

A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

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**THANKS**

*to the* **BRAVE**

Your courage, commitment and sacrifice fill us  
with admiration and gratitude

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO **THE ENGLEWOOD REVIEW** 2023



# ★ ★ ★ We Honor Your Service ★ ★ ★

BY TOM NEWTON, PUBLISHER

The Englewood Review would like to take this time to thank all of our veterans for their service to our Country. Without our veterans and current service members' willingness to sign up and raise your right hand and say, **"I, ..... , do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders**

**of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."**, we would certainly not enjoy the freedoms that we have. Words can't begin to express our gratitude for the service you have performed for our country. It directly impacts all of us. Thank You!

This is our seventh year of publishing "A Salute To Our Veterans" and it has been an absolute privilege for all of us to view these service men's and women's photos as they've shared

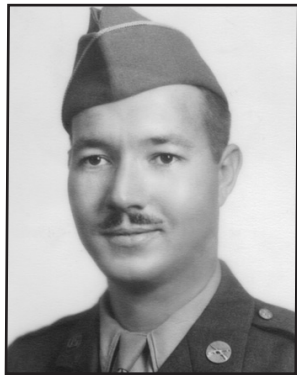
their stories with us. We are humbled by their dedication, their sacrifice, their service. Our hats are off to you.

This is an annual special section. So, if you are a veteran or have a family member currently in the service, stop by during normal business hours and we'll be glad to take your information and scan your photos for next year.

We hope that you enjoy this special section as much as we have, and remember to thank the veterans that you meet.



**Franklin G. Abel**  
US Navy  
Third Class Petty Officer  
Aviation Machinist Mate  
Bonin Islands, Iwo Jima, Chichi Jima, Ha Ha Jima, Guam, Rota, Leyte, Luzon, and Bremerton  
**1941-1945**



**Lorin A. "L.A." Ainger**  
US Army  
Quarter Master, Philippines, During WWII



**Whitey Anderson**  
US Coast Guard  
Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class  
Good Conduct, American Defense  
Charlevoix, MI; Beaver Island, MI  
**1960-1964**



**Laszlo (Leslie) Apathy II**  
Hungarian Royal Army  
1st Lieutenant

*Signum Laudis: Tuz Kereszt, 1 fokozat Koseoruvál & Kardokal; Felvideki Visszacsatolási Emlékerem; Erdelyi Visszacsatolási Emlékerem; Delvidek Visszacsatolási Emlékerem; Fekete Vas Kereszt*  
Europe, Russia  
**1936-1945**

*Thank you. My father was also a hero fighting at the Don (river) bend in Russia. Several 1000 military soldiers died...but fortunately my father made it thru the terribly cold winter battle.*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second\\_Army\\_\(Hungary\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Army_(Hungary))



**Mike Annunziata**  
US Navy  
Lieutenant

*Sea Service Deployment, Navy Unit Commendation w/1 Bronze Star, Navy Expeditionary, Expert Pistol, Battle "E", Navy Achievement, Meritorious Unit Commendation*  
Pensacola, FL; Kingsville, TX; Oceana, VA; USS Midway, Yokosuka, Japan; Sigonella, Italy; Norfolk, VA  
**1975-1984**

**Kim Annunziata**  
US Navy  
Commander

*Navy Commendation with 2 Bronze Stars, Joint Service Achievement, Navy Achievement, Joint Meritorious Unit with 1 Bronze Star, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense, Navy Overseas Service with 1 Bronze Star, Expert Pistol*  
Yokosuka, Japan; Sigonella, Italy; Norfolk, VA; Monterey, CA; Philadelphia, PA; Cleveland, OH; Tulsa, OK; Honolulu, HI; Yokota, Japan  
**1977-1999**

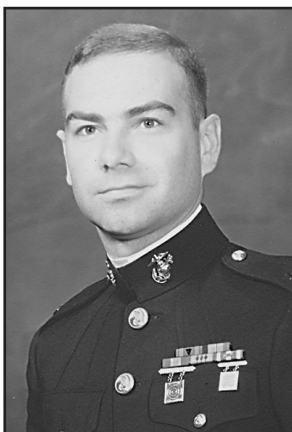


**Brian W. Abel**  
US Air Force  
*Air Force Commendation Medal Outstanding Achievement*  
Nellis AFB, Nevada; Norton AFB, California  
**1977-1980**

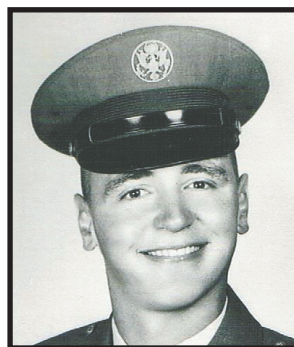


**Jerold O. Anderson**  
US Navy  
Seaman  
Korea, UN, China Service, Atlantic Fleet, Pacific Fleet, NATO, National Defense, Combat Zone  
**1952-1960**

*Over 100,000 sea miles at 16.5 knots. Scotland, Denmark, Holland, Portugal, Italy, North Africa, Japan, Korea, Midway Island, Hawaii, Alaska*



**Robert T. Antes**  
US Marine Corps.  
Captain  
*Navy Achievement*  
Camp Lejeune, Vietnam, Quantico  
**1967-1971**



**Laszlo B. Apathy III**  
USAF (1966-1970), US Army Guard (1983-1984), USAF Guard (1984-1988), USAF Reserve (1988-2001), USCG Aux. Flotilla 87, (2016- present)  
USAF, MSgt (E-7)

AM1-ADF RES MDL, AR7-ARF MER SVC MDL, FR-SM ARM EX RIFLE, ND1-NTL DEF SVC MDL, LS3-AF LGY SVC AWD, OL-AF OS SVC LT RBN,

SA-ARMY SVC RBN, SW2-SW ASIA SVC MDL, TR-AF TRAINING RBN, OV3-AFOUV, KWT-LIB MDL (SA), KWT-LIB MDL (K).  
Lackland AFB, TX; Keesler AFB, MS; Ramstein AFB; Germany; MacDill AFB, FL  
1966-1970 and 1983-2001

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**Honoring All Who Served**

# ABEL AIR remembers the USS Franklin CV13

## "Big Ben, The ship that wouldnt die."

### In memory of Franklin G Abel, Plank owner USS Franklin

USS FRANKLIN was launched by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Newport News, Va., on 14 October 1943; sponsored by Lt. Cmdr. Mildred A. McAfee, USNR, Director of the WAVES; and commissioned on 31 January 1944, with Captain James M. Shoemaker in command. FRANKLIN cruised to Trinidad for shakedown and soon thereafter departed in Task Group (TG) 27.7 for San Diego to engage in intensive training exercises preliminary to combat duty. In June she sailed via Pearl Harbor for Eniwetok where she joined TG 58.2. On the last day of June 1944 she sortied for carrier strikes on the Bonins in support of the subsequent Marianas assault. Her planes scored well against aircraft on the ground and in the air as well as against gun installations, airfield and enemy shipping. On 4 July, strikes were launched against Iwo Jima, Chichi Jima and Ha Ha Jima with her planes battering the land, sinking a large cargo vessel in the harbor and firing three smaller ships. On 6 July she began strikes on Guam and Rota to soften up for the invasion forces, and continued until the 21st when she lent direct support to enable safe landing of the first assault waves. Two days of replenishment at Saipan permitted her to steam in Task Force (TF) 58 for photographic reconnaissance and air strikes against the islands of the Palau group. Her planes effected their mission on the 25th and 26th, exacting a heavy toll on enemy planes, ground installations, and shipping. She departed on 28 July en route to Saipan and the following day shifted to TG 68.1. Although high seas prevented taking on needed bombs and rockets, FRANKLIN steamed for another raid against the Bonins. The 4th of August 1944 bode well, for her fighters launched against Chichi Jima and her dive bombers and torpedo planes against a convoy north of Ototo Jima rained destruction against the radio

