohloff was a letter carrier with the United States Postal Service / He left his job to help his mother run a restaurant and in 1984, bought DiTondos Restaurant at 370 Seneca Street in Buffalo / After serving the public for 34 years, Al Rohloff closed the restaurant in 2018 / Al Rohloff passed away on 28 December 2022 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHRING**
KEITH

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 2078 PARKER BOULEVARD

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: A1C

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Airman First-Class Keith Rohring honorably served in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Japan

The brother of A1C Keith Rohring, Marine Corps Private Kevin Rohring, was Killed In Action on 27 March 1967 from an explosive device during combat operations in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROHRING**

KEVIN M.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 2078 PARKER BOULEVARD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PVT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, C COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private Kevin Michael Rohring honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PVT Kevin Rohring was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman / PVT Kevin Rohring was Killed In Action on 27 March 1967 from an explosive device during combat operations in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam

During the month of March 1969, the 1st Battalion participated in several operations in the Quang Tin and Qunag Ngai Provinces of Vietnam / On 27 March 1967, while conducting search and clear operations 6 kilometers east of Tam Ky in the vicinity of the Phu Yen village complex, a booby trapped buried 250lb bomb was tipped causing a massive explosion / Two Marines were killed instantly, one was wounded severely and would later die after being evacuated / PVT Kevin Rohring was one of the casualties, killed by the fragmentation wounds he sustained from the hostile explosive device

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kevin Rohring attended Sweet Home Central High School / Rohring worked at the International House of Pancakes before he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 23 February 1966 in Buffalo / Kevin Michael Rohring was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York



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Kevin Michael Rohring is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 17e, Line 59

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, 5th Marines (1/5) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California consisting of approximately 800 Marines and sailors / Nicknamed "Geronimo", it falls under the command of the 5th Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion was formed in 1914 and has served in every major conflict that the United States has been involved in since then / On 25 May 1917, the battalion was activated and deployed to France on 1 June 1917. 1/5 participated in the following World War I campaigns: Aisne, Aisen-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, Toulon-Troyon, Chateau-Thierry, Marabache, and Limey / During World War II, the Marines of 1st Battalion fought at Guadalcanal, New Guinea, Peleliu, and Okinawa / During October 1949, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines / During October 1949, the battalion was deployed to Korea and fought at Pusan Perimeter, Inchon, Seoul and Chosin Reservoir / From June 1966 to March 1971, 1/5 was deployed to South Vietnam / The battalion participated in action around Chu Lai, Danang, Quang Nam, Que Son Valley, Hoi An, Phu Loc and An Hoa / The unit was deactivated in June 1974, but once again was quickly reactivated in March 1975 / The battalion played a major role in the Battle of Hue during February 1968 / Engaging the enemy in the famous Citadel on the north side of the Perfume River, the battalion became known as the "Citadel Battalion"

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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 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

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



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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: **ROJEK**
GERALD

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:

Gerald Rojek honorably served in the United States Military / Gerald Rojek was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROLICZEK**

ALFRED J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Alfred J. "Fred" Roliczek honorably served in the United States Army / Alfred Roliczek enlisted in the U.S Army from 1968 - 1971 and was stationed in Vietnam where he served as a Medic / Roliczek also served in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1986 through 2004 / Roliczek served in Operation Desert Storm from 1990 to 1991 and Operation Desert Shield from 2003 - 2004

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Roliczek was born in Lenz, Austria and raised in Buffalo, NY / Roliczek graduated from Burgard Vocational School / Al Roliczek was employed by Republic Steel, CB Concrete and was a Diesel Mechanic for the Buffalo Board of Education / Roliczek was a member of American Legion 702 in Wellsville / Alfred J. "Fred" Roliczek passed away on 12 August 2022 at the age of 74 years old

Army 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROLLS**

MICHAEL P.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Michael P. Rolls honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Michael Rolls was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROMANOWSKI**
BERNARD

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:

Bernard Romanowski honorably served in the United States Military / Bernard Romanowski was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROOF**

DONALD

F.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-5

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Donald F. Roof honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Donald Roof was deployed to Vietnam with the 82nd Airborne

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROSEN

ROBERT W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: MELROSE STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

1ST COMBAT ENGINEERS BATTALION

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-79 GRANADE LAUNCHER)

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert W. Rosen honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Robert Rosen was deployed to Vietnam and assigned as a Portable Bridge Erection Specialist

Base Assignments:

Cu Chi, South Vietnam-Cambodian Border - Guerrilla troops known as Viet Cong (VC) dug tens of thousands of miles of tunnels, including an extensive network running underneath the Cu Chi district northwest of Saigon / Soldiers used these underground routes to house troops, transport communications and supplies, lay booby traps and mount surprise attacks, after which they could disappear underground to safety / To combat these guerrilla tactics, U.S. and South Vietnamese forces trained soldiers known as "tunnel rats" to navigate the tunnels in order to detect booby traps and enemy troop presence / Now part of a Vietnam War memorial park in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), the Cu Chi tunnels have become a popular tourist attraction

