



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ABENDSCHEIN

DAVID F.

Hometown: EDEN

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1957

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

2ND MARINE DIVISION

1ST MARINE AIR WING, AIR FLEET MARINE FORCE PACIFIC

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Corporal David F. Abendschein honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL David Abendschein served 3 1/2 years active duty as a Repair Shop Machinist

David Abendschein received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 10 August 1960

Base Assignments:

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

Miscellaneous:

David F. Abendschein passed away on 19 February 2017 at 81 years old

The 2nd Marine Division (2nd MARDIV) is a division of the United States Marine Corps, which forms the ground combat element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) / The division is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / During World War II, the 2nd Marine Division (Headquarters) participated in operations in the Pacific Theater of Operations: the Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign, the Battle of Tarawa, the Gilbert Islands campaign, the Battle of Saipan, the Battle of Tinian and the Battle of



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Okinawa / The Division didn't take part in a major action again until 1958 when elements participated in the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958 / 2nd Marine Division units helped to reinforce Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965 as part of Operation Power Pack / Other peacekeeping operations carried on by the Division include being part of the Multi National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984 / The Division suffered the loss of 238 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing, plus 3 U.S. Army personnel attached to the unit

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

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: ABRAHAM

MICHAEL J.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

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:

Michael J. Abraham honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael J. Abraham passed away on 17 January 2026 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ABRAM**

JAMES H.

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 H. Abram honorably served in the United States Military / James Abram was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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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 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: **ABRUZZINO**
ANGELO

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Angelo Abruzzino honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Angelo Abruzzino retired from Bethlehem Steel after 44 years of service / Angelo Abruzzino passed away on 22 December 2025 at the age of 88 Years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ACKERMAN**
MAURICE D.

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:

Maurice D. Ackerman honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Maurice D. Ackerman passed away on 1 June 2023

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: **ADAM**

JAMES A.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

James R. Adam honorably served in the United States Army / James Adam was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James R. Adam passed away on 24 January 2024 at the age of 80 years old

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

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

Name: ADAM

JAMES 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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

James R. Adam honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James R. Adam passed away on 2 January 2024 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ADAMS

DENNIS

M.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Dennis M. Adams honorably served in the United States Army / Dennis Adams was deployed to Vietnam as an Intelligence Officer, specializing in sending and decoding encrypted messages

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

A native of South Buffalo, Dennis Adams graduated from South Park High School, enlisting shortly thereafter in the U.S. Army / After his Honorable Discharge from the Army, Dennis Adams graduated from Buffalo State College and joined the Buffalo Police Department / Following a few years of patrol duty, Adams was promoted to Detective, initially for the Vice Squad and later with the Burglary Task Force / Adams also served as an editorial cartoonist for the "Blue Line", a newsletter published by the city police union / Dennis Adams retired from the Buffalo Police Department in 1999 / Adams started working as a private investigator, conducting surveillances, examining crime scenes and interviewing witnesses for local law firms, before finally retiring in 2022 / Adams published two crime novels ("Motive" and "City Hall Secrets"), based on incidents that happened during his years as a police detective / Adams was also a lifelong amateur magician / Dennis Adams passed away at the Rochester General Hospital following an illness on 9 February 2024 / Dennis M. Adams was 75 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ADAMS

KEITH

E.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Keith Edward Adams honorably served in the United States Army / Keith Adams was deployed for two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot / After his discharge from active duty, Keith Adams served with the Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Keith Adams was a graduate of Kenmore High School and was a graduate of the West Point Military Academy / Adams was the co-owner of Adams Door Company in Buffalo / Keith Edward Adams passed away on 31 March 2023

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 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: ADAMS

STEPHEN J.

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:

Stephen James Adams honorably served in the United States Army / Stephen Adams served for three years and was stationed in Korea as an Air Traffic Controller

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Adams grew up in Lewiston, NY and graduated from Lewiston-Porter Central Schools / Adams continued his education at Niagara University, earning both his Bachelor and Master Degrees / Stephen Adams retired from the Real Estate Division of the New York State Department of Transportation after 30 years / Stephen James Adams passed away on 24 September 2021 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Lewiston, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ADAMS SR.**

Hometown: ALDEN

ROBERT J.