stations, seaplane base, airstrips and ships. A period of upkeep and recreation from 9 to 28 August ensued at Eniwetok before she departed in company with carriers USS ENTERPRISE (CV 6), USS BELLEAU WOOD (CVL 24) and USS SAN JACINTO (CVL 30) for neutralization and diversionary attacks against the Bonins. From 31 August to 2 September spirited and productive strikes from FRANKLIN inflicted much ground damage, sank two cargo ships, bagged numerous enemy planes in flight, and accomplished photographic survey. On 4 September 1944, she unloaded supplies at Saipan and steamed in TG 38.4 for an attack against Yap (3-6 September) which included direct air coverage of the Peleliu invasion on the 16th. The group took on supplies at Manus Island from 21-25 September. FRANKLIN, as flagship of TG 38.4, returned to the Palau area where she launched daily patrols and night fighters. On 9 October she rendezvoused with carrier groups cooperating in air strikes in support of the coming occupation of Leyte. At twilight on the 13th, the Task Group came under attack by four bombers and FRANKLIN twice was narrowly missed by torpedoes. An enemy plane crashed FRANKLIN's deck abaft the island structure, slid across the deck and into the water on her starboard beam. Early on 14 October, a fighter sweep was made against Aparri, Luzon, following which she steamed to the east of Luzon to neutralize installations to the east prior to invasion landings on Leyte. On the 16th she was attacked by three enemy planes, one of which scored with a bomb that hit the after outboard corner of the deck edge elevator, killing three and wounding 22. The tenacious carrier continued her daily operations hitting hard at Manila Bay on 19 October when her planes sank a number of ships, damaged many,



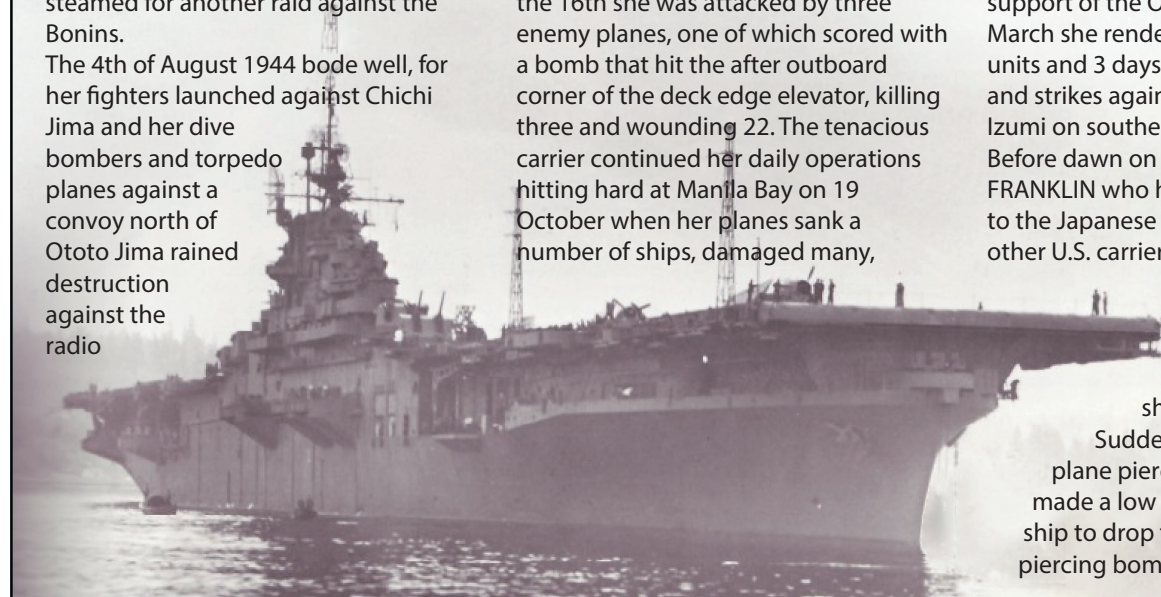
destroyed a floating drydock, and bagged 11 planes. During the initial landings on Leyte (20 October 1944), her aircraft hit surrounding air strips, and launched search patrols in anticipation of the approach of a reported enemy attack force.

On the morning of 24 October her planes sank a destroyer and damaged two others. FRANKLIN, with Task Groups 38.4, 38.3, and 38.2, sped to intercept the advancing Japanese carrier force and attack at dawn. FRANKLIN's four strike groups combined with those from the other carriers in sending to the bottom four Japanese carriers, and battering their screens. Retiring in her task group to refuel, she returned to the Leyte action on 27 October, her planes concentrating on a heavy cruiser and two destroyers south of Mindoro. She was underway about 1,000 miles off Samar on 30 October when enemy bombers appeared bent on a suicide mission. Three doggedly pursued FRANKLIN, the first plummeting off her starboard side; the second hitting the flight deck and crashing through to the gallery deck, showering destruction, killing 56 and wounding 60; the third discharging another near miss at FRANKLIN before diving into the flight deck of BELLEAU WOOD. Both carriers retired to Ulithi for temporary repairs and FRANKLIN proceeded to Puget Sound Navy Yard arriving 28 November 1944 for battle damage overhaul.

She departed Bremerton on 2 February 1945 and after training exercises and pilot qualification joined TG 58.2 for strikes on the Japanese homeland in support of the Okinawa landings. On 15 March she rendezvoused with TF 58 units and 3 days later launched sweeps and strikes against Kagoshima and Izumi on southern Kyushu. Before dawn on 19 March 1945 FRANKLIN who had maneuvered closer to the Japanese mainland than had any other U.S. carrier during the war,

launched a fighter sweep against Honshu and later a strike against shipping in Kobe Harbor. Suddenly, a single enemy plane pierced the cloud cover and made a low level run on the gallant ship to drop two semi-armor piercing bombs. One struck the flight

deck centerline, penetrating to the hangar deck, effecting destruction and igniting fires through the second and third decks, and knocking out the combat information center and airplot. The second hit aft, tearing through two decks and fanning fires which triggered ammunition, bombs and rockets. FRANKLIN, within 50 miles of the Japanese mainland, lay dead in the water, took a 13° starboard list, lost all radio communications, and broiled under the heat from enveloping fires. Many of the crew were blown overboard, driven off by fire, killed or wounded, but the 106 officers and 604 enlisted who voluntarily remained saved their ship through sheer valor and tenacity. The casualties totaled 724 killed and 265 wounded, and would have far exceeded this number except for the heroic work of many survivors. Among these were Medal of Honor winners, Lt. Cmdr. Joseph T. O'Callahan, S. J., USNR, the ship's chaplain, who administered the last rites organized and directed firefighting and rescue parties and led men below to wet down magazines that threatened to explode, and Lt. (j.g.) Donald Gary who discovered 300 men trapped in a blackened mess compartment, and finding an exit returned repeatedly to lead groups to safety. USS SANTA FE (CL 60) similarly rendered vital assistance in rescuing crewmen from the sea and closing FRANKLIN to take off the numerous wounded. FRANKLIN was taken in tow by USS PITTSBURGH (CA 72) until she managed to churn up speed to 14 knots and proceed to Pearl Harbor where a cleanup job permitted her to sail under her own power to Brooklyn, N.Y., arriving on 28 April. Following the end of the war, FRANKLIN was opened to the public for Navy Day celebrations and on 17 February 1947, the ship was placed out of commission at Bayonne, N.J. On 15 May 1959 she was reclassified AVT 8. FRANKLIN received four battle stars for World War II service.



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# THE HOME FRONT MADE US ALL 'VETERANS' IN WWII

By Dean Laux

On December 7, 1941, with devastating force, war struck an isolationist America that wanted no involvement in foreign wars and was oceans away from the battles raging in Europe and Asia. When Japan attacked and crippled our Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, we found ourselves vastly unprepared, with our military forces painfully inadequate and our factories undermanned and unready.

But we responded rapidly to put ourselves on a wartime footing. The Selective Service Board was authorized to draft young men from age 18 to 35 in huge numbers, and thousands of other citizens volunteered before they could be drafted. Recruiting offices sprouted up in every city and town, even taking space in post offices and town halls. Within 20 months we would have more than 12 million men and women in uniform, a massive change in our military might.

