



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACDOWELL**

NORMAN J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1958

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICE COMPANY, TRAINING & TEST (T&T) REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Norman J. MacDowell honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Norman MacDFowell was assigned as a Mortar Man during 16 months of foreign duty

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 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")

Miscellaneous:

Norman MacDowell received his Honorable Discharge from the US Marine Corps on 3 August 1962 / Norman J. MacDowell passed away on 16 October 2019

A Mortar Man is a soldier who operates a firing device called a mortar / Mortar Men in the U.S. Marines are the unit that's mainly responsible for the tactical employment of the 60 mm light mortar and the 81 mm medium mortar



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The Marine Corps Headquarters and Service company includes all command, administration, intelligence, operations, logistics, and communication Marines and equipment, as well as the battalion's Scout Sniper platoon and Battalion Aid Station (BAS) staffed by U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman

Name: **MACGAFFICK**

JOHN

G.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John G. Macgaffick honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Macgaffick was a former Truck Driver / John G. Macgaffick passed away on 28 September 2023 at the age of 83 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACK**
DAVID

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 98 SMITH STREET

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class David Mack honorably served in the United States Army

The brother of David Mack, Army PFC William Mack was Killed In Action on 20 January 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam / Another brother, PFC Dennis Mack, served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Ft. Belvue, Virginia - Fort Belvoir is a United States Army installation in Fairfax County, Virginia, United States / It was developed on the site of the former Belvoir plantation, seat of the prominent Fairfax family for whom Fairfax County was named / It was known as Camp A.A. Humphreys from 1917 to 1935 and Fort Belvoir afterward / The post was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for American Civil War Union Army General Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed Fort Belvoir in the 1930s at the request of Howard W. Smith, a Congressman from Virginia, in recognition of the Belvoir plantation that once occupied the site / Camp Humphreys was established in World War I as the U.S. Army Engineers Training School / It served as the post-graduate institution for U.S. Military Academy engineers and a finishing school for engineering troops headed to war / The school, which came to host the Engineer Officer Basic Course, relocated in 1988 from Fort Belvoir to Fort Leonard Wood, in Missouri / Fort Belvoir serves as the headquarters for the Defense Logistics Agency, the Defense Acquisition University, the Defense Contract Audit Agency, the Defense Technical Information Center, the United States Army Intelligence and Security Command, the United States Army Military Intelligence Readiness Command, the Missile Defense Agency, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACK**
DENNIS

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 98 SMITH STREET

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Dennis Mack honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

The brother of Dennis Mack, Army PFC William Mack was Killed In Action on 20 January 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam / Another brother, PFC David Mack, served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Name: **MACK**

JOSEPH

P.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SFC

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 2009

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant First-Class Joseph P. Mack honorably served in the United States Army Reserve / SFC Joseph Mack served for forty years in the U.S. Army Reserve

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph P. Mack passed away on 20 October 2024 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery Corfu, New York

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



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Name: **MACK**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 98 SMITH STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 35TH INFANTRY, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class William James Mack honorably served in the United States Army / PFC William Mack was deployed to Vietnam on 14 September 1966 as a Food Service Specialist / PFC William Mack was Killed In Action on 20 January 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Mack worked briefly with the Job Corps in Georgia before entering the U.S. Army in 1966 / William James Mack was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

William James Mack is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 14e, Line 58

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service



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operations; and food and supply ordering

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

The 35th Infantry Regiment ("Cacti") was created on 1 July 1916 at Douglas, Arizona from elements of the 11th, 18th and 22nd Infantry Regiments / The 35th served on the Mexico–US border during the First World War and was stationed at Nogales, Arizona in 1918 / It fought a border skirmish on 27 August 1918 during the Battle of Ambos Nogales / In World War II, Korea, and Vietnam it served as part of the 25th Infantry (Tropic Lightning) Division / In August 1965, elements of the 35th Infantry started their rotation into the Vietnam War, arriving in South Vietnam / The 1st and 2d battalions, along with the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, and the 2d Battalion, 9th Artillery provided the core combat units of the 3d Brigade, 25th Infantry Division and were deployed to the Central Highlands at Pleiku / Final units arrived by Christmas 1965 / The battalions of the 35th Infantry were heavily engaged from January 1966 until 1972 throughout the I Corps and II Corps areas of operations (the Central Highlands and central coastal areas of Vietnam) / In August 1967, operational control of the two battalions of the 35th Infantry and all of the other parts of the 3d Brigade were transferred from the 25th Infantry Division to the 4th Infantry Division / From May through June 1970, the battalions of the 35th Infantry participated in the Incursion operations against enemy sanctuaries located in Cambodia, seizing thousands of tons of supplies and hundreds of weapons / Following its return from Cambodia to South Vietnam, the division resumed its place in the Vietnamization Program / By late December 1970, elements of the 35th Infantry were able to begin redeployment to Schofield Barracks / The 35th Infantry had three Medal of Honor recipients in Vietnam

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

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Name: **MACKINNON**

JAMES

W.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **2LT**

Year Entered: **1960**

Year Discharged: **1967**

Unit / Squadron:

1ST RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, 6TH ARMORED CAVALRY

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant James William "Jim" MacKinnon honorably served in the United States Army Reserve and spent 6 months of active duty / MacKinnon served as a Tank Unit Commander

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James MacKinnon attended Canisius College earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Economics / MacKinnon was hired by Cardinal O'Hara High School as a gym teacher and coach for basketball and cross-country / James MacKinnon later coached sports at DeSales High School and Turner High School / MacKinnon worked for the New York Life Insurance Company, retiring as Managing Agent / James William "Jim" MacKinnon passed away at the age of 85 years old on 18 October 2022

The 6th Cavalry ("Fighting Sixth") is a regiment of the United States Army that began as a regiment of cavalry in the American Civil War / The 6th Cavalry was redesignated as the 6th Armored Cavalry in 1960 / 1st Squadron is the air cavalry reconnaissance squadron of the 1st Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas



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Name: **MACLEOD**

DONALD J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-2

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

USS LAFFEY (DD-724)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Fireman Recruit Donald J. MacLeod honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald MacLeod was Honorably Discharged from the US Navy on 20 July 1973 / Donald J. MacLeod passed away on 26 February 2021

USS Laffey (DD-724) is an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, which was constructed during World War II, laid down and launched in 1943, and commissioned in February 1944 / Laffey was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for Bartlett Laffey / Seaman Laffey was awarded the Medal of Honor for his stand against Confederate forces on 5 March 1864 / The ship earned the nickname "The Ship That Would Not Die" for her exploits during the D-Day invasion and the battle of Okinawa when she successfully withstood a determined assault by conventional bombers and the most unrelenting kamikaze air attack in history / In mid January 1952, she sailed for Korea and took part in the blockade of Wonsan in Korea / The USS Laffey was decommissioned on 9 March 1975 / Laffey received the Presidential Unit Citation and five battle stars for World War II service, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation and two battle stars for Korean War service, the Meritorious Unit Commendation during the Cold War, and the Battle "E" during all three conflicts / Laffey was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1986, at which time she was recognized as the only remaining US-owned Sumner-class destroyer, and for her spirited survival of the kamikaze attack / Today, Laffey is a U.S. National Historic Landmark and is preserved as a museum ship at Patriots Point, outside Charleston, South Carolina



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MACLEOD**
RONALD

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Ronald MacLeod honorably served in the United States Military / Ronald MacLeod 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

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Name: **MADISON**
LOVELLE

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 50 LAUREL STREET

- 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 Lovelle Madison honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Madison was stationed in Korea

SGT Lovelle Madison's brother, Sergeant Henry Madison was Killed In Action on 27 February 1969 from chest wounds received from enemy small arms fire during combat action in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MADISON, JR.**
HENRY

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 50 LAUREL STREET

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 7TH CAVALRY, A COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

NYS CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Henry Madison, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Henry Madison was deployed to Vietnam on 7 July 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SGT Henry Madison was Killed In Action on 27 February 1969 from chest wounds received from enemy small arms fire during combat action in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Henry Madison was born in Emella, Alabama before moving to Buffalo / Madison attended Emerson Vocational High School before he entered the U.S. Army in January 1968 / Henry Madison, Jr. was 21 years of age at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Henry Madison, Jr. is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 31w, Line 82

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



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where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

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

The 7th Cavalry Regiment is a United States Army cavalry regiment formed in 1866 / Its official nickname is "Garryowen", after the Irish air "Garryowen" that was adopted as its march tune / The regiment participated in some of the largest battles of the Indian Wars, including its famous defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where its commander Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer was killed / The 7th Cavalry became part of the 1st Cavalry Division in the 1920s, it went on to fight in the Pacific Theater of World War II and took part in the Admiralty Islands, Leyte and Luzon campaigns / It later participated several key battles of the Korean War / The unit later participated in the Vietnam War / The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 7th Cavalry fought in one of the first American engagements of the Vietnam War, the Battle of Ia Drang / Over the course of the war, seven men earned the Medal of Honor while serving with the 7th Cavalry in Vietnam / It distinguished itself in the Gulf War and in the Global War on Terror where its squadrons and battalions now serve as Combined Arms Battalions or as reconnaissance squadrons for Brigade Combat Teams in Iraq and Afghanistan

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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 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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Name: **MAGGIOLI**

ALBERT J.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 2ND INFANTRY REGIMENT, 5TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Captain Albert J. Maggioli honorably served in the United States Army Captain Maggioli was deployed to Vietnam and assigned to the Medical Corps

Captain Maggioli served as the Battalion Surgeon for the 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division Captain Albert Maggioli was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat operations

Captain Maggioli was deployed to Vietnam in 1965 at Vung Tan, South Vietnam / Assigned a tent outside the village of Phouc Vinh, Captain Maggioli continued to provide medical assistance / In 1966, Maggioli, while on a "Search and Destroy" mission, was struck by a mortar fragment to his hand, requiring two hand surgeries / Returning to the States, Captain Albert Maggioli did a pediatric residency at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Aurora, Colorado before being transferred to Ireland Army Hospital, Fort Knox as Pediatric Chief

Base Assignments:

Fort Knox, Kentucky - Fort Knox is a United States Army installation in Kentucky, south of Louisville and north of Elizabethtown / It is adjacent to the United States Bullion Depository (also known as Fort Knox), which is used to house a large portion of the United States' official gold reserves / It is named in honor of Henry Knox, Chief of Artillery in the American Revolutionary War and the first United States Secretary of War / A new Armored Force was established in July 1940 with its headquarters at Fort Knox with the 7th Cavalry Brigade becoming the 1st Armored Division / The Armored Force School and the Armored Force Replacement Center were also sited at Fort Knox in October 1940, and their successors remained there until 2010, when the Armor School moved to Fort Benning, Georgia / Fort Knox was the home of the U.S. Army Armor Center and School, and was used by both the Army and the Marine Corps to train crews on the American tanks of the day; the last was the M1



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Abrams main battle tank / In 2011, the U.S. Army Armor School moved to Fort Moore, Georgia, where the Infantry School is also based

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

Fitzsimons Army Hospital, also known as Fitzsimons General Hospital, renamed Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in 1974, and Fitzsimons Building in 2018 was a U.S. Army facility located on 577 acres in Aurora, Colorado / The hospital was founded by the United States Army in 1918 during World War I arising from the need to treat the large number of casualties from chemical weapons in Europe / The facility closed in 1996

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Albert Maggioli graduated from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine / Dr. Maggioli works in Buffalo, NY and specializes in Adolescent Medicine and Pediatrics / Dr. Albert J. Maggioli is a pediatrician affiliated with Sisters Of Charity Hospital

The 2nd Infantry Regiment is an infantry regiment in the United States Army that has served for more than two hundred years / It was constituted on 12 April 1808 as the 6th Infantry and consolidated with 4 other regiments in 1815 to form the present unit / In September 1965 the First and Second battalions deployed to Vietnam, landing on the beach at Vung Tau in October 1965 / From there they proceeded to their assigned areas, Phuoc Vinh for the 1st Battalion and Lai Khe for the 2nd Battalion / The battalions initially fought as light infantry in the areas north and west of Saigon / On 2 January 1967 the 2nd Battalion officially became a mechanized infantry battalion / The 1st Battalion sustained its first major casualties of the war on 21 December 1965 when the enemy ambushed the command group of Company B as the company was moving out of Bien Hoa on routine patrol / On 25 August 1966 during Operation Amarillo a patrol from Company C, 1st Battalion was ambushed after stumbling into a Viet Cong base camp, losing 6 men killed of the 15-man patrol, total US losses in the operation were 41 killed, 45 Viet Cong bodies were found, while later intelligence indicated that Viet Cong losses were 171 men killed / During four and a half years the battalions were involved in major operations such as: Junction City, the largest operation conducted up to that time, Lam Son II, Paul Bunyan, Bu Dop (aka Battle of Hill 172), An Loc, and An Loc II and numerous other operations and small unit actions / Contact with the enemy was almost daily / When the 1st Infantry Division stood down in March and April 1970 the 1st and 2nd Battalion's colors were cased and the soldiers were either reassigned to other units in Vietnam or returned to the United States to be discharged

The 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) - nicknamed the "Red Diamond", or the "Red Devils", was an infantry division of the United States Army that served in World War I, World War II and the Vietnam War, and with NATO and the U.S. Army III Corps / The 5th Division was organized in December 1917 from Regular Army troops as a part of the program for the expansion of the armed forces for service in World War I / In 1968 the division



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was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado, as a mechanized formation / 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division was dispatched to South Vietnam after the Tet Offensive to replace a U.S. Marine Corps unit / The brigade, consisting of one battalion each of infantry, mechanized infantry and armor, served there from July 1968 until 1971 defending the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone in northern Quảng Trị Province / It was inactivated on 24 November 1972 and reflagged as the 2nd Armored Division

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAHLMEISTER

THOMAS R.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: SENECA STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

4713TH RADAR EVALUATION SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Thomas R. Mahlmeister honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam / SSGT Mahlmeister was part of his unit's Honor Guard at the funeral of Astronaut Gus Grissom who perished when his Apollo 1 Command Module interior caught fire and burned on January 27, 1967 during a pre-launch test

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and it was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training (BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Stewart Air Force Base, Newburgh, New York - Stewart AFB is named after Captain Lachlan Stewart, a 19th Scottish-born sea captain who skippered schooners and other sailing vessels around 1850-1870 / During World War II the City of Newburgh turned the airport over to the United States Government for the purposes of training West Point cadets to fly / The field grew and at the end of World War II it became Stewart Air Force Base / Stewart was used for North American Air Defense (Headquarters US Army Air Defense Command Region I) until 1972, when the Air Force determined that the base was excess, and deeded Stewart Air Force Base to the State of New York

Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Vietnam - Located near the city of Saigon in southern Vietnam, the French



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

Miscellaneous:

Thomas R. Mahlmeister graduated from Seneca Vocational High School and worked for AT&T prior to entering the military / After his Honorable Discharge, Mahlmeister went to work for Moog where he was employed as a technician in the Aerospace Department until his retirement / Thomas R. Mahlmeister passed away on 4 February 2017 at the age of 70 years old and is interred in the Field of Valor within St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Fellow Apollo 1 astronauts Senior Pilot Ed White, who had flown in space on the Gemini 4 mission when he became the first American to make a spacewalk, and Pilot Roger B. Chaffee were also lost in the module fire on January 27, 1967 / Grissom's funeral services and burial at Arlington National Cemetery were held on January 31, 1967 / Dignitaries in attendance included President Lyndon B. Johnson, members of the U.S. Congress, and fellow NASA astronauts

Activated in 1954 at Griffiss AFB, New York, the mission of the Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron was to provide Electronic Counter-Measure (ECM) training and evaluation services to the various Aircraft Control and Warning Squadrons / The squadron was initially assigned TB-29 Superfortresses, and some TB-25 Mitchells / The B-29s and B-25s contained an assortment of Radar jamming devices to provide the required ECM and a C-47 was used as a support aircraft to ferry personnel and equipment / During the period that the 4713th operated these aircraft, they provided the operators radar squadrons with thousands of hours of ECM training / Effective 8 July 1958, the ADC re-designated the unit as the 4713th Radar Evaluation Squadron (ECM) / In the early years of the 1960's, the squadron was moved to Stewart AFB, New York and operated until 1974 when the squadron was inactivated

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAHONEY**
MARY JOAN

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: O-4

Year Entered: 1952

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Commander Mary Joan Mahoney honorably served in the United States Navy / LT CMDR Mahoney served as a Navy Nurse for nearly 21 years

Mary Joan Mahoney retired from the United States Navy with an Honorable Discharge on 30 June 1973

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Mary Joan Mahoney passed away on 25 February 2018 at the age of 87 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAISANO

JAMES J.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

James J. Maisano honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James J. Maisano passed away on 20 October 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAITLAND
THOMAS

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Sergeant Thomas Maitland honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAJCHER
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 Majcher honorably served in the United States Military / Raymond Majcher was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAKOWSKI**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 36 ANTWERP STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class William John Makowski honorably served in the United States Army PFC William Makowski was deployed to Vietnam on 19 September 1971 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC William Makowski was Killed In Action on 21 October 1971 from wounds suffered during enemy small arms fire in Binh Thuy Province, South Vietnam / PFC Makowski was killed in an ambush while engaged in destroying enemy bunkers

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Makowski was a 1968 graduate of Kensington Senior High School / After graduation Makowski worked for Arcata Graphics, Buffalo Division / William Makowski was a member of the National Guard until he entered the Army in April 1970 / William John Makowski was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

William John Makowski is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 02w, Line 46

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALAY**
TIMOTHY

Hometown: WALES

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Timothy Malay honorably served in the United States Army / Timothy Malay was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Timothy Malay is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Rademacher VFW Post #5861

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

Name: MALCZEWSKI

STEPHEN S.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

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 S. Malczewski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen Malczewski was a retired Aeronautical Engineer with Bell Aerospace / Stephen S. Malczewski passed away on 2 November 2025 at the age of 87 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALCZOS

ARTHUR T.

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur T. Malczos honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Malczos was a member of the Polish Falcons Depew Seniors and the American Legion, Post #1528 / Arthur T. Malczos passed away on 4 March 2024 at the age of 81 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALEK**
ARTHUR

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Arthur Malek honorably served in the United States Military / Arthur Malek was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALEK**
ARTHUR

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:

Arthur Malek honorably served in the United States Military / Arthur Malek was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALIN

MICHAEL L.

Hometown: ANGOLA

Address: 8720 NORTH MAIN STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 502ND INFANTRY, A COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

PARACHUTIST BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Michael Lee Malin honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Michael Malin was deployed to Vietnam on 16 November 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 Michael Malin was Killed In Action on 25 March 1969 from multiple fragmentation wounds received during combat action at Bloody Ridge (Dong a Tay), 9 km SW of Fire Support Base Veghel, 16 km North of A Shau Village, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam

Operation MASSACHUSETTS STRIKER, a foray by the 101st Airborne Division into the A Shau Valley, began on 01 Mar 1969, but bad weather impeded the build-up / Since the North Vietnamese Army was present in force, there was ample opportunity for contact / The 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry pursued an enemy battalion through the valley for several weeks until the NVA took a stand atop the ridgeline at Dong A Tay / In a series of hard-fought battles, Alpha and Bravo Companies, 1/502, captured the crest of what was now known as "Bloody Ridge" / The fighting on 25 March cost 7 American lives from the 1/502nd, including Specialist Fourth-Class Michael Malin

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Malin was a graduate of Lake Shore Central School / Malin was enrolled at the State University College



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of Buffalo prior to his enlistment into the U.S. Army on 7 February 1968 / Michael Lee Malin was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

Michael Lee Malin is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C.- Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 28w, Line 38

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 502nd Infantry Regiment (502nd IR), previously titled the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment (502nd PIR), is an infantry regiment of the United States Army / The regiment was established shortly after U.S. entry into World War II, and was assigned as a regiment of the 101st Airborne Division / "The Screaming Eagles", one of the most decorated formations of the U.S. Army / The regiment saw substantial action in the European Theater of World War II and was inactivated in 1945, shortly after the end of the war / Reactivating in a new form in 1956, the 502nd Infantry has served in the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, Iraq War, War in Afghanistan, and Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq / The 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry was deployed to South Vietnam in April 1965 and left Vietnam in December 1971 / Since 1974, the regiment has been classified as an Air Assault unit

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order



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of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

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

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

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

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

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

The 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



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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

Specialist Fourth-Class Micahel Lee Malin was also awarded the following Military honor:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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: MALINOWSKI, SR.

CHARLES E.

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:

Charles E. Malinowski, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Malinowski retired from the Town of West Seneca after 25 years as the Town's Deputy Comptroller / Malinowski served as a lifetime Board Member of the Blasdell Rod and Gun Club / Charles E. Malinowski, Sr. passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALIZIA

JOHN T.

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

EIGHTH ARMY

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John T. "Jack" Malizia honorably served in the United States Army / John Malizia was attached to the Eighth Army in Korea as a Helicopter Repairman for 13 months

John Malizia was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on December 14, 1971

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John T. "Jack" Malizia passed away on 15 May 2024 at the age of 74 years old

The Eighth Army was officially activated at Memphis, Tennessee, on 10 June 1944 and deployed to the Southwest Pacific/ The Eighth Army methodically eliminated the last fanatical enemy resistance remaining on New Guinea and New Britain / From 26 December 1944 until 15 August 1945, Eighth Army was actively engaged in the reconquest of the Philippines, the largest joint campaign of the War in the Pacific / Eighth Army has transformed multiple times since its establishment / During World War II, it fought in the Pacific Theater of Operations as a field army / In the immediate post-World War II era, Eighth Army served in Japan as an Army of Occupation / At the outbreak of the Korean War, the Eighth Army was sent into Inchon, Korea / The Eighth Army was decisively defeated at the Battle of the Chongchon River and forced to retreat all the way back to South Korea / The defeat of the U.S. Eighth Army resulted in the longest retreat of any U.S. military unit in history / The overstretched Eighth Army suffered heavily with the Chinese offensive, who were able to benefit from shorter lines of communication and with rather casually deployed enemy forces / The Chinese broke through the U.S.



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defenses despite U.S. air supremacy and the Eighth Army and U.N. forces retreated hastily to avoid encirclement. / A reformed Eighth Army returned to combat effectiveness over several months / Eighth Army slowed and ultimately halted the Chinese advance at the battles of Chipyong-ni and Wonju / It then counter-attacked the Chinese, re-took Seoul, and drove to the 38th parallel, where the front stabilized / During the aftermath of the Korean War, the Eighth Army remained in South Korea / During the Korea War, the Eighth Army served as both a field army and theater army and throughout the preponderance of the Cold War, it remained primarily a theater army / On November 20, 1954, it was merged with US Army Forces Far East (AFFE) as the major Army command in the region / The Eighth Army is a U.S. field army which commands all United States Army forces in South Korea. It is headquartered at the Camp Humphreys in the Anjeong-ri of Pyeongtaek, South Korea

The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALONE
RONALD

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

58TH INFANTRY PLATOON (SCOUT DOG), 101ST AIRBORNE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

Ronald Malone honorably served in the United States Army / Malone was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries received in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Malone was a member of Moose Lodge 2163 and Frontiersmen Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #7545 / Ronald Malone passed away on 3 August 2023 at the age of 74 years old

The 58th deployed to Vietnam in February 1968 / Scout dogs were trained for jungle combat in a twelve week course that started with obedience and then taught voice and body signals / The German Shepherd Dog (GSD, also known as Alsatian) was the most common service dog in the Vietnam War, used for scouting, sentry duty, mine/tunnel detection, and water patrols / Labrador retrievers were also widely used, primarily as trackers / Dogs were trained to alert their handlers to all kinds of hidden dangers, from snipers to trip wires and weapons caches / Dogs could even detect enemy fighters submerged in rivers, breathing through hollow reeds and waiting to attack American watercraft / These dogs and their handlers are credited with saving more than 10,000 U.S. lives and preventing certain injury for countless more / The dogs were so effective that they became special targets for the enemy, who began attacking kennels and offering bounties for the shoulder patch of a dog handler or the tattooed ear of a service dog

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



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case posthumously



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MALONEY**

JAMES

B.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: FM

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

USS MISPILLION (AO-105)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Fireman James B. Maloney honorably served in the United States Navy / FM James Maloney was deployed to Vietnam and assigned to the oiler USS Mispillion, which refueled aircraft carriers and gunfire support ships of the 7th Fleet in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James B. Maloney was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy on 8 May 1968 / James Maloney was a member and Past Commander of the Matthew Glab American Legion Post #1477 / James B. Maloney passed away on 14 August 2019

Naval Fireman stand power plant and ship security watches both while in port and underway / While performing watches, they will ensure all safety standards are being met with any associated engineering machinery / They are responsible for working with safety and fire suppression equipment / A Fireman preserves, maintains, and repairs the safety equipment and any other associated equipment to prepare for underway operations / Firefighters in the Navy assist putting out fires on ships, rescuing service members and their families and providing emergency medical care / In addition to performing maintenance on the equipment, they will also perform any emergency equipment repair

USS Mispillion (AO-105) was an Ashtabula-class oiler[1] that served in the United States Navy from 1945 to 1974 / She was then transferred to the Military Sealift Command to continue in non-commissioned service as United



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States Naval Ship USNS Mispillion (T-AO-105), in which capacity she served until 1994 / Commissioned on 29 December 1945, the Mispillion has been the only U.S. Navy ship to bear the name / Between 1946 and 1950, she alternated on station tanker duty between Tsingtao, China; Shanghai, China; Subic Bay, Philippines; and Eniwetok, with shuttle runs between the oil port of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf and various ports in Japan, China, the Philippines, the Marshall Islands, and the Mariana Islands / With the outbreak of the Korean War, Mispillion joined Task Force 90 / During her first combat tour she provided logistic support for the huge invasion force that landed United Nations forces at Inchon on 15 September 1950, then rounded the Korean Peninsula to support the forces operating in the Wonsan area / She continued to support United Nations naval forces as they enforced a continuous blockade of the North Korean coast, rendered gunfire support to United Nations ground forces, and bombarded Communist supply areas, troop concentrations, and transportation centers / Operating in both the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan, Mispillion also supported the aircraft carriers of Task Force 77, providing aviation gasoline and fuel oil for the ships / In April 1967 Mispillion got underway for her first Western Pacific deployment since 1964 / Arriving at Subic Bay, Philippine Islands, on 22 April 1967, she began a seven-month cruise refueling aircraft carriers and gunfire support ships of the Seventh Fleet operating in the Vietnam area during the Vietnam War / Servicing in particular the ships of Yankee Station, she transferred over 71 million US gallons of fuel before returning to Long Beach on 30 November 1967 / Cruising United States West Coast and Hawaiian waters for the next five months, she conducted coastal operations and exercises in preparation for departing on 11 May 1968 to serve with the Seventh Fleet through the remainder of 1968 / Mispillion was decommissioned on 26 July 1974 and transferred to the Military Sealift Command, where she continued in non-commissioned U.S. Navy service with a civilian crew as United States Naval Ship USNS Mispillion (T-AO-105) / She was struck from the Naval Register on 15 February 1995 and moved to Brownsville, Texas for scrap/ The USS Mispillion was 67 years old, had the longest life overall and longest working life of any Cimarron-class oiler, and was the last World War II-built oiler in existence

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

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

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: MALOTA
THOMAS

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MALOTA, JR.

THEODORE M.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

MARINE CORPS FIGHTER SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 STARS

MERITORIOUS MAST

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (2 AWARDS)

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/60 DEVICE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Theodore M. Malota, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Theodore Malota was deployed to Vietnam as an Aircraft Mechanic and completed a 1 year and 27 day tour of duty with the Marine Corps Fighter Squadron

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Theodore Malota graduated from Burgard Vocational High School in 1965 / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Theodore Malota went to work for the South Buffalo Railway in Lackawanna as a Diesel Mechanic / Malota, retired from the Railroad in 2004, also ran a business specializing in making fishing tackle and lures / Theodore M. "Ted" Malota, Jr. passed away on 5 May 2024 at the age of 76 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

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awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAMON**

ROBERT E.