Ben Kat, "Iron Triangle", South Vietnam - In December 1966, intelligence reports indicated that large units of both Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops were garrisoned in an area about 12 miles northwest of Saigon known as the "Iron Triangle," bordered by the Saigon River on the southwest leg, the Thi Tinh River to the east and a line between the villages of Ben Suc and Ben Cat to the north / In 1967-68, American forces launched two campaigns to try to oust the Viet Cong from the "Iron Triangle", Operation Cedar Falls and Operation Junction City / The two operations resulted in approximately 3,500 of the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese killed at an



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American cost of 350 lives

Miscellaneous:

Robert W. Rosen graduated from Kensington High School in 1963 and was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Structural Inspector prior to entering military service / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Rosen worked for 2 years at Bergman Tool & Die as an apprentice, followed by employment at the J.H. Williams & Company as an Apprentice Toolmaker and Journeyman / Rosen joined the Buffalo Forge Company where he was employed for 9 years as a Head Toolmaker / Changing professions, Rosen became a Security Officer, eventually working for GHS Security as an Armed Bank Protection Officer at the Bank of America / After 10 years at GHS Security, Rosen retired, but not before earning commendations for security operations during the Flight 3406 disaster, Top Gun Competition in 2007 and a Safety Commendation Award from GHS

Portable Bridge Erection Specialists work with rapidly deployable mobile bridges in direct relevance to military needs / The US Army uses such bridges in a broad range of applications including assault, tactical, and general communication / These bridges are characterized by their high mobility and survivability, due to their need to support combat forces in hostile environments / Bridges deployed in assault missions are typically transported by a tank, launched and retrieved over a gap in a matter of minutes, and used multiple times in a matter of minutes

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROSS

DAVID C.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

37TH AIR BASE GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Airman Second-Class (E-3) David Charles Ross honorably served in the United States Air Force / A2C David Ross was assigned was a Material Facility Specialist

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David C. Ross was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS**

FRED

E.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

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:

Fred Evan Ross honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Fred Evan Ross passed away on 30 March 2025 at the age of 90 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS**

NEIL I.

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:

Neil I. Ross honorably served in the United States Military / Neil I. Ross was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROSS, JR.**
GEORGE B.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address: 6 LYMAN ROAD

- Vietnam Era*
 Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 8TH CAVALRY, A COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL	PURPLE HEART
VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL	VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL
COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE	MARKSMANSHIP BADGE
ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION	VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL	GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class George Bacon Ross, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 George Ross was deployed to Vietnam on 16 June 1966 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 George Ross, Jr. was Killed In Action on 20 March 1967 from enemy small arms fire during combat operations around Truong Son, 17 km N of LZ (landing zone) English, Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

SP4 George Ross was a member of the Army's Special Forces but transferred to the 1st Cavalry Division when he volunteered for Vietnam duty / SP4 Ross was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star for Merit

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Ross attended Amherst Central High School and graduated from George Junior Republic, a private school in Freeville, New York / Ross attended Paul Smiths College of Arts and Sciences in Franklin County before enlisting in the U.S. Army in October 1965 / George Bacon Ross, Jr. was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

George Bacon Ross, Jr. is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 16e, Line 126



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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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

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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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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: **ROSS, JR.**
GEORGE R.

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

716TH MILITARY POLICE, COMPANY "A"

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant George Robert "Big G" Ross, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT George Ross was deployed to Vietnam as a Military Policeman

SSGT George Ross, Jr. served 12 years in the US Army Reserves

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

George Ross was a 12 year member of the Evans Center Volunteer Fire Company and coached Little League Baseball in Cheektowaga for 25 years / Ross was a Cubmaster for Pack 54 for 10 years and Assistant Scoutmaster for 4 years / Ross retired from the Town of Cheektowaga where he had been employed in both the Sewer and Highway Departments for 37 years / Ross was an originating member of the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission and a Life Member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / George Robert "Big G" Ross, Jr. passed away on 21 October 2023 and is interred at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Cheektowaga, New York

The United States Army Military Police Corps (USAMPC) is the uniformed law enforcement branch of the United States Army / Investigations are conducted by Military Police Investigators under the Provost Marshal General's Office or Special Agents of the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID) / United States Army Military Police units have combat zone responsibilities in addition to their law enforcement duties / These responsibilities include mounted and dismounted patrols, response force operations, area damage control, route reconnaissance, cordon and search operations, critical site security, and convoy and personnel escorts / Operationally, these duties fall under the "security and mobility support" discipline of the Military Police Corps



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

The 716th Military Police Battalion is a military police battalion of the United States Army based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky / Constituted on 10 January 1942 in the Army as the 716th Military Police Battalion, it was activated during the Second World War at Fort Wadsworth, New York on 15 January 1942 / By late 1967 the 716th mission was security and law enforcement in the Saigon/Cholon/Tan Son Nhut metropolitan area, South Vietnam / Specific security missions, involving approximately 83% of the military police/security guard resources of the battalion, included the US Embassy, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) Complex, VIP and General's quarters, Bachelor Officers' Quarters (BOQ's), Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ's) and critical US facilities and installations throughout the city / This security mission was primarily aimed at deterring terrorist acts / The law enforcement mission involved normal military police functions in a metropolitan area, to include criminal investigations / The battalion supported the requirements of the provost marshal, US Army Headquarters Area Command, for military police/security guards within the resources available / During the Tet Offensive of January - February 1968, the unit played a major role in the defense of Saigon against Vietcong (VC) attacks, in particular the attack on the US Embassy, battle of Cholon and Phu Tho Racetrack and the attack on the Joint General Staff Compound / Company A was based at the Capitol BEQ 107 Dong Khanh St and inactivated on 29 March 1973 in South Vietnam / The unit served in the Gulf War (1990-91), Iraq War (2003-4 and 2007-8) and the War in Afghanistan (2001-2021), West Africa Ebola Response (2014-2015)



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ROSZAK

CHARLES

R.