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

436TH ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE SQUADRON, 436TH MILITARY AIRLIFT WING

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Robert J. Adams Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Robert Adams was deployed for two tours in Vietnam as an Aircraft Maintenance Specialist / Adams was stationed in Tokyo, Japan and assigned to Transportation and learned welding

Base Assignments:

Dover Air Force Base, Dover, Delaware - The facility was opened on 17 December 1941 and converted to a U.S. Army Air Corps airfield just weeks after the 7 December 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor / It was renamed Dover Army Airbase on April 8, 1943 and renamed Dover Air Force Base on 13 January 1948 / On 20 December 1941, the first military unit arrived at Dover's new airfield: the 112th Observation Squadron of the Ohio National Guard which flew anti-submarine patrols off the Delaware Coast / In early 1942, three B-25 Mitchell bomber squadrons arrived with the 45th Bombardment Group from I Bomber Command, later part of Army Air Forces Antisubmarine Command, assumed the anti-submarine mission / In 1944 the Air Technical Service Command chose Dover as a site to engineer, develop, and conduct classified air-launched rocket tests / The information collected during these experiments resulted in the effective deployment of air-to-surface rockets in both the European and Pacific combat theaters / Deactivated after World War II, Dover was reactivated on 1 August 1950 / In 1966, the 436th Military Airlift Wing (436 MAW) was activated and assumed the mission at Dover / During the Vietnam War, more than 20,000 dead American soldiers were brought back to the United States via Dover AFB / In 1973 Dover became the first all C-5 equipped wing in the Air Force / Following the attacks of 11 September 2001, the 436th Military Airlift Wing and 512 Air Wing became major participants in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Adams got into coaching sports in high schools and colleges after his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force / Employed by Niagara Transformer, Adams traveled to Beijing, China as a welder at some of the facilities for the 2008 Olympics / Adams retired from Niagara Transformer as a Welding Supervisor / Adams was a bartender and member of American Legion Post 735 / Robert J. Adams Sr. passed away on February 10, 2022 at the age of 75 years old

An Aircraft Maintenance Specialist in the Air Force is responsible for providing aircraft repair and maintenance services to facilitate safe flying / They ensure all mechanical components of aircraft meet the safety and operational requirements / Other duties include working with crew chiefs and mechanics to plan, schedule and organize aerospace vehicle maintenance to ensure all equipment and machinery is always ready and working whenever it's needed

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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 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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ALBERT

JACOB

P.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address: SCHWARTZ ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Jacob Phillips Albert honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jacob Albert was a 1959 graduate of St. Mary's High School / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Albert worked as an Aircraft Mechanic at Four Winds Services at National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center (NAFEC) in Egg Harbor, New Jersey and previously at Eastern Airlines in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Miami, Florida until his retirement / Jacob Albert moved to Hammonton, New Jersey in 1974 / Jacob Phillips Albert passed away on 19 June 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Annunciation Cemetery, Elma, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALESSI**

ANTHONY M.

Hometown: NORTH COLLINS

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PVT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private Anthony M. Alessi honorably served in the United States Army / PVT Anthony Alessi was stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a Clerk

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Alessi graduated from North Collins Central High School in 1956 / Following his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Anthony Alessi worked for the Alessi Agency on Main Street in North Collins, becoming owner after the passing of his father in 1969 / Alessi was a North Collins village trustee from 1973 to 1977 / Anthony Alessi was also the North Collins Police Commissioner and President of the North Collins Volunteer Fire Company / Alessi was a longtime member of the Eden-North Collins Rotary Club and Disaster Chairman for the American Red Cross, as well as town Chairman for the United Fund / Anthony Alessi was a member of the Holy Name Society and a member of North Collins American Legion Post #1640 / Anthony M. "Tony" Alessi passed away on 20 August 2024 at the age of 86 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALEXANDROWICZ**

KENNETH W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP (MAG) 13, 3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING (MAW)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMAN BADGE: RIFLE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Kenneth William Alexandrowicz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Kenneth Alexandrowicz was assigned as a Aviation Fire Control Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth W. Alexandrowicz was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #940

Aviation Fire Control Technicians were tasked with the maintenance and repair of some of the most advanced electronics deployed on U.S. Navy ships at the time / This might include troubleshooting an aircraft's electronic weapon system as it sat on the flight deck to swapping out circuit cards in onboard computer systems / All aspects of aircraft weaponry and detection systems—including radars, navigation, heads-up displays (HUDs), multi-function displays (MFDs), target acquisition, weapons-release, and more, fell under the field of the Aviation Fire Control Technician

Marine Aircraft Group 13 was established on March 1, 1942 in San Diego as a response to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii / While participating in the Marshall Island campaign, Marine Aircraft Group 13 engaged in sustained combat operations against the Japanese on the Samoan Island of Tutuila, the Funafuti Atoll of the Ellice Islands, and the Majuro Atoll of the Marshall Islands / Marine Aircraft Group 13 was deactivated on 30 November 1945 after the conclusion of World War II, but was reactivated on March 15, 1951 at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California in response to the Korean War / Between 1951 and 1965 Marine Aircraft Group 13