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Robert E. Mamon honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Mamon was assigned as a Laundry and Bath Specialist and stationed in Vietnam for 12 months

Robert Mamon was Honorably Discharged from the US Army on 29 April 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Mamon was the President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 17B / Robert E. Mamon passed away on 3 November 2020 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at St. Matthew's Cemetery, West Seneca, New York

Laundry and Bath Specialists in the U.S. Army plays a crucial role in maintaining hygiene and ensuring the well-being of soldiers / Specialists receive bulk, individual, or organizational laundry and reviews laundry lists for accuracy of bundle count or contents of individual laundry bag / Segregates, classifies, and marks washable and non-washable items / Operates mobile washers, extractors, dryers, re-impregnation, decontamination, and delousing equipment / Sorts and issues cleaned laundry and equipment / Conducts clothing exchange in conjunction with bag operations. Installs, inspects, operates, and maintains laundry, shower, decontamination and delousing equipment, and generators / Supervises or performs laundry, shower, delousing, personnel and clothing decontamination, and reimpregnation functions

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANCUSO**

JOSEPH

F.

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:

Joseph Mancuso honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Mancuso was an accomplished harmonica player for the musical group, "Steam Monkeys", who frequently played at Nietzsche's and the Sportsman Club / In 2018, Mancuso and the Steam Monkeys were inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame / Joseph Mancuso moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico / Joseph Frank Mancuso passed away on 28 December 2023 at the age of 73 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANCUSO**

JOSEPH T.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: MSG

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1999

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2ND BRIGADE (ENGINEER OSUT)
98TH INFANTRY DIVISION (TRAINING)

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/1 SERVICE STAR

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Joseph T. Mancuso honorably served in the United States Army / MSG Joseph Mancuso served a total of 37 years in the US Army and Army Reserve from 1962 through 1999 / MSG Mancuso was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Cold War and Gulf War

Master Sergeant Joseph Mancuso received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 22 August 1999

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph T. "Moose" Mancuso passed away on 8 June 2023 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade was constituted 12 June 1942 in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Engineer Amphibian Brigade / Redesignated 26 June 1952 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Amphibious Support Brigade, and allotted to the Regular Army / Redesignated 10 September 2009 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Engineer Brigade / During World War II, the H&H Company, 2nd Brigade participated in the campaigns for New Guinea and Leyte, receiving the Presidential Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation / Campaign battles during the Korean War included the UN Defensive and Offensive battles, the Communist Chinese Forces (CCF) Intervention and the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, receiving the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

The 98th Infantry Division ("Iroquois") was a unit of the United States Army in the closing months of World War I and during World War II / The unit is now one of the U.S. Army Reserve's training divisions, officially known as the 98th Training Division / The 98th Training Division's current primary mission is to conduct Initial Entry Training (IET) for new soldiers / It is one of three training divisions subordinate to the 108th Training Command (IET) / The 98th Division was activated at Camp McClellan, Alabama in October 1918, too late to see service in World War I / The 98th was ordered into active military service on 15 September 1942 at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, filling its ranks primarily with soldiers from New York and New England / The 98th spent the next eighteen months training at Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, Camp Forrest, Tennessee and Camp Rucker, Alabama in anticipation of combat in the Pacific theater / Arriving in Oahu, Hawaii on 19 April 1944, the roughly 19,590 soldiers of the 98th relieved the 33rd Infantry Division of responsibility for the defense of the Hawaiian Islands and continued training for deployment to Asia / The 98th Infantry Division arrived in Japan on 27 September 1945 and served in Osaka, Japan as part of the occupying force until 16 February 1946 / In fall 2004, the 98th Division arrived in Baghdad and filled the ranks of the Multinational Security Transition Command-Iraq (MNSTC-I), the unit charged with assisting the Iraqi government in developing, training and equipping the new Iraqi security forces / Five 98th Training Division soldiers were killed in action during the division's deployment to Iraq in 2004–05 / The division also fielded soldiers to such other locations as Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Horn of Africa, Kuwait, Jordan and Afghanistan

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

The 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: **MANCUSO**
RAYMOND

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Raymond Mancuso honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Raymond Mancuso was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and served as an Aircraft Mechanic

Raymond Mancuso was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 12 April 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond Mancuso retired from the Ford Motor Company after 33 years of service / Raymond Mancuso passed away on 26 September 2017

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

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese



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

The 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: MANGRUM

JOHN R.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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 J. Mangrum honorably served in the United States Army / John Mangrum was stationed in Germany

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Mangrum was a 1957 graduate of Tonawanda High School and attended the University of Buffalo / John Mangrum was a member and former President of the Kiwanis Club, a member of Sikora Post #1322 American Legion and Vietnam Veterans Chapter 77 / John J. Mangrum passed away on 4 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANIA**

DANIEL

C.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CPT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Captain Daniel C. Mania honorably served in the United States Coast Guard / Captain Mania retired from the Coast Guard after a distinguished 28 year career / Captain Mania also served a tour in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel C. Mania passed away on 22 August 2024 at the age of 88 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANISCALCO**

MARTIN J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Marin J. Maniscalco honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Marin Maniscalco worked for Dunlap Tire, retiring after 31 years / Maniscalco served as President of United Steel Workers (USW) Local 135L, Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees (SOAR) / Marin J. Maniscalco passed away on 29 November 2023 at the age of 77 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANLEY**

JAMES E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: LARKWOOD ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

2046TH COMMUNICATIONS GROUP - MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC)

1876TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

1ACOMGP - STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND (SAC)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

NEW YORK STATE MEDAL FOR MERIT

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant James E. Manley honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT James Manley was assigned as a Data Communications Center Operator at Wright-Patterson AFB / SGT Manley was deployed to Vietnam and advised 7th Air Force Computer Operations personnel in correct electrical communications procedures using the IBM 360/50 SEEK Data II computer at Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base, Vietnam

While stationed with the Military Airlift Command (MAC), SGT Manley was a Cryptographic Specialist using military-grade encryption devices

Serving with the Strategic Air Command, Manley operated computers that communicated with the Air Force flying command posts (Operation "Looking Glass") for the Strategic Air Command in the event of nuclear war

Sergeant James Manley was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 14 April 1972

Base Assignments:

Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas - Construction on Lackland Air Force Base began on 15 June 1941, and was originally part of Kelly Field / On 3 Feb 1948, the facility was named Lackland AFB after Brigadier General Frank Lackland, who was commissioned into the regular Army after serving in the National Guard, District of Columbia / Lackland is best known for its role in being the sole location for U.S. Air Force enlisted Basic Military Training



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Town of West Seneca, New York

(BMT) for the active duty Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard

Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas - Sheppard AFB, located near Wichita Falls, was is named in honor of Senator John Morris Sheppard of Texas (1875–1941), chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death on 9 April 1941 / Senator Sheppard helped lead the fight for military preparedness before the attack on Pearl Harbor / It was officially opened as a United States Army Air Corps training center on 17 October 1941, following the arrival of the first military members on 14 June 1941 / As the Army Air Corps became the Army Air Forces, facilities were completed sufficiently to allow the first class of 22 aviation mechanics to enter training that October; the class graduated 23 February 1942 / Sheppard Field reached its peak strength of 46,340 people while serving as a separation center for troops being discharged following World War II from September through November 1945 / Communications, refrigeration, air conditioning, and power production operator and repairman training were transferred to Sheppard in 1959

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio - The base's origin begins with the establishment of Wilbur Wright Field on 22 May 1917 and McCook Field in November 1917, both established by the Aviation Section, U.S. Signal Corps as World War I installations / McCook was used as a testing field and for aviation experiments. Wright was used as a flying field (renamed Patterson Field in 1931); Fairfield Aviation General Supply Depot; armorers' school, and a temporary storage depot / McCook's functions were transferred to Wright Field when it was closed in October 1927 / Wright-Patterson AFB was established in 1948 as a merger of Patterson and Wright Fields / The base is one of the largest, most diverse, and organizationally complex bases in the Air Force with a long history of flight tests spanning from the Wright Brothers into the Space Age / Wright-Patterson is also the headquarters of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the Air Force Research Laboratory / It is the headquarters of the Air Force Materiel Command (MAC), one of the major commands of the Air Force / "Wright-Patt" (as the base is colloquially called) is also the location of a major USAF Medical Center (hospital), the Air Force Institute of Technology, and the National Museum of the United States Air Force, formerly known as the U.S. Air Force Museum

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

Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska - The base was named to honor First Lieutenant Jarvis Jennes Offutt (26 October 1894 – 13 August 1918), the first native of Omaha to become a casualty in World War I / Lieutenant Offutt died of injuries sustained when his SE-5 fighter crashed during a training flight near Valheureux, France / In November 1948, Offutt became the host base for Headquarters Strategic Air Command (SAC) / During the Cold War, a general and various support personnel from the base were airborne 24-hours a day on an EC-135 from February 1961 to July 1990 in Operation Looking Glass, creating an airborne command post in case of war / Operation Looking Glass carried out its mission without any mishaps or incidents during its 29 years of existence / Offutt AFB's legacy includes the construction of the first two bombers to drop atomic bombs and over 40 years as the headquarters for the former Strategic Air Command (SAC) and home for its associated ground and aerial command centers for the U.S. in case of nuclear war during the Cold War



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Miscellaneous:

James Manley graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1966 / Prior to joining the U. S. Air Force, Manley worked in the Mail Room and Maintenance Department at Merchants Mutual Insurance Company / Manley enlisted in the U.S Air Force in April 1968 / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Manley returned to Merchants Mutual as a Computer Operator / In 1980, Manley went to work for Biel's Microfilm Corp as the Production Manager until downsizing in 1995 / With a Certificate in Records Management, Manley went to work in the West Seneca Town Clerk's Office in 1997 until his retirement in 2010 / Manley graduated from Erie Community College (ECC) in 2003 with a degree in Computer Information Systems / James Manley is an active member of American Legion Post #735, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #8113 and Post #2940 and the West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee, serving as Chairman for many years / Manley also served as the Administrator of the Walkway of Freedom complex / James Manley was a member of the West Seneca Auxiliary Police and a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Originally part of the 1062nd USAF Communications Squadron, the squadron was redesignated as the 2046th Communications Squadron at Wright-Patterson AFB in January 1953 / The 2046th supported the mission of the Military Airlift Command (MAC)

The 1876th Communications Squadron was a unit of the United States Air Force that performed communications functions in the Republic of Vietnam from 1965 to 1972 during the Vietnam War / The squadron was first organized at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Republic of Vietnam, on 1 November 1965, as a dependent squadron under the 1964th Communications Group (AFCS) / Its mission was to provide command and control communications for United States military personnel engaged in operations against Viet Cong and North Vietnamese enemy forces / While in Vietnam, the 1876th was presented seven Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and earned six battle streamers / The 1876th was also awarded the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm / The 1876th was transferred to the United States Air Force Academy in April 1972, where it was upgraded to a group in 1995 / It has been inactive since the early 1990s when USAF organizational changes had it replaced by an org with an older lineage

Strategic Air Command (SAC) was a United States Department of Defense Specified Command and a United States Air Force (USAF) Major Command responsible for command and control of the strategic bomber and intercontinental ballistic missile components of the United States military's strategic nuclear forces from 1946 to 1992 / SAC was also responsible for strategic reconnaissance aircraft; airborne command posts; and most of the USAF's aerial refueling aircraft / SAC primarily consisted of the Second Air Force (2AF), Eighth Air Force (8AF) and the Fifteenth Air Force (15AF), while SAC headquarters (HQ SAC) included Directorates for Operations & Plans, Intelligence, Command & Control, Maintenance, Training, Communications, and Personnel / At a lower echelon, SAC headquarters divisions included Aircraft Engineering, Missile Concept and Strategic Communications

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government



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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 Commendation Medal is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for meritorious service / The Department of the Air Force began issuing its own Air Force Commendation Medal in 1958 with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Prior to this time, USAF recipients received the Army Commendation Medal / It was not until 1996 that the "V" device was authorized on the Air Force Commendation Medal; prior to 1996, there was not a valor distinction in effect for the Air Force Commendation Medal / On January 7, 2016, the "C" device and "R" device was authorized on the Air Force Commendation Medal as well / For USAF enlisted personnel, the Air Force Commendation Medal is worth three points under the Air Force enlisted promotion system / On 16 November 2020, it was renamed the Air and Space Commendation Medal (ASCOM) by the Secretary of the Air Force

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

The NYS Medal for Merit 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; or, a non-New York State citizen who is an active member in the New York State organized militia, and as an active member in the New York State organized militia, served with units of the New York State organized militia while on federal active duty for purposes other than training and/or annual training; whose entire service was honorable and who were recipients of a valor, achievement, commendation, or meritorious service decoration, of a lesser degree than required for the award of the Conspicuous Service Cross, or whose service was in direct support of combat operations while serving in the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard / This medal shall be awarded only to those persons whose entire service, subsequent to the time of receipt of the citation, shall have been honorable



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANN**

EDWARD E.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 389 FOREST AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Edward Emil Manns honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Edward Manns was deployed to Vietnam on 5 September 1966 as an Infantry Indirect Fire Crewman / SGT Edward Manns was Killed In Action on 2 February 1967 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during a firefight with Viet Cong forces in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam

Sergeant Edward Manns served seven years in the military, stationed in Germany before his tour in Vietnam / Manns had become a U.S. Army Ranger

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Edward Manns attended elementary schools in Buffalo and latter attended Attica Central Senior High School / Edward Emil Manns was 24 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo,



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Town of West Seneca, New York

New York

Edward Emil Manns is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 14e, Line 108

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

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

The 16th Infantry Regiment ("Semper Paratus") is a regiment in the United States Army and has traditionally been a part of the 1st Infantry Division / The 16th Infantry was constituted as the 11th U.S. Infantry on 4 May 1861 / During the Spanish-American War, the 16th participated in the capture of San Juan Hill as part of the First Brigade, First Division of the V Corps / During World War I, The 16th participated in the Battle of Argonne Forest and the Meuse-Argonne Campaign / The 16th fought throughout France during World War II / In 443 days of combat, the 16th Infantry had sustained 1,250 officers and men killed in combat / An additional 6,278 were wounded or missing in action / Its men had earned four Medals of Honor, 87 Distinguished Service Crosses, and 1,926 Silver Stars / Additionally, the regiment, or its subordinate units, was awarded five presidential unit citations and two distinguished unit citations from the United States, two Croix de Guerre and the Médaille militaire from the government of France, and the Belgian Fourragère and two citations from the government of Belgium / In 1965, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment and the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment became the first elements of the Division to deploy to South Vietnam / The 16th conducted "Search and Destroy" operations during Operations Mastiff, Bushmaster, Abilene, Birmingham, El Paso, Attleboro, Cedar Falls and Junction City / The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry arrived at Vung Tau, Vietnam, on 10 October 1965 with the 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division / The battalion was initially moved to Camp Ben Cat in Phuoc Vinh Province



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north of Saigon / The battalion joined in a number of combat operations such as Bear Trap, Friendship, Kentucky Cougar, Iron Danger and Toan Thang IV / The First and Second battalions of the 16th Infantry fought in almost every campaign of the Vietnam War / In April 1970, the 1st/16th was withdrawn from Vietnam along with the rest of the 1st Infantry Division and the bulk of the division was relocated to Fort Riley, Kansas / During almost five years of combat, the 16th Infantry Regiment lost over 560 men, the regiment's soldiers were awarded 2 Medals of Honor (both posthumous), 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, and hundreds of Silver and Bronze Star Medals / The regiment was awarded 11 campaign streamers, as well as 2 Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry (with Palm) Streamers for 1965-1968 and 1969 and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal (First Class) Streamer for 1965-1970 / In addition, C Company, 2nd Battalion was awarded the Valorous Unit Award Streamer for its actions at the battle of Courtenay Plantation

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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: **MANN**

FRANK

D

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

7TH FIELD HOSPITAL

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Frank D. Manns honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Frank Manns was assigned as an Army Medic during the Vietnam War with service with the 7th Field Hospital and the USAR Control Group / SP4 Manns also served some time as an Army medic in Japan

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Manns retired from Quebecor, a diversified media and telecommunications company, in Depew where he was a printer for over 30 years / Frank D. Manns passed away on 24 November 2022 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at SS Peter & Paul Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MANUSZEWSKI**

THOMAS L.

Hometown: ELMA

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:

Thomas L. Manuszewski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Manuszewski was a retiree of the Erie County Sheriff's Department (Road Patrol) / Manuszewski was a member of the Western New York Association of Retired Law Enforcement Personnel, Inc. (WARP) and several other law enforcement organizations / Thomas L. Manuszewski passed away on 18 January 2026 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica, Lackawanna, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARCHESE**
MICHAEL A.

Hometown: LANCASTER

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:

Michael A. Marchese honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Marchese was a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Aerie 2692, American Legion Post #1626, Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #7275, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 77 and Disabled American Veterans / Michael A. Marchese passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 76 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARCHESE**
THOMAS V.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 210 WESTON AVENUE

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 27TH INFANTRY, D COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Thomas Vincent Marchese honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Thomas Marchese was deployed to Vietnam on 17 October 1969 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC Thomas Marchese was Killed In Action on 12 December 1969 from wounds suffered during combat operations in Hua Nghia 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

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland - Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) is a U.S. Army facility located adjacent to Aberdeen, Harford County, Maryland / APG is the U.S. Army's oldest active proving ground, established on 20 October 1917, six months after the U.S. entered World War I / Its location allowed design and testing of ordnance material to take place near contemporary industrial and shipping centers / The proving ground was created as a successor to the Sandy Hook Proving Ground, which was too small for some of the larger weapons being tested / At the peak of World War II, APG had billeting space for 2,348 officers and 24,189 enlisted



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

personnel

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Marchese graduated from Bishop Turner High School in 1964 / Marchese was a graduate of the University of Buffalo / Thomas Vincent Marchese was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Thomas Vincent Marchese is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 15w, Line 51

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

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

The 27th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the "Wolfhounds", is a regiment of the United States Army established in 1901, that served in the Philippine–American War, in the Siberian Intervention after World War I, and as part of the 25th Infantry Division ("Tropic Lightning") during World War II, the Korean War, and later the Vietnam War / The 27th Infantry Regiment, entered the Vietnam War in January, 1966 / During their five-year stay in Vietnam, the unit earned two valorous unit citations, and was one of the last 25th Infantry Division units to return home / The regiment participated in Operation Junction City and fought during the Tet Offensive and the May Offensive / The regiment finally returned to Hawaii in April, 1971 / More recently the regiment deployed to Afghanistan for the second time, following two deployments to Iraq

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



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

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

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

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

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



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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: **MARCINIAK, JR.**

FRANK J.

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY B, 864TH COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Frank J. Marciniak, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Marciniak was assigned as a Carpenter during 12 months of deployment in Vietnam

Frank Marciniak, Jr. was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 19 June 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Marciniak was a volunteer at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital for over 29 years / Marciniak was a member of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Member of VFW Post #1419 / Frank J. Marciniak, Jr. passed away on 4 January 2018 at the age of 70 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery Field of Valor, Hamburg, New York

The 864th Engineer Battalion is a combat engineer battalion of the United States Army based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington / The battalion is a subordinate unit of 555th Engineer Brigade / The 864th Battalion was activated in December 1942 at Geiger Field, Washington near Spokane / The Battalion served in the Pacific Theater during World War II, earning three campaign streamers for New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, and Luzon / The unit also earned the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation / In May 1965, the battalion was deployed to Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam / The battalion was the first U.S. engineer battalion-size unit in Vietnam and responsible for port transportation and support facilities construction / As more engineer battalions were



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assigned to Vietnam, the unit was assigned missions of base camp construction and line of communication construction and maintenance / For its outstanding efforts, the battalion was awarded the distinctive designation "Pacemakers" by the United States Secretary of the Army in September 1968 / The battalion returned to the United States in August 1971, after earning thirteen campaign streamers, the Vietnamese Civic Action Honor Medal, First Class, and two Meritorious Unit Commendations / Returning to the United States, the battalion was assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington / In January 1991, the battalion deployed to Saudi Arabia for eight months in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm / During this period, the 864th was responsible for construction of 290 miles of petroleum pipeline, the repair and maintenance of main supply routes, enemy prisoner of war camp construction, and provided emergency services restoration to Kuwait City

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

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

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

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

The 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: **MARCY**
JOHN

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: COL

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/OAK CLUSTER
 DEFENSE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
 JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL
 VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL
 EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

PURPLE HEART
 AIR MEDAL
 ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL
 VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL
 PARACHUTIST BADGE

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

Service Notes:

Colonel John Marcy honorably served in the United States Army / COL Marcy was deployed to Vietnam for two tours of duty / Colonel Marcy was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a combat zone and award the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat action

Colonel Marcy was assigned as the Assistant Program Manager (Log) during the development of the U.S. Army's Apache Helicopter Program

Colonel John Marcy retired from the U.S. Army after serving in multiple of Infantry, Aviation and Procurement assignments

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his retirement from the U.S Army, John Marcy resided in Hudson, Ohio and pursued a second career in Aquatics Management / Marcy retired from the Hudson School System where he directed the Aquatic Programs for the Elementary School as well as the Hudson Recreation Department / in 2020 John Marcy moved to South Pasadena, Florida where he served as Director on the Board of Directors at Baywatch of Harbourside / John Marcy passed away on 30 April 2024 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia



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

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

The Defense Meritorious Service Medal (DMSM) is an award presented in the name of the Secretary of Defense to members of the Armed Forces / It is the third-highest award that the Department of Defense issues, and is awarded to those who distinguish themselves through non-combat meritorious service or achievement, in a joint capacity

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 Joint Service Commendation Medal (JSCM) was authorized on June 25, 1963 and is awarded in the name of the Secretary of Defense to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after January 1, 1963, distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement or service in a joint duty capacity / This award is intended for senior service on a joint military staff and is senior in precedence to service-specific Commendation Medals / As such, it is worn above the service Commendation Medals on a military uniform

The Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) is a special type of recognition for service members / The Army Commendation Medal is considered a "mid-level" military decoration / The commendation is generally awarded for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service / It's usually granted to U.S. Army personnel that are not general officers / All in all, there are Commendation Medals for each service branch (Army, Naval Service, Air and Space Forces, and U.S. Coast Guard)

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 Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB) is a U.S. Army skill badge that recognizes expertise and mastery of core Skill



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Level I tasks required for the base tactical/technical knowledge of the Infantryman / It was created in November 1943 during World War II and is currently awarded to U.S. Army personnel who hold infantry or special forces military occupational specialties / The Army recognizes three expert skill badges: the Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB), the Expert Field Medical Badge (EFMB), and the Expert Soldier Badge (ESB) / The ESB is the equivalent of the Expert Infantry Badge and Expert Field Medical Badge but for all other military occupational specialties in the Army

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

Colonel John Marcy was awarded the following awards:

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARESSA**

JOHN

F.

Hometown: HAMBURG

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Dr. John F. Maressa honorably served in the United States Air Force / Dr. John Maressa was deployed to Vietnam and assigned as a Dental Officer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Maressa earned his pediatric dentistry specialty at the Buffalo Children's Hospital / Maressa taught dentistry for 15 years at the Children's Hospital and also had a private practice in Hamburg until his retirement in 2002 / Dr. John F. Maressa passed away on 24 September 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARKIEWICZ**

ROBERT W.

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON, US AIR FORCE PACIFIC

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Robert W. Markiewicz honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Markiewicz served 2 years, and 4 months of foreign service, including duty in South Vietnam with an Air Force Civil Engineer Squadron, US Air Force Pacific / Sgt Markiewicz served as a Fire Protection Specialist

Sergeant Robert Markiewicz was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 22 July 1971

Robert W. Markiewicz received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force on 22 July 1971

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Markiewicz served a decades-long career in the Air National Guard and as a civilian fire fighter on the Niagara Falls Air Force Base / Robert W. Markiewicz passed away on 12 August 2023 at the age of 74 years old

Fire Protection Specialists are responsible for working with safety and fire suppression equipment / Fire Protection Specialists preserve, maintain, and repair safety equipment and any other associated equipment to prepare for firefighting operations / Fire Specialists assist putting out fires, rescuing service members and their families and providing emergency medical care / In addition to performing maintenance on the equipment, they will also perform any emergency equipment repair

The United States Air Force maintains a number of Civil Engineering Units in the form of United States Air Force



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civil engineering squadrons / These squadrons provide the Air Force with a highly mobile civil engineering response force to support contingency and special operations worldwide / In wartime, they provide for the rapid repair of damage to airfields and other critical facilities / In peacetime, they maintain and construct bases for operational use by the Air Force

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARKWARDT**

BRUCE D.

Hometown: KENMORE

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:

Bruce D. Markwardt honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce Markwardt was a Master Auto Technician / Bruce D. Markwardt passed away on 24 March 2024 at the age of 74 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARQUART**

RICHARD A.

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

US NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 7

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard A. " Dick" Marquart honorably served in the United States Navy / PO2 Richard Marquart was assigned as a Navy Seabee and deployed to Vietnam as a heavy equipment operator and instructor / PO2 Richard Marquart was also assigned stateside at Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi Texas

Base Assignments:

Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi Texas - Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi is a United States Navy naval air base located six miles southeast of the central business district of Corpus Christi, in Nueces County, Texas / The Naval Air Station was established in 1941 with the first flight training started on 5 May 1941 / In 1941, 800 instructors provided training for more than 300 student pilots a month / The training rate nearly doubled after the bombing of Pearl Harbor / By the end of World War II, more than 35,000 naval aviators had earned their wings / In 1944, it was the largest naval aviation training facility in the world covering 20,000 acres / Future President George H.W. Bush was the youngest pilot to receive his wings at NAS Corpus Christi in June 1943 / NAS Corpus Christi also was home to the Blue Angels from 1951 to 1954

Miscellaneous:

Richard Marquart was a 1963 graduate of Clarence High School / Richard Allen " Dick" Marquart passed away on 1 December 2021 at the age of 76 years old

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN (NMCB 7) was a Navy Seabee battalion lasted homeported at Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport Mississippi / Nicknamed the "Magnificent Seven", it is one of the first ten Naval Construction Battalions formed by the U.S. Navy in 1942 / During World War II, NCB 7 made two



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deployments / The first was to Samoa and Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides / They had only been at Pago Pago, Samoa eight days when they were ordered forward to Espiritu Santo / The battalion arrived in August and constructed an airfield in 60 days / In 1961 the battalion was ordered to Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in support of the base's Marine security force during the Cuban Missile Crisis, constructing more than 20 miles of perimeter roads and other base facilities in record time / In 1965 the battalion's deployment was split with the first half at Naval Station Rota and the second half in 1966 at Hue and Phu Bai in Republic of South Vietnam / Danang East was home to the main body in 1967-68 at Camp Adenir / Besides fielding Seabee teams, the battalion sent a 28 man detachment to the Royal Thai Air Force Base, at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand / The 1969-70 deployment took NMCB 7 to the combat base at Chu Lai / In August 1970 the battalion was decommissioned at the Construction Battalion Center, Davisville, Rhode Island / While in Vietnam, CB 7 had eight Seabee teams all in the south and Mekong delta / On 5 September 2012, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 7 was decommissioned at CBC Gulfport, Mississippi

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

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

A Unit Citation is a formal, honorary mention by high authority of a military unit's specific and outstanding performance, notably in battle / Similar mentions can also be made for individual soldiers / Alternatively or concurrently, the unit can be awarded an honorary title, a mention on the flag or a decoration

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: **MARRACINO**
RICHARD

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:

Richard Marracino honorably served in the United States Military / Richard Marracino was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARRANCA**
ROBERT

Hometown: LAKE VIEW

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Marranca honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Marranca passed away on 22 February 2026 at the age of 78 years old



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARSHALL**
BRUCE R.