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:**

Service Notes:

Charles R. "Ross" Roszak honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles R. "Ross" Roszak passed away on 27 May 2024 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: **ROZELL**

EDWARD A.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 79 FLOHR AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS.

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

A COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (MARDIV), III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES (MAF)

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

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Edward Arnold Rozell honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Edward Rozell was deployed to Vietnam on 30 September 1969 as a Rifleman / LCPL Edward Rozell was Killed in Action on 31 January 1970 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during a battle with Viet Cong forces near Da Nang, in the province of Quang Nam, South Vietnam

LCPL Edward Arnold Rozell served with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division, 3rd Marine Amphibious Force / Alpha Company was on a combat mission 6 kilometers south southeast of the Tuy Loan Bridge when the company encountered NVA hostile forces / Edward died as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds to the body when an enemy mine detonated near the Tuy Loan Bridge

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.



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Edward Rozell attended West Seneca High School prior to enlisting in the Marine Corp in January 1969 / Edward Arnold Rozell was 18 years of age at the time of his passing and is interred at St Mathews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Edward Arnold Rozell is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 14w, Line 87

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

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, Dong Ha, Con Thien, Quảng Trị, Hue, Phu Bai and Khe Sanh / They returned to Camp Pendleton, California, in May 1971

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

During the Vietnam War, the III Marine Amphibious Force (MAF) was a reinforced corps comprising two divisions, an air wing, and a division-sized logistics command / It consisted of both the 3d Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW) / By the end of 1966, the two Marine divisions of III MAF were fighting two separate wars. In the north, the 3d Marine Division fought a more or less conventional campaign while the 1st Marine Division took over the counter-guerrilla operations in the populous south / the III Marine Amphibious Forces participated in the Vietnam War from May 1965 through April 1971 operating from Quang Tri, Thua



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Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Tin, and Quang Ngai

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 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

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



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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ROZO**

JAMES M.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: POW/MIA

Unit / Squadron:

UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM USARV, 595TH SIGNAL COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PRISONER OF WAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private James Milan Rozo honorably served in the United States Army / PVT James Rozo was deployed to Vietnam on 27 May 1969 as a Multichannel Transmission Systems Operator / PVT James Rozo was reported Missing In Action on 23 June 1970 when the military vehicle he was riding in was ambushed and Rozo and two other soldiers were captured by enemy forces in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam / James Rozo was promoted to Sergeant First-Class while in POW/MIA status

At about 0830 hours on 23 June 1970, the 595th Signal Company's supply sergeant, SFC Joe P. Pederson, departed Dian in a GMC 2-1/2 ton truck for a supply run to the 595th's outlying stations at Lai Khe and Phuoc Vinh in Binh Doung Province / SFC Pederson was accompanied by SP4 James M. Rozo and PVT Robert P. Phillips / They arrived in Lai Khe at about 1000 and departed at about 1100 enroute Phuoc Vinh / At 1530 the truck was found in a roadside ditch, both windscreens shattered by gunfire and the left front tire flat / Expended M-16 shell casings were found around the truck, but there was no sign of Pederson, Rozo, or Phillips / Ground and air searches located one dead Viet Cong, killed by a .45 caliber bullet (Pederson had carried a .45 sidearm), and three jammed M-16 rifles which proved to be those checked out by Pederson and his men / The searchers did not locate the missing men, who were then formally placed in MIA status / In September 1970 a VC defector claimed to be one of four VCs who ambushed the truck and captured the three men / The defector claimed that one of the Americans, a noncommissioned officer, died shortly after being captured and was buried not too far from the point of capture / The other two, he said, had been interrogated locally before being marched off in



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the direction of Cambodia / In November 1971, a captured VC soldier reported seeing two Americans being evacuated to Cambodia; his descriptions fit Rozo and Phillips / As a result of these two debriefings SP4 Rozo and PVT Phillips were reclassified as prisoners of war while SFC Pederson was continued as Missing in Action / On 27 January 1973, the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG), better known as the Viet Cong, released a list containing the names of American POWs whom the VC said died in captivity, but none of the three were on that list nor were Pederson, Rozo, or Phillips among the POWs released in February/March 1973 / Over time the Secretary of the Army approved Presumptive Findings of death for the three men, Pederson on 01 Sep 1978, Phillips on 13 Feb 1979, and Rozo on 18 May 1979 / Their remains have not been repatriated

After the incident, the U.S. Army posthumously promoted SP4 Rozo to the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC) / Sergeant First-Class Rozo is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific / His name is also inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC.