In January of 1942 the War Production Board was created to direct the conversion of our factories from making peacetime products to producing the weapons of war: tanks, planes, cannons, ships, guns, ammunition and more. One of the very first actions of the WPB was to prohibit the making of new cars for public use. The Jeep ("general purpose vehicle") made by Willys-Overland and Ford, was rushed into mass production for military use. On the home front, everyone would have to make do with the vehicles they had for the next five years, and auto parts for repairs would be extremely hard to come by. Many cars came off the roads, and the stresses on trains and buses became enormous, generating long lines at terminals that would invariably be packed with GIs and seamen being transferred to new posts.



*Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor left 2,403 Americans dead, with another 1,178 wounded.*

On January 30, 1942 Congress passed the Emergency Price Control Act, putting the clamp on prices for everything except agricultural products. Tire rationing began then, followed swiftly by the rationing of gasoline, fuel oil, solid fuels, stoves, bicycles, rubber footwear, shoes, leather, nylon (and then its successor, rayon), sugar, coffee, butter, processed foods, meats, canned fish, cheese ... and typewriters. Fashion went out the window, and what new clothes appeared in the stores scrimped on material, making skirts shorter, pants and blouses without cuffs, suits with belt-high jackets and few buttons. People patched their own clothes, and we kids (I was nine at the time) got by with hand-me-downs from our older siblings. What did they get? Hand-me-downs from the adults.

On the USA's mainland, we took the threat of attack seriously in 1942, despite the fact that our enemies did not at that time have the capability to invade or

damage our home soil. Those citizens too old or too young for military service signed up for the Home Guard or other paramilitary organizations in virtually every state to help defend their homeland. The Wisconsin American Legion promoted the idea of forming a guerilla army of 25,000 licensed deer hunters in the state to protect its citizens from an invasion that fortunately would never come. San Francisco put armed guards on its famous bridges and threw up sandbag barriers around its most prominent buildings, while Coast Guard boats escorted crab fishermen to and from their fishing sites to ward off imagined attacks by Japanese submarines. California's beaches were protected by armed patrols and strategically placed machine gun nests, as if a Japanese invasion was imminent.

Gun emplacements were seen on the rooftops of buildings in every major metropolis, and searchlights soon infested

our coastal cities, ready to spot any enemy planes in our skies. A steel company in Gary, Indiana went so far as to test using thick, malodorous smokescreens to hide its factories from enemy bombers that might fly over that inland city. It was well-intentioned, but not a good idea.

The threat was, however, real along our nation's east coast, where German U-boats prowled from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. Our Navy had no experience in coastal warfare, and our coastal cities were not blacked out in the early months of 1942. The U-boats simply stood offshore and picked off ships that were silhouetted against the city lights. In Miami, residents and tourists reported that they could see smoke and fires against the horizon. The U-boats were taking a terrible toll on shipping in the Atlantic, and it wasn't until mid-July that we had enough effective naval and air convoys to force the action into other parts



*A ferocious-looking Uncle Sam could be found recruiting in every post office in our country.*

of the Atlantic. By that time we had lost some 397 ships totaling over 2 million tons.

In May 1942 the Office of Civilian Defense was created by executive order of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, now midway

through his unprecedented third term. The OCD supervised defensive measures throughout the states, including volunteer programs for health, child care and safety. The OCD created the Civil Air Patrol,

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which eventually had 40,000 volunteer pilots patrolling the coasts of the continent carrying live bombs, and it conducted air raid drills and blackouts in every city and town in America on a regular basis. By the war's end, the OCD could boast of having more than 10 million civilian volunteers under its wings.

We kids weren't left out of the equation. We saved tinfoil from chewing gum wrappers, rescued old newspapers, and rounded up pieces of scrap metal and bottle caps for the Victory Drives that were held regularly in every town in America. I remember my brother David creating a huge ball of tinfoil about 4 feet in diameter and rolling it across the front lawn to the cheers of our neighbors during one scrap drive. For another patriotic effort, we all studied the silhouettes of German aircraft, so that we could report any sighting of a Stuka, Messerschmidt or Heinkel that dared to penetrate the skies above us.

To raise money for the government's war effort, encourage savings and decrease the risk of inflation, Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau oversaw a widely promoted and wildly successful sale of Defense Bonds (later called War Bonds and then Victory Bonds as the prospects of winning the war improved). Even in grammar school we kids were encouraged by our teachers to do the patriotic thing and get Mom and Dad to put up \$18.75 for a bond that would get back \$25 from the government ten years later.

President Roosevelt chose Frances Perkins to be his Secretary of Labor, the first woman ever appointed to a presidential cabinet position. He was to place many women in high-ranking positions in government and the foreign service during the remainder of his time in office. Indeed, with so many men out of the country in combat, women assumed a dominant role on the home front, working 48-hours a week and often overtime in



*"Rosie the Riveter" personified the vital roles taken up by women on the WWII home front.*

jobs they'd never had before. "Rosie the Riveter" became the symbol of women in the workforce—in factories, shipyards, and also in the newly formed Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs). The other branches of service soon had their own women's corps, whether it was WAVEs, SPARs or WAFs. They weren't allowed to take part in combat, but they drove service vehicles, clerked, cared for the injured and sick, and took up many roles that allowed able-bodied males to be freed for combat duty. There were some 300,000 women in the military by the war's end.

The cost of living in 1942 (unadjusted for inflation) was dirt cheap by today's standards. A movie ticket was about 25 cents, bread was 10 cents a loaf, and gasoline (if you could get it) hovered around 20 cents a gallon. But nobody wanted to see gas being wasted. Anyone who took a car for a ride just for fun would be met with shouts of "Pleasure driver!" by streetwalkers shaking their fists.

In the small towns of America, lawns and fields gave way to "victory gardens," planted and grown by citizens everywhere to meet the shortages of food in the grocery stores. Cities found more creative ways to grow victory veggies, and even the White House sported a victory garden on its rooftop.

There was no TV yet, no cell phones, no computers to consume our free time. But there were movies, radios and books. Some of the songs we first heard in 1942 are still well known today. How about "White Christmas," sung by Bing Crosby, or "Deep in the Heart of Texas" by Alvino Ray? On the radio we had Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Red Skelton, Fannie Brice, the Great Gildersleeve and many others to take our minds off the war briefly. In the movie theaters, the biggest hit of 1942 was "Casablanca," starring Bogie and Bergman. But themes of war dominated the silver screen, just as the war dominated our thoughts then.

One item that characterized our consuming interest in the war was the service flags that hung in the windows of many, many homes. A family was entitled to hang a small flag with a blue star on a white rectangle bordered in red, which signified a family member on active duty in the war. What every family hoped and prayed for was that the blue star would not be replaced with a gold star, signifying that the family member had died performing his duty.

In the early months of 1942 our nation's citizens were treated to bad news whenever we opened our newspapers or turned on our radios. In January the



Japanese were sweeping through the Pacific, and the Germans were having similar success in Europe and North Africa. America's major territorial holding in the Pacific, The Philippines, was invaded on January 9. On February 15, Britain's "impregnable fortress" of Singapore fell to the Japanese after only seven days of battle, and 80,000 of the

British Empire's finest troops were taken prisoner. On February 27, our Allied ships lost the Battle of Java, and on March 8 the Dutch East Indies, with their wealth of oil resources, surrendered unconditionally to Nippon's warriors. Their advance toward total domination of the Far East seemed unstoppable.

*Continued on page 6*



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Continued from page 5

On April 9, exactly three months after the Japanese invasion, the Philippines surrendered, and 78,000 captured American and Filipino soldiers began the infamous Bataan Death March, 65 miles through dense tropical forest and terrain. Only 987 survived the brutal march that ranks as the worst atrocity in America's history.

But there was a ray of hope. The first bit of good news came on April 18, when 16 B-25 bombers led by Lt. Colonel James Doolittle made the first American raid on the Japanese mainland, a raid later made famous by the book and movie of the same name: Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo. The raid did only token physical damage, but the psychological effect was significant: It woke up the Japanese populace and military leaders to the reality that their homeland was susceptible, and it gave Americans a much-needed boost of morale.