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 2010

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (3 AWARDS)

IRAQ CAMPAIGN MEDAL

AIR FORCE EXPEDITIONARY SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARDS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR SERVICE MEDAL

AIR RESERVE FORCES MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Bruce R. Marshall honorably served in the United States Air Force / SMSGT Bruce Marshall served our nation from 1973-2010 in the US Air Force and Air National Guard / SMSGT Marshall was a veteran of the Vietnam War Era, Persian Gulf War, Global War on Terrorism, and served at the World Trade Center (WTC) days after the terrorist attack on 11 September 2001 / SMSgt Marshall had multiple deployments world-wide, including Iraq, England, France, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Panama

Bruce Marshall received his Honorable Discharge from the US Air Force on 28 February 2010

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Bruce R. Marshall passed away on 18 May 2023 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Acacia Park Cemetery, North Tonawanda, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

The Air Force Achievement Medal (AFAM) is a decoration awarded to Air Force personnel for an outstanding achievement or meritorious service not of the same nature that warrants receiving the Commendation medal / The AFAM is only awarded to junior personnel and is most often awarded to officers with the pay grade of O-4 and below, as well as enlisted personnel below the grade of E-7 / The AFAM can be given in an area of combat but only for non-combat meritorious service and it is considered to be the lower of the U.S. Military's meritorious service medals / The Air Force Achievement medal acknowledges the contributions of the junior officers and enlisted personnel who are not eligible to receive the higher Commendation medal or the Meritorious Service Medal

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

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

The Iraq Campaign Medal is a military award that was established by the United States in 2004 to recognize members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in Iraq during the Iraq War

The Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Service Medal is a United States Armed Forces award / To receive the medal, a military service member must have served on active duty during a designated anti-terrorism operation for a minimum 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days / The medal recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terror from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined / The GWOT Service Medal honors those who actively supported combat in anti-terrorism operations, but did not necessarily participate on foreign soil / One serviceman or woman can receive both the GWOT Expeditionary Medal and the GWOT Service Medal if they served in separate operations, each of which



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qualifies them for the individual medal

The Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon is awarded to Air Force personnel who complete a standard contingency deployment / The deployment must be a minimum of 45 continuous days or 90 non-consecutive days

The Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal is awarded to Reserve or National Guard personnel who complete three uninterrupted years of exemplary service without disciplinary action / It was initially established as a ribbon bar in 1964 and took on its current medal form in 1973 / The medal recognizes outstanding behavior, efficiency, and fidelity during service in an enlisted status in the U.S. Air Reserve Forces



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARTIN**
GOMER

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

3RD BATTALION, 6TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Gomer Martin honorably served in the United States Army / Gomer Martin was deployed to West Berlin, Germany for 11months as a Construction Machine Operator with the 3rd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment

Gomer Martin was Honorably Discharged at Fort Dix, New Jersey on 25 February 1957

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

Gomer Martin passed away on 9 March 2025 at the age of 91 years old

The 6th Infantry Regiment ("Regulars") was formed 11 January 1812 / Zachary Taylor, later the twelfth President of the United States, was a commander of the unit / The motto, "Regulars, By God!" derives from the Battle of Chippawa, in which British Major General Phineas Riall noticed that the approaching regiment had on the uniforms of militia, which the British had defeated at Queenston Heights / Instead, the Americans pressed the attack. Riall is believed to have said, "Those are Regulars, By God!", though the only source of this was opposing U.S. General Winfield Scott / The regiment participated in the War of 1812, the Mexican–American War, the American Civil War, the Indian Wars (1823-1879), the Spanish–American War, Philippine–American War (1899–1913), the Pancho Villa Expedition (1916–1917), World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War / On 17



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Town of West Seneca, New York

May 1967, the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was reorganized as a standard Infantry Battalion and was assigned to the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, in the "Americal" (23rd Infantry) Division / The 1-6th Infantry was the division's first element ashore, arriving at Chu Lai in October to participate in its thirty-fifth campaign and ninth war / After a brief initial operation south of Duc Pho, the battalion was assigned the mission of securing the installation at Chu Lai / 1-6th Infantry participated in Task Force Oregon, Task Force Miracle, Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, Operation Burlington Trail, and had the mission of protecting "Americal" Division Headquarters and Chu Lai Defense Command from enemy ground mortar and rocket attacks / The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for its victory at the Battle of Lo Giang, 7-11 February 1968 / On 15 February 1969, the battalion was released from the 198th Light Infantry Brigade and assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division, "Americal" Division / On 13 September 1972 was reassigned to the 1st Armored Division, and was posted at Stork Barracks in Illesheim, West Germany / Elements of the 6th Infantry were also part of IFOR, Task Force Eagle, which was charged with implementing the military aspects of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARTIN, JR.**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1950

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTALION (HHB), 6TH BATTALION, 9TH FIELD ARTILLERY (FA)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/4 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY

ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL (GERMANY)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/SILVER CLASP

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant (E-6) William J. Martin, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT William Martin was assigned as a Tactical Communication Chief / SSgt Martin served in Vietnam and Germany

Staff Sergeant William Martin Jr. retired with an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army after 24 years and 9 months of active service

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

William J. Martin, Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

Tactical Communication Chief (Enlisted) provides technical assistance in the planning, installation, operation and maintenance of communications systems/equipment

The 9th Field Artillery Regiment is a field artillery regiment of the United States Army first formed in 1916 / The regiment served in Hawaii during World War I, 3rd, 4th, 7th, and 9th Divisions between the world wars, and with 3rd Infantry Division during World War II and Korea / The 9th Field Artillery Battalion departed Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation, Hampton Roads, Virginia, on 27 October 1942, and landed in North Africa on 8 November 1942 as part of Operation Torch

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

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

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

The Army of Occupation Medal is a military award of the United States military which was established by the United States War Department on 5 April 1946 / The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan or Korea / The first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II / Because of the legal status of West Berlin as an occupied territory, the Army of Occupation Medal was issued for forty-five years until the unification of Germany in 1990, making it one of the longest active military awards of both the Second World War and the Cold War / To be awarded the Army of Occupation Medal, a service member was required to have performed at least thirty consecutive days of military duty within a designated geographical area of military occupation

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 / Additional awards of the National Defense Service Medal are authorized for members of the military who served in more than one of the eligible time periods / Starting in 1966, when the NDSM was authorized for service in the Vietnam era, members of the U.S. Army who had received two NDSMs wore an oak leaf cluster on the ribbon, rather than a star



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **MARTIN, SR.**

EDWIN

C.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edwin C. Martin, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edwin C. Martin, Sr. passed away on 19 December 2024 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARTS**

THOMAS E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1973

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Thomas E. Marts honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Thomas Marts completed Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas / SGT Marts as assigned to Keesler Air Force Base for training in the Communications Field and stationed in Fairbanks , Alaska after completing his training

Base Assignments:

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

Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi - Keesler Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base located in Biloxi, a city along the Gulf Coast in Harrison County, Mississippi, United States / The base is named in honor of aviator 2nd Lieutenant Samuel Reeves Keesler Jr., a Mississippi native killed in France during the First World War and was activated in June 1941 / The base is home of Headquarters, Second Air Force (2 AF) and the 81st Training Wing (81 TW) of the Air Education and Training Command / The Tuskegee Airmen were trained at Keesler. More than 7,000 Black soldiers were stationed at Keesler Field by the autumn of 1943 / These soldiers included pre-aviation cadets, radio operators, aviation technicians, bombardiers, and aviation mechanics / Keesler is also home to CNATTU Keesler (Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit), a training unit for U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps enlisted personnel receiving training at Keesler, such as enlisted meteorology training, with their Air Force counterparts



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Town of West Seneca, New York

England Air Force Base is a former United States Air Force base in Louisiana, located 5 miles northwest of Alexandria and about 170 miles northwest of New Orleans / Originally known as Alexandria Army Air Base, on 23 June 1955 the facility was renamed England Air Force Base in honor of Lt Col John Brooke England (1923–1954) / The base was closed in 1992. The airfield and buildings are now Alexandria International Airport

Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska - Eielson AFB is a United States Air Force (USAF) base located approximately 26 miles southeast of Fairbanks, Alaska, and just southeast of Moose Creek, Alaska / It was established in 1943 as Mile 26 Satellite Field and redesignated Eielson Air Force Base on 13 January 1948 / It has been a Superfund site since 1989 / Eielson AFB was named in honor of polar pilot Carl Ben Eielson / Its host unit is the 354th Fighter Wing (354 FW) assigned to the Eleventh Air Force of the Pacific Air Forces / The 354 FW's primary mission is to support RED FLAG-Alaska, a series of Pacific Air Forces commander-directed field training exercises for U.S. Forces, joint offensive counter-air, interdiction, close-air support, and large force employment training in a simulated combat environment

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Marts was a 1966 graduate of West Seneca Central School / Marts attended Bryant and Stratton Business Institute in Buffalo, New York prior to entering military service / Marts was employed by Dupont for over 33 years / Thomas Marts was an Eagle Scout and active in the Boy Scouts of America as an Assistant Scout Master / Thomas Marts was a member and a Sergeant in the West Seneca Auxiliary Police Force for 45 years / Thomas Marts is a member of American Legion Post #735, West Seneca



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MARX, JR.**

WILLIAM

D.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William D. "Bill" Marx, Jr. honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William Marx joined the National Ski Patrol in 1973 and was a member of the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol since 1990 / Marx was a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus member at St. Aloysius Gonzaga / William D. "Bill" Marx, Jr. passed away on 8 April 2025 from Parkinson's Disease at the age of 81 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MASON

NORMAN C.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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:

Norman C. Mason honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Mason was a 1966 graduate of Kenmore East Senior High School / Norman Mason was a longtime North Tonawanda Police Officer / Norman C. Mason passed away on 20 July 2015 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASON**

WILLIAM P.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

PARACHUTIST BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First Class William Paul (Bill) Mason honorably served in the United States Army / PFC William Mason was deployed to Tuy Hoa, Vietnam in 30 November 1967 as an Airborne Qualified Medical Corpsman / PFC William Mason was Killed in Action on 4 March 1968 when the Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) he was in, was hit by enemy rocket fire and suffered fatal burns to the body / PFC William Mason was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, posthumously

PFC William Mason distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism when he moved under intense enemy fire from one armored vehicle to another giving medical aid to the wounded / After evacuating all the wounded, PFC Mason rejoined the firefight and manned a machine gun / Another armored vehicle was hit by rocket fire, PFC Mason left his own Armored Personnel Vehicle and ran approximately 766 yards to the burning vehicle and entered the vehicle to aid a wounded man inside / While attempting to carry the wounded soldier to safety, the armored vehicle received a direct hit, causing it to explode, killing Private First-Class William Mason

Base Assignments:

Tuy Hòa Base, Vietnam - Tuy Hòa Base Camp (also known as Phú Hiệp Airfield or Phú Hiệp Army Airfield) is a former U.S. Army base southeast of Tuy Hòa in Phú Yên Province Vietnam / The base was used by the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division comprising of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry; 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry; and the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry from October 1966 to June 1967 / The 173rd Airborne Brigade was based at Tuy Hòa from October–November 1967 / Once the U.S. Air Force ceased operations at Tuy Hòa Air Base in October 1970



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the U.S. Army units based at Tuy Hòa/Phú Hiệp moved to Tuy Hòa Air Base and the facility was closed

Miscellaneous:

William Mason was born in Horsham, Pennsylvania and moved to Orchard Park / Mason graduated from Orchard Park High School in 1965, where he played varsity football and basketball / Mason attended Hiram Scott College (Scottsbluff, Nebraska) before enlisting in the United States Army / William Paul (Bill) Mason was KIA on 4 March 1968 at the age of 20 years old and is interred at Whitmarsh Memorial Cemetery, Flourtown, Pennsylvania

William Paul Mason is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 42e, Line 68

The 173rd Airborne Brigade ("Sky Soldiers") is an airborne infantry brigade combat team (IBCT) of the United States Army / Activated in 1915, as the 173rd Infantry Brigade, the unit saw service in World War II but is best known for its actions during the Vietnam War / The brigade was the first major United States Army ground formation deployed in Vietnam, serving there from 1965 to 1971 and losing 1,533 soldiers / Noted for its roles in Operation Hump and Operation Junction City, the 173rd is best known for the Battle of Dak To, where it suffered heavy casualties in close combat with North Vietnamese forces / Brigade members received over 7,700 decorations, including more than 6,000 Purple Hearts / The 173rd Airborne Brigade has received 21 campaign streamers and several unit awards, including the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions during the Battle of Dak To during the Vietnam War

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Palm: cited at the Armed Forces level

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 Combat Medical Badge is an award of the United States Army which was first created in January 1945 / Any member of the Army Medical Department, at the rank of colonel or below, who is assigned or attached to a ground combat arms unit of brigade or smaller size which provides medical support during any period in which the unit was engaged in ground combat is eligible for the CMB / According to the award criterion, the individual must be performing medical duties while simultaneously being engaged by the enemy

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

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

RICHARD D.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address: 68 OXFORD TERRACE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: CAPT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON, 8TH TAC FIGHTER WING, 7TH AIR FORCE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Captain Richard Dennis Massari honorably served in the United States Air Force / Captain Richard Massari was deployed to Thailand on 24 October 1969 as a F-4 Phantom Fighter Pilot / Captain Massari was on his second tour of duty in Southeast Asia where he was assigned to and served with the 25th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 8th TAC Fighter Wing, 7th Air Force / CAPT Richard Massari died on 12 June 1970 when his aircraft crashed in Binh Dinh Province, Thailand

On 12 June 1970, a U.S. Air Force F-4D Phantom II (#66-8770) from the 25th Tactical Fighter Squadron was on approach to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base when it suffered an engine failure and crashed thirteen miles from the air base into a rice field at Ban Tae Yai, Muang District, Ubon Ratchatani Province / The aircraft commander, pilot CAPT Richard D. Massari, was killed / A second crewman successfully ejected and was recovered

CAPT Massari as on his second tour of duty in Southeast Asia / During his first tour, Massari had previously spent a year at Cam Rahn Bay, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Davis–Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona - Davis–Monthan AFB (DM AFB) is a United States Air Force base 5 miles (southeast of downtown Tucson, Arizona / It was established in 1925 as Davis–Monthan Landing Field / The base is best known as the location of the Air Force Materiel Command's 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group (309 AMARG), the aircraft boneyard for all excess military and U.S. government aircraft and aerospace vehicles



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Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand - Ubon Royal Thai AFB (RTAF) was a facility located near the city of Ubon Ratchathani, in Ubon Ratchathani Province, 303 miles northeast of Bangkok / Ubon RTAFB was established in the 1950s / Political considerations with regards to communist forces engaging in a civil war inside Laos and fears of the civil war spreading into Thailand led the Thai government to allow the United States to covertly use five Thai bases beginning in 1961 for the air defense of Thailand and to fly reconnaissance flights over Laos / Under Thailand's "gentleman's agreement" with the United States, RTAF base used by the USAF were commanded by Thai officers / Thai air police controlled access to the bases, along with USAF Security Police, who assisted them in base defense using sentry dogs, observation towers, and machine gun bunkers / The USAF forces at Ubon were under the command of the United States Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) / From 1965 to 1974, the base was a front-line facility of the USAF during the Vietnam War / On 16 September 1974 the USAF forces at Ubon were inactivated and the facility turned over to the Thai Government

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

Miscellaneous:

Richard Massari was a 1960 graduate of Lackawanna High School / Massari received his Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSAE) Degree from the University of Alabama in 1965 / Massari joined the U.S. Air Force in 1966 / Massari also attended the State University of New York at Buffalo / Richard Dennis Massari was 28 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Hope Cemetery and Mausoleum, Tucson, Arizona

Richard Dennis Massari is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 09w, Line 48

The 25th Fighter Squadron is part of the US Air Force's 51st Operations Group, 51st Fighter Wing, at Osan Air Base, South Korea / It operates the Fairchild Republic A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft conducting close air support missions / The squadron was originally created as the 25th Pursuit Squadron and activated at Hamilton Field, California on 15 January 1941 / During World War II, the 25th Fighter Squadron encountered more combat activity than any other unit within the 51st Fighter Group during the war / On 31 May 1968, the 25th was assigned to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing and stationed at Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, later moving to Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, seeing combat in the skies of Vietnam / Flying McDonnell F-4 Phantom II aircraft, the 25th received the Presidential Unit Citation (1971), the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm (1967-1973), and five Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (1967-1973) / When the Air Force began its withdrawal from Thailand, the 25th was reassigned the 18th Tactical Fighter Wing at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, where it remained until 1 February 1981

The United States Air Force 8th Fighter Wing is the host unit at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea and is assigned to Seventh Air Force / Seventh Air Force falls under Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) / The Wing's 8th



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Operations Group is the successor of the 8th Pursuit Group, one of the 15 original combat air groups formed by the Army before World War II / Established in Japan after World War II in 1948, the wing flew combat missions throughout the Korean War / Redesignated the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1958, it remained in Japan until 1964 / The 8th Fighter Wing completed a move to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand in September 1965 to commence combat operations in the Vietnam War / In December 1965, the wing completed the move to Ubon / At Ubon, the 8th TFW carried out its wartime mission as it led the way for other tactical Air Force fighter units during the Vietnam War / The wing carried out a number of roles during combat / By the end of 1966, aircrews assigned to the 8th TFW flew nearly 14,000 combat missions into Vietnam / In December 1972, the 8th became involved in Operation Linebacker II / Designed to make the enemy more serious about the peace negotiations in progress at Paris, France, the 8th TFW launched 524 sorties for bombing missions against North Vietnam between 18 and 31 December 1972 / Early in 1973, the mission included air interdiction into Laos against communist insurgents in Cambodia / All combat operations ended on 15 August 1973

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 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



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

Name: **MASTERS**

DAVID

L.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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:

David L. Masters honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Masters graduated from Kenmore East Senior High School in 1960 / Masters was a long time member and former Commodore of Inner Harbor Yacht Club / David Masters was the owner of Master Rug in the Town of Tonawanda / David L. Masters passed away in Niagara Falls, New York on 13 January 2025 at the age of 82 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MASTROBATTISTA**
PETER

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:

Peter Mastrobattista honorably served in the United States Military / Peter Mastrobattista was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MATHIS**

JAMES R.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 4TH BATTALION, 9TH INFANTRY, C COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class James Rufus Mathis honorably served in the United States Army / PFC James Mathis was deployed to Vietnam on 12 February 1968 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / PFC James Mathis was Killed In Action on 2 March 1968 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Quoi Xuah, Gia Dinh Province, South Vietnam

On the morning of 2 March 1968, the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division "Manchus" were preparing for a ground assault on an area of previous contact when Charlie Company was ambushed by a reinforced Viet Cong company at a bridge on Route 248 by the Quoi Xuah hamlet close to Hoc Mon village, fourteen kilometers (8.4 miles) northwest of Saigon in Gia Dinh Province, RVN / The ninety-two members of Charlie Company were rushing along the road without flank security to catch up with the rest of the battalion when they ran into the ambush / Within eight minutes, forty-nine Americans were dead or dying and twenty-eight others wounded / The enemy force, concealed in prepared positions, employed small arms, automatic weapons, and Claymore mines / Gunships, artillery, and air strikes supported the Manchus but sniper fire by rear guard elements prevented Alpha, Bravo, and Delta companies from reinforcing the besieged Charlie Company for much of the day / The Americans who perished in battle included Private First-Class James Mathis

Base Assignments:



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Miscellaneous:

James Mathis was a 1960 graduate of Carver High School in Gadsden, Alabama before moving to Buffalo / James Rufus Mathis was 26 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Lincoln Hill Cemetery in Gadsden, Alabama

James Rufus Mathis is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 42e, Line 36

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

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

The 9th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Old Reliables") is an inactive infantry division of the United States Army / It was created as the 9th Division during World War I, but never deployed overseas / In later years it was an important unit of the U.S. Army during World War II and the Vietnam War / The 9th Division was reactivated on 1 February 1966, and arrived in South Vietnam on 16 December 1966 from Fort Riley, Kansas / On deployment the division was assigned to the III Corps Tactical Zone of Vietnam where it commenced operations in Dinh Tuong and Long An Provinces (6 January-31 May 1967) in Operation Palm Beach / Its area of operations was in the rivers and canals of the Mekong Delta from 1967 to 1972 / Operating deep within the Viet Cong (VC) controlled Delta, the Division was charged with protecting the area and its population against VC insurgents and ensuring the success of the South Vietnamese government's pacification program / The Division's major units departed from South Vietnam on 27 August 1969 (HHC & 1st Brigade) to Hawaii; 27 August 1969 (2nd Brigade) to Fort Lewis, Washington; 12 October 1970 (3rd Brigade) to Fort Lewis / It was also activated as a peacetime readiness unit from 1947 to 1962 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Fort Carson, Colorado, and from 1972 to 1991 as an active-duty infantry division at Fort Lewis, Washington / The division was deactivated in December 1991



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On 29 April 1966, the Fourth Battalion, 9th Infantry landed in Vung Tau, Vietnam / Within a few days, the “Manchus” were at Cu Chi to take their place along other elements of the “Tropic Lightning” Division in combat / Notable battalion-size operations conducted by the “Manchu” include 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

In the four years and six months service in Vietnam fellow Manchus carried on the regimental tradition arising from deeds of Valor, Acts of Courage and Moments of Self Sacrifice. The 4th Battalion Manchus suffered many casualties of wounded and those that paid the supreme sacrifice.

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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: **MATTHEWS**

JAN

Hometown:

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

USS FORESTALL (CVA-59)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Jan Matthews honorably served in the United States Navy / Jan Matthews was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1962 and upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Naval Engineering, stationed at Pensacola, FL where he was trained as a naval aviator / Matthews continued his service for an additional 8 years flying Sikorsky helicopters and instructing new flight trainees in instrument flight / Matthews served aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Forrestal

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jan Matthews attended high school in Painted Post, New York / Jan Matthews was very successful in marketing and moved to marketing transducers and other sensing devices where he held numerous marketing manager and vice president positions at several companies including ViaTran, Schlumberger, Sensotron, and GE Druck, which enabled him to become a world renowned expert on pressure instrumentation, constantly innovating new applications and products across a multitude of emerging technologies ranging from products used on the Stealth aircraft to submersible wireless oil field operations and waste water treatment applications / After his retirement, Matthews started a consulting business, US Pressure, giving advice on transducer applications / Jan Matthews passed away on 10 June 2010 at the age of 67 years old and is interred at Maple Grove Cemetery, Friendship, New York

USS Forrestal (CVA-59) was a supercarrier named after the first United States Secretary of Defense James Forrestal / Commissioned in 1955, she was the United States' first completed supercarrier, and was the lead ship of her class / She surpassed the World War II Japanese carrier, Shinano, as the largest carrier yet built, and was the first designed to support jet aircraft / Forrestal served for nearly four decades in the Atlantic,



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Mediterranean, and Pacific / In June 1967, Forrestal departed Norfolk for duty in waters off Vietnam / Once in the Gulf of Tonkin, Forrestal began four days of sorties / The planes of Attack Carrier Air Wing 17 flew about 150 missions against targets in North Vietnam from the ship / On 29 July 1967, during preparation for another strike, a Zuni rocket installed on an F-4 Phantom (#110), misfired, impacting an armed A-4 Skyhawk (#405)'s side, parked on the port side / The rocket's impact dislodged and ruptured the Skyhawk's 400-US-gallon external fuel tank / Fuel from the leaking tank caught fire, creating a serious conflagration that burned for hours, killing 134 sailors, injuring 161, destroying 21 aircraft and costing the Navy \$72 million / On the flight deck that day was Lieutenant Commander (later Senator) John McCain, who was wounded by an exploding bomb / The Forrestal was decommissioned in 1993, and made available as a museum / Attempts to save her were unsuccessful, and in February 2014 she was towed to Brownsville, Texas, to be scrapped / Scrapping was completed in December 2015



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAY**
CONRAD

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Conrad May honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force, Conrad May was employed by Moog Industries, retired after 39 years / Conrad May passed away on 24 August 2023 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAY**

JAMES J.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address: **125 CLARENCE AVENUE**

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MAY**

ROBERT W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 36 COCHRANE STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 3RD SQUADRON, 4TH CAVALRY, TROOP B

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

NEW YORK CONSPICUOUS SERVICE CROSS

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert Walter May honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Robert May was deployed to Vietnam on 30 March 1967 as an Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist / SP4 Robert May was Killed In Action on 12 February 1968 from an exploding land mine during combat operations outside Tan Son Nhut Air Base, 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

Fort Knox, Kentucky - Fort Knox is a United States Army installation in Kentucky, south of Louisville and north of Elizabethtown / It is adjacent to the United States Bullion Depository (also known as Fort Knox), which is used to house a large portion of the United States' official gold reserves / It is named in honor of Henry Knox, Chief of Artillery in the American Revolutionary War and the first United States Secretary of War / A new Armored Force was established in July 1940 with its headquarters at Fort Knox with the 7th Cavalry Brigade becoming the 1st Armored Division / The Armored Force School and the Armored Force Replacement Center were also sited at



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Fort Knox in October 1940, and their successors remained there until 2010, when the Armor School moved to Fort Benning, Georgia / Fort Knox was the home of the U.S. Army Armor Center and School, and was used by both the Army and the Marine Corps to train crews on the American tanks of the day; the last was the M1 Abrams main battle tank / In 2011, the U.S. Army Armor School moved to Fort Moore, Georgia, where the Infantry School is also based

Miscellaneous:

Robert May graduated from Burgard High School / May enlisted in the U.S. Army in October 1966 / Robert Walter May was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

Robert Walter May is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 39e, Line 8

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

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

The 4th Cavalry Regiment is a United States Army cavalry regiment, whose lineage is traced back to the mid-19th century / It was one of the most effective units of the Army against American Indians on the Texas frontier / Today, the regiment exists as separate squadrons within the U.S. Army / The 1st Squadron of the 4th Cavalry's official nickname is "Quarterhorse", which alludes to its 1/4 Cav designation / The 3rd Squadron of the 4th Cavalry's official nickname is "Raiders" / Today, the "1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry" and "5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry" are parts of the 1st Infantry Division, while the "3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry" serves as part of the 25th Infantry Division / The 4th Cavalry Regiment served in the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War II / 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry (1-4 Cavalry, popularly called "Quarterhorse") was assigned to be the divisional reconnaissance squadron of the 1st Infantry Division based at Di An, South Vietnam / It arrived at Vung Tau, Vietnam on 7 October 1965, making it the first element of the 4th Cavalry to deploy to Vietnam / On 24 February 1966, Troop B fought a stiff skirmish with the VC and repulsed the enemy / On 30 June 1966, HQ, Troops B, C, D and C Company 2-18 Infantry engaged the VC 271st Regiment while conducting reconnaissance and managed to



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kill 300 VC during the seven-hour battle / Throughout the Vietnam War, the troopers of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment participated in numerous battle and operations including; Operation Niagara, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Williston, Operation Tucson-Delta, Operation Junction City, Operation Manhattan, Operation Shenandoah II, the Tet Offensive, and many more in numerous small villages along the Cambodia-South Vietnam border, and throughout South Vietnam / The 1st Squadron was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its heroism in Binh Long Province as well as a Valorous Unit Award for Binh Dong Province

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

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

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

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

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

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



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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

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: **MAY**

THOMAS A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 125 CLARENCE AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 27TH INFANTRY, C COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Thomas Andrew May honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Thomas May was deployed to Vietnam on 16 October 1969 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / CPL Thomas May was Killed In Action on 11 December 1969 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Hua Nghia Province, South Vietnam

On 11 December 1969, during a combat operation in Hua Nghia Province, Company C was ambushed by the enemy / During the fire fight, CPL May was wounded by hostile rifle fire and evacuated to a Medical Facility / CPL Tomas May died the same day from the wounds he has sustained

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

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland - Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) is a U.S. Army facility located adjacent to Aberdeen, Harford County, Maryland / APG is the U.S. Army's oldest active proving ground, established on 20



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October 1917, six months after the U.S. entered World War I / Its location allowed design and testing of ordnance material to take place near contemporary industrial and shipping centers / The proving ground was created as a successor to the Sandy Hook Proving Ground, which was too small for some of the larger weapons being tested / At the peak of World War II, APG had billeting space for 2,348 officers and 24,189 enlisted personnel

Miscellaneous:

Thomas May was a 1967 graduate of Bennett High School / May was employed by Harvest Markets Inc. and Republic Steel prior to entering the U.S. Army / Thomas Andrew May was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Thomas Andrew May is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 15w, Line 48.