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was assigned to various locations such as Kaneohe Bay, Atsugi and Iwakuni, Japan / In June 1965, MAG-13 became a unit of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan / In September 1966 Marine Aircraft Group 13 deployed to Chu Lai airbase in the Republic of Vietnam and conducted combat operations against the North Vietnamese while flying the F-4B Phantom / Since September 2001, MAG-13 has amassed over 15,000 combat flight hours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom

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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: ALFIERI

ROBERT J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

82ND AIRBORNE, FIELD OPERATIONS COMPANY, 50TH SIGNAL BATTALION (AIRBORNE)

Medals / Citations:

ARMY PARACHUTIST BADGE

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert J. Alfieri honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Robert Alfieri was assigned as a Low Speed Radio Operator, assigned to the Field Operations Company, 50th Signal Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Robert Alfieri received his Honorable Discharge from the US Army on 12 April 1962

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Robert J. Alfieri passed away on 25 October 2023

A Low Speed Radio Operator Installs and operates tactical field radio transmitting and receiving equipment / Sends and receives messages by International Morse Code (CW, ICW, or tone) signals and by light signals / Normally operates in radio nets below the level of a division / Performs First echelon maintenance by keeping equipment clean, inspecting cords, plugs, antenna mast, receiver, transmitter, and calibration charts, making minor repairs or adjustments, such as changing tubes, adjusting frequencies, and adjusting key, using small hand



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tools

Airborne forces are military units, usually light infantry with non-armored vehicles and guns, set up to be moved by aircraft and "dropped" into battle. They can be placed behind enemy lines, and have the capability to deploy almost anywhere with little warning / The basic premise of airborne forces is that they can arrive with such speed that a coherent defense cannot be mounted quickly / The paratroopers must either use the supplies of the enemy, be continuously resupplied by air or wait to be relieved by ground troops

The 82nd Airborne Division is an airborne infantry division of the United States Army specializing in parachute assault operations into denied areas with a U.S. Department of Defense requirement to "respond to crisis contingencies anywhere in the world within 18 hours" / 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 constituted, originally as the 82nd Division, in the National Army on 5 August 1917, shortly after the American entry into World War I / It 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" entered the civil war in the Dominican Republic / Spearheaded by the 3rd Brigade, the 82nd deployed in Operation Power Pack / During the 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 held – 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 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 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

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: **ALJOE**

GARY

L.

Hometown:

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

152ND BRIGADE ENGINEERS

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class (SFC) Gary Louis Aljoe honorably served in the United States Army / SFC Gary Aljoe served almost 40 years in the United States Army and Army National Guard / SFC Gary Aljoe was deployed to Vietnam, followed by a tour in Korea, returning stateside in 1974 / SFC Aljoe was also deployed to the Middle East as part of the Persian Gulf War

SFC Gary Aljoe helped rebuild bridges, schools and homes for many years in Honduras, Panama and twice in Guatemala / Aljoe spent six months at Ground Zero in NYC after 9/11 helping with clean up and recovery / SFC Gary Aljoe's last mission was border patrol in Arizona where he lead his final platoon

SFC Gary Aljoe helped build bridges, schools and homes in Honduras, Panama and Guatemala / SFC Aljoe spent six months at Ground Zero in New York City after the 11 September 2001 terrorist attack helping with clean up and recovery / The last tour of duty for Aljoe was border patrol in Arizona

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary Louis Aljoe passed away on 15 May 2022 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units



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stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government

Name: ALLEIN
RICHARD

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:

Richard Allein honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard Allein was Past Commander of American Legion Post #64 and a member of several veteran organizations / Richard Allein passed away on 20 January 2024 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at Hillcrest Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ALVARADO**

WILSON

G.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/60 DEVICE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Wilson G. Alvarado honorably served in the United States Army / Wilson Alvarado was deployed to Vietnam for 15 months as a Communication Maintainer / Alvarado served 34 months on active duty

Wilson Alvarado was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 7 November 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wilson Alvarado was born in Villalba, Puerto Rico / Wilson Alvarado retired from the New York State Department of Corrections with over 20 years of service and moved to Tampa, Florida / Wilson G. Alvarado passed away on 26 March 2025 at the age of 80 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 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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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: **AMANTIA SR**

PHILIP J.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Philip J. Amantia, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force for 4 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Philip Amantia was a 1962 graduate of Aquinas Institute in Rochester, New York / Amantia received a Bachelors Degree in accounting from Trine University, Angola, Indiana and his MBA from SUNY Binghamton, New York / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Philip Amantia worked for the Bendix Corporation in Sidney, New York / Moving back to Buffalo, Amantia went to work for Delaware North in 1984 / Philip Amantia later opened his own Accounting firm in Williamsville, retiring in 2006 / Amantia was an ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Buffalo and performed ministry work at the Wende Correctional Facility and Milliard Fillmore Suburban Hospital / Philip J. Amantia, Sr. passed away on 29 July 2024 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AMENTA, JR.**
PETER