The first two substantive Allied successes in the Pacific finally came in May and June. In the Battle of the Coral Sea in early May, U.S. and Australian naval and air forces, engaged the Japanese Imperial Fleet near Port Moresby, New Guinea. In three days of battle, both sides

suffered severe losses of aircraft and ships, but we were able to keep Japan from taking Port Moresby, a key stepping stone for an invasion of Australia. It was the first time the Japanese advance through the Pacific had been halted, hence an important milestone for the Allies.

One month later, a U.S. Navy fleet headed by Admirals Nimitz, Fletcher and Spruance defeated a major fleet of the Japanese Imperial Navy under the command of Admirals Yamamoto, Nagumo and Kondo in the Battle of Midway, in what has been hailed by historians as one of the most stunning and decisive naval victories in history. It was a true turning point in the war in the Pacific.

In 1942 it was too early to count on success against the powerful Axis forces, but the seeds were sown for ultimate victory. Under the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur, Allied forces began an island-hopping advance back toward the Japanese homeland with an attack on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands on August 7. They met furious resistance, and it would take almost seven months before the island fell into our hands.

But Roosevelt had committed our nation to a "Europe first" strategy, and

MacArthur had to take a back seat to General Dwight D. "Ike" Eisenhower, who was to lead that effort. The initial campaign, "Operation Torch," began on November 8 with the simultaneous landing of Allied troops at Oran, Algiers and Casablanca in French West Africa.



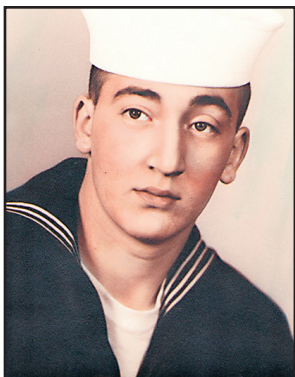
Many a celeb signed up to serve in the military, and others showed their support on film.

My father participated in that campaign as a Lt. Colonel in the Army Air Corps, as it was known then, and sat in on meetings headed by Eisenhower along with General George S. "Blood & Guts" Patton and British Field Marshall Bernard "Monty" Montgomery. After the war he would regale us kids with stories about who was the real boss of that campaign. (Hint: It wasn't Ike.)

Two other significant events took place in 1942, though neither one transpired on a battlefield. First, on June 13, by executive order, the Office of Strategic Services was created. The OSS intelligence operations gave us an overall view of the German war machine's strengths and weaknesses, and in Operation Torch it helped us select the best landing sites and identify pro-Allied supporters among the mixed French populace. Later it would be invaluable in providing information on the German V-1 and V-2 rocket programs at Peenemünde and in planning and executing the Normandy invasion, "Operation Overlord."

Second, the Manhattan project began in September under the scientific leadership of Robert Oppenheimer. That effort led to the development of the atom bomb, which in August of 1945 would decisively end the greatest conflict of all time, World War II.

So it was that 1942, a year that started in devastation and darkness, became a showcase for American determination that led to ultimate deliverance. Our soldiers, sailors and pilots would go on to win heroic battles overseas ... and the citizens on the Home Front would play their part too.



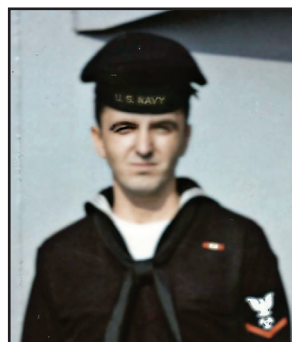
**Santo Arcuri**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
National Defense Service Medal,  
Combat Air Crewman Wing, Des. 3,  
Patrol Squadron 21  
North Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea  
**1964-1968**



**Bobby Austin**  
US Army, US Air Force  
Technical Sergeant  
**1978-1991**



**Mike Austin**  
US Air Force  
Sr A  
**1980-1984**



**Alan R. Ball**  
US Navy  
MM2 Machinest Mate)  
National Defense Service Medal  
Norfolk, VA; Deployed on a ship  
in the Mediterrean Sea during  
the Vietnam War  
**1966-1971**



**Dale Bartlett**  
US Air Force  
Private  
National Defense  
France (Korea)  
**1951-1955**



**Wilmer A. Belanger**  
US Army  
Private First Class  
Good Conduct, M-16 Rifle  
**1979-1981**



**Nicholas Beltz**  
US Army Airborne  
Private  
**2016-Present**



**Anna Mae Benardo**  
US Army  
Corporal Spec 4  
Good Conduct Metal  
**1971-1978**



**Herbert C. Bennett**  
US Army/ Air Force  
Corporal (Surgical Tech.)  
South Pacific  
821 Aviation Engineer  
**1943-1945**



**Henry Ron Berthold**  
US Army Reserves  
SPC4  
National Defense Service Medal,  
Expert Rifle & Pistol Badge  
Ft. Jackson, Ft. Sam Houston  
**1962-1970**



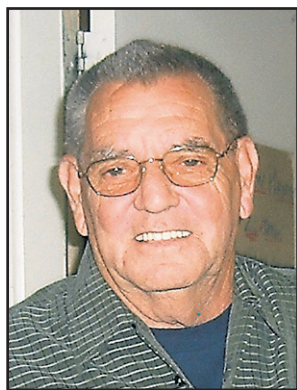
**Kathy Betancourt**  
US Coast Guard  
Chief Yeoman  
**1980-2000**



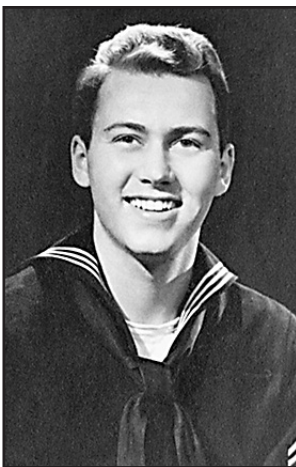
**Bruce Birch**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
National Defense Service, Vietnam  
Campaign, Vietnam Service,  
Army Commendation,  
Good Conduct  
Louisiana, Colorado, Vietnam  
**1968-1970**



**James A. Bishop**  
US Air Force  
Technical Sergeant  
Bronze Star  
Vietnam, Alaska, Germany  
**1960-1981**



**Gene Roy Blodgett**  
US Army  
PFC  
Korean Service Medal, Bronze Service Star, Combat Infantry Badge, UN Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal  
Korea  
**1953-1954**



**Edward Bohon**  
US Coast Guard  
Engineman Third Class  
National Defense Service Medal  
Cape May, NJ; Croton, CT; Norfolk, VA; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Ketchikan, Alaska  
**1953-1956**



**Kenneth Blanchard**  
US Navy  
TME3  
West Pacific  
**1976-1979**



**William Bond**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
National Defense Service  
Eglin AFB-Florida  
**1966-1970**



**James R. Boucher**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
Good Conduct,  
National Defense, Meritorious Service  
Hawaii, South Carolina, Iraq  
**1987-1995**



**Roy Henry Boehm**  
US Navy Seal – Seal Team 2  
Lieutenant Commander  
Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (1942), Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (1967), Navy Good Conduct Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, China Service Medal, American Defense Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with one Silver Star, one Bronze Star and Arrowhead device, WWII Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, National Defense Medal with one Bronze Star, Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (Philippines), Korean Presidential Unit Citation, United Nations Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, United Nations Korea Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, USN Expert Rifle Medal, USN Expert Pistol Medal  
WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War  
**1941-1971**





**Omer F. Boucher**  
US Navy  
Seaman 2nd Class  
Good Conduct; WWII Victory Medal  
London, England  
**1942-1945**



**Gerald W. Box**  
US Army  
SPC4  
Germany  
**1970-1973**



**Richard Boyer**  
US Air Force  
Captain  
Distinguished Service Medal  
Lincoln, NE  
**1957-1965**  
I was a pilot on the Boeing B-47 bomber in the Strategic Air Command. My primary air base was Lincoln, NE with frequent Alert Status service in air bases in Upper Heyford Air Base near Oxfordshire, England and Torrejon Air Base in Zaragoza, Spain.