SFC James Rozo served two tours in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 and named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / Fort Gordon is located southwest of Augusta, Georgia / It is the current home of the United States Army Signal Corps, United States Army Cyber Command, and the Cyber Center of Excellence / It was once the home of The Provost Marshal General School and Civil Affairs School / The fort is one of the major components of the installation is Advanced Individual Training for Signal Corps military occupational specialties / Signals Intelligence has become more visible and comprises more and more of the fort's duties / During the Vietnam War, Fort Gordon was home to Camp Crockett, an area of the post conducting 9-week advance airborne infantry training courses for soldiers in line to attend the remaining 3 weeks of Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then be assigned to Airborne units in Vietnam / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS) / Fort Gordon is one of the U.S. Army installations named for Confederate soldiers to be renamed by the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America

Miscellaneous:

James Rozo attended Warren G Harding School and Kenmore Junior High School / Rozo quit high school in the eleventh grade and enlisted in the U.S. Army in September 1968 / James Milan Rozo was 21 years old when he went missing and is memorialized at Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial

James Milan Rozo is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 09w, Line 86

A Multichannel Transmission Systems Operator supervises, installs, operates and performs maintenance checks and services on manual or automated tactical multichannel communications equipment / Assign duties, coordinates and supervises activities of assigned personnel to include resolution of problems in communications operations in employment of Wire and Cable Systems; Switchboard Systems Radio Teletype Communications;



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Radio Relay Communications; Tactical Satellite Communications; Multichannel and Microwave Communications; Issues communications-electronics operating instructions (CEOI) and plans frequency / The operator also maintains communications situation maps, overlays and presents briefings on same; determines capabilities and limitations of assigned equipment; profiles line-on-sight radio transmission paths and tropospheric scatter radio transmission paths allocation and management; plans and prepares communications systems diagrams; supervises the displacement of manual and automated communications systems equipment and switching centers

Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) Teams were out there alone- not on base camps, air bases or at sea / Small groups of Americans often in remote areas supported only by Vietnamese forces whose capabilities and loyalty were sometimes suspect / Military Assistance Command Vietnam (Saigon) had authority over all branches of service operating in the Republic of Vietnam / US Army advisors were under the direct command of MACV and were administered independently from the United States Army Vietnam (Long Binh / Most advisory teams were comprised of approximately 35 US advisors under the local command of a senior advisor / These advisors fought alongside Vietnamese ARVN and militia units / Although they did not share in the public limelight of their USARV counterparts, their mission was an integral part of US strategy in Vietnam / MACV arrived in-country on 8 February 1962, and departed over a decade later on 29 March 1973

The 595th Signal Company was activated on 20 June 1945 in the Army of the United States as the 595th Joint Assault Signal Company at Fort Jackson, South Carolina / The unit was sent to Europe, arriving in Germany on 5 September 1952 and redesignated as the 595th Signal Company on 15 June 1954 / The 595th Signal Company was deployed to Vietnam in April 1966 and attached to the 69th Signal Battalion

The Prisoner of War Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces which was authorized by Congress and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on 8 November 1985 / The United States Code citation for the POW Medal statute is 10 U.S.C. § 1128 / The Prisoner of War Medal may be awarded to any person who was a prisoner of war after 5 April 1917 (the date of the United States' entry into World War I was April 6) / It is awarded to any person who was taken prisoner or held captive while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing Armed Force; or while serving with friendly forces engaged in armed conflict against an opposing Armed Force in which the United States is not a belligerent party / As of an amendment to Title 10 of the United States Code in 2013, the medal is also awarded for captivity under circumstances "which the Secretary concerned finds were comparable to those circumstances under which persons have generally been held captive by enemy armed forces during periods of armed conflict" / The person's conduct, while in captivity, must have been honorable / This medal may be awarded posthumously to the surviving next of kin of the recipient

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 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 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUBECK**
HERBERT J.

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:

Herbert J. Rubeck honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Herbert Rubeck worked as a fork lift operator at ADM in Buffalo, New York, retiring in 2000 / Herbert J. Rubeck passed away on 3 September 2025 at the age of 88 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUBINS

JOHN

C.

Hometown: SNYDER

Address: 161 BERNHARDT DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MAJ

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

MACV, ADVISORY TEAM 54

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Major John Charles Rubins honorably served in the United States Army / Major John Rubins was deployed to Vietnam on 14 September 1967 as an Operations & Training Staff Officer / MAJ John Rubins was Killed In Action 14 November 1967 from fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Kien Giang Province, South Vietnam

On 14 November 1967, MAJ John Rubins departed his base camp in Kien Giang Province, RVN, to search for an overdue convoy when the jeep he was traveling was ambushed by a hostile force / Rubins was fatally wounded in the ensuing firefight

Major John Rubins was attached to Advisory Team #54 in Vietnam and was subsection advisor in the Pacification Program in Mekong Delta

Major John Rubins served in the U.S. Army for 14 years / MAJ Rubins served in Germany before being assigned to South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - Fort Leonard Wood is a U.S. Army training installation located in the Missouri Ozarks / The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood, a distinguished American Soldier who served for 40 years (later became Military Chief of Staff) / Originally



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intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center / During World War II Italian and German POWs were interned at the fort / In 1984, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, most of the U.S. Army Engineer School's operations were consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood / Before that, officer training was conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Miscellaneous:

John Rubins was a graduate of Amherst High School / Rubins graduated from Niagara University, where he was enrolled in the ROTC / John Charles Rubins was 39 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

