



Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GAMBINO**

Hometown: HAMBURG

JOSEPH A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

1965TH HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, 802ND ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph A. Gambino served over 4 years in the Army, including 16 months of duty in Korea with the 1965th Headquarters & Service Company, 802nd Engineer Aviation Battalion

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Gambino was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 5 May 1955 / Joseph A. Gambino passed away on 18 December 2018

In 1939 Gen. Hap Arnold negotiated with the U.S. Army Chief of Engineers for a special engineer unit to work with the Air Corps / The original concept envisioned a small group of skilled construction and engineer troops, closely trained alongside air units, with the ability to repair bomb damaged airfields, to camouflage airfields and if necessary, to defend airfields / These troops would also be capable of constructing light duty airfields in forward locations / As the possibility of American involvement in a global war grew, the planners agreed to give the air forces enough men and equipment to construct their own heavy duty bases in forward areas / Without knowing exactly what would be needed to build air bases in deserts, in jungles and on coral islands, the planners devised the Engineering Aviation Battalion, a self-contained unit that became the core of aviation engineering efforts

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GASIEWICZ

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

EUGENE

V.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GATES, SR.

Hometown: HAMBURG

RAYMOND J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Raymond J. Gates, Sr. served during World War II and the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond J. Gates, Sr. passed away on 6 November 2017



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GEHL**

Hometown: HAMBURG

RONALD C.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP2

Year Entered: 1953

Year Discharged: 1955

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 4TH ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 2nd-Class Ronald C. Gehl served as an Aircraft Mechanic assigned to Headquarters Company, 4th Armored Division

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Gehl was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 6 December 1955 / Ronald C. Gehl passed away on 25 September 2017

The 4th Armored Division was an armored division of the United States Army that earned distinction while spearheading General Patton's Third Army in the European Theater of World War II / The 4th Armored Division was activated on 15 April 1941 with 3,800 men / The 4th fought across France and participated in the Battle of the Bulge / After World War II, the 4th Armored Division remained in Germany until final inactivation in May 1971, when it was redesignated the 1st Armored Division

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

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Name: GENTRY

Hometown: WEST SENECA

BILL

E.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL

ROK RESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

BRONZE SERVICE STAR

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Bill Earl Gentry served as a Telephone and Telegraph Equipment Repairman

Base Assignments:

Warren AFB, Wyoming

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GENTRY**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

BILL

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Bill Gentry was a member of Harvey D. Morin, VFW Post 2940 and a member of the Color Guard / Gentry was an active member of the St. David's Episcopal Church in West Seneca / Bill Gentry passed away on February 4, 2020 at the age of 89

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GERLACH

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

GRANT

A.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY B, 420TH ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL-KOREA

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Grant A. Gerlach served 18 Months in Korea with Company B, 420th Engineer Construction Battalion

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Grant Gerlach was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 4 August 1953 / Grant A. Gerlach passed away on 26 April 2018

Engineering Battalions performed many engineering tasks, including demolitions, obstacle emplacement, fortification, and light bridge building / Engineer general service regiments and battalions performed construction, repair, and maintenance duties of all kinds behind the front lines / When needed, combat engineers also could act as infantry

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Name: **GOEHLE**

Hometown: AKRON

PAUL

F.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1951

Year Discharged: 1953

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul F. Goehle was a graduate of Lockport High School, 1949 / A baseball catcher, he played semi-pro ball in the Niagara Suburban League and was invited to the Philadelphia Phillies training camp but elected to sign with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1950/ in 1951 Goehle enlisted in the U.S Marine Corps / After his Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps, Paul F. Goehle became interested in the insurance business and in 1963 purchased an insurance agency in Lancaster, NY / Goehle coached Little League Baseball teams both in Lockport and Lancaster over the years, served as treasurer of the Lancaster Lions Club 1964 to 1969 and he served on the advisory board of Marine Midland Bank / Paul F. Goehle passed away on 25 March 2022 at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GRADY

Hometown: AMHERST

WILLIAM R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William R. Grady trained at the Niagara Falls Air Base as a Fireman

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

William Grady served the Town of Amherst as a Highway Inspector, Building Inspector and also as the Town's first Fire Inspector / Grady was a volunteer fireman with the Hutchinson Hose Fire Department for over 44 years / Grady earned his pilot's license after his retirement / William R. Grady passed away on 17 September 2022 at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GREGORIO

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

DANIEL M.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel M. Gregorio was a retired Commander with the United States Coast Guard, a United States Navy Veteran and served with the Marine Corps in the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel M. Gregorio passed away at the age of 90 years old on 16 February 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GREGORIO

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

DANIEL

M

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CMDR

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

KOREAN WAR SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON

UNITED NATIONS KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (PISTOL)

NAVY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON

COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

COAST GUARD MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL W/HOURLASS DEVICE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

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

Service Notes:

Commander Daniel M. Gregoria was a Retired Commander with the United States Coast Guard, a United States Navy Veteran and served with the United States Marines Corps in the Korean War / Commander Gregorio served our nation during the period of 1951-1991 / His first 4 years from 1951-1955 were as an active-duty Navy Corpsman assigned to a Marine Corps Special Ops unit in Korea / Gregoria then enlisted in the Naval Reserve stationed at Naval Air Station, Niagara Falls, and in 1962 enlisted in the US Coast Guard Reserve, serving during the Vietnam War / From 1983-1985 Commander Gregorio served as Commanding Officer for the USCG Reserve Unit in Erie PA, and he was the first Commanding Officer at USCG Reserve Niagara River, which was commissioned in 1988 / Cmdr Gregorio served there until his retirement on 6 October 1991.