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YNC, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)  
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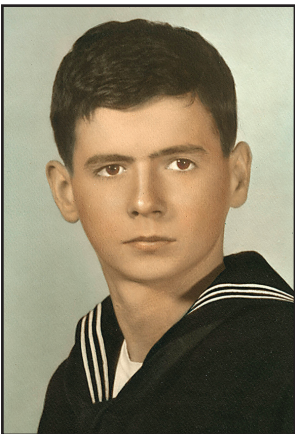
**Erich Braun**

US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
National Defense,  
Good Conduct  
Lackland AFB, TX; Elsworth AFB, SD;  
Sidi Slimane, Morocco; Sampson  
AFB, NY  
**1952-1960**



**Kenneth Brumley**

US Navy  
E-4  
USS Norfolk, USS Beall (West Pack),  
USS Kennedy  
**1963-1975**



**Bill Burdick**

US Navy  
E-4  
National Defense Service Medal,  
Vietnam Service Medal w/4  
Campaign Stars, Republic of Vietnam  
Campaign Medal w/device Navy Unit  
Comendation Ribbon  
Served on the U.S.S. Intrepid CVS  
(A) II, South China Sea Dixie Station  
(1 year), Gulf of Tonein North  
Vietnam (2 years)  
**1965-1969**



**Terry D. Brenneman**

US Army  
SP5  
Commendation Medal, Expert  
Marksmanship Badge  
Nike Missile Base,  
Arlington Height, IL;  
Ft. Wainwright, Alaska  
**1966-1970**



**Jarod Bruns**

US Army  
Specialist  
Army Commendation  
with a "C" Device  
Iraq 2019/2020  
2017-2020  
Served in  
Operation Inherent  
Resolve in Iraq



**Dennis J. Burnham**

US Marine Corps.  
Sergeant  
Honor Student, Marine Security  
Guard School  
IWA Kuni, Japan, Yaounde,  
Cameroon, Vienna  
**1973-1977**  
National Guard Reserves  
**1978-1986**



**Eugene Brown, Jr.**

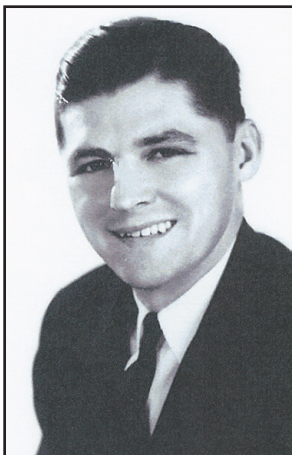
US Army  
Command Sergeant Major  
Bronze Star Medal with 1 Oak Leaf  
Cluster, MSM 3 Oak Leaf Clusters,  
Bronze Fleury, Member of the Audie  
Murphy Club  
Iraq 4 tours; Kosovo; Ft. Bragg, NC;  
Bamberg, Germany; Ft. Campbell,  
Ky; Daytona Beach, FL; Schofield  
Barracks, HI; Shaw AFB, SC; El Paso,  
TX  
**1998-2021**

Eugene graduated from Lemon Bay  
High School, where he was in ROTC.  
Immediately after graduation he  
joined the Army.  
He married his high school sweet-  
heart, Holly, in 2000.  
He has 3 children and achieved a  
Bachelor's Degree during his 23  
year Army career.  
He achieved the highest enlisted  
level as Command Sergeant Major.



**Timothy M. Bryant**

US Air Force  
SSGT  
Korea  
**1952-1956**



**Marvin Bush**

US Navy - Seabees  
Commander  
Pearl Harbor, HI; Samar Philippines;  
Oxnard, CA; Little Creek, VA; Key  
West, FL  
**1942-1980**

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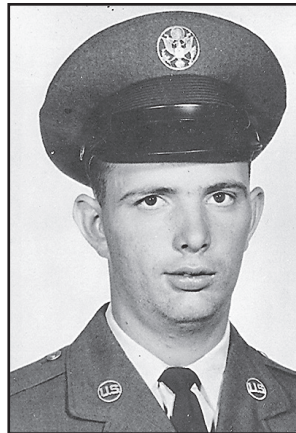
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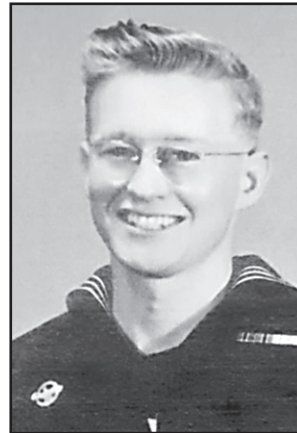


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**William A. Butland**  
US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*National Defense Service Medal,  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal,  
Armed Forces Good Conduct Medal*  
Karamursel Air Station, Turkey;  
Yokota Air Force Base, Japan  
**1965-1970**



**Norm Caldwell**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Pearl Harbor  
**1943-1946**  
*Worked as a metal smith  
on aircraft.*



**Fred Capitelli**  
US Army  
Corporal  
Korean War, Sigman Rhee, Good  
Conduct  
Korea, Japan, Okinawa  
**1952-1954**



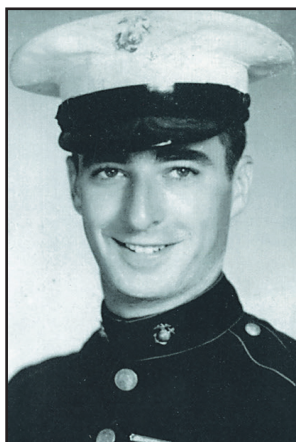
**Bob Carroll**  
US Army  
Colonel  
*Legion of Merit, Silver Star, 3 Bronze  
Stars,  
Purple Heart*  
US: Vietnam: Germany  
**1962-1983**



**Elia "Al" Castellano**  
US Navy, Sea Bees,  
22nd Marines  
Motor Machinist Mate Second Class  
*Combat Action, Navy Unit  
Commendation, American  
Campaign, Asiatic Pacific, WWII  
Victory,  
Good Conduct*  
Guadal Canal, Guam  
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**Agnes Caviston**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
San Diego  
**1942-1945**



**John Caviston**  
US Marine Corps.  
Sergeant  
South Pacific  
**1940-1945**



**Todd R. Chace**  
US Army  
Colonel  
*Legion of Merit, Bronze Star,  
Maritime Service Medal – ARCON,  
Florida Commendation Medal*  
Afghanistan, Iraq  
**1976-2013**



**Mark Clabaugh**  
US Air Force  
Airman/Aircraft Electrician  
*AFGCM, 314 AD, SAG 22, AFR-  
3914*  
Lackland AFB, ChanuetAFB,  
Eglin AFB, Osan AFB South Korea  
**1962-1966**



**Charles Reginald Cole**  
US Navy  
Boatswain's Mate  
Second Class  
*Victory Medal, American Campaign,  
Asiatic Pacific, Good Conduct*  
South Pacific, Hawaii, Aleutian  
Islands  
**1934-1937 & 1944-1946**



**Phil Comer**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
Fort Knox, Ky  
**1970-1972**



**Leo Conlon**  
US Army  
E-4  
*Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge*  
Vietnam, Cambodia  
**1969-1971**



**Rick Conner**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
*National Defense, Good Conduct*  
Parris Island; Camp LeJeune; Cherry Point; Iwakuni, Japan  
**1970-1974**



**Ralph W. Crites**  
US Army  
Corporal  
*WWII Victory Ribbon & Army of Occupation Medal (Germany)*  
Germany  
**1945-1946**



**Allen Benjamin Cronk**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
South Pacific  
**1943-1945**



**Stephen R. Cummings**  
USNR  
LTJG  
Pensacola, FL  
**1970-71**



**Ashley E. Cunniff Trembach**  
US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*Air Force Commendation, Army Commendation*  
Holloman AFB, New Mexico; Cob Adder, Iraq  
**2007-2013**



**Ryan Cushing**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
*Navy & Marine Corps Achievement, Good Conduct, Global War on Terror, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary, Sea Service, Overseas, Pistol and Rifle Ribbons*  
Norfolk, VA; Rota, Spain  
**2012-Present**



**Henry Cwiklinski**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
Philippines  
**1939-1945**



**Albert Davenport**  
US Army  
SP4  
*Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service, Republic of Vietnam Campaign, RVN Gallantry Cross, Cold War Victory Commemorative*  
Ft. Dix, Ft. Gordon, Okinawa, Thailand, Fort Meade  
**1961-1964**



**Cory Day**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
*Army Achievement, National Defense Service, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary, Armed Forces Reserve w/M Device, Army Service Ribbon*  
USA, Kuwait, Iraq  
**2000-2004**



**Nicola DeFazio**  
US Army  
Specialist 4  
*Meritorious Achievement*  
Vietnam  
**1964-1966**



**Reggie Deighton**  
British Army—Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, 6th Armored Division  
Private  
Germany  
**1950-1952**  
*Specialist in Explosives and Demolitions*



**William K. Deubel**  
US Air Force  
Corporal  
*Legion of Merit*  
USA  
**1943-1945**



**Rocco DiGiorgio**  
US Air Force  
E8 Senior Master Sgt.  
Retired Honorably  
**1996-2018**



**George Francis Dignam**  
US Navy  
Pharmacist's Mate  
Second Class  
United States  
**1944-1945**

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**George Dinda**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
*Victory Medal, American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal*  
United States  
**1944-1946**



**Julio P. DiPerzio**  
US Army  
Sergeant 1st Class  
*Good Conduct Medal, 3 Bronze Stars, National Defense Service Medals*  
Korea  
**1951-1953**



**Joseph Dmuchowski**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
*Outstanding Unit; Expert Rifleman; National Defense*  
Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska; Oklahoma; Texas  
**1965-1969**



**Joseph Dominiak, Sr.**  
US Marine Corps  
European Ports  
**1920-1922**



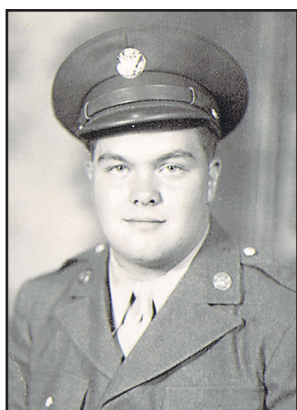
**Joseph T. Dominiak**  
US Army  
SP4  
*Good Conduct Medal*  
Fort Gordon, GA; USAREUR Paris France; Fort Lewis, WA  
**1960-1962**



**Robert J. Dominiak**  
US Navy  
Seaman  
USS Valley Forge Aircraft Carrier  
Pacific Fleet  
**1945-1949**



**William Donatini**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
Senior Crew Chief/509th Bomb Wing  
Strategic Air Command  
**1955-1962**



**James L. Doody**  
US Army  
Technician Fifth Grade  
*American Campaign Medal, EAME Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Medal*  
Central Europe, Rhineland, GO 33  
WD 45  
**1943-1945**



**William H. Doody**  
US Army, National Guard  
PFC  
*Sharpshooter Badge, M-16*  
Fort Lewis, WA  
**1971-1976**



**Philip G. DuPont**  
US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*National Service, Good Conduct, Occupation Metal, Germany*  
4 Bases in the US, Europe Spang Dahlem AF Base  
Air Force  
**1947-1948**  
National Guard  
**1950-1954**



**Roy Jackson Dyer**  
US Army  
Corporal  
NDSM/GCMOL  
Europe  
**1966-1967**



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# Atten-Hut! Listen Up, Veterans!

By Chris Cameron

U.S. veterans, have you heard about Southwest Florida Honor Flight? It's a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization whose sole stated purpose is "to safely transport our veterans to Washington, D.C., to be honored at their memorials and receive the welcome home they deserve." Any veteran, combat or noncombat, is eligible if he or she was on active duty during wartime and was honorably discharged. Preference is given to WWII, Korean and Vietnam veterans, and those facing terminal illness. The trip is a full one-day, memorable event.

Veterans fly aboard a chartered Allegiant flight to Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI), located between Baltimore and Washington. They then travel by chartered bus to tour the WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Iwo Jima and Lincoln Memorials, as well as attend the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Other sites may be visited as time allows before they fly back to Punta Gorda airport at the end of the day.



WWII veteran Harry Demmon, age 99, poses in front of the Korean Memorial.

All costs for the veterans are covered by SW Florida Honor Flight. Each veteran is assigned a "guardian" who is attentive to every need and assists the veteran throughout the day. Guardians are volunteers or family members who pay a portion of the cost to escort the veteran.

Honor Flight is a national organization that was founded in 2005 by Jeff Miller and Earl Morse. The two men recognized that WWII veterans were nearing the end of their lifespan, and they wanted them to see and be honored at the memorials erected for military personnel who had served their country.

The national organization uses 124 hubs located around the country. The SW Florida Honor Flight hub serves six counties: Charlotte, Sarasota, DeSoto, Hardee, Hendry and Highlands.

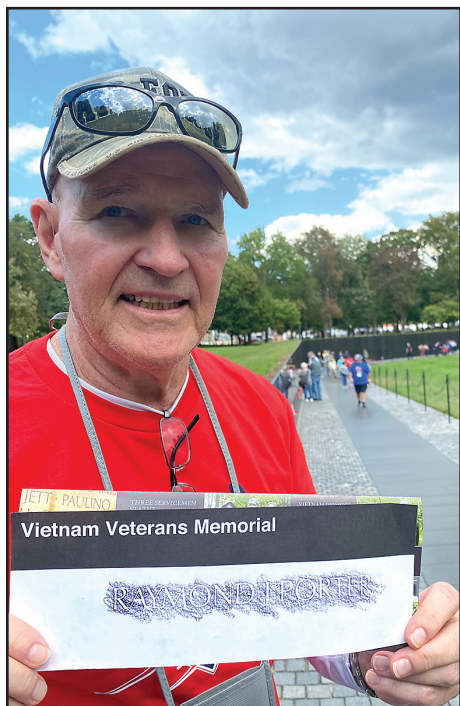
The most recent Honor Flight was on October 10th. This flight consisted of 97 veterans and 82 guardians and staff. Four of those veterans served in WWII and nine in the Korean Conflict. Although female service personnel had been on previous flights, this flight was the first to specifically designate the trip

in their honor, and 33 female veterans were on board. The group visited the recently built Women's Military Museum to cap the day's touring program.

The day started early at 4:15 a.m., and throughout the day, the veterans and their guardians experienced a range of emotions, from sadness and loss to periods of reflection and memories, but most of all, to great pleasure to be honored and respected for perhaps the first time since their discharge.

On the flight returning to Punta Gorda, a cherished daily military activity was carried out: "mail call," in the tradition of that much-awaited event for every soldier in combat far from home. The surprised veterans were handed packets of mail that carried highly personal letters from their respective families, friends and neighbors. One veteran characterized it as "almost like looking in on a Celebration of Life at your own funeral." Many a vet had tears in their eyes as they read those cherished words from their loved ones.

*Continued on page 16*



Bud Bell, holds a stencil etching of the name of a family friend who died in combat in Vietnam. Mark Johnson did the etching for Bud at the Vietnam Wall.



The veterans returned home to a crowd of 100s who enthusiastically greeted them with signs of gratitude and welcome home.



**Grace A. Eckstorm**  
US Army  
Specialist 4  
*Cook of the Month, May 1977;*  
*Letters of Commendation*  
Fort Knox, Kentucky  
**1975-1978**



**Richard Elsbury**  
US Army  
1st Lieutenant  
Ft. Bliss  
**1956-1964**



**Richard E. Entlich**  
US Army  
Colonel  
*LOM, BS, MSM*  
Vietnam, Germany, West Point, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Campbell, Ft. Sill  
**1963-1989**

*In the summer of 1963, after graduation from West Point, I went into Fort Sill and attended the Field Artillery Basic Course. After Airborne and Ranger schools, I began my career at the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. I met my wife there and we got married in 1965 – then off to Vietnam for a year as an advisor. I had lots of field artillery assignments along the way to include Fort Bragg, Fort Benning, Germany, back to Vietnam, and then*

*on to West Point to the Mathematics Department. I finished my last six years in the army at the Pentagon. My final assignment was with the Army Science Board and I retired in 1989. As a civilian I worked at the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute for Defense Analyses running studies and seminars for various government agencies to include the FBI and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. I spent a total of 47 years working for the government.*



**Carl Alfred Farley**  
US Navy  
E-9 MCPO  
*Vietnam Corpsman*  
USA, Ethiopia, Africa, Vietnam  
**1955-1979**



**Brian A. Farlow**  
US Army  
Major  
*Bronze Star, Melodious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal w/OLC*  
Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom  
**1987-2016**



**Francesca A. Farlow**  
US Coast Guard Academy  
2nd Class Cadet



**James T. Farrish**  
US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
Vietnam; Utipao, Thailand  
**1965-1969**



**Harold Feasel**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
*Occupation Medal Germany*  
Germany  
**1948-1952**  
Tank Company 15th Armored Cavalry  
3rd Battalion



**Len Ferraguzzi**  
US Army  
Private First Class  
Germany  
**1959-1961**  
3rd Infantry Division



**John Ferraro**  
US Army  
SSG E-6  
*National Defense, Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign, Vietnam Service, Army Commendation, Bronze Star*  
Vietnam  
**1967-1969**



**Randall R. Ficken**  
US Navy  
ETR-2  
*National Defense, Good Conduct, Cold War Service*  
San Diego, CA; Bronx, NY; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba  
**1969-1975**



**Howard Finkel**  
US Army  
Private First Class  
25th Division Tropic Lightning  
USAPAC Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii  
**1955-1957**



**Carl Fisher**  
US Army  
Specialist 4th Class  
*Vietnam Service, Campaign Ribbon, Purple Heart*  
Vietnam, Da Nang – Natrang, Tuy Woa



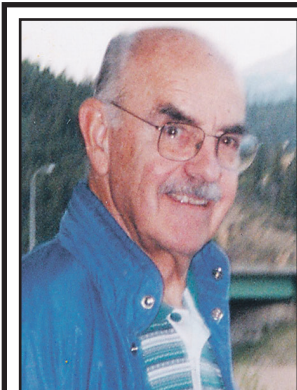
**G. Warren Fishpaw**  
US Army  
Staff Sergeant  
*Expert Rifle, Pistol and M60, National Service Medal*  
Ft. Polk, LA; Ft. Dix, NJ; Washington, DC; Ft. Jackson, SC  
**1966-1973**



**John H. Flower**  
US Army  
T-5  
*WWII Victory Medal, Sharp Shooter*  
Aleutian Island  
**1946-1948**



**James R. Ford, Sr.**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
*Good Conduct, National Defense*  
USS Rowan, USS Providence, Adak, Alaska  
**1962-1966**



**Thaddeus "Ted" Francis Flis, Sr.**  
US Army  
Private First Class  
Finance Corp.  
Louisiana, South Korea  
**1945-1952**



**Jim Francis**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
*Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign*  
Vietnam; Korea  
**1968-1974**



**Joseph P. Furlong**  
US Navy  
Airman  
Pensacola, FL; USS Wasp CVS-18  
aircraft carrier  
**1956-1960**



**Lou Gemma**  
US Marine Corp.  
Corporal  
*Rifle Expert, Pistol Expert, Service to Country During War Time*  
Camp Lejeune, NC; Camp Geiger, NC  
**1990-1994 + Reserves**





Continued from page 14

If that wasn't enough, upon returning to Punta Gorda, the veterans were paraded through a large crowd of well-wishers, officials, Scottish bagpipers, Patriot Riders, fire and police department staff, and other groups. Waving flags and holding signs, the crowd shook hands, gave hugs, and enthusiastically gave those Veterans a welcome home that most never dreamed they would ever experience.

Naomi Copeland, President of SW Florida Honor Flight, was on board for her 21st flight and said that with each flight, she thinks it can't be any better, but finds the flight is indeed better than the previous ones in some way. She says, "I am the first person to welcome them home and thank them for their service. It is my honor to take them to see their memorials, respect them, and give them the best day of their life! I am forever grateful to them."



Mark Johnson (center) who was Guardian for two veterans on the flight poses with them in front of the Washington Monument – Bud Bell (left) is a USAF veteran and veteran Ron Whalen (right) served in the USMC.

Dean Laux of Englewood, who served in the Army, was on the flight with his wife Mick, as his guardian. He described the day as mentally very rewarding and very emotional. He was amazed by the reception of the people they encountered along the way, how respectful they were. Strangers would engage the veterans in conversation. It was, in many ways, a celebration of life. He found the homecoming at the airport to be the capstone of the day and was surprised to find that two of his daughters had flown down from Massachusetts to surprise him. "That just blew me away," he says. As the veterans wove through the cheering crowds, he started waving and low-fiving the kids present. What more, indeed, could a returning hero ask for? Asked what he would say to someone who hasn't gone on the Honor Flight yet, Dean says, "Do not miss the opportunity. It could be a very healing experience, especially for those who served in Vietnam and returned home to an unwelcoming public."

Bob Ritter served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and was a Purple Heart recipient. He went on the urging of his son Robert, who is also a veteran and came along as his dad's guardian. Bob said that while he was hesitant at first, he was so glad afterward that he had this experience, especially since he had never visited the memorials. "The day was kinda emotional," he admits, "with both good emotions and some that you would rather forget." Talking with other veterans and being honored at the Korean War Memorial were highlights for him, as well as being thanked for his service while on the trip, and the huge welcome home reception at the airport. What is his advice for others eligible for the trip? "GO FOR IT!"

For those who accompanied the veterans as guardians, the experience was very powerful and emotional as well. Mark Johnson, whose father was a Vietnam veteran who passed away in 2011 from Agent Orange exposure, recalls one such moment.

After Bud Bell found the name of a family friend who died in Vietnam, Mark stooped down and made a stencil of that name.

Mark had heard about Honor Flight and signed up as a guardian when he had the opportunity. He remarked that the whole Honor Flight trip is very well done, and that everything is first-rate.

According to the national Honor Flight website, since its inception over 270,000 veterans have been transported to Washington, D.C. as of December 2022. In 2022 alone, 21,800 veterans were honored: 856 from WWII, 2,960 from the Korean War, 16,903 from Vietnam and 1,081 from other recognized conflicts such as Afghanistan.

Impressive as these figures are, there are over 42,000 veterans on waitlists. The organization



Naomi Copeland, SWFL Honor Flight President, gives Korean veteran, Ken Greulich, a big hug.

is supported financially only by donations and sponsors. It receives no government funding. SW Florida Honor Flight is in need of sponsors – corporations, businesses, organizations and individuals. Anyone can contribute to ensure that the flights continue so all veterans have the opportunity to experience and receive the honor and recognition that many service personnel never received. All donations go directly toward Honor Flight's mission. There are no paid staff members – it's all volunteers. In most years, flights have been offered only. President Copeland would like to see that increase to two flights yearly if the funds can be raised. If you would like to help send a veteran on the Honor Flight, monetary donations can be mailed to SWFL Honor Flight, PO Box 495065, Port Charlotte, FL 33949. What better way to say, "Thank you for serving!"

To learn more about SW Florida Honor Flight, visit [swflhonorflight.org](http://swflhonorflight.org). Applications for both veterans and guardians are on the website, or you can request an application by emailing [swflhonorflight@gmail.com](mailto:swflhonorflight@gmail.com). Volunteers are also needed in many capacities. If you are interested, please email [swflhonorflight@gmail.com](mailto:swflhonorflight@gmail.com). There are monthly hub meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. that are open to the public. You can also attend via Zoom. The meeting location can be found on the website. For questions, send an email to [swflhonorflight@gmail.com](mailto:swflhonorflight@gmail.com).



Guardian Aaron White (left) and Vietnam veteran Richard Wellenberger pause for a moment of reflection.