John Charles Rubins is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 29e, Line 97

U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) was a joint-service command of the United States Department of Defense / MACV was created on 8 February 1962, in response to the increase in United States military assistance to South Vietnam / MACV was first implemented to assist the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) Vietnam, controlling every advisory and assistance effort in Vietnam, but was reorganized on 15 May 1964 and absorbed MAAG Vietnam to its command when combat unit deployment became too large for advisory group control / In April 1966, all Army communications-electronics resources in South Vietnam were combined in a single formation, the 1st Signal Brigade which supported the combat signal battalions of the divisions and field forces in each corps area

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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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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUDICK**
CHARLES

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM STAFF SERVICE MEDAL (1ST CLASS)

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Charles Rudick honorably served in the United States Navy and served three tours

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Rudick graduated from Bishop Timon High School in 1962 and attending the University of Buffalo, graduating in 1966 / Rudick taught Math and Science in the Buffalo School System until he received his draft notice and joined the US Navy / After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Charles Rudick served in the Navy Reserves / Rudick was employed by Loblaws Companies, Ltd in Syracuse, New York / Charles Rudick also worked as a Refrigeration Engineer in Erie, Pennsylvania while working towards his Master's Degree at Gannon University / Later, Rudick was employed as a Stationary Engineer in the Buffalo Public School System / Rudick was a member of Local 409, AFL-CIO / Charles Rudick passed away on 12 April 2023 at the age of 78 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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 Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units / The award is presented for service that is performed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal / The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to any unit of the Navy or Marine Corps that has distinguished itself, under combat or non-combat conditions, by either valorous or meritorious achievement, which renders the unit outstanding compared to other units performing similar service, but not sufficient to justify award of the Navy Unit Commendation / To justify this award, the unit must have performed service of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Bronze Star Medal, or achievement of like caliber in a non-combat situation, to an individual / Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon

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 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 / Gallantry Cross with Palm: cited at the Armed Forces level

The Republic of Vietnam Staff Service Medal was a military award of South Vietnam established in 1964 / The medal was awarded in two classes and was awarded for outstanding initiative and devotion an individuals assigned staff duty / To be awarded the Staff Service Medal, a service member must have performed military duty, while serving on a military staff, of the Republic of Vietnam / Recipients must have shown, "...outstanding initiative and devotion to their assigned staff duty" / The Staff Service Medal was presented in two classes for such service with the first class for officers and the second class for non-commissioned officers and enlisted personnel



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUDNICKI

PAUL E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: RESERVE ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CAPTAIN

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM (USARV)

56TH ARMY POSTAL UNIT (APU)

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Captain Paul E. Rudnicki honorably served in the United States Army / Captain Paul Rudnicki was assigned to many Army bases, serving as a Military Judge / Rudnicki served in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps from 1968 to 1972 / While stationed in Long Binh Post, Vietnam, Captain Rudnicki served as Post Judge Advocate from 1969 to 1970 / Captain Rudnicki was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a combat zone

Base Assignments:

Long Binh Post, Vietnam - Long Binh Post is a former U.S. Army base located in Long Binh ward between Biên Hòa and Saigon, Vietnam / The base functioned as a U.S. Army base, logistics center, and major command headquarters for United States Army Vietnam (USARV) / By mid-1967, United States Army, Vietnam (USARV), 1st Logistical Command and many other Army units dispersed in Saigon were moved to Long Binh Post to resolve centralization, security, and troop billeting issues / Long Binh Post was a sprawling logistics facility and the largest U.S. Army base in Vietnam, with a peak of 60,000 personnel in 1969 / Long Binh Post was the target of several attacks, especially during the Tet Offensive in 1968 as well as 1969 / Long Binh Post included the Long Binh Stockade, a U.S. Army prison, from 1966 to the 1970s also known unofficially as "LBJ" or "Long Binh Jail"

Miscellaneous:

Prior to military service, Paul E. Rudnicki graduated from the University of Buffalo Law School in 1967 / After his Honorable Discharge, Paul Rudnicki began his post-military career as an attorney / Rudnicki is a lifetime member



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and Judge Advocate of American Legion Post #735 and a member of the Western New York Chapter 77 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, serving as President of the VALOR Committee / Paul Rudnicki is also a Rotarian

Judge advocates are attorneys who perform legal duties while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces / They provide legal services to their branch of the armed forces and Legal Representation to members of the Armed Services / The duties of a Judge Advocate also focus on the areas of criminal law, legal assistance, civil/administrative law, labor/employment law, international/operational law and contract/fiscal law, and medical law

United States Army Republic of Vietnam (USARV) was an corps-level support command of the United States Army in the Vietnam War / USARV was created on 20 July 1965 out of the U.S. Army Support Command, Vietnam / USARV controlled the activities of all U.S. Army service and logistical units in South Vietnam until 15 May 1972, when its structure was merged with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) to become USARV/MACV Support Command, which was disbanded on 28 March 1973 after completion of withdrawal of all combat and support units / USARV controlled ten major support commands in Vietnam, and also supervised 71 smaller units

The 56th Army Postal Unit (APU) received the Meritorious Unit Commendation by distinguishing itself in support of military operations in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 19 March 1968 through 20 May 1969 / The Commendation cites the men and officers who exhibited resourcefulness and organizational expertise in the outstanding performance of difficult tasks inherent in the strategic support of Long Binh Post

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 Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created in 1942 and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight

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 Commendation Medal, created in 1945, is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in



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combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

Name: **RUDNICKI**
RAYMOND

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Raymond Rudnicki honorably served in the United States Military / Raymond Rudnicki was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUDNICKI**
RONALD

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:

Ronald Rudnicki honorably served in the United States Military / Ronald Rudnicki 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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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: RUFF, JR.

JOHN

D.

Hometown: AMHERST

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:

John D. Ruff, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Ruff retired after 32 years as a Town of Amherst employee / Ruff was a member of the Eggertsville Hose Company and a member of the Francis J. Donovan American Legion Post #1626 / John D. Ruff, Jr. passed away on 25 July 2024



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUGG

RICHARD W

Hometown: HOLLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: LT COL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Richard W. Rugg honorably served in the Air Force during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Rugg worked in the Holland Central School district for 27 years as a teacher, vice principal, and coach / Richard W. Rugg passed away on 14 September 2017 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSHOK
PAUL**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY / AIR FORCE

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

51ST INFANTRY

3201ST TRANSPORTATION SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

DRIVER AND MECHANIC BADGE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (CARBINE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Paul Rushok honorably served in the US Army for 3 years, 4 months as a Light Vehicle Driver / PFC Rushok was stationed in Mannheim, Germany

Paul Rushok joined the US Air Force in 1965, serving 3 years and 8 months, rising to the rank of Sergeant (E-4) / Sergeant served as a Vehicle Dispatcher and was cited for exceptional performance of his duties and responsibilities

Paul Rushok was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 6 February 1962 and received his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 23 August 1968

Base Assignments:

Fort Hood, Texas - Fort Hood is a United States Army post located near Killeen, Texas and was named after Confederate General John Bell Hood / The post is the headquarters of III Corps and First Army Division West and is home to the 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Cavalry Regiment / During the late 1960s, Fort Hood trained and deployed a number of units and individuals for duty in Vietnam / As the United States ended its role in the conflict, thousands of returning soldiers completed their active duty with one of the divisions / In 1971, the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division came to Fort Hood from Vietnam / On May 24, 2022, the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America recommended the fort be renamed to



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Fort Cavazos, named after Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a native Texan and the US Army's first Hispanic four-star general

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida - Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) is a United States Air Force base in the western Florida Panhandle, located about three miles southwest of Valparaiso in Okaloosa County / The host unit at Eglin is the 96th Test Wing (formerly the 96th Air Base Wing) / The 96 TW is the test and evaluation center for Air Force air-delivered weapons, navigation and guidance systems, Command and Control systems, and Air Force Special Operations Command systems / Eglin AFB was established in 1935 as the Valparaiso Bombing and Gunnery Base / It is named in honor of Lt. Col. Frederick I. Eglin (1891–1937), who was killed in a crash of his Northrop A-17 attack aircraft on a flight from Langley to Maxwell Field, Alabama / From October 1941 to October 1945, an AAF Fixed Gunnery School operated at the base, supervised by the 75th Flying Training Wing / At its peak during World War II, the base employed more than 1,000 officers, 10,000 enlisted personnel and 4,000 civilians / During the Vietnam Era, the Special Air Warfare (SAW) Center, located at Hurlburt Field, undertook to develop tactical air doctrine while training crews for special air warfare in places like Southeast Asia / By mid-1963, SAW groups were in Vietnam and Panama

Miscellaneous:

Paul Rushok passed away on 30 June 2021 at the age of 80 years old

The 51st Infantry Division was an infantry division of the United States Army, organized on 11 September 1946 and composed of units from the Florida National Guard and the South Carolina National Guard

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 Driver and Mechanic Badge is a military special skill badge of the United States Army which was first created in July 1942 / The badge is awarded to drivers, mechanics, and special equipment operators to denote the attainment of a high degree of skill in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles / The badge was originally referred to as the "Motor Vehicle Badge" and adopted its current title of Driver and Mechanic Badge during the Korean War / The Driver and Mechanic Badge is awarded to soldiers who have received training and have met specific qualification standards to operate or repair military motor vehicles / The Driver and Mechanic Badge for wheeled vehicles requires successful completion of military vehicle operations and maintenance training and be assigned duties and responsibilities as a driver or assistant driver of government vehicles for a minimum of 12 consecutive months or have driven at least 8,000 miles with no vehicle accidents or traffic violations before one can be awarded the badge

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served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSIN**
THOMAS

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Thomas Rusin honorably served in the United States Navy / Thomas Rusin was a member of the Navy Seabees and was stationed in Da Nang, South Vietnam / Rusin retired from the United States Navy after 20 years of service / Thomas Rusin's duty stations included Guam, Alaska and Korea

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Rusin was a Mechanic for the Ford Stamping Plant in Buffalo / Thomas Rusin moved to Sothern California in the 1980's, retiring from the United States Navy

The Navy Seabees, officially known as the Naval Construction Force (NCF), play a crucial role in supporting operating forces, disaster recovery, and anti-terrorism efforts / The Seabees were established on March 5, 1942, during World War II / Their mission is to construct and maintain infrastructure in combat zones, including bases, camps, and other structures / Their motto, "We Build, We Fight," reflects their dedication to both construction and defense / In summary, the Navy Seabees are a respected battalion responsible for constructing essential infrastructure at U.S. military locations worldwide, ensuring operational readiness and support for our armed forces



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSINSKI**

GERALD E.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Gerald E. "Jerry" Rusinski honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald E. "Jerry" Rusinski passed away on 2 April 2022

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: **RUSINSKI**

THOMAS

F.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

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:

Thomas F. Rusinski honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas F. Rusinski passed away on 7 November 2024 at the age of 84 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSELL**

BARRY

A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

USS HOLLAND (AS-32)

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 3rd-Class Barry A. Russell honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 Barry Russell served 2-1/2 years of sea service aboard the USS Holland (AS-32) as an Engineman (EN)

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Barry Russell was born in San Diego, California / Barry Russell was a machinist at Capem, making machines to put on bottle caps / After retirement, Russell became a Terminal Manager for Laidlaw International / Barry Russell was a parking attendant at Sunset Bay and Hidden Harbor Marina / Barry A. Russell moved to Irving, New York and passed away on 6 September 2022 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

An Engineman (EN) in the U.S. Navy is an enlisted sailor who: operates, services, and repairs internal combustion engines used to power ships and small craft / Manages functions of diesel engines aboard ships, including propulsion and electrical power generation and maintains fuel, water, and air piping systems, performs preventive maintenance on engine components, and repairs or overhauls diesel engines

USS Holland (AS-32) was a Hunley-class submarine tender commissioned on 7 September 1963 / The USS Holland was the first ever built specifically to service fleet ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) / Holland departed Charleston on 14 October 1963 for shakedown training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, returning to Charleston on 19 November 1963 / The USS Holland was neither a submersible nor a combatant ship, she was a vital link in support of the United States first line of deterrence, the Navy's Polaris missile / She contained a complete



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machine shop and was capable of making any submarine repair other than major overhaul, including servicing and maintaining the nuclear power plants of Polaris-equipped submarines / Holland tended submarines of the Atlantic Fleet into 1969 / From November 1974 to June 1975, Holland underwent a conversion overhaul at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington to enable her to support submarines equipped with Poseidon missiles / From November 1975 to January 1982 she served Submarine Squadron 14 at Holy Loch, Scotland / The USS Holland was decommissioned on 30 September 1996 and moored with the Reserve Fleet in Suisun Bay near San Francisco, California, and on 10 July 2013 was moved into dry dock at Mare Island for cleaning before being towed to Texas for scrapping / She has since been disassembled

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

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Name: **RUSSELL**

DONALD R.

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

8TH AERIAL PORT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Donald R. Russell honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Donald Russell was deployed to Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, South Vietnam, for 11 months and assigned as an Administrative Specialist

Donald Russell received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 5 July 1970

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Donald R. Russell passed away on 11 September 2017

The Mission of the 8th Aerial Port Squadron's Mobility Operations Branch (8 APS MOB) was to assure that the C-7, C-123 & C-130's landing at remote airstrips were quickly and safely loaded and unloaded / Three to seven man teams served as "the airport" at remote, often quite dangerous locations "in the bush" / Most of the 8th's missions during 1970 were in support of the Fifth Special Forces and First Air Cav, but teams went about everywhere and supported a wide range of ground units - including the US and Vietnamese Marines / A MOB Team was at Khe Sanh throughout the infamous siege in 1968 / The 8th Aerial Port Squadron were at forward



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dirt airfields all along the border in May of 1970, when the war overflowed into Cambodia for a while / The 8th MOB crews - augmented with volunteers from Danang & Cam Ranh - that kept the supplies flowing into the places it was needed / The 8th MOB were at Khe Sanh and later as Lam Son 719 sent troops into Laos / 8th APS MOB not only covered III Corps and IV Corps. Artillery Outposts and Special Forces Camps, but went pretty much anywhere in the country in support of Tactical Airlift Missions in remote areas

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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: **RUSSO**
ANTONIO

Hometown: BLASDELL

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:

Antonio Russo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Antonio Russo was a long standing member of the Lake Erie Italian Club / Antonio passed away on 20 February 2024 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RUSSO, SR.**

FRANK

J.

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Frank J. Russo, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank J. Russo, Sr. passed away on 11 October 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUST

BURDETT W.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS LITTLE ROCK (CL-92/CLG-4/CG-4)

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Burdett W. Rust honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Burdett W. Rust passed away on 16 September 2024 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery, Orchard Park

USS Little Rock (CL-92/CLG-4/CG-4) is a Cleveland-class light cruiser and one of 27 completed for the United States Navy during or shortly after World War II / She is one of six to be converted to guided missile cruisers and the first US Navy ship to be named for Little Rock, Arkansas / Commissioned on 17 June 1945, she was completed too late to see combat duty during World War II and was retired post-war, becoming part of the Atlantic Reserve Fleet in 1949 / In the late 1950s, she was converted to a Galveston-class guided-missile cruiser, removing her aft six-inch and five-inch guns to accommodate the Talos missile system / Like three other of her sister Cleveland ships converted to missile ships, she was also extensively modified forward to become a flagship / This involved removal of most of her forward armament to allow for an enlarged superstructure and was recommissioned in 1960 as CLG-4 (redesignated CG-4 in 1975) / In this configuration, she served in the Mediterranean, often as the Sixth Fleet flagship / Decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 22 November 1976, USS Little Rock was donated to the Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park, later renamed the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park, in Buffalo, N.Y., to serve as a museum ship / She was towed from Philadelphia, via the St. Lawrence Seaway, to Buffalo, and arrived in July 1977 / She is currently open to the public at the Buffalo Naval & Military Park / On 16 December 2017, Little Rock was present for the commissioning of USS Little Rock (LCS-9), the first time a U.S. Navy ship commissioned alongside her namesake



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: RUSTAY

JAMES

C.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

416TH BOMB WING

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Charles Rustay honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT James Rustay was assigned as a Specialized Weapons Mechanic / SGT Rustay was stationed in Thailand

Base Assignments:

Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas - Lackland Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Bexar County, Texas / The base is under the jurisdiction of the 802d Mission Support Group, Air Education and Training Command (AETC) and an enclave of the city of San Antonio / It is the only site for Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) / Lackland AFB is part of Joint Base San Antonio, an amalgamation of the Fort Sam Houston, the Randolph Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base, which were merged on 1 October 2010 / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Miscellaneous:

James C. Rustay was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RYCZEK**
TEODORE

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:

Teodore Ryczek honorably served in the United States Military / Teodore Ryczek was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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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: RYDZA

PAUL J.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

3RD BATTALION, 1ST ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

1 ARMY OVERSEAS BAR

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-60 MACHINE GUN)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant Paul J. Rydza honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Paul Rydza was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months of duty as Light Weapons Infantryman / The last deployment for SGT Rydza was with the 3rd Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team at Fort Jackson, South Carolina

Sergeant Paul Rydza was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 21 May 1969

Base Assignments:

Fort Jackson , South Carolina - Fort Jackson is a United States Army installation, which the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) operates for Basic Combat Training (BCT), and is located within the city of Columbia, South Carolina / Fort Jackson was created in 1917 and named for Andrew Jackson, a United States Army general and the seventh president of the United States (1829–1837) who was born in the border region of North and South Carolina / Fort Jackson is the largest and most active initial entry training center in the U.S. Army, training 50 percent of all soldiers entering the Army each year / Providing the Army with new soldiers is the post's primary mission / 35,000 potential soldiers attend basic training and 8,000 advanced individual training soldiers train at Fort Jackson annually

Miscellaneous:

Paul J. Rydza passed away on 12 January 2023 at the age of 75 years old in North Carolina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division (aka, "Devil Brigade") is a maneuver brigade combat team (BCT) in the United States Army / It is the oldest permanent brigade in the Army and has some of the oldest units in the United States Army / Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 1st Brigade served in World War I, Vietnam, Desert Shield and Desert Storm / Its most notable campaigns include the Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne, Picardy, Tet Counteroffensive and the Liberation and Defense of Kuwait / Since Desert Storm, the "Devil Brigade" has deployed to Bosnia, Kuwait, and to Korea to participate in a 2nd Infantry Division exercise

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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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **RYDZA, SR.**

PAUL

J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

3RD BATTALION, 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER RIFLE (M-14)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

1 ARMY OVERSEAS BAR

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (M-60 MACHINE GUN)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant (E-5) Paul Joseph Rydza, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Paul Rydza was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman

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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: RYSZKIEWICZ

JAMES J.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

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 J. "Harpo" Ryszkiewicz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James J. "Harpo" Ryszkiewicz passed away on 18 March 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: **RZEPKA**
FLORIAN

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Florian Rzepka honorably served in the United States Air Force / Florian Rzepka served on active duty for 3 years and 6 months, including a 13 month tour of duty in Vietnam

Florian Rzepka received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force on 22 May 1976

Base Assignments:

Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield, California Travis AFB is a United States Air Force base under the operational control of Air Mobility Command (AMC), located three miles east of the central business district of the city of Fairfield, in Solano County, California / Travis Air Force Base handles more cargo and passenger traffic through its airport than any other military air terminal in the United States / As of September 2009, Travis AFB included approximately 7,390 active USAF military personnel, 3,260 Air Force Reserve personnel and 3,690 civilians / Originally named Fairfield–Suisun Army Air Base, construction began on Travis in 1942 / In October 1942, the War Department assigned the base to the Air Transport Command / The base's primary mission during World War II was ferrying aircraft and supplies to the Pacific Theater / The base was renamed Travis Air Force Base in 1951 for Brigadier General Robert F. Travis, who was killed when a B-29 Superfortress crashed shortly after takeoff on 5 August 1950 / The ensuing fire caused the 10,000 pounds of high explosives in the plane's cargo, a Mark 4 nuclear weapon (minus its nuclear core), to detonate, killing General Travis and 18 others / The Military Air Transport Service (MATS) resumed command of Travis AFB on 1 July 1958, after SAC's new dispersal policy led to the transfer of the 14th Air Division to Beale AFB, California / In 1992, with the reorganization of the Air Force following the end of the Cold War, Military Airlift Command (MAC) was inactivated and Travis came under the control of the newly established Air Mobility Command (AMC)



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Miscellaneous:

Florian Rzepka passed away on 3 November 2024 at the age of 71 years old and interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

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