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3RD BATTALION, 32ND ARMOR REGIMENT, 3RD ARMORED DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Peter Amenta, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Peter Amenta was classified as a Track Vehicle Mechanic and had 10 months of foreign duty in Germany, assigned to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor Regiment, 3rd Armored Division

SP4 Peter Amenta, Jr. Amenta was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 4 January 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Peter Amenta, Jr. passed away on 9 November 2023 at the age of 72 years old

The 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor ("Iron Dukes") was constituted 13 January 1941 in the Regular Army as Company C, 2d Armored Regiment, an element of the 3d Armored Division / Activated 15 April 1941 at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana / Redesignated 8 May 1941 as Company C, 32d Armored Regiment / Transferred 26 June 1944 from 1st Battalion, 32d Armored Regiment, to 3d Battalion, 32d Armored Regiment / Inactivated 10 November 1945 in Germany and disbanded 7 July 1947 / Reconstituted 28 May 1948 in the Regular Army and redesignated as Company C, 61st Heavy Tank Battalion, an element of the 9th Infantry Division. Activated 12 July 1948 at Ft. Dix, New Jersey / Redesignated 25 May 1954 as Company C, 61st Tank Battalion / Inactivated 1 December 1957 at Ft. Carson, Colorado; concurrently, redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Medium Tank Battalion (Patton), 32d Armor, Relieved from assignment to 9th Infantry Division / Activated 25 June 1958 at Ft. Stewart, Georgia / Redesignated 1 September 1963 as 3d Battalion, 32d Armor; concurrently, transferred (less



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personnel and equipment) from Ft. Stewart, Georgia, to Germany, assigned to 3d Armored Division, and reorganized / The Battalion was deactivated 16 June 1986 in Germany and with all personal and equipment being transferred to the 2d Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment / The Battalion was activated 16 October 1986 at Fort Hood Texas using personal and equipment from the 2d Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division / Deployed to Southwest Asia and served in Desert Storm combat operations / The Battalion was deactivated 16 December 1992 at Fort Hood Texas with all personal and equipment being assigned to the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment

The 32nd Armored Regiment was activated 15 April, 1941 at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana as the 2nd Armored Regiment and assigned to the 3rd Armored Division / The unit was Redesignated 8 May 1941 as the 32nd Armored Regiment / During Mid July of 1942, the Division moved to the Mohave Desert for training in desert warfare / The Battalion arrived in England in September – October 1943 and set up camp in Wiltshire-Codford, spending their time training and preparing for D-Day / The Battalion moved to Normandy in mid-June of 1944 / On 29 June 1944, the Battalion entered combat as part of Combat Command A at Villiers-Fossard / The Battalion fought on until 24 April 1945

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: AMEY

DAVID

GE

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: COL

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS FOR VALOR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Colonel David George Amey honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Col David Amey was commissioned a Second Lieutenant after completing the Basic School at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia / COL Amey took flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola where he was trained as a CH-34 helicopter pilot and later as a CH-46 pilot / COL David Amey was deployed for two tours of duty in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for Valor

In 1980, Colonel David Amey participated in rescue and recovery operations during the Mariel boatlift of Cuban refugees and later served as the Squadron Commander of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) / COL Amey received his Master of Science Degree from the Naval Post Graduate School and completed two tours in the USMC's HQMC (Headquarters Marine Corps) Manpower Department

Colonel David Amey received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1989 after 26 years of service

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia - Commonly abbreviated MCB Quantico, Marine Corps Base Quantico is a United States Marine Corps installation located near Triangle, Virginia, covering nearly 86.169 square miles) of southern Prince William County, Virginia, northern Stafford County, and southeastern Fauquier County / Used primarily for training purposes, MCB Quantico is known as the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps" / In 1917, Marine Barracks, Quantico was established and thousands of Marines were trained at Quantico during World War I / In 1934, Amphibious Warfare Doctrine, along with special amphibious landing crafts for World War II were developed at Quantico / These Amphibious Warfare techniques, developed in the years before World War



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II, made victory possible in the Pacific theater / Quantico trained over 15,000 USMC and other service officers in Amphibious Warfare techniques / The first Marine Aircraft Wing was developed at Quantico, as well as the Corps' first helicopter squadron, Marine Helicopter Squadron One (HMX-1), the first helicopter squadron to provide rapid transportation for Presidents of the United States ("Marine One")

Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida - NAS Pensacola, known as "The Cradle of Naval Aviation", is a United States Navy base located next to Warrington, Florida / The Naval Air Station is best known as the initial primary training base for all U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard officers pursuing designation as naval aviators and naval flight officers, the advanced training base for most naval flight officers, and as the home base for the United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the precision-flying team known as the Blue Angels

Miscellaneous:

David Amey graduated from Lancaster High School in 1959 and Duke University in 1963 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps David Amey, became a certified financial planner and worked for USAA and Fidelity Investments / David George Amey passed away on 28 April 2025 at the age of 84 from Alzheimer's Disease and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **AMROZOWICZ, JR.**
STANLEY J.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Stanley J. "Chip" Amrozowicz, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / 1LT Stanley Amrozowicz was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroics on the battlefield / 1LT was also awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat action

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

Miscellaneous:

Stanley Amrozowicz graduated from Lackawanna High School and graduated from Northwestern State University in Alva, Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science Degree / Stanley J. "Chip" Amrozowicz, Jr. passed away on 15 March 2023 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

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



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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 Air Medal was established on May 11, 1942 and awarded retroactive to September 8, 1939, to anyone who distinguishes himself by meritorious achievement while serving with the Armed Forces in aerial flight

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 / An oak leaf cluster is a ribbon device to denote preceding decorations and awards consisting of a miniature bronze or silver twig of four oak leaves with three acorns on the stem

The Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is a mid-level award given to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves by acts of heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service / It was established in 1945 and is awarded retroactively to those who served after December 6, 1941 / / A "V" device distinguishes an award for heroism or valor in combat instead of for meritorious service or achievement

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDERSEN**

MARTIN

W.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address: 27 CLEVELAND DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MAJ

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

7TH AIR FORCE, 35TH TACTICAL FIGHTER WING, 13TH BOMB SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Major Martin Weigner Andersen honorably served in the United States Air Force / Major Martin Andersen was deployed to Vietnam as a Navigator / Major Martin Andersen was Killed in Action on 19 August 1967 when his aircraft crashed through hostile action in the Hua Nghia Province, South Vietnam

On August 19, 1967, a B-57B Canberra (#52-1550), with Major Secanti as Pilot and Major Martin Andersen as Navigator, was conducting a strike on a storage area five miles west of Lai Khe in Binh Duong Province when it was hit by ground fire / The Canberra crashed, killing pilot MAJ Richard M. Secanti and navigator MAJ Martin W. Andersen / Initially listed as Missing in Action, their remains were recovered and repatriated

Major Martin Andersen was a 15-year veteran of the U. S. Air Force and was a former Instructor at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado / Major Andersen taught mathematics and aeronautics at the Academy

Base Assignments:

Air Force Academy, Colorado - The United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) is a United States service academy in Air Force Academy, Colorado, immediately north of Colorado Springs / It educates cadets for service in the officer corps of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force / It is the youngest of the five service academies, having graduated its first class in 1959, but is the third in seniority / Graduates of the academy's four-year program receive a Bachelor of Science degree and are commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force or U.S. Space Force



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Miscellaneous:

Martin Weigner Andersen was 37 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at the Lancaster Rural Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

Martin Weigner Andersen is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 25e, Line 15

The Seventh Air Force (Air Forces Korea) (7 AF) is a Numbered Air Force of the United States Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) / It is headquartered at Osan Air Base, South Korea / The command's mission is to plan and direct air component operations in the Republic of Korea and in the Northwest Pacific / Established on 19 October 1940 as the Hawaiian Air Force at Fort Shafter, Territory of Hawaii, the 7 AF was a United States Army Air Forces combat unit in the Pacific Theater of World War II, providing air defense of the Hawaiian Islands and engaging in combat operations primarily in the Central Pacific AOR / It was assigned units engaging enemy forces in the Gilbert Islands; Marshall Islands; Caroline Islands; Mariana Islands, and in the last major battle of the Pacific War, the Battle of Okinawa / On 28 March 1966, Seventh Air Force was designated a combat command at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, overseeing the operations of the ten primary USAF bases in the Republic of Vietnam / From April 1966 until 1973, the command assumed responsibility for most Air Force operations in Vietnam and shared responsibility with the Thirteenth Air Force for operations conducted from Thailand as 7/13 Air Force / In June 1966, the first US air attacks near Hanoi and Haiphong occurred when 7AF planes bombed nearby oil installations / The following month, US aircraft struck North Vietnamese forces inside the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) / The Siege of Khe Sanh ("Operation Niagara") involved significant efforts by Seventh Air Force / More than 24,000 tactical and 2700 Boeing B-52 Stratofortress strikes dropped 110,000 tons of ordnance in attacks that averaged over 300 sorties per day / At night, Douglas AC-47 Spooky gunships kept up fire against enemy troops / 7th AF oversaw the ongoing US air campaigns in Cambodia and Laos until the prohibition on offensive operations came into effect on 14 August 1973

The 35th Fighter Wing is an air combat unit of the United States Air Force and the host unit at Misawa Air Base, Japan / The wing is part of Pacific Air Forces (PACAF)'s Fifth Air Force / The wing was first activated in August 1948 at Johnson Air Base, Japan when PACAF implemented the wing base organization / It participated in the Korean War and later served in the air defense of Japan until inactivating in 1957 / In 1966, the wing was again activated and served in combat in the Vietnam War until inactivating in 1972 with the withdrawal of US forces from Southeast Asia / It was soon reactivated at George Air Force Base, California, where it served until inactivating in 1992 / It was activated the following year in Iceland as an air defense unit. With the drawdown of US forces in Iceland, the 35th Wing was inactivated on 1 October 1994 at Keflavik, but redesignated, reassigned, and reactivated as the 35th Fighter Wing at Misawa Air Base the same day / The mission of the 35th Wing is to project power throughout the Pacific theater and execute worldwide deployments

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 / An oak leaf cluster is a ribbon device to denote preceding decorations and awards consisting of a miniature bronze or silver twig of four oak leaves with three acorns on the stem

The Air Medal (AM) is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces / It was created on May 11, 1942



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and is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight / The Air Medal was awarded retroactive to September 8, 1939, to anyone who distinguishes himself by meritorious achievement while serving with the Armed Forces in aerial flight

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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 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: **ANDERSON**

JOHN A.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address: 415 MCKINLEY DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

HHC COMPANY, COMMUNICATIONS PLATOON, 4TH BATTALION, 9TH INFANTRY, 25TH INF DIV,
USARV

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 John Austin Anderson honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 John Anderson was deployed to Vietnam on 4 December 1967 as a Field Wireman in Vietnam / SP4 John Austin Anderson was Killed In Action on 13 May 1968 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat action in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam

On the evening of 13 May 1968, the communication relay complex operating on Nui Ba Den (Black Virgin Mountain) in Tay Ninh Province was attacked by enemy sappers / Following a barrage of mortar fire on the mountain top compound, the enemy breached the perimeter and proceed to destroy the communication relay facilities with satchel charges / The troops managed to force the enemy into retreat, suffering nineteen men killed in the action / One of the casualties, first reported as missing in action was SP4 Anderson who was killed as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds

John Austin Anderson was the 131st Erie County resident to be killed in the Vietnam War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

John Anderson was a native of Thorold, Ontario, Canada / John Anderson lived in Fort Erie until moving to the United States and was a former Buffalo Evening News carrier before he enlisted in the Army in October 1966 / John Austin Anderson was 21 years old at the time of his death and is interred at Victoria Lawn Cemetery, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada

John Austin Anderson is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 59e, Line 16

The 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry (4/9) disembarked at Vung Tau, Vietnam on 29 April 1965 / Within days of landing, the 4/9 Infantry saw combat action in Cu Chi, Vietnam / Battalion-size operations conducted by the 4/9 Infantry included Asheville, Wahiawa, Joliet I and II, Helemano, and Kahana I and II / While assigned to the 25th Division, the 4th Battalion received two Presidential Citations and added 12 campaign streamers to the Regimental Colors for Combat Operations in the Republic of South Vietnam / On 2 August 1972 the 4th Battalion was relieved from assignment to the 25th Infantry Division and was reassigned to Alaska with the 172nd Infantry / The 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry served in Vietnam for four years and six months

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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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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **ANDERSON**

RICHARD C.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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:

Richard C. "Dick" Anderson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Richard Anderson was a veteran of World War II and honorably served during the Korean War era and the Vietnam War era, serving in the United States Marine Corps for 37 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard C. "Dick" Anderson passed away on 26 February 2024 at the age of 97 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDERSON**
WILLIAM

Hometown: BLASDELL

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 Anderson honorably served in the United States Navy / William Anderson retired from the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Anderson passed away on 14 May 2022



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDERSON, JR.**

JOHN

P.

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:

John P. Anderson, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John P. Anderson, Jr. passed away on 4 March 2025 at the age of 77 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDING, JR.**

MEREDITH

C.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Meredith Coleman Anding, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / SSGT Meredith Anding was stationed in Turkey and San Antonio, Texas

SSGT Meredith Anding was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force in 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Meredith Anding was born in Myles, Mississippi / Meredith Anding enrolled in Jackson State University after graduating from high school in 1958, then transferred to Tougaloo College, earning a Master's Degree in Math / Anding was one of the Tougaloo Nine, a group of students from historically Black Tougaloo College arrested for staging a read-in at the all-white main library in Jackson, Mississippi, in March 1961 / Meredith Anding taught freshman and sophomore math courses at Niagara University, then joined the University of Buffalo faculty / Meredith Anding was the Director of Mathematics at the University of Buffalo Learning Center, then was an instructor and Associate Academic Coordinator at the Educational Opportunity Center, retiring in 2007 / Meredith Coleman Anding, Jr. passed away on 8 January 2021 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDOLINO, JR.**

JOSEPH

S.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1959

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Joseph S. Andolino, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Joseph Andolino was assigned as a Personnel Director

Joseph Andolino was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps at the Long Island Marine Recruiting Office, Garden City, New York on 4 January 1959, with reserve obligations ending 9 March 1963

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Andolino worked as a Boilermaker until his retirement / Andolino also owned and operated South Town Antique store in Angola, New York / Joseph S. Andolino, Jr. passed away on 2 January 2025 at the age of 88 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDREWS**

CHARLES L.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CPOC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS GATO (SS-212)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles L. "Andy" Andrews honorably served in the United States Navy / CPOC Charles Andrews served aboard the submarine, USS Gato and was in charge of the Torpedo Room and all weapons on the ship / CPOC Charles Andrews was deployed to Vietnam

CPOC Charles Andrews was a 20 year veteran of the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles L. "Andy" Andrews passed away on 20 August 2025 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The USS Gato (SS-212) was the lead ship of her class of submarine in the United States Navy. She was the first Navy ship named for the common name used for a number of species of catshark / She was commissioned only days after the declaration of war and made thirteen combat patrols during World War II / The Gato was decommissioned on 16 March 1946 and served for a number of years as a United States Naval Reserve training vessel at New York City and later at Baltimore, Maryland, until she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 March 1960 / She was sold to the Northern Metals Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 25 July 1960 for scrapping



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANDREWS**

JAMES E.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 581 MASTEN AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 506TH INFANTRY, C COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTIST BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

THE NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class James Edward Andrews honorably served in the United States Army / PFC James Andrews was deployed to Vietnam on 18 June 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC James Andrews was Killed In Action on 7 July 1968 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

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

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



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Lieutenant General Hal and Julia Moore

Miscellaneous:

James Andrews attended East High School / James Edward Andrews was 21 years of age at his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

James Edward Andrews is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 54w, Line 40

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 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 / 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 506th Infantry Regiment, originally designated the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment (506th PIR) during World War II, is an airborne light infantry regiment of the United States Army / Currently a parent regiment under the U.S. Army Regimental System, the regiment has two active battalions: the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment (1-506th IR) is assigned to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, and the 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment (2-506th IR) is assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division / Both battalions were part of the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, which was deployed to Vietnam from late 1967 to 1971 / 1-506th was recognized for its role during the Tet Offensive in early 1968 and the Battle



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of Hamburger Hill in May 1969 together with 2-506th, during the battle of FSB Ripcord / The 506th, was reorganized as Airmobile in 1968, later renamed Air Assault in 1974 / During the Vietnam War, five soldiers from the 506th were awarded the Medal of Honor / On 1 April 1967 the colors of the former Company C, 506AIR were reactivated at Fort Campbell as HHC, 3rd Battalion, 506th Infantry / Assigned to the 1st Brigade, it served in Vietnam and was inactivated at Fort Campbell on 31 July 1972

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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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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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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

The NYS Conspicuous Service Cross may be awarded to any current New York State citizen or person who was a New York State citizen while serving on federal active duty; whose entire service was honorable subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation while serving in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or in the Army female nurse corps, and who has received a personal decoration issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters. The Conspicuous Service Cross may also be awarded to any citizen of New York State, who while serving with the allied forces, received a personal decoration published in order issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANTHONY**
DENNIS **J.**

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:

Dennis J. Anthony honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dennis Anthony was a retired Buffalo Fireman / Dennis J. Anthony passed away on 31 January 2026 at the age of 84 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ANTICOLA**

JAMES E.

Hometown: DEPEW

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 E. (Colt) Anticola honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / After his Marine Corps enlistment was completed, James Anticola enlisted in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James E. (Colt) Anticola passed away on 26 April 2025 at the age of 77 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARGO**
ANTHONY

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:

Anthony Argo honorably served in the United States Military / Anthony Argo was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARKINS**

JAMES

M.

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:

James M. Arkins honorably served in the United States Army / James Arkins was assigned as a paratrooper

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Arkins became a Middle School Teacher and had a career with the United States Government / James M. Arkins passed away on 21 January 2025 at the age of 84 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ARMBRUSTER**

JAMES A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "A", 2ND AIRBORNE BATTALION, 506TH INFANTRY, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PARACHUTIST BADGE

EXPERT BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

SHARPSHOOTER BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

MARKSMAN BADGE: M-14 RIFLE

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Anthony Armbruster honorably served in the United States Army / SGT James Armbruster was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman / Sgt Armbruster attended Airborne School and the 7th Army Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Academy / Sgt James Armbruster served three enlistments in the U.S. Army

James Armbruster also served on the United States Coast Guard at Buffalo in Port Security and retired after 32 years in the military as Chief Petty Officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, James Armbruster attended Hilbert College majoring in Criminal Justice / James Armbruster was a Detective with the West Seneca Police Department retiring in 1991 / During his tenure, Jimmy served as the President of the West Seneca Red Jacket Police Club (PBA) / Armbruster opened and operated several businesses including 16 South Restaurant, Donna Marie's Garden Restaurant, The Big Dipper Ice Cream Parlor, Island Park Catering, and The Slip Aweigh Restaurant on the waterfront and the Slip Aweigh Café / James Armbruster was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / James Anthony Armbruster passed away on 28 January 2015

Light Weapons Infantryman lack heavy weapons and armor or with a reduced vehicle footprint / Light infantry



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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 506th Infantry Regiment, originally designated the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment (506th PIR) during World War II, is an airborne light infantry regiment of the United States Army / The regiment served with the 101st Airborne Division in World War II / Regimental elements have served with the 101st in Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan / The 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 506th Infantry was deployed to Vietnam from late 1967 to 1971 / The 2nd Battalion was recognized for its role during the battle of FSB Ripcord

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

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: **ARODACA**
RAYMOND

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:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ASKEY

JOHN

B.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO3

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Third-Class John B. Askey honorably served in the United States Navy / PO3 John Askey was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Askey graduated from Kenmore High School / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy, Askey joined the Amherst Police Department as a Patrolman in 1963 and was promoted to Patrol Lieutenant in 1969 and Patrol Captain in 1972 / John Askey enrolled in SUNY Buffalo State University and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice / Askey was also a graduate of the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program / As the Amherst Police Head Planner, Askey played a key role in the construction of the new Police Headquarters in 1979 and established a Computer-Aided Dispatch System / In December 1988, John Askey was appointed as the Amherst Chief of Police / Askey was a longtime member of the Users Committee of the Erie County Central Police Services and a member of the State Division of Criminal Justice Planning Committee / John Askey retired from the Amherst Police Department in January 1999 / Askey was a member of the Amherst Township Post 416, Veterans of Foreign Wars / John B. Askey passed away on 20 May 2023 at the age of 84 years old

Aviation Electronics Technicians are carefully trained to maintain all aviation electronic systems, from navigation and radar to tactical displays and warfare sensors / Aviation Electronics Technicians maintain, troubleshoot, repair and test complex electronic systems related to aviation on tactical jets, fixed wing aircraft or rotary winged helicopter systems / Technicians work with systems including digital computers, fiber optics, infrared detection, radar, laser electronics, navigation, pressure indication, and electrical power generation and distribution



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **ATKINSON**
PATRICK M.

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

MARINE CORPS AIRCRAFT SUPPORT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/ 1 BRONZE STAR
 NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL
 COLD WAR ERA COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/ 1960 DEVICE
 GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Patrick M. Atkinson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Patrick Atkinson entered the Marine Corps on 10 September 1964 at the age of 18 years of age and was trained as a Motor Vehicle Operator / CPL Atkinson served our nation with 4 years of active service, including a 12 month tour of duty in Vietnam

Patrick Atkinson received his Honorable Discharge on 9 September 1968 from the U.S. Marine Corps, with a reserve obligations termination date of 10 August 1970

Base Assignments:

Marine Corps Air Station, New River, North Carolina - Marine Corps Air Station New River is a United States Marine Corps helicopter and tilt-rotor base in Jacksonville, North Carolina, in the eastern part of the state / In 1972, the airfield was named McCutcheon Field for General Keith B. McCutcheon, one of the fathers of Marine Corps helicopter aviation / Air Station New River is located near Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and shares some facilities with Camp Geiger

Miscellaneous:

Patrick Atkinson was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders for 18 years / Patrick M. Atkinson passed away on 15 February 2026 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

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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

The Cold War Commemorative Medal, also known as the Cold War Victory Medal / 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 / The Cold War Commemorative Medal is not an official U.S. military medal but is recognized by some state governments and veterans' organizations



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ATKINSON, SR.

JOHN

R.

Hometown: BUFFALO

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 R. Atkinson, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Atkinson worked for Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (National Grid) for over 30 years / After retirement, Atkinson worked for Home Depot in the Tool Rental Department / John R. Atkinson, Sr. passed away on 23 January 2025 at the age of 79 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: ATTEA

JOHN

M.

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:

John M. Attea honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Attea was a 1954 graduate of St. Joe's Collegiate Institute where he earned All-Catholic honors in basketball / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, John Attea worked as a Manufacturer Representative for many high-end furniture lines / Attea played in two LPGA Pro AM Golf classics at River Oaks Golf Course / John Attea retired to Naples, Florida / John M. Attea passed away on 6 December 2024 at the age of 89 years old