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel M. Gregoria passed away at the age of 90 years old on 15 February 2022

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The Korean War Service Medal, also known as the Republic of Korea War Service Medal, is a military award of South Korea which was first authorized in December 1950 / The Korean War Service Medal was first authorized to South Korean



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troops who had participated in the initial counter-assaults against North Korean aggression in June 1950 / On 15 September 1951, President Syngman Rhee referred to and authorized the commander-chief of the United Nations Command to confer the award of the "Korean War Medal" and "Korean War Ribbon" ("Korean War Service Medal"), "to the brave and valiant members of the United Nations Command who have been, and are now, combating the communist aggressor in Korea"

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 Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation was awarded to units of the United Nations Command for service in Korea during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 / In recognition of allied military service to South Korea during the Korean War, all United States military departments were authorized the unit award for that period

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The Coast Guard Achievement Medal was established on 29 January 1964, by Secretary of the Treasury Douglas Dillon / The award was initially established as the Coast Guard Commendation for Achievement Ribbon and was redesignated as the Coast Guard Achievement Medal on 11 June 1968 / It is awarded for any member the Armed Forces serving alongside the Coast Guard whose service goes above and beyond the bounds of regular duty performance in a non-combat situation

The Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation was established in 1973, and is awarded in the name of the Commandant of the Coast Guard / It may be awarded to any unit of the Coast Guard that has distinguished itself by either valorous or meritorious achievement or service in support of Coast Guard operations not involving combat / The Commandant may also bestow the award upon a unit of another branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, provided the unit meets the standards established for Coast Guard units / To justify the award, the service performed as a unit must be comparable to that which would meet the award of a Coast Guard Achievement Medal to an individual / Normal performance of duty or participation in a large number of operational missions does not in itself justify the award / It will not be awarded to a large unit for actions of one or more of its sub-units unless the entire unit performed as a team

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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Name: GRESCH

Hometown: WEST SENECA

RICHARD

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Gresch was born on 20 October 1943 in Eyota Minnesota. Gresch later moved to West Seneca and worked as a social worker at the West Seneca Developmental Center for 30 years

Richard Gresch passed away at the age of 77 on 18 November 2020



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GRIFFIN

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

THOMAS R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: IC2

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1956

Unit / Squadron:

USS BERGALL (SS-320)

Medals / Citations:

NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL (EUROPE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Interior Communications Electrician 2nd Class (Petty Officer 2) Thomas R. Griffin served 3 years aboard the submarine, USS Bergall

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Griffin was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 6 January 1956 / Griffin was Past Master and member of Harmonie Lodge # 699 / Thomas R. Griffin passed away on 13 January 2017 at the age of 85 years old

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

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

USS Bergall (SS-320), a Balao-class submarine, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the Bergall, a small fish of the New England coast / Commissioned on 12 June 1944, the Bergall was assigned to the Pacific Fleet / Operating out of Fremantle, Australia, the submarine made five war patrols between 8 September 1944 and 17 June 1945 in the South China Sea, Java Sea, Lombok Strait, and north of the Malay Barrier / During these patrols Bergall sank two merchantmen totaling 14,710 tons and one 740-ton frigate / On 13 December 1944, Bergall engaged Japanese heavy cruiser Myōkō and both ships were damaged / Bergall had to end her patrol after being hit by a dud 8-inch shell / While patrolling off the Malay coast, 13 June 1945, she was damaged aft by an allied naval mine explosion and forced to retire to Subic Bay, Luzon, for emergency repairs / She remained on active duty with the Pacific Fleet until departing Pearl Harbor for the Atlantic 10 June 1950 / During this time she made one cruise to the Far East from 4 December 1948 to 28 February 1949 / On 11 July 1950 she transferred to New London, Connecticut, beginning her operations with the Atlantic Fleet with a Mediterranean Sea cruise / On 26 September 1958, Bergall left the United States, entered the Mediterranean on 9 October, and arrived in İzmir, Turkey, on 15 October, where she was decommissioned on 17 October 1958 and transferred to the Turkish Navy, commissioned there as Turgutreis / She was later sold to Turkey on 15 February 1973 / the USS Bergall received four battle stars during World War II



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GUGINO SR

Hometown: AMHERST

ROBERT J.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS TICONDEROGA

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert J. Gugino, Sr. served as a Chaplain for the Navy Seabees

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Gugino owned and operated the Gugino's Auto Service / Robert J. Gugino, Sr. passed away on 8 December 2022

USS Ticonderoga (CV/CVA/CVS-14) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy / The ship was the fourth US Navy ship to bear the name, and was named after the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in the American Revolutionary War / Ticonderoga was commissioned in May 1944, and served in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning five battle stars / Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), and then eventually became an antisubmarine carrier (CVS) / She was recommissioned too late to participate in the Korean War, but was very active in the Vietnam War, earning three Navy Unit Commendations, one Meritorious Unit Commendation, and 12 battle stars / The Ticonderoga was decommissioned 1 September 1973 / Her name was struck from the Navy list on 16 November 1973 and sold for scrap 1 September 1975



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: GULL

Hometown: BOWMANVILLE

HENRY

R.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Henry R. "Hank" Gull served 18 months in Korea with the Signal Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry R. Gull served as a Scoutmaster in Bowmansville and was the owner of Gull's Garage in Lancaster / Gull was also very active in Lancaster politics / Henry R. "Hank" Gull passed away on 3 June 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **GULLO**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

JOSEPH

P.

Address:

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous: