



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** LARUSSA

**Hometown:** ARMY

DONALD J.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1948

**Year Discharged:** 1952

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL W/3 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Donald J. LaRussa served 27 months in Korea, earning a Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald LaRussa received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 7 May 1952 / Donald J. LaRussa passed away on 24 October 2019

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

The 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

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 combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement



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



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**Name:** LAZAROS

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

DONALD J.

**Address:** COVINGTON DRIVE

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:** 1951

**Year Discharged:** 1953

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE CORPS DIVISION, DOG COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Donald J. Lazaros was awarded the Purple Heart for combat action in Korea

**Base Assignments:**

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Constructed in May 1941, Camp LeJeune is a Marine Corps. amphibious assault training facility located in Jacksonville, North Carolina / The base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / The camps is also the home of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Forces in Readiness

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Established in 1917, MCB Quantico is a Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps"

Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (commonly referred to as MCRD) is a United States Marine Corps military installation in San Diego, California / The main mission of MCRD San Diego is the initial training of enlisted male recruits living west of the Mississippi River / Over 21,000 recruits are trained each year / The Depot also is the home to the Marine Corps' Recruiter School and Western Recruiting Region's Drill Instructors School.

**Miscellaneous:**



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** LESNIAK

**Hometown:**

THADDEUS

W.

**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:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thaddeus W. "Teddy" Lesniak passed away on 22 April 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** LIPCZYNSKI

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JOSEPH R.

**Address:**

Korean Era

Korean War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** SGT

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

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

**Service Notes:**

Sergeant Joseph R. "Pete" Lipczynski served during the Korean War

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph R. "Pete" Lipczynski passed away on 10 November 2020 at the age of 86



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** LUDWIG

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

JAMES E.

**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:**



# Honoring Our Korean War and Korean Era Veterans



June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** LYONS

**Hometown:** EAST AURORA

ROGER

**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:**

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roger Lyons was a longtime baseball and basketball coach and a High School teacher and DECA Coordinator at Orchard Park / Roger Lyons passed away on 5 December 2021