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

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The 27th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the "Wolfhounds", is a regiment of the United States Army established in 1901, that served in the Philippine–American War, in the Siberian Intervention after World War I, and as part of the 25th Infantry Division ("Tropic Lightning") during World War II, the Korean War, and later the Vietnam War / The 27th Infantry Regiment, entered the Vietnam War in January, 1966 / During their five-year stay in Vietnam, the unit earned two valorous unit citations, and was one of the last 25th Infantry Division units to return home / The regiment participated in Operation Junction City and fought during the Tet Offensive and the May Offensive / The regiment finally returned to Hawaii in April, 1971 / More recently the regiment deployed to Afghanistan for the second time, following two deployments to Iraq



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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAZE

ROBERT E.

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Robert E. Maze honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Robert Maze was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert E. Maze passed away on 3 September 2023 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

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

Name: MAZGA

EDWARD R.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edward R. Mazga honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward R. Mazga passed away on 20 November 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAZURKIEWICZ

PAUL

K.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Paul K. Mazurkiewicz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Mazurkiewicz graduated from Bishop Timon High School in 1967 and graduated from Bryant and Stratton College / Mazurkiewicz worked for HSBC Bank for 43 years in the Information Technology Department before retiring / Paul K. Mazurkiewicz passed away at the age of 74 years old on 13 October 2022

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) ("Screaming Eagles") is a light infantry division of the United States Army that specializes in air assault operations / It can plan, coordinate, and execute multiple battalion-size air assault operations to seize terrain / These operations can be conducted by mobile teams covering large distances, fighting behind enemy lines, and working in austere environments with limited or degraded infrastructure / Its unique battlefield mobility and high level of training have kept it in the vanguard of U.S. land combat forces in recent conflicts / 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 around the city of Bastogne, Belgium / During the Vietnam War, the 101st Airborne Division fought in several major campaigns and battles, including the Battle of Hamburger Hill in May 1969 / In mid-1968, the division was reorganized and redesignated as an airmobile division; in 1974, as an air assault division / The titles reflect the division's shift from airplanes to helicopters as the primary method of delivering troops into combat / The Screaming Eagles have been referred to as "the tip of the spear" and the most potent and tactically mobile of the U.S. Army's divisions



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAZZUCCHI
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 Mazzucchi honorably served in the United States Military / Anthony Mazzucchi was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MAZZUCCHI
ANTHONY

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCANN**
JAMES P.

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 P. McCann honorably served in the United States Military / James McCann was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCANN**
PATRICK

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:

Patrick McCann honorably served in the United States Military / Patrick McCann was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCANN**
PATRICK

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMSGT

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1988

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE RIBBON

A.F. OVERSEAS LONG TOUR RIBBON W/2 DEVICES

AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/8 DEVICES

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/ 5 DEVICES

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Patrick McCann honorably served in the United States Air Force / SMSGT Patrick McCann was trained as a Medical Material Superintendent

Senior Master Sergeant Patrick McCann from the U.S. Air Force after 28 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick McCann passed away on 8 July 2025

The Air Force Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States who distinguishes themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States

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



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Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon is issued for completion of a standard overseas service assignment of two years or more in length with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Long tour credit is awarded for completion of an overseas long tour (2 years) prescribed by Department of the Air Force Instructions, or to any member assigned to a United States or overseas location who is subsequently sent under temporary duty orders (to include combat tours) for 365 or more days within a 3-year time frame / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCANN**
PATRICK

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: SMGT

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1988

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

AIR FORCE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY SERVICE RIBBON

OVERSEAS LONG TOUR RIBBON W/2 DEVICES

AIR FORCE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/8 DEVICES

ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL W/ 5 DEVICES

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

Service Notes:

Senior Master Sergeant Patrick McCann honorably served in the United States Military / SMSGT Patrick McCann was assigned as a Medical Material Superintendent / SMSGT McCann retired from the U.S. Air Force after 28 years of service

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Patrick McCann Patrick was a member of the Buffalo Irish Center and senior golf league at the South Park Golf Club / Patrick McCann passed away on 8 July 2025 at the age of 85 years old

The Air Force Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the armed forces of the United States who distinguishes themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States

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



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Active, Air Force Reserve, or Air National Guard service / The Air Force Longevity Service Award is a ribbon-only award

The Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon is issued for completion of a standard overseas service assignment of two years or more in length with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Long tour credit is awarded for completion of an overseas long tour (2 years) prescribed by Department of the Air Force Instructions, or to any member assigned to a United States or overseas location who is subsequently sent under temporary duty orders (to include combat tours) for 365 or more days within a 3-year time frame / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

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: **MCCARTHY**

CHARLES J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: CSSN

Year Entered: 1956

Year Discharged: 1960

Unit / Squadron:

USS ALAMEDA COUNTY (LST-32)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Commissarymen Seaman (CSSN) Charles Justin McCarthy honorably served in the United States Navy aboard the USS Alameda County (LST-32) for 3 1/2 years

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles Justin McCarthy passed away on 6 April 2018 and is interred at Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York

Commissarymen prepared meals for enlisted sailors in galleys on the ship and shore bases in the general mess / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / They purchased food from approved sources, stored food stuffs and distributed to the galleys for preparation and kept accountability records / Commissaryman was established as a rating in the U.S. Navy in 1948, and was changed to Mess Management Specialist in 1974, a title that lasted for thirty years until it became Culinary Specialist in 2004

USS Alameda County (LST-32) was an LST-1-class tank landing ship built for the United States Navy during World War II / Like many of her class, she was not originally named, and only referenced by her hull designation / Later she was named for Alameda County, California, the only US Naval vessel to bear the name / She was commissioned on 12 July 1943 and served as a training platform in Chesapeake Bay, until March 1944, when she crossed the Atlantic Ocean and patrolled the Mediterranean Sea / LST-32 spent the next 10 months carrying supplies and munitions between various ports in the Mediterranean / In January 1945, she lifted British troops to Greece to help suppress a communist attempt to take over the government / She later transported prisoners, elements of the French Foreign Legion, railroad cars, and other vehicles between ports in Italy, France, and



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North Africa, before returning to the United States at New York, in July 1945 / After World War II, LST-32 operated in the Mediterranean Sea for the remainder of her active Navy career providing the 6th Fleet with the capability of establishing forward NATO air bases anywhere in the Mediterranean on short notice / On 25 June 1962, Alameda County was decommissioned at Naples; and her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 June 1962, where she was transferred to the Italian Government

Name: MCCARTHY

JAMES A.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP5

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class James S. McCarthy honorably served in the United States Army / SP5 James McCarthy was deployed to Vietnam and stationed in Saigon, South Vietnam

The brother of SP5 James McCarthy, Marine Corps Private First-Class Robert Alan McCarthy, was Killed In Action on 25 February 1969 from enemy mortar fire during combat operations in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Name: MCCARTHY

JOHN L.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

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:

John L. "Jack" McCarthy honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John L. "Jack" McCarthy passed away on 16 October 2025 at the age of 87 years of age and his remains cremated



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Name: MCCARTHY

ROBERT A.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

3RD MARINE DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 4TH MARINES, H S COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Robert Alan McCarthy honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Robert McCarthy was deployed to Vietnam on 13 February 1969 as an Anti-Tank Assaultman / PFC Robert McCarthy was Killed In Action on 25 February 1969 from enemy mortar fire during combat operations in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

During the end of February, the Battalion was responsible for the defense of FSB (Fire Support Base) Neville, FSB Russell, and FSB Alpine in Quang Tri Province / Surrounded by the NVA, FSB Neville came under attack at 2330 hours on 24 February 1969 with the enemy penetrating Company H defenses by an enemy sapper unit / Sporadic fighting continued until dawn until the enemy withdrew into the mountainous terrain / As the Marines on Firebase (FSB) Neville were under siege, at 0350 hours of 25 February 1969, the enemy launched an attack the Marines of Company E and Battery H, at FSB Russell / Following a barrage of 82 mm mortars, a ground attack was launched breaching the defensive perimeter under the cover of the mortar fire / Firing RPG's and automatic weapons, the attackers advanced in waves but were unable to completely overrun the Marines position / The battle lasted thorough out the night until day break when the enemy withdrew / The battles with the enemy had been costly, at both Fire Support Bases the Marines gathered their casualties, thirty men had been killed in action and thirty eight had been wounded; PFC Robert McCarthy was one of the Marines killed during the battle as a result of hostile mortar fire



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Base Assignments:

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

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

Camp Pendleton, California - Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is the major West Coast base of the United States Marine Corps and is one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the US. It is on the Southern California coast in San Diego County / The base was established in 1942 to train U.S. Marines for service in World War II / By October 1944, Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent installation," and by 1946 it became the home of the 1st Marine Division / It was named after Major General Joseph Henry Pendleton (1860–1942), who had long advocated setting up a training base for the Marine Corps on the West Coast / Camp Pendleton trained the country's fighting force for the Korean and Vietnam Wars, approximately 200,000 Marines passed through the base on their way to the Far East

Miscellaneous:

Robert McCarthy was a 1968 graduate of Alden Central School / McCarthy enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 27 July 1968 / Robert Alan McCarthy was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint John the Baptist Cemetery, Alden, New York

Robert Alan McCarthy is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 31w, Line 54

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



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

2nd Battalion, 4th Marines (2/4) is an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / The battalion, nicknamed the Magnificent Bastards from the Vietnam War, is based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California and is a part of the 5th Marine Regiment and 1st Marine Division / During World War II, the battalion's first assignment was to take part in the assault on Emirau Island / During the remainder of World War II, the battalion saw action in the Battles of Guam (2/4 was the first ashore) and of Okinawa / On Okinawa, the battalion was involved in the fighting for the Motobu Peninsula, the capture of Naha, and the assault on the Oruku Peninsula / In May 1965 the 2nd Battalion landed at Landing Zone (LZ) Blue (west of Green Beach) near Chu Lai / The first combined land operation of the war was Operation Lien Ket 4 between 2/4 and 3rd Battalion, Republic of Vietnam Marine Division on 28 July / The first major engagement for the battalion was Operation Starlite (the first regimental sized battle for American forces since the Korean War) in August 1965 / Beginning in 1966, combat operations measurably increased with the battalion participating in Operation Double Eagle and Operation Hastings, a coordinated Marine/Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) search and destroy mission / The 1968 Tet Offensive resulted in an increase in fighting along the DMZ / A bitter clash started 30 April 1968 and ran through 3 May 1968 between 2/4 and the PAVN 320th Division (8,000 to 10,000 soldiers) that broke out northeast of Dong Ha / To protect the base and also the 3rd Marine Division headquarters, 2/4 reinforced by B/1/3 was moved forward to seize the fortified village and area around Dai Do / The three day Battle of Dai Do was costly for both sides / The PAVN lost nearly 1,500 killed, while 2/4 suffered 81 dead and 397 wounded / By 15 May 1968 the PAVN were driven back north across the DMZ / Total losses for the Marines were 233 killed and 821 wounded / PAVN losses were put at 2,945 killed and 47 POW's / The other major operations that 2/4 was involved in were Operation Lancaster II ran from 21 January to 23 November 1968 / This was a multiple battalion operation was to secure Route 9 between Cam Lo and Ca Lu / Total losses were 359 marines killed 1,713 wounded; PAVN losses were put at 1,801 / Operation Napoleon/Saline ran from 29 February 1968 to 12 September 1968 and was another multi-battalion operation that covered the Cua Viet river area near the South China Sea / Total losses were put at 117 marines killed; PAVN losses were put at 3,495 / Operation Scotland II was a multi-battalion operation that ran from 15 April 1968 to 28 February 1969 in the Khe Sanh area / Total losses were put at 435 marines killed 2,396 wounded; PAVN losses were put at 3,304 / On 6 November 1969, 2/4 was withdrawn to Okinawa as part of the United States policy of gradually turning the war over to the South Vietnamese

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



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awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is 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



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without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCONNELL**

GERARD R.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 65 IDEAL STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gerard Robert McConnell honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Gerald McConnell was deployed at Vietnam on 21 September 1966 as an Infantry Indirect Fire Crewman / PFC Gerard McConnell was Killed In Action on 28 October 1966 from enemy small arms fire during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerard McConnell was a graduate of Central Technical High School and attended the State University of Buffalo prior to entering the U.S. Army / Gerard Robert McConnell was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Cheektowaga, New York

Gerard Robert McConnell is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 11e, Line 124

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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6 December 1941

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

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

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCOWAN**

RICHARD J.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: 2ND LT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

9TH ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Second Lieutenant Richard James McCowan honorably served in the United States Army/ 2nd LT Richard McCowan served as a personnel sergeant with the 9th AAA Group in Japan from July of 1955 to April of 1957, when he was awarded a direct commission as a 2nd Lieutenant

Second Lieutenant Richard James McCowan received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army in September 1965

He was honorably discharged in September of 1965 as a 1st lieutenant.

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dr. Richard McCowan graduated magna cum laude from St. John's University in 1953 / McCowan received his M.A. in English literature from Niagara University in 1954 and earned his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from St. John's University in 1965 / Dr. McCowan was licensed in school psychology, secondary education, guidance counseling, and as a principal, chief school district administrator and instructional administrator-director of research / Dr. McCowan retired from his teaching position as a Professor of Educational Foundations in 1989 and assumed a full-time position with the State University of New York Research Foundation as Director of the Research and Evaluation Group (REG) for the Center for Development of Human Services (CDHS) / In 2009 Dr. McCowan was promoted to Senior Director for Administration and Research / Dr. McCowan had extensive experience in administration, teaching, and evaluation research. As a graduate professor at State University of New York College at Buffalo from 1971 through 1989, he taught advanced techniques of counseling, research, statistics, and computer applications / McCowan initiated and chaired the M. S. in Educational Computing



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program for the State University College at Buffalo and was Associate Director for Evaluation for the Center for Applied Urban Research and Development from 1980 to 1985 / From 1969 to 1971, Dr. McCowan was Director of the Research and Development Complex at the State University College at Buffalo / Dr. McCowan was Director of the Campus Laboratory School and the Child Study Center, as well as several federally and state supported programs, from 1968 to 1971 / From 1966 through 1968, Dr. McCowan was Chief of the Bureau of School and Cultural Research of the New York State Education Department and administered the \$1 million Experimental and Innovative Programs which supported research and innovation in public schools and universities in New York State / From 1964 to 1966 in the Eden Central Schools, Dr. McCowan was Director of Guidance with responsibility for guidance, psychological, health, and special education services and was Coordinator of Federal Funds for the district / McCowan was a counselor at Farmingdale Senior High School from 1961 to 1964 / From 1957 through 1961 Dr. McCowan was a counselor and English teacher in Baldwin Junior High School / McCowan was an assistant dean of students at Niagara University from 1955 through 1957 / Dr. McCowan was the editor of the Journal for Industry-Education Cooperation and the Child Study Journal authoring over 100 publications, including refereed articles, books, chapters, monographs, and reports and has made more than 120 professional presentations / Dr. McCowan was principal investigator or project director for more than \$7.5 million of competitively awarded grants and collaborated on CDHS proposals for more than \$150 million / Dr. McCowan was a consultant to the United States Office of Education, the United States Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, the New York State Senate, the New York State Education Department, the New York State Department of Social Services, the New York State Power Authority, and numerous colleges, universities, and school districts / Richard McCowan served four terms on the Grand Island Board of Education, including six years as President and two years as Vice-President / Dr. Richard James McCowan passed away on 3 January 2018 at the age of 86 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York

The mission of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA) units were to detect hostile aircraft and destroy them / Radar aided anti-aircraft gunners by providing accurate information about the range, speed, and altitude of incoming enemy planes



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCCOY

JAMES

G.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

3RD MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 9TH MARINES, B COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class James Glendale McCoy honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC James McCoy was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman / PFC James McCoy was Killed In Action on 2 July 1967 from enemy small arms fire during an ambush on Route 561 NE of Con Thien, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James McCoy was a native of Clinton, North Carolina but enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in Buffalo, New York / James Glendale McCoy was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Clinton, North Carolina

James Glendale McCoy is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 22e, Line 110

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

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps



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

The 1st Battalion 9th Marines (1/9) was an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I, it served until the mid-2000s when it was deactivated to make room for one of three light armor reconnaissance battalions / During the Vietnam War, the unit earned the name "The Walking Dead" for its high casualty rate / The battalion endured the longest sustained combat and suffered the highest killed in action (KIA) rate in Marine Corps history, especially during the Battle of July Two / The battalion was engaged in combat for 47 months and 7 days, from 15 June 1965 to 19 October 1966 and 11 December 1966 to 14 July 1969 / Based on a typical battalion strength of 800 Marines and Navy hospital corpsmen, 2,892 Marines passed through the unit over those 47 months; 747 were killed in action (KIA) and 2 were missing in action (MIA)

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

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

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

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

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



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sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCCOY

ROBERT

F.

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:

Robert F. McCoy honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. McCoy passed away on 8 March 2026 at the age of 76 years old and his remains cremated



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCCUTCHEON**
DONALD

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:

Donald McCutcheon honorably served in the United States Military / Donald McCutcheon was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCDONALD**

RICHARD J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

HHT, 3RD SQUADRON, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

BRONZE STAR MEDAL W/VALOR

COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

1 OVERSEAS BAR

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Richard J. McDonald honorably served in the United States Army / Following 10 weeks of Medical Corpsman training in Texas, SP4 McDonald served 11 months in Vietnam with HHT, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Blackhorse Regiment") as a Medical Specialist / SP5 Richard McDonald was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in combat action and was also awarded the Bronze Star Medal for bravery

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard McDonald received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army on 2 December 1969 / Richard J. McDonald passed away at the age of 69 years old on 28 May 2017

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

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment ("Blackhorse Regiment") is a unit of the United States Army garrisoned at the Fort Irwin National Training Center in California / HHT-1st Constabulary Regiment was converted,



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redesignated and consolidated into 11th ACR as HHT, 3rd Battalion, 11th ACR on 30 November 1948 / The regiment has served in the Philippine–American War, the Pancho Villa Expedition, World War II, the Vietnam War, Gulf War and Iraq War / The Blackhorse Regiment arrived in Vũng Tàu, South Vietnam on 7 September 1966 / Operation Hickory (7–15 October 1966) produced the first enemy casualties inflicted by the 3rd Squadron and elements of the 919th Engineer Company in the vicinity of Phu Hoa / The Tet Offensive of 1968 gave the squadron a chance to fight the enemy's troop formations in open combat / In Bien Hoa the 3rd Squadron drove the enemy forces from the area near III Corps headquarters / Its action was crucial in smashing the enemy's offensive

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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: **MCDONALD, JR.**

WILLIAM J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1961

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

William J. McDonald, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

William J. McDonald, Jr. passed away on 21 July 2020

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 Bragg, 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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCDOWELL**

ADRIAN

B.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1974**

Year Discharged: **1975**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Adrian Bernard McDowell honorably served in the United States Army / Adrian McDowell was assigned as an Armorer Unit Supply Specialist and stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas

Adrian McDowell was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 25 August 1975

Base Assignments:

Fort Riley, Kansas – Ft. Riley is a United States Army installation located in North Central Kansas, on the Kansas River / The Fort Riley Military Reservation covers 101,733 acres in Geary and Riley counties / The Fort consists of six functional areas, including the Main Post, Camp Funston, Marshall Army Airfield (MAAF), Camp Whitside, Camp Forsyth, and Custer Hill / In January 1853 a fort was constructed to organize, train, and equip troops to protect the overland trails / The site was named Camp Center because surveyors believed it was near the center of the United States / On 27 June 1853, Camp Center became Fort Riley, named in honor of Major General Bennet C. Riley, who had led the first military escort along the Santa Fe Trail in 1829 / During the Civil War, the fort was used to house Confederate prisoners / In 1919, the 2nd cavalry regiment was created, which provided the training and cavalry tactics to new cavalry officers / The 9th Armored Division was organized at Ft. Riley in July 1942, and after its deployment, Camp Funston was used as a German prisoner of war camp / The invasion of South Korea by North Korean forces in June 1950 once again brought attention to Fort Riley as an important training facility / Over the next few years, recruits from all over the United States came to Fort Riley and received basic training / In 1955, the fort's utilization changed from training and educational center to that of being the home base for a major infantry division, the 1st Infantry Division / In the decade following, 1st Infantry Division units trained to respond to any threat that might arise in Europe or other parts of the world / Increased guerrilla insurgency in South Vietnam during the mid-1960s, led to the deployment of the 1st Infantry Division to Southeast Asia / During this same year, a provisional basic combat training brigade was organized at Fort Riley, and in February 1966, the 9th Infantry Division was reactivated and followed the 1st Infantry Division into



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combat / Between November 1990 and January 1991, soldiers and equipment were deployed overseas to participate in the Gulf War / Fort Riley became a Division Headquarters on 5 June 1999, with the reactivation of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) / On 1 August 2006, the 1st Infantry Division returned to Fort Riley

Miscellaneous:

Adrian Bernard McDowell passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 68 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The Armorer Unit Supply Specialist, is a vital component of the US Army / They play an important role in maintaining weapons, ensuring they are in good working condition, and ready to be used at all times / The Armorer Specialist is responsible for inspecting and repairing firearms, from handguns to heavy machine guns



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCFARLAND**
SCOTT L.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE (H&S) COMPANY, SUPPORT GROUP

Medals / Citations:

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Scott Lansing McFarland honorably served in the United States Army and was assigned as a Light Weapons Infantryman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Scott L. McFarland was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

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 Army Headquarters and Service company is made up of the battalion headquarters, which includes the battalion or regimental command section and the battalion/regimental headquarters executive staff, and headquarters support personnel of a battalion, or regiment



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The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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

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

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: **MCGINLEY**

THOMAS J.

Hometown: CLARENCE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

3RD AVIATION FLIGHT DETACHMENT

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fifth-Class Thomas J. McGinley honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 McGinley was assigned as a Multi Engine Airplane Mechanic and was stationed in Korea for 12 months

Specialist Fifth-Class Thomas McGinley received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 2 September 1966

Base Assignments:

Ft. McPherson, Georgia - Fort McPherson was a U.S. Army military base located in Atlanta, Georgia and was the headquarters for the U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Southeast Region; the U.S. Army Forces Command; the U.S. Army Reserve Command; the U.S. Army Central / Named after Major General James Birdseye McPherson, the fort was founded by the U.S. Army in September 1867 / During World War I, Fort McPherson was used as a camp for Imperial German Navy prisoners of war and as a training site for the Active Army and Georgia National Guard / At the outbreak of World War II, Fort McPherson served as a general depot and as a reception center established to process thousands of men for entry into the service / In August 1945, as World War II ended, the United States War Department reversed the flow of work at the induction center and Fort McPherson became a separation center for almost 200,000 Soldiers and processed countless others for reassignment / As a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC 2005) recommendation, Fort McPherson was closed down 15 September 2011

Miscellaneous:

McGinley was a member of the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company, a retired commercial pilot from Midway Airlines and an accomplished pianist and organist playing the Wurlitzer for many years at Shea's, Riviera Theatre,



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and Our Lady of Peace Church / Thomas J. McGinley passed away on 26 May 2022

The 3rd Aviation Regiment is a regiment of the United States Army Aviation Branch / It operates the Boeing AH-64 Apache attack helicopter, Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, and Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopter / Originally designated the 3d Aviation Company (Combat), the unit was activated and assigned to the 3d Infantry Division on 1 July 1957 at Fort Benning, Georgia

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: MCGUIRE

MICHAEL K.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 123 SAGE AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: AN

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

7TH FLEET, TASK FORCE (TK) 77, USS HANCOCK (CVA-19)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NAVY EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Airman Michael Kelly McGuire honorably served in the United States Navy / Airman McGuire was assigned to the USS Hancock / AN Michael McGuire died on 4 January 1966 from an accident onboard ship, offshore, Military Region 1, South Vietnam

Airman Michael K. McGuire was an airman serving on the aircraft carrier USS Hancock (CV-19) / On 4 January 1966, the Hancock was underway in the South China Sea conducting flight operations / At 0700 hours, AN McGuire was working on the flight deck when he was critically injured after he inadvertently walked into the propeller of an aircraft which was turning up / McGuire suffered a depressed skull fracture and was treated in surgery where a transfusion of blood was administered / He was evacuated to the U.S. Air Force Hospital at Clark Air Base in the Philippines where he died 16 February 1966

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael McGuire enlisted in the U.S., Navy on 30 July 1962 / Michael Kelly McGuire was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

Michael Kelly McGuire is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 06e, Line 78



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The duties performed by a Navy Airman include repairing, maintaining and stowing aircraft and associated equipment in preparation for flight operations, working with qualified personnel to gain job training and experience and performing ground and deck duties involved in the take-off and landing of aircraft

USS Hancock (CV/CVA-19) was one of 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy / Hancock was the fourth US Navy ship to bear the namesake of Founding Father John Hancock, president of the Second Continental Congress and first governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts / Hancock was commissioned on 15 April 1944 and during World War II, served in several campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning four battle stars / During the Vietnam War, the USS Hancock reached Japan on 19 November 1964 and soon was on patrol at Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin / She remained active in Vietnamese waters until heading for home early in the spring of 1965 but returning to the war zone in November 1965 / She was on patrol off Vietnam on 16 December 1965; and, but for brief respites at Hong Kong, the Philippines, or Japan, Hancock remained on station launching her planes for strikes at enemy positions ashore until returning to Alameda on 1 August 1966 / Her outstanding record during this combat tour won her the Navy Unit Commendation / Following operations off the West Coast, Hancock returned to Vietnam early in 1967 and resumed her strikes against Communist positions / After fighting during most of the first half of 1967, she returned to Alameda on 22 July 1967 / Aircraft from Hancock, along with those from USS Ranger and USS Oriskany, joined with other planes for air strikes against North Vietnamese missile and antiaircraft sites south of the 19th parallel in response to attacks on unarmed U.S. reconnaissance aircraft on 21–22 November 1970 / Hancock, along with USS Coral Sea, was back on Yankee Station by 30 March 1972 when North Vietnam invaded South Vietnam / In response to the invasion, Naval aircraft from Hancock and other carriers flew tactical sorties during Operation Freedom Train against military and logistics targets in the southern part of North Vietnam / From 25 to 30 April 1972, aircraft from the USS Hancock struck enemy-held territory around Kontum and Pleiku / Hancock then took part in Operation Eagle Pull, the evacuation of Phnom Penh on 12 April 1975, Operation Frequent Wind and the evacuation of Saigon on 29–30 April 1975 / The USS Hancock was decommissioned on 30 January 1976 / She was stricken from the Navy list the following day, and sold for scrap by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) on 1 September 1976 / The Hancock earned 13 battle stars for service in Vietnam

The Seventh Fleet is a numbered fleet of the United States Navy / It is headquartered at U.S. Fleet Activities Yokosuka, in Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan and is part of the United States Pacific Fleet / At present, it is the largest of the forward-deployed U.S. fleets, with 50 to 70 ships, 150 aircraft and 27,000 Sailors and Marines / Its principal responsibilities are to provide joint command in natural disaster or military operations and operational command of all U.S. naval forces in the region / On 12 February 1965, USS Salisbury Sound (AV-13) became the first U.S. Navy ship to conduct operations inside Vietnam coastal waters.[9] Salisbury Sound set up a seadrome in Da Nang Bay and conducted seaplane patrols in support of Operation Flaming Dart, the bombing of North Vietnamese army camps / Operating primarily from Yankee Station off the north coast of Vietnam and the south coast of Vietnam in the South China Sea, Seventh Fleet was organized into a series of task forces, which included providing air support to US forces in South Vietnam, bombing North Vietnamese army camps, providing naval gunfire support and removing naval mines dropped in Haiphong harbor / In 1975, ships and aircraft of the 7th Fleet evacuated thousands of U.S. citizens and refugees from South Vietnam and Cambodia as those countries fell to opposing forces



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast



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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: **MCGUIRE**
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 McGuire honorably served in the United States Military / Raymond McGuire was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCGUIRE

TIMOTHY A.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

GUNNER: FIRST-CLASS M-60 MACHINE GUN

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-14 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Corporal Timothy Albert McGuire honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Timothy McGuire was deployed to Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman / Corporal McGuire was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat

Base Assignments:

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

Miscellaneous:

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



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light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

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

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

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

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



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Name: **MCKEE**

FRANKLYN C.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: COL

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1994

Unit / Squadron:

55TH STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE WING

31ST TACTICAL FIGHTER WING

107TH FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR GROUP

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

LEGION OF MERIT

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL W/OAK LEAF CLUSTER

EXPEDITIONARY FORCES RIBBON

AIR FORCE LONGEVITY MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

AIR MEDAL W/10 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

COMBAT CREWS MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Colonel Franklyn C. McKee honorably served in the United States Air Force / COL Franklyn McKee received his commission through the Aviation Cadets Program in Harlingen, Texas, and assigned to the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing in Topeka, Kansas, as a navigator until 1964

Colonel Franklyn McKee joined the Niagara Falls Air National Guard and was selected for pilot training attending fighter training in Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, and graduated as "Top Gun" in 1966 / In July 1968, COL McKee was recalled to active duty and deployed to Vietnam with the 31st Tactical Fighter Wing piloting the F-100 C aircraft on 185 combat missions / COL Franklyn McKee returned from Vietnam in June 1969 and served as flying training instructor with the 107th Fighter Interceptor Group, Niagara Falls, later becoming Squadron Commander

Colonel McKee was a command pilot with more than 4600 flying hours in the B-47, T-33, and F4, F-100, F-101, and F-4 aircraft

From 1983 to 1986, Colonel Franklyn McKee served as Air National Guard advisor to the commander of the 25th Air Division, McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Washington and later held the same position with the 24th



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Air Division, Griffiss Air Force Base, Rome, New York / COL McKee returned to Niagara Falls in 1987 and assumed the position of Deputy Commander for Support, retiring in 1994 with the rank of Colonel and concurrently promoted to the grade of Brigadier General

Base Assignments:

Luke Air Force Base, Arizona - Luke Air Force Base is a United States Air Force base in Maricopa County, Arizona, United States / It is located 7 miles west of the central business district of Glendale, and 15 miles west of Phoenix / Built in 1941, Luke Air Force Base was named after Second Lieutenant Frank Luke (1897–1918) / Lt Luke is a posthumous Medal of Honor recipient and the number-two United States flying ace in World War I / Born in Phoenix in 1897, the "Arizona Balloon Buster" scored 18 aerial victories during World War I (14 of these German observation balloons) in the skies over France / Lieutenant Luke was shot down at Murvaux between Verdun and Stenay, France, on 29 September 1918, after he had destroyed three enemy balloons / Surviving the crash of his SPAD S.XIII, Lieutenant Luke drew two pistols and fired on German soldiers, killing several of them before he was killed / During World War II, Luke Field was the largest fighter training base in the U.S. Army Air Forces, graduating more than 12,000 fighter pilots from advanced and operational courses earning the nickname "Home of the Fighter Pilot" / By 7 February 1944, pilots at Luke had achieved a million hours of flying time / By 1946, the number of pilots trained dropped to 299 and the base was deactivated 30 November that year / Soon after combat started in Korea, Luke field was reactivated on 1 February 1951 as Luke Air Force Base, part of the Air Training Command (ATC) under the reorganized United States Air Force (USAF) / Luke AFB is a major training base of the Air Education and Training Command (AETC), training pilots in the F-16 Fighting Falcon

McChord AFB, Washington - McChord Air Force Base (now part of Joint Base Lewis-McChord) is located in Pierce County, Washington, south of Tacoma / It serves as the home of the 62nd Airlift Wing, Air Mobility Command, with a primary mission of worldwide strategic airlift using the C-17 Globemaster III / The base has a history of serving airlift and air-defense functions since World War II, and has been involved in both combat and humanitarian missions / Joint Base Lewis-McChord is also a training and mobilization center for all services, providing rapid access to deep-water ports for deploying equipment

Griffiss AFB, New York - Initial construction at Griffiss Air Force Base began just before the United States' entry into World War II, when the current site was chosen as the home for the Rome Army Air Depot / During World War II, Rome Air Depot was an extremely active installation; its mission was the repair, modification and maintenance of aircraft, and the storage and shipment of supplies / After creation of the Air Force in 1947, the depot was renamed Griffiss Air Force Base in January 1948 after Lt. Colonel Townsend E. Griffiss, the first American aviator (and a New York State resident) to be killed in action in the European Theater of Operations during World War II / In 1993, Griffiss AFB was on the list of bases slated for realignment and/or closure under BRAC / Griffiss International Airport is located on the former site of Griffiss Air Force Base

Miscellaneous:

Franklyn McKee attended Rochester Institute of Technology before enlisting in the US Air Force in 1959 / Franklyn C. McKee passed away on 5 April 2019 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



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The Air National Guard (ANG) is a federal military reserve force of the United States Air Force, as well as the air militia of each U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands / Its federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during war and provide assistance during national emergencies / In the Air National Guard, you can serve your country and community, with career and leadership opportunities, healthcare and education benefits, and the freedom to choose how you serve

The 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing was a unit of the United States Air Force / It was activated and redesignated as the 55th Reconnaissance Group in 1947, and its mission consisted of aerial photography, mapping, charting, and photo reconnaissance missions / The 55th Wing is currently assigned to Air Combat Command and is primarily stationed at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska / Its mission is to provide dominant Information Warfare forces through Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations, Information Operations, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Nuclear Command, Control and Communications to the Joint Forces and national leadership, any time and at any place

The 31st Tactical Fighter Wing (31 FW) is a United States Air Force unit assigned to the United States Air Forces in Europe major command and the Third Air Force / The 31st Fighter Wing first activated in 1947 / The 31st wing arrived at Tuy Hoa, South Vietnam and was assigned to the 7th Air Force, on Christmas Day 1966 / The wing provided close air support and air interdiction for US and Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) units in the central region of the country / In 1968 they helped defend installations against enemy forces during the Tet Offensive and the siege of Khe Sanh and were later singled out for their outstanding contribution during the extraction of friendly forces from Kham Duc / They reached the 100,000 combat sortie milestone in September 1969 / The wing earned two Outstanding Unit Awards, one with a combat "V" device, a Presidential Unit Citation, two Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Crosses with Palm and ten campaign streamers for action in Vietnam / On 15 October 1970, the wing returned to Homestead as part of the United States force reduction in Vietnam

The 107th Tactical Fighter Group was initially formed in 1946 as the 107th Fighter Group, consisting of 14 officers and 100 enlisted members / Over the years, the unit operated various fighter aircraft, including the F-47 Thunderbolt, P-51H Mustang, F-4C/D Phantom, and F-16A Falcon / In March 1994, it transitioned to its current mission as the 107th Air Refueling Wing (ARW), flying the KC-135R Strato Tanker / The 107th ARW primarily supports worldwide air refueling missions and can also transport cargo and passengers when needed / Additionally, the unit has a state mission to provide equipment and personnel as directed by the Governor and Division of Military and Naval Affairs / In 2017, it was re-designated as the 107th Attack Wing (ATKW), focusing on operating the MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft / The 107th ATKW is based at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and plays a crucial role in both federal and state missions

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for



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support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Legion of Merit Medal is conferred on officers and enlisted men of the armed forces of the United States and on nationals of other countries who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services since Sept. 8, 1939, the date of the president's proclamation of the state of emergency that led to World War II / The Legion of Merit may be awarded for combat or noncombat services; in the case of American military personnel, if the award is for combat service it is shown by the wearing of a combat V device

The Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) is a military decoration of the United States Army that is presented to soldiers who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service to the government in a duty of great responsibility / The performance must be such as to merit recognition for service that is clearly exceptional / The exceptional performance of normal duty will not alone justify an award of this decoration

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

The 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 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after 1 July 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

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

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



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The Combat Crew Badge was established by the United States Air Force on 1 September 1964 / It was worn by those USAF personnel serving in positions where they were accruing creditable service towards the Combat Readiness Medal (Any member who have accomplished sustained individual combat mission readiness in an Air Force or Space Force weapon system or who have undertaken the preparedness for direct weapon-system employment) / It was a qualification badge and not a medal; it was therefore not a permanent award / The Air Force eliminated the Combat Crew Badge from wear in August 1993 / This was done under the auspices of addressing uniform accoutrements to eliminate duplication, achieve standardization, and promote an uncluttered appearance

Colonel Franklyn C. McKee was also awarded the following medals:

Combat Readiness Medal

The Combat Readiness Medal is an award given to members of the U.S. Air Force and Air Force Reserve, as well as members of other services after August 1, 1960, for sustained individual combat or mission readiness or preparedness for direct weapon-system employment / It was created in 1964 and is senior to the Air Force

Commendation Medal

The Commendation Medal is a mid-level United States military decoration presented for meritorious service / The Department of the Air Force began issuing its own Air Force Commendation Medal in 1958 with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Prior to this time, USAF recipients received the Army Commendation Medal / It was not until 1996 that the "V" device was authorized on the Air Force Commendation Medal; prior to 1996, there was not a valor distinction in effect for the Air Force Commendation Medal / On January 7, 2016, the "C" device and "R" device was authorized on the Air Force Commendation Medal as well / For USAF enlisted personnel, the Air Force Commendation Medal is worth three points under the Air Force enlisted promotion system / On 16 November 2020, it was renamed the Air and Space Commendation Medal (ASCOM) by the Secretary of the Air Force

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

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

New York State Conspicuous Service Cross

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



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while serving with the allied forces, received a personal decoration published in order issued by a brigade or equivalent higher headquarters

Name: **MCKEEVER**

DAVID T.

Hometown: SPRINGVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

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

Service Notes:

David T. McKeever honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam / McKeever was award the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered during combat operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David T. McKeever passed away on 27 June 2024 and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCKIE

RICHARD A.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Richard A. McKie honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Richard A. McKie passed away on 24 August 2025 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCLELLAN**

LAWRENCE D.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 44TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY (ADA)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Lawrence David McLellan honorably served in the United States Army as a Power Generator Equipment Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Lawrence D. McLellan was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment is an Air Defense Artillery regiment of the United States Army, first constituted in 1918 in the Regular Army during World War I / .During World War II the unit served as the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment / In 1963, the 6th Missile Battalion, 44th Artillery (HAWK), 38th Artillery Brigade was deployed to South Korea / Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Artillery Group; 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion; and the 49th and 44th Field Artillery Battalions consolidated, reorganized, and redesignated 7 November 1969 as the 44th Artillery, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System / Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 44th Air Defense Artillery

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 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) is a military award of the United States Armed Forces, which was



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first created in 1961 by Executive Order of President John Kennedy / The medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after July 1, 1958, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations

Name: **MCMAHON**

JAMES

F.

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:

James F. McMahon honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James McMahan was a member of the Variety Club of Buffalo and a member of American Legion Post #735 in West Seneca / James McMahan retired to The Villages, Florida / James F. McMahan passed away on 23 June 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Name: **MCNAUGHTON**
MICHAEL

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael "Mikey" McNaughton honorably served in the United States Army / Michael McNaughton served two tours in Vietnam from 1967 - 1968 and was stationed in Cu Chi City, Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Michael McNaughton was employed by Sunbeam Broadcasting, Channel 7 as a Videographer in Miami, Florida / Michael "Mikey" McNaughton passed away at the age of 76 years old on 13 May 2023 and his cremated remains were interred in Buffalo, New York

The 25th Infantry Division (nicknamed "Tropic Lightning") is a United States Army division based at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii / The division, which was activated on 1 October 1941 in Hawaii, conducts military operations primarily in the Asia-Pacific region / After undergoing major reorganizations in 1957 and 1963 to adapt to changing tactics, the division deployed to South Vietnam to fight in the Vietnam War between late 1965 and early 1966 / The 25th served in Vietnam until its withdrawal back to Hawaii in 1970–1971, participating in Operation Attleboro, Operation Cedar Falls, Operation Junction City, the Battle of Saigon during the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive, and the Cambodian Incursion / It was reorganized as a light infantry division in 1985, and elements have participated in the Iraq War and the War in Afghanistan



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCNICHOLAS, JR.**

JAMES E.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank: **LT COL**

Year Entered: **1969**

Year Discharged: **1993**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel James E. McNicholas, Jr. honorably served 24 years in the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) / After graduating from college, McNicholas was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and was stationed in Korea, Germany and the United States / Base assignments included Homestead AFB, FL; Korea; Ft. Bliss, TX; Hanau, Germany; Kaiserslautern, Germany and Ft. Ritchie, MD / James McNicholas was an Assistant Professor of Military Science in the ROTC program at Canisius College from 1975 to 1978 and then Chairman of the Military Science Department from 1989 until he retired from active duty in 1993 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel

Following his military retirement, Second Lieutenant McNicholas set up the Junior ROTC program in seven schools of the Buffalo School District

Base Assignments:

Homestead Air Reserve Base, Florida - Previously known as Homestead Air Force Base (Homestead AFB), the base is located in Miami-Dade County, Florida, to the northeast of the city of Homestead. It is home to the 482nd Fighter Wing (482 FW) of the Air Force Reserve Command's Tenth Air Force (10 AF), as well as the headquarters of Special Operations Command South / The installation was named Homestead Army Air Field on 16 September 1942 as a base for the United States Army Air Forces during World War II / In 1962, over 10,000 U.S. Army personnel were deployed to Homestead AFB and housed in a tent city in preparation for a possible land invasion of Cuba / Additional U.S. Army air defense artillery personnel manned several MIM-23 Hawk mobile surface-to-air missile (SAM) batteries and AN/MPQ-35 search radars that were placed around the base for defense against Soviet and/or Cuban aircraft / The 31st Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) was deployed to Southeast Asia for combat operations over Vietnam, the 4531st Tactical Fighter Wing was established as a provisional unit for host wing duties at Homestead AFB until the 31st TFW returned in 1970 / In 1994, Homestead AFB was placed on the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's initial base closings list, potentially dooming the base



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to closure, however, the BRAC Commission recommended retaining Homestead AFB and rebuilding and realigning the installation

Ft. Bliss, Texas - Fort Bliss is a United States Army post in New Mexico and Texas, with its headquarters in El Paso, Texas / Named in honor of LTC William Bliss (1815–1853), a mathematics professor who was the son-in-law of President Zachary Taylor, Ft. Bliss has an area of about 1,700 square miles; it is the largest installation in FORSCOM (United States Army Forces Command) and second-largest in the Army overall (the largest being the adjacent White Sands Missile Range) / Fort Bliss is home to the 1st Armored Division, which returned to US soil in 2011 after 40 years in Germany / The division is supported by the 1st Armored Division Sustainment Brigade / The installation is also home to Joint Task Force North (JTF), a joint service command / Fort Bliss trained thousands of U.S. Soldiers during the Cold War / As the United States gradually came to master the art of building and operating missiles, Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range became more and more important to the country, and were expanded accordingly

Fort Ritchie, Maryland - Fort Ritchie was originally established as a training site for the Maryland National Guard / It was acquired as a US Army installation during World War II / During the war it was used as a training site for interrogators and psychological warfare experts, known as the Ritchie Boys / After the war, it was used as a communications center by the Army supporting the Military District of Washington and by the Air Force in support of the nearby Raven Rock Mountain Complex Alternate National Military Command Center (ANMCC) / Fort Ritchie closed in September 1998, pursuant to the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission

Miscellaneous:

James McNicholas was born in Gloversville, New York and graduated from Bishop Burke High School in 1964 / McNicholas graduated from Canisius College and served as President of the Canisius Alumni Association / McNicholas was an ex-officio member of the Canisius Board of Directors for more than 30 years / While stationed in El Paso, Texas, McNicholas earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Sul Ross State University and completed a Master's Degree in Education at Canisius College in 1997 / James McNicholas was President of the Canisius Cage Club, a member of the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Buffalo and a member of the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park / James E. McNicholas, Jr. died on 22 February 2024 after a short illness / James E. McNicholas, Jr. passed away on 22 February 2024 at the age of 77 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCNULTY, SR.**

DONALD M.

Hometown: HANBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: MSGT

Year Entered: 1971

Year Discharged: 1995

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD RIBBON W/1 OAK LEAF (2)

AIR FORCE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL

OVERSEAS LONG TERM RIBBON

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

COMMENDATION MEDAL

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD RIBBON

OVERSEAS SHORT TOUR RIBBON W/1 OAK LEAF CLUSTER (2)

LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON W/3 OAK CLUSTERS (4)

GOOD CONDUCT AWARD W/1 SILVER OAK LEAF CLUSTER (6)

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

Service Notes:

Master Sergeant Donald M. McNulty, Sr. honorably served in the United States Air Force / MSGT Donald McNulty had a total of 6 years of foreign service as a Pavement & Construction Equipment Craftsman, including in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm

MSGT Donald McNulty was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Air Force on 31 May 1995 after 24 years of active duty

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald McNulty was a member of VFW Post #8265 in Eden, New York / Donald M. McNulty, Sr. passed away on 26 March 2023 at the age of 70 years old

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

The Air Force Commendation Medal was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on March 28, 1958, for



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

The Air Force 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

The Air Force Organizational Excellence Award Ribbon was established in 1969 to recognize unique, unnumbered organizations or units that have performed exceptionally meritorious service for a nominated time period of not less than two years / It is intended to recognize the achievements and accomplishments of U.S. Air Force organizations or activities that do not meet the eligibility requirements for the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

The Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM) is a military service medal of the United States Armed Forces which was created on January 19, 1977 by President Gerald Ford under Executive Order 11965 / The medal may be awarded to members of the United States military (including Reserve and National Guard members) who distinguish themselves by meritorious participation in specified military acts or operations of a humanitarian nature

The Air Force Short Tour Service Ribbon is awarded for less than two years of duty or as directed by Department of the Air Force policies / Normally, the Short Tour Service Ribbon is awarded for a permanent duty assignment of at least 300 days within an 18-month time span; such assignments are generally served unaccompanied by family members, though a short tour assignment need not be unaccompanied / Historically, most Short Tour Service Ribbons were awarded for service in South Korea, by far the most common short tour assignment in the USAF / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

The Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon is issued for completion of a standard overseas service assignment of two years or more in length with additional awards denoted by oak leaf clusters / Long tour credit is awarded for completion of an overseas long tour (2 years) prescribed by Department of the Air Force Instructions, or to any member assigned to a United States or overseas location who is subsequently sent under temporary duty orders (to include combat tours) for 365 or more days within a 3-year time frame / Additional awards of the Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon are denoted by oak leaf clusters

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



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award

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

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

Master Sergeant Donald M. McNulty, Sr. was also awarded the following military honors:

NCO PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION GRADUATION RIBBON w/1 Oak Leaf Cluster (2 awards)

The Air Force NCO Professional Military Education Graduation Ribbon, authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force, Aug. 28, 1962, is awarded to graduates of the following certified Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Military Education schools (NCO Preparatory Course, Airman Leadership School, NCO Leadership School, NCO Academy, SNCO Academy)

AIR FORCE TRAINING RIBBON

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCPARLANE**

MICHAEL R.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **MARINE CORPS**

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael R. McParlane honorably served in the United States Marine Corps and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael McParlane joined the Buffalo Police Department after his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps / McParlane retired as a Lieutenant with the Buffalo Police and was also an Investigator for the NYSAG (New York State Attorney General) / After his retirement, McParlane moved to St. Petersburg, Florida / Michael McParlane was a member of the BPA (Police Benevolent Association), Police Emerald Society, Blackthorn Club, Gold Shield Association, Hopper's Social Club, Knights of Columbus, American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / Michael Riley McParlane passed away at the age of 73 years old on 29 November 2022



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCPARTLAN, JR.**

JAMES H.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BM

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS BUTTE (AE-27)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Boatswain's Mate James Hugh McPartlan, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy and was assigned as a Fire Fighter

Base Assignments:

Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia - Naval Station Norfolk, is a United States Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia / It supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces Command, those operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / The installation occupies about 4 miles of waterfront space and 11 miles of pier and wharf space of the Hampton Roads peninsula known as Sewell's Point / It is the world's largest naval station, with the largest concentration of U.S. Navy forces through 75 ships alongside 14 piers and with 134 aircraft and 11 aircraft hangars at the adjacently operated Chambers Field / In 1968, the Naval Air Station was given a major role in John F. Kennedy's vision of putting a man on the moon / The air station became Recovery Control Center Atlantic, which provided command, control, and communications for the ships and aircraft that participated in the recovery operations of Apollo 7

Miscellaneous:

James H. McPartlan, Jr. was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

Naval Fireman stand power plant and ship security watches both while in port and underway / While performing watches, they will ensure all safety standards are being met with any associated engineering machinery / They are responsible for working with safety and fire suppression equipment / A Fireman preserves, maintains, and repairs the safety equipment and any other associated equipment to prepare for underway operations / Firefighters in the Navy assist putting out fires on ships, rescuing service members and their families and



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providing emergency medical care / In addition to performing maintenance on the equipment, they will also perform any emergency equipment repair

The second USS Butte (AE-27) was a Kilauea-class ammunition ship in the United States Navy, commissioned on 14 December 1968 in the Boston Naval Shipyard and assigned to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, originally homeported in Norfolk, Virginia / During the crisis in Jordan in 1970, Butte was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation for her peacekeeping role in that operation / From December 1972 to July 1973 she operated in the Tonkin Gulf and was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with one battle star / Shortly after getting underway from Norfolk on 3 September 1974, Butte suffered a major fire in the main switchboard, disrupting all ship support electrical supply / She was towed back to the naval base for repairs which included replacing the switchboard / In September 1995, Butte began her last deployment as part of the USS America battlegroup / She spent October 1995 operating in the Adriatic Sea, supporting air strikes in Bosnia as part of Operation Deliberate Force / She was decommissioned on 3 June 1996 and placed in service with the Military Sealift Command, where she became USNS Butte (T-AE-27) / Like five of the six other ships of her class, she was overhauled upon the transfer: accommodations were improved, the main armament was taken out and she was outfitted for reduced civilian crewing / On 24 May 2004, she was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and transferred to the NAVSEA Inactive Ships Maintenance Facility in Philadelphia awaiting disposal / On 3 July 2006, the ex USS Butte was sunk as a target off the east coast of the United States using Harpoon missiles, a Mark 48 torpedo fired from the USS San Juan and EOD explosives

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: MCSWAIN

DONALD R.

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:

Donald R. McSwain honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald McSwain was employed by the City of Buffalo as a Police Officer for 34 years / Donald R. McSwain passed away on 24 June 2025 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCTIGHE

ROBERT J.

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: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Robert J. McTighe honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Robert McTighe was employed by National Fuel Gas in Tonawanda, New York / McTighe served as an International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Union Representative / After his retirement, Robert McTighe was a volunteer Director of the Disabled American Veterans' Transportation Program / Robert J. McTighe passed away on 14 June 2024 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MCTIGUE

DAVID J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

David J. McTigue honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. McTigue passed away on 20 August 2018



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MCTIGUE**

ROBERT

F.

Hometown: TOWN OF TONAWANDA

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:** VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Robert F. McTigue honorably served in the United States Air Force and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. McTigue passed away on 16 April 2023 and is interred at Elmlawn Memorial Park, Tonawanda, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEDLER
LAWRENCE**

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:

Lawrence Medler honorably served in the United States Military / Lawrence Medler was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEISSNER**

KEITH E.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT. COLONEL

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1980

Unit / Squadron:

39TH SIGNAL BATTALION

221ST AVIATION COMPANY "SHOTGUNS"

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel Keith E. Meissner honorably served in the United States Army / Upon completion of Basic Training, Lt. Colonel Keith Meissner took helicopter mechanic training in 1955 at Gary Air Force Base, Texas and Fort Rucker, Alabama / Meissner applied for and was accepted a Regular Army appointment at West Point in 1956 / Meissner graduated from West Point in 1961 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant / In 1964-1965, Lieutenant Meissner underwent Fixed Wing Pilot training, and received his Army Aviator wings in August 1965 / Meissner served two tours in Vietnam / In between tours, Meissner trained as an airman and flew spotter upon returning to Vietnam / Lt. Colonel Meissner's last command was as Manager, Command, Control, Communications Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, Germany

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

Gary Air Force, San Marcos, Texas - Originally named San Marcos Army Air Field, the base was opened in December 1942 / The mission of the new installation was navigator training, and the first unit to occupy the field was the 2536th Army Air Forces Base Unit arriving on 13 February 1943 / With classes arriving about every three weeks, by September 1945, when the navigator mission ended, roughly 10,000 navigators had been trained / In May 1946 the field began training helicopter pilots / With twenty-one squadrons assigned to San Marcos Army



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Air Field and over 4,800 personnel, the base was the largest training operation for air force helicopter pilots in the United States / Pilot training was provided for both army and air force helicopter pilots and maintenance training for army and air force enlisted mechanics / On 16 May 1953, the base was renamed Gary Air Force Base in honor of 2d Lt. Arthur Edward Gary, the first San Marcos resident killed in World War II / Lt. Gary was killed when Japanese bombers attacked Clark Field in the Philippines on 7 December 1941 / Gary AFB was transferred to the army in 1956 and became Camp Gary / Camp Gary closed in December 1963

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

Stewart Air Force Base -

West Point -

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

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



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

Lakehurst Naval Air Station, New Jersey -

Fort Ord & Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, CA -

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas -

U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, Germany.

Miscellaneous:

Keith Meissner joined the Army at the age of 17 years after graduating from West Seneca West Senior High School / Meissner wrestled at West Point while training to be an officer / Meissner retired in July 1980 from the U.S. Army with an Honorable Discharge after 21 years of military duty, two years Enlisted Service and 19 years Commissioned Service / Upon retiring Keith Meissner moved to Saxonburg, Pennsylvania where he volunteered as an assistant wrestling coach at a Pennsylvania high school / In 2021, Keith Meissner donated \$55,000 to West Seneca West Senior High School to establish a wrestling scholarship

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

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



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEISTER**

RONALD

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:

Ronald M. Meister honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ron Meister was the owner/operator of Meister's Restaurant for many years / Ronald M. Meister passed away on 9 November 2025 and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEJAK**

ROBERT F.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1965

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 27TH MAINTENANCE BATTALION
36TH HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (SP-4) Robert Francis Mejak honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Robert Mejak was assigned as an Auto Repairman / Cpl Mejak was stationed in Kimpo, Korea

Base Assignments:

Kimpo, Korea - Kimpo is a city in Gyeonggi Province, South Korea / The airport at Kimpo (Gimpo) was known as "K-14" Air Force Base during the Korean War / Sabre jets were based and operated from K-14 to "Mig Alley" located in the north western area of North Korea, and where air combat would take place with enemy Mig aircraft

Miscellaneous:

Robert F. Mejak was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The 1st Cavalry Division ("First Team") is a combined arms division and is one of the most decorated combat divisions of the United States Army / It is based at Fort Hood, Texas. It was formed in 1921 and served during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War / In the Vietnam War, the division suffered more casualties than any other army division: 5,444 men killed in action and 26,592 wounded in action / The unit is unique in that it has served as a horseback cavalry division until 1943, an infantry division, an air assault division and an armored division during its existence

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



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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

Name: **MELLENGER**

KARL A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1966

Unit / Squadron:

2ND BATTALION, 127TH ARMOR REGIMENT

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Karl A. Mellenger honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Mellenger served a total of 6 years in the US Army Artillery Branch and New York Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Karl Mellenger received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 13 March 1966 / Mellenger was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders / Karl A. Mellenger passed away on 2 May 2020

The 127th Armor traces its origins as far back as 1838, to a company also known as the "Buffalo City Guards" / The 127th Tank Battalion (formed 1950) reorganized and redesignated as 127th Armor, a CARS parent regiment, on 16 March 1959 / The regiment then consisted of the 1st Medium Tank Battalion, an element of the 27th Armored Division (United States) / Circa 2005 the 1st Battalion was a tank unit of the 3rd Brigade, 42nd Infantry Division (United States) in Buffalo, NY



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MELLOTT**
DONALD E.

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:

Donald E. Mellott honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Donald Mellott worked for the railroad until his retirement / Donald E. Mellott passed away 31 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MELLOTT**

EDWARD

O.

Hometown:

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 Edward Orr Mellott honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward Orr Mellott passed away on 2 April 2026 at the age of 89 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MELTZER
DAVID

Hometown: AURORA

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:

David Meltzer honorably served in the United States Army Reserves for six years / Meltzer trained as a Medical Corpsman

Base Assignments:

Fort Sam Houston is a U.S. Army post in San Antonio, Texas known as "Fort Sam," / It is named for the U.S. Senator from Texas, U.S. Representative from Tennessee, Tennessee and Texas Governor, and first President of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston / Fort Sam Houston is known as the "Home of Army Medicine" and "Home of the Combat Medic" / At the end of World War II, the Army decided to make Fort Sam Houston the principal medical training facility

Miscellaneous:

David Meltzer attended School #81 in Buffalo and graduated from Kenmore Junior High School in 1958 and Kenmore West Senior High School in 1962 / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army Reserves, Meltzer was an Accountant for Mid-State Packing Company, Inc. / David Meltzer attended SUNY Buffalo, majoring in Philosophy / Meltzer earned his Bachelor of Sciences Diploma in Accounting from Canisius College in 1975 / Meltzer worked as a Welfare Examiner for the Erie County Department of Social Services / Meltzer later moved to an accounting position with the Erie County Comptroller's Office, followed by a post with the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning until his retirement in 2005 / David Meltzer passed away on 3 July 2024 at the age of 80 years old

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MELVIN
WILLIS

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:

Willis Melvin honorably served in the United States Military / Willis Melvin was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MENDOLA**
GREGORY A.

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:

Gregory A. Mendola honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gregory A. Mendola passed away on 8 March 2014 and is interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MERKLE**

JEROME J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

23RD INFANTRY (AMERICAL) DIVISION, 198TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-16)

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

Service Notes:

Jerome J. Merkle honorably served in the United States Army / Jerome Merkle was deployed to Vietnam for a 1 year tour of duty with the Army 23rd Infantry Division, 198th Infantry Brigade

Jerome Merkle was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 6 October 1968 with reserve obligation ending 24 November 1972

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerome Merkle was a 1965 graduate of Cardinal O'Hara High School / Jerome J. Merkle passed away on 17 October 2024 at the age of 77 years old

The Americal Division was an infantry division of the United States Army during World War II and the Vietnam War / The division was activated 27 May 1942 on the island of New Caledonia / In the immediate emergency following Pearl Harbor, the United States had hurriedly sent a task force to defend New Caledonia against a feared Japanese attack / This division was the only division formed outside of United States territory during World War II / The new unit be known as the Americal Division—the name being a contraction of "American, New Caledonian Division" / This was unusual, as with the exception of the Philippine Division, all other U.S. divisions were known by a number / After World War II the Americal Division was officially re-designated as the 23rd Infantry Division, but was rarely referred to as such, even on official orders / During the Vietnam War the



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division had a mixed record / It combined participation in numerous battles and campaigns / The division suffered a tactical defeat in the early morning of 28 March 1971, when Vietcong sapper commandos successfully infiltrated FSB Mary Ann / The attack destroyed key infrastructure, as well as killing 33 and wounding 83 Americans / The division was deactivated following its withdrawal from South Vietnam in November 1971

The 198th Infantry Brigade, was first formed as part of the United States Army Reserve's 99th Division / It was active from 1967 through 1971 and has been active since 2007 as an Infantry Training Brigade as part of the US Army Infantry School at Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), Georgia / During the years of 1967–1971, as part of the Vietnam War, the 198th was part of the United States Army's 23rd "Americal" Infantry Division / In 1968, elements of the 198th Infantry Brigade participated in the Battle of Kham Duc / Reactivated on 15 May 2007, the 198th Infantry Brigade now serves as an Infantry Training Brigade at Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), Georgia with the mission to train and prepare infantry soldiers for their critical roles in the U.S. Army

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MERRICK**
RICHARD

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:

Richard Merrick honorably served in the United States Military / Richard Merrick was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MERVINE**

DAVID J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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:

David J. Mervine honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David J. Mervine passed away on 24 September at the age of 80 years old and is interred at the Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MESCALL**

DANIEL

G.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel G. Mescall honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel G. Mescall passed away on 4 July 2025 at the age of 83 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MESCALL**

DANIEL

G.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch:

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Daniel G. Mescall honorably served in the United States Military

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel G. Mescall passed away on 4 July 2025 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MESMER, JR.

JOHN

R.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John R. Mesmer, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Mesmer was a millwright and a handyman / Mesmer retired from Upstate/Bison Foods in West Seneca / John Mesmer was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Moose Lodge / John R. Mesmer, Jr. passed away on 22 April 2013 at the age of 66 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **METTY**

RAYMOND J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 215 GOODELL STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM (USARV), 34TH GENERAL SUPPORT GROUP, 625TH GENERAL SUPPORT COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Raymond James Metty honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Raymond Metty was deployed to Vietnam on 14 April 1966 as a Laundry Bath and Impregnation Specialist / PFC Raymond Metty died from non-hostile action on 25 December 1966 / Death occurred from a reported intentional homicide

On 25 December 1966, PFC Raymond Metty attended Christmas midnight mass at a Vietnamese Church in An Khe, Binh Dinh Province / As he was leaving the church PFC Metty was shot and killed by an unknown assailant

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Raymond James Metty was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

Raymond James Metty is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 13e, Line 79

Laundry Bath and Impregnation Specialist in the U.S. Army plays a crucial role in maintaining hygiene and ensuring the well-being of soldiers / Specialists receive bulk, individual, or organizational laundry and reviews laundry lists for accuracy of bundle count or contents of individual laundry bag / Segregates, classifies, and marks



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washable and non-washable items / Operates mobile washers, extractors, dryers, re-impregnation, decontamination, and delousing equipment / Sorts and issues cleaned laundry and equipment / Conducts clothing exchange in conjunction with bag operations. Installs, inspects, operates, and maintains laundry, shower, decontamination and delousing equipment, and generators / Supervises or performs laundry, shower, delousing, personnel and clothing decontamination, and reimpregnation functions

The United States Army, Vietnam (USARV) was a Corps-level support command of the United States Army during the Vietnam War / Although the U.S. Army Support Group was the Army component command within Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) in 1962, its functions were limited to logistical and administrative matters and excluded operational matters / USARV controlled the activities of all U.S. Army service and logistical units in South Vietnam through ten major support commands and also supervised 71 smaller units

The 34th General Support Group was provisionally formed in November 1965 and officially activated in January 1966 / Its primary responsibility was to provide command and control for assigned and attached units involved in aircraft, avionics, and air armament maintenance functions in the Republic of Vietnam / The group played a crucial role in supporting Army aviation operations during the Vietnam War / It rendered general support to all Army aircraft in Vietnam, including backup direct support to divisional units / Notable divisions it supported included the 101st Airborne, Americal, 4th Infantry, 25th Infantry, and the 1st Cavalry (Airmobile), as well as the 1st Aviation Brigade / The 34th General Support Group contributed to the overall readiness and effectiveness of Army aviation during a critical period in Vietnam

The 625th Supply and Service Company, also known as the 625th S-S Group Quang Tri, played a significant role during the Vietnam War / The 625th S-S Group Quang Tri was deployed to the Republic of Vietnam on 2 September 1965 / It was assigned and stationed in Quang Tri, specifically at Wunder Beach (southeast of Base Camp Quang Tri) and Dong Ha, both in Quang Tri Province, I Corps / As part of the 26th General Support Group, it operated under the 63rd Maintenance Battalion and was attached to the US Army Support Command (USASUPCOM) in Da Nang / The 625th S-S Group Quang Tri provided supply and service support to military operations in the region / It was responsible for ensuring the availability of essential supplies, equipment, and services to sustain combat units and personnel

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

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The 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: **METZ**
ROBERT

Hometown: WALES

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Robert Metz honorably served in the United States Army / Robert Metz was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Metz is a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Rademacher VFW Post #5861

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

Name: **METZGER**

ROBERT S.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert Sylvester Metzger honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Metzger was an Eagle Scout / Metzger was a pilot for the FAA, Air Borne Express and Braniff Airlines / Robert Metzger retired to Fernandina Beach, Florida / Robert Sylvester Metzger passed away on 18 November 2025 at the age of 79 years old and is interred at a national military cemetery in Bushnell, Florida



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYER

KENNETH M.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: PO2

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged: 1961

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Petty Officer Second-Class Kenneth M. Meyer honorably served in the United States Navy / Petty Office Second-Class Kenneth Meyer was assigned as an Aviation Electronics Technician at Commandant Third Naval District, New York

PO2 Kenneth Meyer was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy on 17 March 1961 with reserve obligations ending 27 July 1962

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Kenneth M. Meyer passed away on 28 December 2024 at the age of 86 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

The Third Naval District, headquartered at New York, New York, was established on 7 May 1903 / In 1966, after the Brooklyn Navy Yard had provided significant maritime forces to win the Atlantic naval campaigns during both World War I and World War II, the U.S. Navy closed the aging yard as an operational naval base / Third Naval District was disestablished on 7 October 1976, and command functions were transferred to the Fourth Naval District in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MEYER**

MARC

D.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Marc D. Meyer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Marc D. Meyer passed away on 8 November 2024 at the age of 70 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MEYER, SR.

DAVID M.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

194TH MP COMPANY, US ARMY PACIFIC

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (PISTOL)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Michael Meyer, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Meyer served 21 months in Vietnam from 1966 through 1968 as a member of the Military Police

David Meyer, Sr. was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 26 November 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Meyer went to work for CSX and retired 42 years later / David Meyer was a member of Vietnam Veterans Chapter #77, Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940, American Legion Post #735, Amvets Post #897, a member of UTU #1393 and a Gold Star Father / David Michael Meyer, Sr. passed away on 13 January 2019

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

The 19th Military Police (MP) Company was constituted 10 June 1943 in the Army of the United States as the 194th Military Police Company / The 194th served in North Africa during World War II / The 194th MP Company served in Vietnam from May 1967 through June 1972, earning the Meritorious Unit Commendation

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

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

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

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: **MEYERS**
ROY L.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: BT3

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

USS DUPONT (DD-941)

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Boilerman Petty Officer 3rd Class Roy Lewis Meyers honorably served in the United States Navy / BT3 Roy Meyers deployed to Vietnam onboard the USS Dupont as a Boiler Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Roy Lewis Meyers was a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940 / Meyers was a volunteer for Hospice and the West Seneca Senior Center / Roy Lewis Meyers passed away on 25 November 2018 at the age of 77 years old

The Navy Boiler Technician operates and performs maintenance on marine boilers, pumps, and other fire room machinery / Technicians perform tests on boiler water, fuel, and lubricating oils; operates and performs preventive maintenance on boilers and boiler auxiliary equipment; operates distilling plants; tests and calibrates gauges; exercises environmental control procedures / Technicians do repair work; supervises oil spill containment and collecting; prepares environment pollution reports; conducts on-the-job training; monitors maintenance and handling of logs, records, accounts, and reports; prepares quarterly maintenance schedules / Boiler Technicians perform all basic fireman apprenticeship functions in engineering areas aboard ship, involving cleanliness, operation, maintenance, and preservation of main propulsion, auxiliary steam or diesel machinery, steam or diesel generators, various pumps

USS Du Pont (DD-941) was a Forrest Sherman -class destroyer named for Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont USN (1803–1865) / Commissioned o 1 July 1957 / Du Pont's first Vietnam deployment began in August 1967 on the gun line in support of U.S. Marines fighting at the Demilitarized Zone / Under constant threat from enemy



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Town of West Seneca, New York

shore batteries, her gunners shelled enemy positions day and night / On 28 August 1967, the enemy fired on the destroyer Robison, which was between Du Pont and the beach / As Robison maneuvered to seaward, Du Pont returned fire, immediately replacing it as a target for some twenty 130 mm rounds / One shell found its target, hitting the Mount 52 gun / The burst sent shrapnel into the mount and down through the superstructure to the after deckhouse, killing FN Frank L. Ballant and wounding eight others / Despite the casualties to men and ship, Du Pont continued on station for another two weeks before heading for Subic Bay and repairs / Under fire once more when she returned to the gun line on 10 October, she successfully avoided being hit / On 10 November 1967, the eight men wounded on 28 August received Purple Heart medals, and two days later, the ship left for her last trip to the gun line / At the end of seventy-five days in combat, Du Pont's 5-inch guns had fired 20,000 rounds / Returning to Norfolk in January 1968, she went into dry dock for repairs followed by operations with the Apollo recovery force, exercises in the Caribbean, and midshipman training / The Du Pont was decommissioned on 4 March 198 and sold for scrap on 10 February 1999



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MICHALAK

JERRY

G.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Jerry G. Michalak honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jerry G. Michalak passed away on 5 October 2024 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MICHALSKI**
EDMUND

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Edmund Michalski honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edmund Michalski graduated from Bishop Ryan High School / Michalski graduated with a MBA from Michigan State University in 1966 / Edmund Michalski was the owner of a bakery and café and a consultant / Michalski was the President of the Buffalo Chapter of the New York Restaurant Association in 1964 / Edmund Michalski passed away on 15 April 2024



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MIERZWA

PAUL

A.

Hometown: DEPEW

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:

Paul A. Mierzwa honorably served in the United States Air Force / Mierzwa was assigned to the Air Force Band, where he played the drums

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Air Force, Paul Mierzwa was employed by the Whitmier & Ferris Company for many years as an Artistic Designer / Paul A. Mierzwa passed away on 7 December 2024 at the age of 90 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIESOWICZ**

GERALD L.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1962

Unit / Squadron:

11TH ARTILLERY

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Gerald L. Miesowicz honorably served in the United States Army / Gerald Miesowicz was deployed to Germany for 1 year and 7 months with the 11th Artillery / Miesowicz played the bugle in the Army, performing Taps to honor fallen comrades

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gerald Miesowicz was employed as a Civil Engineer at Bethlehem Steel, leaving to work at Hertel Plumbing and Heating / Gerald Miesowicz, a musician, played trumpet for polka bands such as the Jumping Jacks, G-Notes, Eddie O's Orchestra, and Rare Vintage and appeared on the Polka Buzz TV Show, Buffalo Polka Boosters and Polka Variety Social Club / Gerald L. Miesowicz passed away on 24 May 2024 at the age of 87 years old

The 11th Field Artillery Regiment is a Field Artillery Branch regiment of the United States Army first formed on 3 June 1916 / A parent regiment in the U.S. Army Regimental System, one battalion of the regiment is currently active, the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division / The regiment was shipped to England aboard RMS Carolina on 14 July 1918 and fought in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, seeing its first action on the night of 26 October at Rémonville and participating in the largest artillery barrage of the war on 1 November 1918 / Four battalions of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment served in the Vietnam War / The 1st Battalion served with the 9th Infantry Division. The 2d Battalion served with the 101st Airborne Division. The 6th Battalion served with the 11th Infantry Brigade / The 7th Battalion served the 25th Infantry Division. Robert Kalsu (Buffalo Bills), one of two NFL players killed in Vietnam, served with Battery A, 2d Battalion in the 101st Airborne Division



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



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MIHALO

EDWARD J.

Hometown: HAMBURG

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:

Edward J. Mihalo honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edward J. Mihalo passed away on 15 July 2024 at the age of 80 years old and is interred at St. Mary's Cemetery, Eden, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILES

LARRY A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 29 ONEIDA STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

3RD MARINE DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 9TH MARINES, F COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Larry Allen Miles honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Larry Miles was deployed to Vietnam on 9 December 1968 as a Rifleman / PFC Larry Miles was Killed In Action on 28 March 1969 from enemy small arms fire while on patrol during combat operations in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Larry Miles was born in Paulding, Ohio / Miles attended Sacred Heart School / Larry Miles graduated from South Park High School and enlisted in the Marine Corps on 27 June 1968, a day after High School graduation / Larry Allen Miles was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Larry Allen Miles is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 28w, Line 72

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw



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four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

2nd Battalion, 9th Marines (2/9) was an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I, the unit played an instrumental role in the defeat of the Japanese forces in the Battles of Guam and Iwo Jima during World War II / The battalion distinguished itself in the defense of Khe Sanh during the Vietnam War, and later participated in an ill-fated invasion of Koh Tang Island in Southeast Asia, with the intention of rescuing the crew of SS Mayaguez / On 4 July 1965, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines were ordered to Vietnam from Okinawa / The 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines fought battles in or around Danang, Hue, Phu Bai, Dong Ha, Camp Carroll, Cam Lo, Con Thien, Than Cam Son, Quang Tri, Cua Viet, Vandegrift Combat Base and what is considered by many as their most vicious engagement, the Battle of Khe Sanh / The 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines left Vietnam in August 1969 and returned to Camp Schwab, Okinawa / During Operation Desert Storm, the battalion served as the lead battalion for the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF)

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

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

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

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

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



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(highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

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

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILITELLO
DAVID L.

Hometown: DERBY

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1965

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

HHC, 78TH SIGNAL BATTALION (CA)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

2 OVERSEAS BARS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David Louis Militello honorably served in the United States Army / SGT David Militello was deployed to Vietnam as a General Vehicle Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David L. Militello was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #2940

The 78th Signal Battalion is a strategic Signal Battalion subordinate to the 516th Signal Brigade and headquartered at Camp Zama, Japan / The battalion mission is to provide and defend the Pacific LandWarNet and expeditionary communications capabilities as part of U.S. Army Pacific's Theater Information Grid, enabling mission command and information superiority

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support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILITELLO

MICHAEL A.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1976

Year Discharged: 1982

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/1 STAR

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NAVY "E" RIBBON

NAVY MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Michael A. Militello honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael A. Militello passed away on 11 February 2023 at the age of 77 years old and is interred at St. Adalbert Cemetery, Lancaster, New York

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

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The Navy "E" Ribbon or Battle Efficiency Ribbon (informally the Battle "E" ribbon) was authorized on March 31,



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1976, as a unit award for battle efficiency competition / The service ribbon replaced the "E" patch previously sewn on the right sleeve of the enlisted naval uniform for rates/pay grades E-1 through E-6 / The Navy "E" Ribbon denotes the wearer was on permanent duty aboard a U.S. Navy ship or in a unit that won a battle efficiency competition

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MILKS

DAN

R.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Dan R. Milks honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dan Milks was a long-time employee of Roswell Park / Dan R. Milks passed away on 22 June 2025 at the age of 81 years old and his remains cremated at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery's Field of Valor, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

ALFRED J.

Hometown: CITY OF TONAWANDA

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:

Alfred J. "Buddy" Miller honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Alfred Miller was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force and went to work for General Motors Powertrain for 38 years until his retirement in 2006 / Alfred J. "Buddy" Miller passed away on 14 August 2023 at the age of 78 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

ARTHUR L.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Arthur L. Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Arthur Miller graduated from Grand Island High School / Arthur Miller was a facilities Manager for VLOC / Miller retired to Sun City Center, Florida / Arthur L. Miller passed away on 14 November 2015 at the age of 68 years old



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Name: **MILLER**

DAVID A.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1970

Year Discharged: 1972

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, QUARTERMASTER SERVICE BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 SERVICE STARS
NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

David A. Miller honorably served in the United States Army / Miller was deployed to Vietnam for 12 months and served as a Memorial Activities Specialist assigned to a Mortuary Unit / Miller received an 18-month early release from active Army duty to join the 1st Battalion, 391st Regiment (CST), 98th Division Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Miller was a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #77 / David A. Miller passed away on 15 April 2020 at the age of 71 years old

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

The 391st Regiment was constituted 23 July 1918 in the National Army as the 391st Infantry and assigned to the 98th Division / Reorganized and redesignated 1 May 1959 as the 391st Regiment, an element of the 98th Division (Training), with Headquarters at Rochester, New York / Reorganized 19 October 2001 to consist of the



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1st, 2d, and 3d Battalions, elements of the 98th Division (Institutional Training) / The 391st Regiment participated in World War II serving in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater

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

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

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



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Name: **MILLER**

EDMUND E.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "B", 4TH BATTALION, 31ST INFANTRY, 196TH BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/DEVICE (1960)

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS W/PALM UNIT CITATION
BADGE

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Edmund Edward Miller honorably served in the United States Army as a Light Weapons Infantrymen

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Edmund Edward Miller was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

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

The 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment (The Polar Bears) were constituted 1 July 1916 in the Regular Army as Company D, 31st Infantry / Surrendered 9 April 1942 to the Japanese 14th Army / Reorganized 19 January 1946 in Korea as an element of the 7th Infantry Division / Inactivated 1 July 1957 in Korea and relieved from



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assignment to the 7th Infantry Division / Redesignated 10 September 1965 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, assigned to the 196th Infantry Brigade, and activated at Fort Devens, Massachusetts / The Regiment participated in the Vietnam Tet Counteroffensive in 1968 / The 196th Infantry Brigade ("Chargers"), also known as the Charger Brigade was first formed on 24 June 1921 as part of the United States Army Reserve's 98th Division with the responsibility of training soldiers

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

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

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

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

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



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The 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: **MILLER**

JEFFREY

A.

Hometown: AKRON

Address: 11333 HUNTS CORNER

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: LCPL

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, H COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART (2)

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Jeffery Allen Miller honorbly served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Jeffrey Miller was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman / LCPL Jeffrey Miller died from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam

LCPL Jeffery Miller died from wounds received in Quang Nam, Vietnam / The wounds were from artillery fire on 18 July 1970 / Miller was sent to the St. Albans Hospital in New York, where he succumbed to those wounds on 22 August 1970

LCPL Jeffrey Miller received a Purple Heart Medal in June 1970 when he was injured from an enemy explosive device

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Jeffrey Miller graduated from Akron High School / Miller enlisted in the U.S. Marines a year after high school graduation / Jeffery Allen Miller was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Pioneer Cemetery, Newstead, New York



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Jeffery Allen Miller is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 08w, Line 131

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

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of 22,000 personnel / It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

2nd Battalion, 1st Marines (2/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based in Camp Horno on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / Nicknamed "The Professionals," the battalion consists of approximately 1,200 Marines and Sailors / Normally they fall under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion was activated 1 August 1922, at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as the 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment and was assigned to the 2nd Brigade / The battalion played a role in the occupation of the Dominican Republic, after which it was deactivated on 20 July 1924 / The battalion was reactivated 1 March 1941, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines and was assigned to the 1st Marine Division of the Fleet Marine Force / The unit was again deactivated on 14 June 1941 / The unit was reactivated 11 February 1942, and assigned to the 1st Marine Division, which deployed in July 1942 to Wellington, New Zealand / The battalion participated in numerous campaigns in the Pacific Theater of WWII, the first of these was the Guadalcanal Campaign / They later participated in the Battle of Peleliu and Battle of Okinawa / the Korean War the battalion fought at Inchon-Seoul, Chosin Reservoir, the East Central Front, and the Western Front / After the war, the unit aided in the defense of the Korean Demilitarized Zone / During the Vietnam War, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines was deployed to South Vietnam in November 1965 and participated in major operations and battles until May, 1971 / In June 1971, the 2/1 was relocated to Camp Pendleton, California / The mission of the 2d Battalion, First Marine Division (MARDIV) is to locate and destroy the enemy by fire and maneuver or repels the enemy's assault by fire and close combat / The Battalion conducts combat readiness focused training and education across all warfighting functions in preparation for employment as a ground combat element in support of operation



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**
JOHN

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

John "Gary" Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Gary Miller received his Honorable Discharge when he retired from the Navy after 22 years as an ADC Flight Engineer

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John "Gary" Miller passed away on 2 October 2025



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

JOHN

W.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John W. "Jack" Miller honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Miller was a retired Buffalo Fire Fighter of 35 years and received the Butler Award for Bravery, saving 3 children in a working fire / Miller is also a retired school bus driver for Grand Island School District, a member of Zion United Church of Christ, a Masonic member of Renaissance Lodge #1188 F&AM and a member of Faith Chapter #722 O.E.S. and past Grand Officer of Order of Eastern Star / John W. "Jack" Miller passed away on 18 October 2025 at the age of 85 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLER**

LOUIS E.

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

1ST BATTALION, 18TH INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

AIR MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Louis E. Miller honorably served in the United States Army / Army Specialist Louis Miller was deployed to Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for valor in combat and the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered on the battlefield

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Louis Miller was a graduate of South Park High School / Louis E. Miller passed away on 3 August 2023

The 1st Battalion of the 18th Infantry received the nickname Swamp Rats in 1966 when they fought in the salt water swamps in the Rung Sat Special Zone in the Delta Region of Vietnam

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

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a



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combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

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

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

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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 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: **MILLER**

ROBERT H.

Hometown: CLARENCE CENTER

Address: 6021 RAILROAD STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

25TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 27TH INFANTRY, A COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Robert Herbert Miller honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Robert Miller was deployed to Vietnam on 17 March 1977 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 Robert Miller was Killed In Action on 28 April 1967 from enemy small arms fire during a combat patrol in Tay Ninh 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

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 and named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / Fort Gordon is located southwest of Augusta, Georgia / It is the current home of the United States Army Signal Corps, United States Army Cyber Command, and the Cyber Center of Excellence / It was once the home of The Provost Marshal General School and Civil Affairs School / The fort is one of the major components of the installation is Advanced Individual Training for Signal Corps military occupational specialties / Signals Intelligence has become more visible and comprises more and more of the fort's duties / During the



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Vietnam War, Fort Gordon was home to Camp Crockett, an area of the post conducting 9-week advance airborne infantry training courses for soldiers in line to attend the remaining 3 weeks of Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then be assigned to Airborne units in Vietnam / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS) / Fort Gordon is one of the U.S. Army installations named for Confederate soldiers to be renamed by the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America

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:

Robert Miller enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1966 / Robert Herbert Miller was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at White Chapel Memorial Park, Amherst, New York

Robert Herbert Miller is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 18e, Line 110

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

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



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The 27th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the "Wolfhounds", is a regiment of the United States Army established in 1901, that served in the Philippine–American War, in the Siberian Intervention after World War I, and as part of the 25th Infantry Division ("Tropic Lightning") during World War II, the Korean War, and later the Vietnam War / The 27th Infantry Regiment, entered the Vietnam War in January, 1966 / During their five-year stay in Vietnam, the unit earned two valorous unit citations, and was one of the last 25th Infantry Division units to return home / The regiment participated in Operation Junction City and fought during the Tet Offensive and the May Offensive / The regiment finally returned to Hawaii in April, 1971 / More recently the regiment deployed to Afghanistan for the second time, following two deployments to Iraq

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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: **MILLIGAN**

MICHAEL E.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 3RD SUPPORT BRIGADE, SEVENTH ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND,
US ARMY EUROPE

Medals / Citations:

COLD WAR SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist 4th Class Michael E. Milligan honorably served in the United States Army / SP4 Michael Milligan was deployed for 18 months of foreign service in Germany as a Power Plant Operations Mechanic

SP4 Michael E. Milligan was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army on 8 May 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Milligan was the production manager with Brimms Inc / Michael E. Milligan passed away on 10 October 2022 at the age of 74 years old

Power Plant Operations Mechanic supervises electric power plant and auxiliary systems equipment / Operates and maintains electrical power plants; performs mechanical, electrical and instrumentation functions necessary to install and prepare power station equipment for initial startup; analyze plant equipment and system operating characteristics to determine operational condition; perform electrical assessments of electrical distribution systems and facilities; repair or overhauls generating equipment and associated systems components; supervise the installation, operation or maintenance of prime power plants, associated systems, equipment and soldiers; direct preparation of power plant equipment for movement, storage and installation; serve as technical inspector to determine faulty operation maintenance practices; determines and isolates complex malfunctions, utilizing diagnostic tests, and troubleshooting techniques; supervise electrical



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assessments of electrical distribution systems and facilities

General support groups provide both general support and back-up direct support for the divisions and the direct support groups / Repair parts at the general support level are in supply channels; however, general support maintenance units carry adequate shop stocks of repair parts to support their internal operations / Missile and ammunition maintenance is handled by the ammunition brigade and maintenance for medical equipment by the medical brigade

The Cold War Service Medal Act authorizes a service medal for those in the military between September 1945 and December 1991 who served on active duty for 24 consecutive months during the Cold War; were deployed outside of the continental U.S. for a period of at least 30 days during the Cold War; or were a member of a reserve unit called to active duty to participate in exercises or operations directly related to the Cold War

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MILLS**

JOSEPH

F.

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:

Joseph F. Mills honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph F. Mills passed away on 2 February 2026 at the age of 90 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIMMACK**

JACK

E.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: LCDR

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Commander Jack E. Mimmack honorably served in the United States Navy / LCDR Jack Mimmack was a Dentist stationed at the Chelsea Naval Hospital and Edenton, North Carolina / LCDR Mimmack retired from the U.S. Navy

Base Assignments:

Chelsea Naval Hospital, Massachusetts - Naval Hospital Boston was a hospital in Chelsea, Massachusetts / With the closure of the nearby Boston Navy Yard, the hospital closed in 1974 / Chelsea Naval Hospital was one of the first three hospitals authorized by Congress to accommodate naval personnel / Previously, personnel received treatment at marine hospitals operated by the Department of the Treasury for mariners, both naval and merchant / The hospital served naval personnel and others during the American Civil War, Spanish–American War, World War I and World War II

Miscellaneous:

Jack Mimmack graduated from Nichols School in 1947 and Grinnell College (Grinnell, Iowa) in 1951 / Mimmack graduated from the University of Buffalo Dental School in 1955 prior to entering military service / After his retirement from the Navy, Jack Mimmack joined his Father in the Dental practice, working for 40 years as a Dentist / Mimmack was a life member of the Country Club of Buffalo / Jack E. Mimmack, DDS passed away on 19 March 2025 at the age of 95 years old after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MINGLE**

HAROLD H.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (SMALL ARMS)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Harold H. "Harry" Mingle honorably served in the United States Air Force / SGT Harold Mingle was stationed in Texas and Hawaii where he performed installation, maintenance and instruction on teletype equipment

Harold Mingle was Honorably Discharged from the United States Air Force on 19 March 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Harold H. "Harry" Mingle passed away on 12 March 2018 at the age of 75 years old

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(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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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MINKIEWICZ

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Robert Lehning honorably served in the United States Military / Robert Lehning 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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MINKIEWICZ**

JAMES

C.

Hometown: BLASDELL

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James C. "The Mink" Minkiewicz honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James C. "The Mink" Minkiewicz passed away on 19 February 2026 at the age of 80 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MINOTTI**

ANTHONY J.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address: 2639 TOWNLINE ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Anthony John Minotti honorably served in the United States Army / SGT John Minotti was deployed to Vietnam as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SGT Anthony Minotti was Killed In Action on 15 May 1969 when he drove over a land mine and sustained fatal wounds from the explosive device in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Anthony Minotti was a 1964 graduate of St. Mary's High School in Lancaster / Minotti attended Erie County Technical Institute before entering the U.S. Army in November 1967 / Anthony John Minotti was 23 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint John the Baptist Cemetery, Alden, New York

Anthony John Minotti is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 24w, Line 18

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



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where weather makes vehicular mobility difficult / Light infantry forces typically rely on their ability to operate under restrictive conditions, surprise, violence of action, training, stealth, field craft, and fitness levels of the individual soldiers to compensate for their reduced lethality / Despite the usage of the term "light", forces in a light unit must carry everything they require to fight, survive and win due to lack of vehicles

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

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIRANDA
DOMINIC**

Hometown: WEST SENECA

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:

Dominic Miranda honorably served in the United States Navy and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIRUSSO**
TONY

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Tony Mirusso honorably served in the United States Military / Tony Mirusso was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MISNER

PAUL

J.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

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:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Paul Misner graduated from Tonawanda High School in 1961 / Misner graduated from Bryant & Stratton College / Paul Misner was a Bartender and worked at many establishments throughout Tonawanda / Misner was a member of The Third Warders Club and a dedicated member of Frontiersmen Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW Post #7545 / Paul J. Misner passed away on 16 May 2024 at the age of 81 years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MISZTAL

ROBERT S.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 88 BRADWOOD ROAD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert S. Misztal honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Misztal worked for the Ford Stamping Plant for 34 years before his retirement / Robert S. Misztal passed away on 7 November 2023 at the age of 76 years old and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MITCHELL

THOMAS W.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 582 SHERMAN STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP4

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

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

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Thomas William Mitchell honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Thomas Mitchell was deployed to Vietnam on 1 September 1967 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / SP4 Thomas Mitchell was Killed In Action on 2 December 1967 from enemy small arms fire in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

Thomas "Tommy" Mitchell was killed as the 1st Platoon of "D" Company received intense fire from a large NVA unit while advancing in rocky terrain believed to be near the Nui Mieu Mountains along the coast of Binh Dinh Province / He was struck in the chest by machine gun fire and died instantly as the "Delta Devils" took their first fatal casualties / Mitchell was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor, Posthumously

Specialist Fourth-Class Thomas Mitchell was awarded the Bronze Star for exceptionally valorous action on 2 December 1967, while serving as a squad leader with Company "D", 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry, during a search and destroy mission near the Crescent Valley, Republic of Vietnam / While leading an assault against a heavily fortified hostile cave complex, Specialist Mitchell engaged and killed several enemy soldiers / Upon spotting a hostile sniper, Specialist Mitchell pushed a comrade out of the enemy soldier's field of fire / At this time, Specialist Mitchell was mortally wounded, but his action contributed greatly to the successful completion of his unit's mission

Base Assignments:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

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

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Mitchell was born in Georgia but raised in Buffalo / Mitchell attended East High School / Thomas "Tommy" William Mitchell was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Thomas William Mitchell is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 31e, Line 25

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

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

The 1st Battalion, 50th Infantry Regiment was constituted 15 May 1917 in the Regular Army as Company A, 50th Infantry / During World War II, the 1st Battalion participated in the battles Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe / The Battalion also fought several battles during the Korean War / The 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 50th Infantry disembarked at Qui Nhon, Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam in September 1967 / The 1st participated in 10 Vietnam Campaigns / Other 50th Infantry Designations participated in 3 additional campaigns / The 1st Battalion (mechanized), 50th Infantry was withdrawn from



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South Vietnam and assigned to the 2nd Armored Division at Fort Hood Texas on 16 December 1970

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIX**
THOMAS

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MIZIAIEK**
GREGORY M.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SSGT

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: 1969

Unit / Squadron:

COMPANY "E", 2ND BATTALION, 1ST BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR W/DEVICE

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (PISTOL)

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant Gregory Michael Miziaiek honorably served in the United States Army / SSGT Gregory Miziaiek was deployed to Vietnam as an Armor Crewman / SSGT Miziaiek was awarded the Bronze Star for valor in combat action

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gregory M. Miziaiek was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MOEHRLE

JOHN

B.

Hometown: LANCASTER

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

199TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE

Medals / Citations:

COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

John Boyd Moerhrle honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Moehrle retired as Chief of Operations - Jail Management Division, Erie County Sheriff's Office / Moerhrle was a Life Member of Colonel Matt Urban Memorial Post #7275, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) / John Boyd Moerhrle passed away on 18 December 2024 at the age of 77 years old

The 199th Infantry Brigade (Light) is a unit of the United States Army which served in the Army Reserve from 1921 to 1940, in the active army from 1966 to 1970 (serving in the Vietnam War), briefly in 1991–1992 at Fort Lewis, and from 2007 as an active army training formation at Fort Moore / The 199th was the only combat unit to train at Camp Shelby during the Vietnam War / Nicknamed "the Redcatchers", the unit was hastily moved to Sông Bé, Vietnam on 10 December 1966 to provide an increased U.S. presence in the III Corps Tactical Zone and remained there until its return to Fort Benning on 11 October 1970 / The brigade was conducting Operation Uniontown in Đồng Nai Province when the 1968 Tet Offensive began / It immediately began a defense of U.S. II Field Force headquarters at Long Binh Post against attacks by the VC 275th Regiment / One battalion was moved by helicopter to attack a Vietcong command post at the Phu Tho racetrack inside Saigon, then engaged in house-to-house fighting in Cholon / During 1969, the 199th was responsible for the security of the region north and east of the capital, and in 1970 moved into the "Iron Triangle" when other units participated in the Cambodian Incursion / While deployed to Vietnam, the 199th suffered 754 killed in action and 4,679 wounded in action / The brigade was deactivated in 1970



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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOKSKI**
DAVID

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:

David Mokski honorably served in the United States Military / David Mokski was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MOLEA

NICHOLAS D.

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:

Nicholas D. Molea honorably served in the United States Military / Nicholas MoMoleakski was deployed to Vietnam

Nicholas Molea also served in the Korean War

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Nicholas D. Molea passed away on 11 October 2006 at the age of 64 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

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

Name: **MOMBERGER**

THOMAS R.

Hometown: BOSTON (NY)

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:

Thomas R. Momberger honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas R. Momberger passed away on 27 December 2025 at the age of 87 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONAHAN**

WALTER H.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: YN2

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Yeoman Second-Class Walter Henry Monahan honorably served in the United States Navy / YN2 Walter Monahan was deployed to Vietnam, serving on a destroyer

After his tour in Vietnam, YN2 Monahan was assigned to the Pentagon, working for the Chief of Naval Operations

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Walter Monahan was a People Inc. project manager for its Facilities Department, overseeing maintenance and repairs on People Inc. Senior Living apartment buildings, retiring in March 2010 / Walter Monahan was a Docent at the Buffalo and Erie County Military and Naval Park / Monahan was a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer, and a former school bus driver / Monahan was a member of the US Navy Marching Unit and a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20, Rochester, New York / Walter Henry Monahan passed away on 25 March 2020 due to Covid-19 complications at the age of 74 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York

The yeoman rate is one of the oldest rates in the U.S. Navy, dating back to 1794. Historically, the Navy yeomen were responsible for keeping the storerooms for the ship's gunners, carpenters and boatswains. With the transition from sail to steam, yeomen were assigned to the ship's engineers. In the modern Navy, a yeoman is an enlisted service member who performs administrative and clerical work.



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONG**

WILBUR L.

Hometown: EAST AMHERST

Address: 791 SOUTH CAMPBELL BOULEVARD

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: WO1

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION, 227TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER BATTALION, C COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

UNITED STATES AVIATOR 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:

Warrant Officer 1 Wilbur Leroy Mong honorably served in the United States Army / WO1 Wilbur Mong was deployed to Vietnam on 4 September 1968 as a Helicopter Pilot, Utility and Light Cargo Single Rotor / WO1 Wilbur Mong died on 12 November 1968 when his helicopter was involved in a mid-air collision in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam

WO1 Wilbur Mong Hong was on the crew serving as Pilot of the US Army helicopter UH-1H #66-16983 when they were involved in a mid-air collision with another helicopter while over the Phuoc Vinh airfield / Fortunately, the four men in the second aircraft survived the accident

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Wilbur Mong was a native of Franklin, Pennsylvania / Mong was a 1960 graduate of Sweet Home Central High School / Mong was employed by Western Electric Corp. in Kenmore prior to entering the U.S. Army in June 1967 / Wilbur Leroy Mong was 27 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

Wilbur Leroy Mong is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Wall, Panel 39w, Line 55

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

The 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion was constituted in the Regular Army on 1 February 1963 and assigned to the 11th Air Assault Division / It was activated on 18 July 1963, at Fort Benning, Georgia / This was the first battalion of its kind in the world and as it built into a full strength unit in the next several months, it stood ready to meet the challenge of providing a third dimension to the United States Army's tactics / On 9 September 1965, the aircraft carrier USS Boxer anchored in Qui Nhon Harbor and the first of the 227th helicopter and personnel began to arrive / Just eight days after the arrival of the first helicopter, with over half the battalion's aircraft and personnel still at sea, the 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion flew its first combat assault / During the Vietnam War, C Company played a crucial role / They were equipped with Cobra gunships (specifically the AH-1G model) and were known by their call sign, "El Lobo" / Their motto was: "Live by chance, love by choice, kill by profession" / The company area was built from scratch, and they even cut their way into the rubber trees to establish their base in Lai Khe, Vietnam / C Company witnessed the arrival of the first Cobra gunships / The Crew Chief who painted the name on the Cobra also painted the company rotor blade / The transition from Hueys to Cobras marked a significant milestone for the unit

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

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A United States Aviator Badge refers to three types of aviation badges issued by the United States Armed Forces, those being for Air Force, Army, and Naval (to include Marine and Coast Guard) aviation / Air Force Pilot and



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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONIN**

FRANCIS

G.

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: 3407 CLINTON STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, F COMPANY

USS ESSEX (CV/CVA/CVS-9)

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Francis George Monin honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Francis Monin was deployed to Vietnam / Corporal Francis Monin was Killed In Action on 5 July 1967 from small arms fire during combat operations in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam / CPL Monin was a rifleman and had arrived for his tour duty in Vietnam one month prior to his death

Following the 3-4 July 1967 enemy attack on the Nong Son outpost south of the An Hoa Combat Base overlooking the Thu Bon River, the enemy continued to probe the Marines positions / Both Company "F" on the outpost and Company "E" that was located half way to the top of the mountain / On July 5, Company "F" was hit with small arms fire and several hand grenades resulting in CPL Francis Monin being killed by the hostile rifle fire

CPL Monin was stationed aboard the the USS Essex (CV/CVA/CVS-9) prior to receiving orders for duty in Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Parris Island, South Carolina - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island is a Marine Corps. military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina. MCRD Parris Island was established on 1 November 1915 and designated for the training of enlisted Marines. Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report to Parris Island to receive their initial training.



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Miscellaneous:

Francis Monin was a 1964 graduate of West Seneca Central High School / Monin enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 6 November 1964 / Francis George Monin was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Francis George Monin is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 23e, Line 13

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

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of 22,000 personnel / It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

2nd Battalion 5th Marines (2/5 or "Two Five") is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps consisting of approximately 800 marines and sailors / They are based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California and fall under the command of the 5th Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion has seen combat in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War and has deployed many times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the current War on Terror / 2/5 is the most highly decorated battalion in the Marine Corps, and their motto, "Retreat, Hell!", comes from the French trenches of World War I, when a Marine officer named Lloyd W. Williams was advised by a French officer to retreat and replied, "Retreat? Hell, we just got here!" / In April 1966, the battalion deployed to the Republic of Vietnam and served there until 1971 / During this time, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines participated in combat operations at Hue, Que Sơn, Phu Bai, Dong Ha and Phu Loc / Immediately after their return to Camp Pendleton in 1971, the battalion joined Operation New Arrivals, the relocation of Southeast Asian refugees to the United States

The USS Essex (CV/CVA/CVS-9) was an aircraft carrier and the lead ship of the 24-ship Essex class built for the



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United States Navy during World War II / She was the fourth US Navy ship to bear the name / Commissioned on 31 December 1942, Essex participated in several campaigns in the World War II Pacific Theater of Operations, earning the Presidential Unit Citation and 13 battle stars / Decommissioned shortly after the end of the war, she was modernized and recommissioned in the early 1950s as an attack carrier (CVA), eventually becoming an antisubmarine aircraft carrier (CVS) / In her second career, she served mainly in the Atlantic, playing a role in the Cuban Missile Crisis / She also participated in the Korean War, earning four battle stars and the Navy Unit Commendation / She was the primary recovery carrier for the Apollo 7 space mission / Essex was decommissioned on 30 June 1969 at Boston Navy Yard / She was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 1 June 1973 and sold by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS) for scrapping on 1 June 1975 / Essex was scrapped at Kearny, New Jersey

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTGOMERY**

JAMES W.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

James W. Montgomery honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James W. Montgomery passed away on 12 January 2025



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTGOMERY**

JAMES E.

Hometown: HOLLAND

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 E. Montgomery honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James Montgomery retired as a Corrections Officer from Collins Correctional Facility after 20 years of service / James E. Montgomery passed away on 28 June 2025 at the age of 86 Years old



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTROY, SR.**

JAMES N.

Hometown: SOUTH BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-6

Year Entered: 1962

Year Discharged: 1967

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-1 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-16)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (MACHINE GUN)

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

Service Notes:

Staff Sergeant (E-6) James N. Montroy, Sr. honorably served in the United States Army for five years / SSGT James Montroy was assigned as a Cook and served 12 months of foreign service in the US Army Pacific, including Laos, Thailand and Korea

SSGT James Montroy received his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army on 18 July 1967

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

James N. Montroy, Sr. passed away on 12 October 2023 at the age of 79 years old

Food Service Specialists function in every aspect of food preparation, including administration, procurement, storage, and distribution / They plan menus, purchase supplies, cook food, operate food service equipment, and provide customer service / Food Service Specialist training includes: standard and dietetic menu planning; food preparation and cooking; basic nutrition; storage of meats, poultry, and other perishable items; dining service operations; and food and supply ordering

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



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

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: **MONTZ**
GARY

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 46 SUNNYDALE AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary Montz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Gary Montz was stationed in San Diego, California

The brother of PFC Gary Montz, Private First-Class Roger Montz, was Killed In Action on 19 May 1968 from an enemy explosive devise in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MONTZ**

ROGER E.

Hometown: TONAWANDA

Address: 46 SUNNYDALE AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1967

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION, III MAF

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Roger Ellis Montz honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Roger Montz was deployed to Vietnam on 14 December 1967 as a Rifleman / PFC Roger Montz was Killed In Action on 19 May 1968 from an enemy explosive device in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

The 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines were attacked by North Vietnamese troops southeast of Khe Sanh on 19 May 1968 / The Marines lost 8 dead, including PFC Roger Montz, and 42 wounded / 109 North Vietnamese were killed

Base Assignments:

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



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March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

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

Camp Pendleton, California - Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is the major West Coast base of the United States Marine Corps and is one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the US. It is on the Southern California coast in San Diego County / The base was established in 1942 to train U.S. Marines for service in World War II / By October 1944, Camp Pendleton was declared a "permanent installation," and by 1946 it became the home of the 1st Marine Division / It was named after Major General Joseph Henry Pendleton (1860–1942), who had long advocated setting up a training base for the Marine Corps on the West Coast / Camp Pendleton trained the country's fighting force for the Korean and Vietnam Wars, approximately 200,000 Marines passed through the base on their way to the Far East

Miscellaneous:

Roger Montz attended Brighton Elementary School and was a graduate of St. Amelia's School and Cardinal O'Hara High School / Montz attended the State University of Buffalo before joining the U.S. Marine Corps in June 1967 / Roger Ellis Montz was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Roger Ellis Montz is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 63e, Line 12

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

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of 22,000 personnel / It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29



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March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

2nd Battalion, 1st Marines (2/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based in Camp Horno on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / Nicknamed "The Professionals," the battalion consists of approximately 1,200 Marines and Sailors / Normally they fall under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion was activated 1 August 1922, at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as the 2nd Battalion, 1st Regiment and was assigned to the 2nd Brigade / The battalion played a role in the occupation of the Dominican Republic, after which it was deactivated on 20 July 1924 / The battalion was reactivated 1 March 1941, at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines and was assigned to the 1st Marine Division of the Fleet Marine Force / The unit was again deactivated on 14 June 1941 / The unit was reactivated 11 February 1942, and assigned to the 1st Marine Division, which deployed in July 1942 to Wellington, New Zealand / The battalion participated in numerous campaigns in the Pacific Theater of WWII, the first of these was the Guadalcanal Campaign / They later participated in the Battle of Peleliu and Battle of Okinawa / the Korean War the battalion fought at Inchon-Seoul, Chosin Reservoir, the East Central Front, and the Western Front / After the war, the unit aided in the defense of the Korean Demilitarized Zone / During the Vietnam War, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines was deployed to South Vietnam in November 1965 and participated in major operations and battles until May, 1971 / In June 1971, the 2/1 was relocated to Camp Pendleton, California / The mission of the 2d Battalion, First Marine Division (MARDIV) is to locate and destroy the enemy by fire and maneuver or repels the enemy's assault by fire and close combat / The Battalion conducts combat readiness focused training and education across all warfighting functions in preparation for employment as a ground combat element in support of operation

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

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

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

The Combat Action Ribbon (colloquially "CAR"), is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in



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clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The U.S. Navy first authorized the Combat Action Ribbon on 17 February 1969 / The CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

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

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

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

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

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: **MOORE**

EARNEST J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Earnest James Moore honorably served in the United States Army / Moore was deployed to Vietnam for 9 months where he earned the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat action

Earnest Moore was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in Oakland California on 18 March 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Earnest James Moore passed away on 10 December 2024 at the age of 74 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

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

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

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese



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

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

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

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: **MOORE**

THOMAS J.

Hometown: WILLIAMSVILLE

Address: 6210 MAIN STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: WO1

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

1ST AVIATION BRIGADE, 7TH SQUADRON, 17TH CAVALRY, B TROOP

Medals / Citations:

AIR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Warrant Officer 1 Thomas Jon Moore honorably served in the United States Army / WO1 Moore was deployed to Vietnam on 29 October 1967 as a Helicopter Pilot, Utility and Light Cargo Single Rotor / WO1 was Killed In Action on 19 February 1968 when his helicopter crashed after being hit by enemy groundfire in Kontum Province, South Vietnam

On 19 February 1968, WO1 Thomas Moore was piloting an OH-6A helicopter on a combat mission in Kontum Province when the aircraft was hit by enemy groundfire / When hit, the helicopter dipped and blew up about 30 feet off the trees near the tri-border area NW of Kontum / The helicopter crashed and burned, killing all three crew members / Declared missing in action, WO1 Thomas Moore's remains were recovered on 28 February 1968

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Moore was a graduate of St Joseph's Collegiate and attended Canisius College for a year / Moore worked for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation for two years before joining the U.S. Army in February 1966 / Thomas Jon Moore was 22 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kenmore, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Thomas Jon Moore is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 40e, Line 26

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

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

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

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

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

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: MORAN
DAVID

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:

David Moran honorably served in the United States Air Force / Moran was deployed to Japan and also was stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

David Moran was a past President of the W.N.Y. Hairdressers Association / David Moran passed away on 10 July 2017



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORAN

JAMES

P.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

595TH SIGNAL CORPS

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: (M-1 RIFLE)

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Sergeant James Patrick Moran honorably served in the United States Army / SGT James Moran was a Communications Center Operations Tel-Typewriter Operator

Base Assignments:

Fort Gordon, Georgia - Fort Gordon, formerly known as Camp Gordon, is a United States Army installation established in October 1941 / It is the home of the United States Army Signal Corps and United States Army Cyber Command / It is named after John Brown Gordon, a Major General in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War / The camp opened in July 1917, becoming a training site and home of the famous 82nd Division / From early 1946 to June 1947, the U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks for convicted criminals was located at Camp Gordon, and the installation was scheduled for deactivation / In September 1948 the Army relocated the Military Police School from Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to Camp Gordon, and in October 1948 a Signal Corps training center was activated / During the Vietnam War, Fort Gordon was home to Camp Crockett, an area of the post conducting 9-week advance airborne infantry training courses for soldiers in line to attend the remaining 3 weeks of Airborne training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then be assigned to Airborne units in Vietnam / The location closed as the war ended / Between 1966 and 68, approximately 2,200 Signal Officers were trained at Fort Gordon's Signal Officer Candidate School (OCS), before all US Army branch OCSs were merged with the Infantry OCS at Fort Benning / Until 1974, Fort Gordon was also a training location for the Military Police Corps

Miscellaneous:

James P. Moran was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The United States Army Signal Corps (USASC) is a branch of the United States Army that creates and manages



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communications and information systems for the command and control of combined arms forces and was established in 1860 / The Signal Corps only mission is to provide communications links between the Army units in their area of operations and other signal nodes in further areas served by other signal units / The first satellite terminal ever installed in a combat zone was installed in Ba Queo, near Saigon / From north to south, communicating across the varied landscapes of Vietnam presented a variety of challenges, from mountains to jungle / The answer came by utilizing the technology of "troposcatter" / A radio signal beamed up into the atmosphere is "bounced" back down to Earth with astonishingly good results, bypassing debilitating terrain / In January 1962, the system of troposcatter units were established under the operational name of BACKPORCH / The escalation of the number of troops in the Vietnam War caused an increasing need for more communications infrastructure / In the spring of 1966 the assorted Signal units were reassigned to the newly formed 1st Signal Brigade / By the close of 1968 this brigade consisted of six signal groups, and 22 signal battalions—roughly 23,000 soldiers / The first Vietnam War death on the battlefield was a Signal Corps radio operator

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: MORAN

THOMAS S.

Hometown: ORCHARD PARK

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: E-3

Year Entered: 1974

Year Discharged: 1976

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS, 7TH MARINES, 1ST MARINE DIVISION

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Lance Corporal Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as an Anti-Tank Assault Man

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Moran was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps on 16 September 1976 / Thomas "Bugsy" S. Moran passed away on 25 March 2017

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

The 7th Marine Regiment is an infantry regiment of the United States Marine Corps based at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California / Nicknamed the "Magnificent Seventh", the regiment falls under the command of the 1st Marine Division and the I Marine Expeditionary Force / The 7th Marine Regiment was formed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 14 August 1917 / From August 1917 through August 1919, the 7th Marine Regiment served in Cuba / On 17 August 1950, after the outbreak of the Korean War, the 7th Marines was reactivated as part of the 1st Marine Division / On 21 September 1950 the regiment landed at Inchon and took part in the recapture of Seoul on 7 October 1950, after 22 days of fighting / n 1965, the regiment was



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deployed to South Vietnam / While in service in Vietnam the 7th Marine regiment participated in the following military operations: Operation Starlite, Operation Piranha, Operation Harvest Moon, Operation Mallard, operations Texas and Indiana, Operation Golden Fleece 7-1, Operation Rio Blanco, Operation Shark, Operation Boone, Operation Duval, Operation Desoto, Operation Foster, Tet Offensive, Operation Allen Brook, Operation Mameluke Thrust, Operation Daring Endeavor, Operation Linn River, Operation Meade River, Operation Oklahoma Hills, Operation Taylor Common, Phase I of Operation Pipestone Canyon, the defense of Que Son, Operation Pickens Forest and Operation Imperial Lake / The last elements of 7th Marines departed the Republic of Vietnam 13 October 1970 / The 7th Regiment is charged with conducting mechanized, combined-arms operations and other expeditionary operations in order to support theater engagement plans and contingency operations / The regiment is prepared to deploy within 48-hours of the receipt of an execute order as either the ground combat element for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade (1st MEB) or as a major subordinate element of the 1st Marine Division / As directed, the regiment will prepare infantry battalions for deployment to the Pacific Command (PACOM AOR) in order to support III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) operations and training

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: MORAN, SR.
JAMES

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

James Moran, Sr. honorably served in the United States Military / James Moran, Sr. 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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORANO, JR.

DANIEL J.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SP-4

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Daniel J. Morano, Jr. honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Daniel Morano was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Daniel Morano was the Chaplin to the local Military Order of the Purple Heart / Daniel J. Morano, Jr. passed away on 18 November 2019 at the age of 71 and is interred at Lakeside Memorial Park Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORETTI**
DEAN

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Dean Moretti honorably served in the United States Army / Dean Moretti was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Dean Moretti is a 1967 graduate of Lackawanna High School Moretti is a Firefighter and member of Lackawanna Firefighters Local #3166

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORETTI

GEORGE C.

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:

George C. Moretti honorably served in the United States Military / George Moretti was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORINELLO
JOHN

Hometown: EGGERTSVILLE

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:

John "Jack" Morinello honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John "Jack" Morinello passed away on 25 December 2025 at the age of 79 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MORRIS

GARY

N.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1972

Year Discharged: 1974

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Gary N. Morris honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Gary Morris was assigned as a Hawk Missile Crewman / PFC Morris was deployed to Germany for 8 months

Gary Morris was Honorably Discharged from the US. Army on 22 February 1974

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Gary N. Morris passed away on 23 September 2021

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORRIS**

MARK

A.

Hometown: CHEEKTOWAGA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MM2

Year Entered: 1973

Year Discharged: 1977

Unit / Squadron:

U.S.S. HENDERSON DD-785

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE RIBBON

NAVY GOOD CONDUCT

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

Service Notes:

Mark A. Morris honorably served in the United States Navy

In 1989, Mark Morris enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserves joining the Seabees / Morris served with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 13 (NMCB13) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 21 (NMCB21) / Mark A. Morris retired from the Seabees in 2004 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer (CPO)

Base Assignments:

Naval Support Activity (NAVSUPACT), Long Beach, California - Beginning in 1938, the Navy occupied the Long Beach Naval Complex on the south side of Terminal Island in Long Beach and Los Angeles under various functions and missions / The complex covered approximately 1,095 acres of land and harbor areas that included two naval activities: the Naval Station and the Naval Shipyard / The Naval Station was established on 15 November 1946, as a homeport for Pacific Fleet ships, providing port facilities, fleet support personnel, and recreational facilities / The Long Beach Naval Shipyard was established in February 1943 as a facility to repair and refit Navy ships / The Naval Station was closed on 30 September 1994 and the Naval Shipyard was closed on 30 September 1997

Miscellaneous:

Mark Morris graduated from Bishop Neumann High School in 1973 prior to entering military service / After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the Navy, Morris went to work at the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) as a Pipefitter / Later he was promoted to Chief Stationary Engineer and held that position until his retirement in June 2013



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The USS Henderson (DD-785) was a Gearing-class destroyer of the United States Navy, the second Navy ship of that name, and the first named for United States Marine Corps Major Lofton R. Henderson / The Henderson was commissioned on 4 August 1945 in Seattle, Washington / During the Korean Conflict, the Henderson supported the American assault into Inchon Bay, Korea during September 1950 by destroying mines and bombarding the Inchon waterfront preparatory to the invasion / The USS Henderson received 8 Battle Stars for her service during the Korean Conflict and shared in the Navy Unit Commendation given her task unit for its part in the Inchon landings / In January 1967, during the Vietnam Conflict, the Henderson was sent to Vietnam for four months to support attack carrier operations and conduct shore bombardment assignments / In April 1968, the Henderson returned to Vietnam to conduct shore bombardments and escort duties in the South China Sea until September 1968 / During her service in Southeast Asia, the Henderson received seven Battle Stars for her support during the Vietnam Conflict / In 1973, following her Vietnam assignment, the USS Henderson spent the next six years conducting reserve training operations out of Long Beach. The destroyer spent the majority of her time sailing in local operating areas, though the warship also conducted reserve unit training cruises to Pearl Harbor or the Pacific Northwest on an annual basis / The USS Henderson (DD-785) was decommissioned on 30 September 1980

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORRIS**
STEPHEN J.

Hometown: DEPEW

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Stephen J. Morris honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Stephen J. Morris passed away on 14 January 2025 at the age of 73 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORROW**
JAMES

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

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

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MORROW**

MICHAEL W.

Hometown:

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Michael W. Morrow honorably served in the United States Army National Guard

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Morrow was a graduate of Orchard Park High School and the College of Emporia, Emporia, Kansas / Morrow was the co-owner of Arthur's Hardware in Orchard Park / Michael Morrow was Life Member and former President of the Orchard Park Fire Company / Morrow was co-founder of the Orchard Park Pavilion and a member of the Chamber of Commerce / Michael W. Morrow passed away on 3 June 2024 at the age of 80 years old

The Army National Guard (ARNG) is an organized militia force and a federal military reserve force of the United States Army / It is simultaneously part of two different organizations: the Militia of the United States (consisting of the ARNG of each state, most territories, and the District of Columbia), as well as the federal ARNG, as part of the National Guard as a whole (which includes the Air National Guard) / It is divided into subordinate units stationed in each state or insular area, responsible to their respective governors or other head-of-government



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOSHER**
ROBERT

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Robert Mosher honorably served in the United States Military / Robert Mosher was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOTT**

JOHN J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: LT COL

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

MACV, ADVISORY TEAM 1

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Lieutenant Colonel John James Mott honorably served in the United States Army / LT COL John Mott was deployed to Vietnam on 16 April 1972 as a Combat Engineer Unit Commander / LT COL was Killed In Action on 29 April 1972 when the helicopter he was riding in, was shot down by enemy ground fire in Quang Tri province, South Vietnam

LT COL John Mott served in the Marine Corps after graduating from high school in 1943 / Mott served as a Radio Operator and participated in the Peleliu campaign in World War II and was discharged as a Private First-Class

LT COL Mott had four tours of duty in Germany and was on his third deployment in Vietnam

LT COL Mott went to Vietnam with the Military Assistance Group in the early 1960s and returned for a second tour in 1966 / Mott had completed an eight-month course at the Vietnam Training Center, outside Washington, D.C. / After his second tour of Vietnam, Mott became the Engineering Officer at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii and later commanded a training battalion at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri

Base Assignments:

Fort Belvoir, Virginia - Fort Belvoir is a United States Army installation in Fairfax County, Virginia, United States / The post was founded during World War I as Camp A. A. Humphreys, named for American Civil War Union Army general Andrew A. Humphreys, who was also Chief of Engineers / The post was renamed Fort Belvoir in the



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1930s / Camp Humphreys was established in World War I as the U.S. Army Engineers Training School / It served as the post-graduate institution for U.S. Military Academy engineers and a finishing school for engineering troops headed to war

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii – Schofield Barracks is a United States Army installation and census-designated place (CDP) located in the City and County of Honolulu and in the Wahiawa District of the Hawaiian island of Oahu, Hawaii / Schofield Barracks is named after Lieutenant General John McAllister Schofield, who was the Commanding General of the United States Army from August 1888 to September 1895 / He had been sent to Hawaii in 1872 and had recommended the establishment of a naval base at Pearl Harbor / The post was established in 1908 to provide mobile defense of Pearl Harbor and the entire island / It has been the home of the 25th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Tropic Lightning" division, since 1941, as well as the headquarters for United States Army Hawaii (USARHAW)

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

Miscellaneous:

John Mott graduated from Cathedral School and Canisius High School and was the captain of the Canisius football team that went undefeated in 1942 / Mott graduated from Mississippi State University where as a member of the ROTC, he earned his Army commission / John James Mott was 47 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at St James Cemetery, Westfield, New York

John James Mott is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 01w, Line 10

A combat engineer is a type of soldier who performs military engineering tasks in support of land forces combat operations / Combat engineers perform a variety of military engineering, tunnel and mine warfare tasks, as well as construction and demolition duties in and out of combat zones / Combat engineers facilitate the mobility of friendly forces while impeding that of the enemy / They also work to assure the survivability of friendly forces, building fighting positions, fortifications, and roads / They conduct demolition missions and clear minefields manually or through use of specialized vehicles / Common combat engineer missions include construction and breaching of trenches, tank traps and other obstacles and fortifications; obstacle emplacement and bunker construction; route clearance and reconnaissance; bridge and road construction or destruction; emplacement and clearance of land mines; and combined arms breaching / Typically, combat engineers are also trained in infantry tactics and, when required, serve as provisional infantry

Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) Teams were out there alone- not on base camps, air bases or at sea / Small groups of Americans often in remote areas supported only by Vietnamese forces whose capabilities and loyalty were sometimes suspect / Military Assistance Command Vietnam (Saigon) had authority over all



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branches of service operating in the Republic of Vietnam / US Army advisors were under the direct command of MACV and were administered independently from the United States Army Vietnam (Long Binh / Most advisory teams were comprised of approximately 35 US advisors under the local command of a senior advisor / These advisors fought alongside Vietnamese ARVN and militia units / Although they did not share in the public limelight of their USARV counterparts, their mission was an integral part of US strategy in Vietnam / MACV arrived in-country on 8 February 1962, and departed over a decade later on 29 March 1973

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

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

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

The 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



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without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOTT**

JOSEPH A.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address: 28 ABBOTSFORD PLACE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: PFC

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

18TH ENGINEER BRIGADE, 299TH ENGINEER BATTALION, D COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Private First-Class Joseph Anthony Mott honorably served in the United States Army / PFC Joseph Mott was deployed to Vietnam on 23 January 1969 as a Combat Engineer / PFC Joseph Mott was Killed In Action on 7 June 1969 from an enemy explosive device in Kontum province, South Vietnam

PFC Joseph Mott was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery when routed a nest of eight Viet Cong snipers

Base Assignments:

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

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri - Fort Leonard Wood is a U.S. Army training installation located in the Missouri Ozarks / The post was created in December 1940 and named in honor of Major General Leonard Wood, a distinguished American Soldier who served for 40 years (later became Military Chief of Staff) / Originally intended to train infantry troops, in 1941 it became an engineer training post with the creation of the Engineer Replacement Training Center / During World War II Italian and German POWs were interned at the fort / In



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1984, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, most of the U.S. Army Engineer School's operations were consolidated at Fort Leonard Wood / Before that, officer training was conducted at Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Mott was a 1966 graduate of Lafayette High School / Mott attended Palm Beach, Florida Junior College before being drafted into the U.S. Army / Joseph Anthony Mott was 20 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Joseph Anthony Mott is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 23w, Line 104

A combat engineer is a type of soldier who performs military engineering tasks in support of land forces combat operations / Combat engineers perform a variety of military engineering, tunnel and mine warfare tasks, as well as construction and demolition duties in and out of combat zones / Combat engineers facilitate the mobility of friendly forces while impeding that of the enemy / They also work to assure the survivability of friendly forces, building fighting positions, fortifications, and roads / They conduct demolition missions and clear minefields manually or through use of specialized vehicles / Common combat engineer missions include construction and breaching of trenches, tank traps and other obstacles and fortifications; obstacle emplacement and bunker construction; route clearance and reconnaissance; bridge and road construction or destruction; emplacement and clearance of land mines; and combined arms breaching / Typically, combat engineers are also trained in infantry tactics and, when required, serve as provisional infantry

The 18th Engineer Brigade (Theater Army) is an engineer brigade of the United States Army / It is currently a subordinate unit of 21st Sustainment Command (Theater) and is headquartered at Conn Barracks in Schweinfurt, Germany / Soldiers of the 18th Engineer Brigade provide various supportive duties to other Army units, including construction, engineering, and mechanical work on other Army projects / The brigade served in Europe during World War II, a fact which was included on its Distinctive Unit Insignia when the 20th Engineer Brigade received one on 10 February 1966 / The four corners of the crenelated square allude to their four campaigns in World War II, Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe / The 18th Engineer Brigade later deployed to Vietnam, during the Vietnam War, where its battalions saw six years of combat service and supported fourteen campaigns, building infrastructure for both military and civilian projects / The brigade participated in a massive number of road construction projects and airfield constructions, supporting numerous infantry units and operating all over Vietnam / After serving in Vietnam, the brigade became attached to Seventh United States Army / It has since undertaken and completed numerous projects in support of US Army, Europe, and participated in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom

The 299th Engineer Combat Battalion was constituted in the Army of the United States on 8 February 1943 / The 299th Battalion served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1971, when it returned to Fort Lewis, Washington / The 299th participated in combat operations in Ky Son, Bin Dinh, Cheo Reo, Pleiku, Duc Co, Kontum, Tan Jhan, Phu Tal, Ben Me Thout, and Phan Thiet

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a



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combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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The 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: **MOTYKA**
RONALD

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Ronald Motyka honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Ronald Motyka retired from General Mills after more than 30 years working in Buffalo, West Chicago, IL and Golden Valley, MN / Motyka played in the folk group at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, the Cursillo Community and various RV parks in retirement / Ronald Motyka passed away on 11 February 2015



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MOZINGO**

THOMAS E.

Hometown: **BUFFALO**

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: **ARMY**

Rank:

Year Entered: **1966**

Year Discharged: **1968**

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Thomas Edward Mozingo honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, Thomas Mozingo had a successful career with the Ford Motor Company, working over 30 years until his retirement in 2004 / Thomas Edward "Tom" Mozingo passed away on 15 March 2024 in Bradenton, Florida at the age of 78 years old and is interred at the Sarasota National Cemetery, Sarasota, Florida



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MRKALL**

NORMAN J.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered:

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Norman J. Mrkall honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Norman Mrkall was stationed in Guam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Norman Mrkall was a plumber and a union carpenter / Norman Mrkall was a retired Grand Island Highway Superintendent, credited with building a modern highway department for the Town of Grand Island, serving many years as Fire Chief and 21 years as Chairman of the Board of Directors / Mrkall was a 64-year member of the Grand Island Fire Company / Norman Mrkall received the Citizen-of-the-Year award in 1974 and 1999 / Norman J. Mrkall passed away on 17 April 2018 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Saint Stephens Roman Catholic Cemetery, Grand Island, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MRUGALSKI

DONALD A.

Hometown: EAST 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:

Donald A. Mrugalski honorably served in the United States Army

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Donald A. Mrugalski passed away on 25 April 2025 at the age of 87 years old and his remains were cremated



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUENCH**

JOSEPH E.

Hometown: GRAND ISLAND

Address: 3341 WARNER DRIVE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 3RD BATTALION, 8TH INFANTRY, B COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

SILVER STAR

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Corporal Joseph Earl Muench honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Joseph Muench was deployed to Vietnam on 9 May 1969 as a Light Weapons Infantryman / CPL Joseph Muench was Killed In Action on 4 October 1969 from enemy small arms fire in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

On 10 September 1969, CPL Muench's Battalion was tasked with a clear and search operation for enemy positions in the highly contested Binh Dinh Province / The operation would go on for a month, during which the Battalion suffered many casualties / On 4 October 1969, CPL Joseph Muench was hit and killed by enemy small arms fire

Corporal Joseph Muench was awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star for the many acts of heroism during this operation and in the months leading up to his death

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Muench was a graduate of Riverside High School graduated from Alfred Agricultural and Technical College / Muench was employed by Fairbanks Morse Weighing Systems Division of Colt Industries in Cheektowaga prior to entering military service in 1968 / Joseph Earl Muench was 23 years old at the time of his



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passing and is interred at St Joseph's Cemetery, Scio, New York

Joseph Earl Muench is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 23w, Line 104

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

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

The 8th Infantry Regiment was constituted as an infantry regiment on 5 July 1838 in the Regular Army / The 8th Infantry is also known as the "Fighting Eagles", is an infantry regiment in the United States Army / The 8th Infantry participated in the Mexican War, American Civil War, Philippine Insurrection, Moro Rebellion, World War I, World War II, Vietnam War, and Iraq Campaign / During Operation Wayne Grey at Landing Zone Brace 3 March 1969 in Vietnam, the 3rd Battalion Company "A" had at least 21 fatalities

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

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

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

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

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Corporal Joseph Earl Muench was also awarded the following Military honor:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is



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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUHLBAUER**

JOSEPH T.

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:

Joseph T. Muhlbauer honorably served in the United States Army / Joseph Muhlbauer was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Joseph Muhlbauer past commander of the Matthew Glab Post and a member of the Orchard Park Legion Riders / Joseph T. Muhlbauer passed away on 9 July 1916 at the age of 75 years old

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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MULLEN**

DENNIS

C.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

609TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/3 BRONZE STARS

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT(M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/1960 DEVICE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: EXPERT (M-14 RIFLE)

2 OVERSEAS BARS

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

Service Notes:

Corporal (E-4) Dennis Clarence Mullen honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Dennis Mullen was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism under fire during combat operations

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:

Dennis C. Mullen was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The 609th Transportation Company was constituted 27 September 1966 in the Regular Army as the 609th Transportation Detachment the Company received many Meritorious Unit Commendations

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone

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

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

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUNDT**

DAVID J.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-5

Year Entered: 1964

Year Discharged: 1968

Unit / Squadron:

605TH MAINTENANCE COMPANY (LE) GENERAL STAFF (GS)

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-1 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant David James Mundt honorably served in the United States Army / SGT David Mundt was deployed to Vietnam as a Special Electronic Device Repairman

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURAWSKI**

MICHAEL D.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: E-4

Year Entered: 1968

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, 18TH ARTILLERY GROUP (AIR DEFENSE), ARMY AIR DEFENSE
COMMAND

Medals / Citations:

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-14 RIFLE)

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (M-16 RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Specialist Fourth-Class Michael David Murawski honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Michael Murawski was assigned to an Air Defense Artillery Branch as a Light Vehicle Driver

Michael Murawski was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army on 12 March 1970

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael Murawski moved to Calabash, North Carolina / Michael David Murawski passed away on 11 November 2023 at the age of 75 years old

The Air Defense Artillery Branch is the branch of the United States Army that specializes in anti-aircraft weapons (such as surface to air missiles) / In the U.S. Army, these groups are composed of mainly air defense systems such as the Patriot Missile System, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD), and the Avenger Air Defense system which fires the FIM-92 Stinger missile / The Air Defense Artillery branch descended from Anti-Aircraft Artillery (part of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps until 1950, then part of the Artillery Branch) into a separate branch on 20 June 1968 / The mission of Air Defense Artillery is to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack, and surveillance

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUROWSKI**
MATTHEW

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: (UNKNOWN)

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Matthew Murowski honorably served in the United States Military / Matthew Murowski was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURPHY
GIRARD**

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank:

Year Entered: 1959

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MAKSMANSHIP BADGE: MARKSMAN (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Girard Murphy honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / Girard Murphy was deployed to Vietnam and assigned as an Infantry Weapon Repairmen

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Girard Murphy graduated from Emerson High School in 1959 where he was a three-sport athlete, playing four years of varsity baseball, three years of varsity football and one year of varsity basketball / Murphy enlisted in the Marine Corps after graduation from high school / Girard Murphy Girard worked at Bethlehem Steel, and Worthington Compressors, Inc., before transitioning over to the General Motors – Buffalo Division and working as a Machine Repair Operator from 1977-1991 / Following his retirement from General Motors, Girard Murphy earned a New York State Real Estate License, buying and renting properties / Girard Murphy also served as a Boy Scout Leader with the St. John Baptist Church / Girard Murphy passed away on 18 February 2026 at the age of 85 years old and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Infantry Weapon Repairmen in the Marine Corps are responsible for the maintenance, repair, and overhaul of a wide array of weaponry used by the Marine Corps / This includes rifles, pistols, machine guns and various other small arms / The role is vital to maintaining operational readiness within the Marine Corps, as properly functioning weapons are essential for both training and combat operations / These specialists ensure that weaponry is safe, reliable and accurate, contributing directly to the lethality and effectiveness of Marine Corps units



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MURPHY

MICHAEL N.

Hometown: LACKAWANNA

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: O-2

Year Entered: 1969

Year Discharged: 1971

Unit / Squadron:

16TH AVIATION GROUP, 23RD INFANTRY

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMMPAIGN MEDAL

ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant Michael Newton Murphy honorably served in the United States Army as a Field Artillery Unit Commander

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Michael N. Murphy attended college prior to military service earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics / Michael Murphy was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post #2940

The Field Artillery is the branch of the army whose mission is to support the infantry by artillery fire, destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy elements that threaten land forces / Increased mobility; fire direction centers, which enhanced their firepower; aerial observation; and radio communications increased the efficiency and accuracy to support ground forces

The 16th Combat Aviation Group was formed in Battle on 23 January 1968 and thus it's motto "Born In Battle" / The Group was activated at Marble Mountain, Da Nang in I Corps / The 16th Aviation Group was awarded the Valorous Unit Award for their actions on 11 to 31 August 1969 / 23rd Infantry Division (AMERICAL) was reactivated on 25 September 1967 / The Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) preferred the name AMERICAL, listed it as such in numerous official orders, called it "the Army's only named division on active service," and used the vehicle bumper abbreviation AMCAL / In Vietnam the rugged terrain of southern I Corps tactical zone was used by the division for its encampment at Chu Lai / This ran the gamut from marshy, coastal



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lowlands to triple-canopy jungle on steep mountain slopes / The AMERICAL Division battled the strong enemy influence in both Quang Nam and Quang Tri Provinces 11 Nov 67 - 11 Nov 68 in Operation WHEELER/WALLOWA with two of its brigades / Another brigade was sent to Quang Ngai Province in early 1968 / During 1969 and 1970 the division continued to fight in the Duc Pho, Chuy Lai and Tam Ky areas along the coast / In November 1971 the division was deactivated / The 23rd Infantry Division (AMERICAL) served a total of 1,526 days in Vietnam

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MURRAY SR**
JOHN M.

Hometown: AMHERST

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch:

Rank: 1LT

Year Entered: 1955

Year Discharged: 1957

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

First Lieutenant John Morton Murray, Sr., honorably served in the United States Army, followed by service in the United States Army Reserves / 1st LT Murray was assigned to the Transportation Corp

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Murray was a 1995 graduate of the University of Virginia / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army, John Murray, began his career as a Certified Public Accountant with Arthur Young & Company / Murray served as Treasurer, Squadron Education Chairman and Celestial Navigation Instructor of the Buffalo Power Squadron / John Murray was a Life Member and Past President and Director of the Buffalo Chapter of the Financial Executives Institute / Murray retired in 1998 as the Vice President-Finance and Treasurer from American Precision Industries / John Morton Murray, Sr., passed away on 1 December 2024 at the age of 91 years old

The Transportation Corp are concerned with supplying, loading, and unloading combat vehicles, cargo and materiel into combat mission readiness / They also protect transportation assets and ensure that the equipment is used properly to reach its destination successfully



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MURTHA
THOMAS

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Thomas Murtha honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Thomas Murtha graduated from South Park High School in 1966 / Murtha retired from the United States Postal Service / Thomas Murtha is a member of the American Legion



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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSICK**

FRANK

F.

Hometown: ALDEN

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: AIR FORCE

Rank: TSGT

Year Entered: 1942

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

7TH AIR FORCE, 504TH TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT GROUP, 21ST TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT SQUADRON

Medals / Citations:

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

AIR FORCE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Technical Sergeant Frank Frederick Musick honorably served in the United States Air Force / TSGT Frank Musick was deployed to Vietnam as a Forward Air Controller / TSGT Frank Musick died on 8 December 1968 as a result of non-hostile vehicle accident in Khanh Hoa Province, South Vietnam

TSgt Frank F. Musick served with the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron (21st TASS), 504th Tactical Air Support Group, 7th Air Force / The 21st TASS was organized at Pleiku Air Base in May 1965, then in September 1966, moved to the coast at Nha Trang Air Base in Khanh Hoa Province, RVN / The mission of the 21st TASS was to provide visual reconnaissance and forward air control support of tactical offensive operations / Its area of operations was II Corps, a large and geographically mixed section of Vietnam, with detachments of the squadron operating from several different sites within the region / On the late evening of 7 December (or early morning of 8 December, the time is unconfirmed) 1968, Musick was off duty in his quarters at a location off base in Nha Trang when he fell from his balcony / Another Airman reportedly saw him on the balcony, then heard a noise after which Musick fell two stories to the ground / He was transported to the U.S. Army's 8th Field Hospital in Nha Trang where he was dead on arrival at 12:40 AM / Postmortem studies determined TSGT Frank Musick died after sustaining a brain injury and crushed skull

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Frank Musick attended three years of high school and worked in automobile manufacturing industry prior to



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entering the U.S. Army in July 1942 / Frank Frederick Musick was 47 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Tuscaloosa Memorial Park, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Frank Frederick Musick is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 37w, Line 68

Forward air control is the provision of guidance to close air support (CAS) aircraft intended to ensure that their attack hits the intended target and does not injure friendly troops. This task is carried out by a forward air controller (FAC) / A primary forward air control function is ensuring the safety of friendly troops during close air support / Enemy targets in the front are often close to friendly forces and therefore friendly forces are at risk of friendly fire through proximity during air attack / The danger is twofold: the bombing pilot cannot identify the target clearly, and is not aware of the locations of friendly forces / Camouflage, a constantly changing situation and the fog of war all increase the risk

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 504th Expeditionary Air Support Operations Group is an inactive United States Air Force unit / It was first activated as the 504th Tactical Air Support Group in 1966 for service during the Vietnam War, and was reactivated in 2009 for service in Afghanistan / In Vietnam the group provided combat ready aircraft and crews in support of air and ground operations in Southeast Asia / It directed ground strikes, conducted visual reconnaissance and convoy escort / It also trained Air Liaison Officers and Forward Air Controllers / The group was thrice awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its actions during the war / It was inactivated in 1972 when the Vietnamese Air Force assumed its remaining mission / The 504th was reactivated in 2009 to provide air support, air liaison, and weather support for ground operations until it was inactivated on 12 May 2016

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

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

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Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSKOPH**
RICHARD

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:

Richard Muskoph honorably served in the United States Military / Richard Muskoph was deployed to Vietnam

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSSELL**
ROBERT E.

Hometown: ELMA

Address:

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

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

Service Notes:

Robert E. "Bob" Mussell honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Robert Mussell was a retired Health Inspector for the Erie County Health Department / Mussell was a drummer and played in various local bands / Robert E. "Bob" Mussell passed away on 14 June 2025 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Union Cemetery, Elma, New York



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSTALLER**

CHARLES J.

Hometown: SNYDER

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:

Charles James Mustaller honorably served in the United States Air Force

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

Charles James Mustaller passed away on 18 December 2025 at the age of 77 years old



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: **MUSZYNSKI**

MICHAEL J.

Hometown: DEPEW

Address: 31 WANDA STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: ARMY

Rank: SGT

Year Entered: 1966

Year Discharged: KIA

Unit / Squadron:

198TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE, 1ST BATTALION, 6TH INFANTRY, B COMPANY

Medals / Citations:

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

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

Service Notes:

Sergeant Michael John Muszynski honorably served in the United States Army / SGT Michael Muszynski was deployed to Vietnam on 4 October 1967 as an Light Weapons Infantryman / SGT Michael Muszynski was Killed In Action on 1 June 1968 from enemy mortar fire in Quang Tin 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

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



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Town of West Seneca, New York

training soldiers train at Fort Jackson annually

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

Miscellaneous:

Michael Muszynski was a graduate of Sacred Heart Elementary School in Bowmansville and attended Lancaster Senior High School / Muszynski worked for Bison Boxcraft before entering the U.S. Army in July 1966 / Michael John Muszynski was 21 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Michael John Muszynski is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 61w, Line 4

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 198th Infantry Brigade, was first formed as part of the United States Army Reserve's 99th Division / It was active from 1967 through 1971 and has been active since 2007 as an Infantry Training Brigade as part of the US Army Infantry School at Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), Georgia / During the years of 1967–1971, as part of the Vietnam War, the 198th was part of the United States Army's 23rd "Americal" Infantry Division / In 1968, elements of the 198th Infantry Brigade participated in the Battle of Kham Duc / Reactivated on 15 May 2007, the 198th Infantry Brigade now serves as an Infantry Training Brigade at Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), Georgia with the mission to train and prepare infantry soldiers for their critical roles in the U.S. Army

The 6th Infantry Regiment ("Regulars") was formed 11 January 1812 / Zachary Taylor, later the twelfth President of the United States, was a commander of the unit / The motto, "Regulars, By God!" derives from the Battle of Chippawa, in which British Major General Phineas Riall noticed that the approaching regiment had on the uniforms of militia, which the British had defeated at Queenston Heights / Instead, the Americans pressed the attack. Riall is believed to have said, "Those are Regulars, By God!", though the only source of this was opposing U.S. General Winfield Scott / The regiment participated in the War of 1812, the Mexican–American War, the



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Town of West Seneca, New York

American Civil War, the Indian Wars (1823-1879), the Spanish–American War, Philippine–American War (1899–1913), the Pancho Villa Expedition (1916–1917), World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War / On 17 May 1967, the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was reorganized as a standard Infantry Battalion and was assigned to the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, in the “Americal” (23rd Infantry) Division / The 1–6th Infantry was the division's first element ashore, arriving at Chu Lai in October to participate in its thirty-fifth campaign and ninth war / After a brief initial operation south of Duc Pho, the battalion was assigned the mission of securing the installation at Chu Lai / 1–6th Infantry participated in Task Force Oregon, Task Force Miracle, Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, Operation Burlington Trail, and had the mission of protecting “Americal” Division Headquarters and Chu Lai Defense Command from enemy ground mortar and rocket attacks / The 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for its victory at the Battle of Lo Giang, 7–11 February 1968 / On 15 February 1969, the battalion was released from the 198th Light Infantry Brigade and assigned to the 23rd Infantry Division, “Americal” Division / On 13 September 1972 was reassigned to the 1st Armored Division, and was posted at Stork Barracks in Illesheim, West Germany / Elements of the 6th Infantry were also part of IFOR, Task Force Eagle, which was charged with implementing the military aspects of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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

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

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

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

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



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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

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



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MYER

FRED

C.

Hometown: KENMORE

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Fred Chester Myer honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

After graduating from SUNY Fredonia and Buffalo State College, Fred Myer taught English for the Kenmore School System / After his retirement, Myer was an award-winning trainer of Shelties / Fred Chester Myer passed away on 22 April 2024 at the age of 90 years old



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February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: MYERS, JR.

JOHN

B.

Hometown: HAMBURG

Address:

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank:

Year Entered:

Year Discharged:

Unit / Squadron:

Medals / Citations:

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

John B. Myers, Jr. honorably served in the United States Navy

Base Assignments:

Miscellaneous:

John Myers retired after 30 years as a Firefighter from the Buffalo Fire Department / John B. Myers, Jr. passed away on 10 June 2025 at the age of 89 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York