**Terrance Lee Genin**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 3rd Class  
Purple Heart  
Vietnam  
1965-1971



**Henry George**  
US Marines Corps.  
Sergeant  
Honorable Discharge  
Vietnam; Camp Pendleton, CA  
1963-1967



**Robert E. Gilbertson**  
US Army  
Specialist 4  
Meritorious Service  
Commendation Medal  
Vietnam  
1967-1969  
Battery A, 1st Battalion, 7th  
Artillery, 1st Infantry Division



**Norman Girard**  
US Army.  
Tech 4  
*European African Middle Eastern  
Campaign Ribbon with Four Bronze  
Stars, Good Conduct Medal  
Omaha Beach Normandy, Northern  
France, Rhineland, Central Europe*  
1943-1945  
*At birth, Norman's name was  
Norman Girard Damphousse, and he  
served with that name. In 1967 he  
changed his name to Norman Girard.*



**Jerome C. Goodwin**  
US Marine Corp  
Sergeant  
1956-1960



**Kenneth M. Goodwin**  
US Air Force  
Master Sergeant  
1966-1991



**Marion I. Goodwin**  
US Army  
1942-1945



**Thomas W. Goodwin**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
Vietnam  
1961-1968



**Amanda  
Gordon-DiGiorgio**  
US Air Force  
E7 Master Sgt.  
Retired Honorably  
1998-2019



**Steven Gordon**  
US Coast Guard  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Presidential Unit Citation, USCG  
Unit Commendation, USCG Overseas  
Service, National Defense Service,  
Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign,  
RVN Gallantry Cross, USCG Expert  
Pistol, USCG Good Conduct  
Vietnam; Thailand; Pittsburgh, PA;  
Aton; S&R  
1971-1977



**Peter Vance Gould**  
US Air Force  
MSGT  
AF Commendation Medal w/2 Oak  
Leaf Clusters, AF Expert Marksman, NCO  
Academy Grad Medal, AF Longevity  
w/3 Oak Leaf Clusters, National  
Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service  
Medal, AF Outstanding Unit Award  
w/4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Republic of  
Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Republic of  
Vietnam Campaign Medal, AF Good  
Conduct Medal w/5 Oak Leaf Clusters,  
Meritorious Service Medal  
Vietnam  
1963-1983



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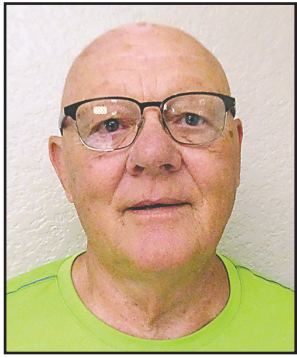
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**Fred L. Griego**

US Army 82nd Airborne  
E4 (Spec 4)  
*Sharp Shooter (Rifle), National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Army Commendation Medal, Bronze Star Medal*  
Ft. Dix, Ft. Polk, Vietnam, Ft. Hamilton, "Stern's Auto & Tire - Englewood"  
**1968 - 1970**



**Ron David Groh**

US Army 101 Airborne  
E7 Door Gunner  
*Purple Heart, Defense, Rifle Mechanic*  
**1969-1986**



**Chester P. Gronke**

US Army  
Sgt. - E5  
*Good Conduct, Expert Rifle, Colonel's Commendation*  
Ft. Knox Basic, Ft. Hood, Ft. Sill, Mojave Desert Strike A2  
**1964-1966**



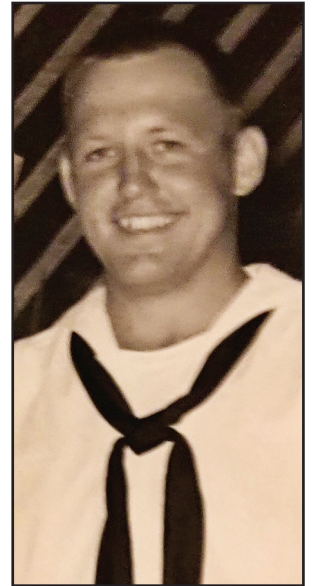
**Bruce William Grosvenor, Jr.**

US Army  
SP4  
*Numerous Commendations Stuttgart Germany servings as an Intelligence Analyst*



**Wendall C. Harmon**

US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*Good Conduct, Rifle*  
Massachusetts, Japan, Texas, Vietnam, Delaware, S. Carolina, New Hampshire  
**1956-1976**



**Bruce Harris**

US Navy  
E5 GMG2  
Honorable Discharge  
Vietnam;  
Dam Neck Naval Base, VA  
**1966-1970**



**Daniel J. Harris**

US Army  
SP4  
**1970-1972**



**Donald Harvey**

US Air Force  
Captain  
Hamilton AFB, California and Mill Valley AFS  
Active Duty  
**1951-1955**  
Reserves  
**1955-1963**



**Jacob Hegedus**

US Army  
E-4  
*Combat Infantry Badge*  
Kandahar, Afghanistan  
**2011-2016**



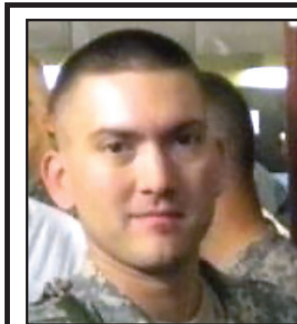
**Elliot M. Helfand**

US Army Corps  
Air-Force Cadet  
*Marksman*  
Tinker Field, Oklahoma City  
**1941-1948**



**Bill Hines**

US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*Good Conduct Medal, National Service Ribbon*  
New Castle Air Force Base, Delaware  
**1950-1954**



**Daniel R. Holbrook**

US Army  
E6 Staff Sergeant

*Iraq Campaign Medal with 3 Stars, 4 Army Commendation Medals, 2 Army Achievement, Meritorious Unit Citation, 2 Army Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Service Medal Global War on Terror Terrorism, Non Commissioned Officer's Continued Development Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver Wheeled Vehicle*  
Iraq

**2004-2013**

2 years, one month and 15 days deployed in Iraq



**Kevin Holland**

US Army  
Spec 4  
Germany

**1972-1975**



**Melvin Hermand**

US Army  
T7  
*Service In European Campaign, Good Behavior*  
Battle of the Bulge, France, Belgium, Germany  
**1943-1945**

World War II veteran. Participated in the invasion of Europe. The battle of the Bulge which was the last major German offensive lasting from Dec. 16, 1944-Jan. 25, 1945. The Americans pushed the Germans troops back from Ardennes, Belgium to Luxembourg, Germany. Mel was a member of the 3rd Armored Division and armed the 105 Howitzer and the M10 Tanks. When weather prohibited airplanes to fly and provide ground cover these guns would fire 24/7 which resulted in hearing loss. Mel is a lifetime member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and the Military Order of the Cooties whose motto is "Keep them smiling in beds of white." He is also a life time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He



was Commander during 1972 and 1973. He is also a Member of the Free and Acceptance Masons Chap 300, Englewood. Member Suncoast Order of Amarnath, Englewood and served as Patron Order of Eastern Star and Royal Patron Order of Amarnath. Mel has lived in Englewood since 2001. He is a member of the EUMC and currently resides at Heritage Oaks. He is 96 years old.

*Richelle, owner/stylist and Mary Jo, stylist*

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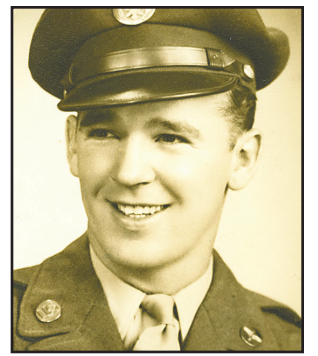
**James H. Horner III**

US Navy  
ACAN  
Great Lakes Naval Air Station; Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL; Patuxent River, Maryland  
**2018-Present**



**David R. Hollomon**

US Army  
Sgt. E5  
Ft. Hood, TX; Ft. Gordon, GA; Ft. Huachuca, AZ; Butzbach, Germany  
**1952-1962**



**Raymond M. Hook**

US Army Air Force  
Tech Sergeant  
*Purple Heart, Distinguished Service, Other Campaign Medals*  
Europe  
**1941-1945**



**George H. Howard, Jr.**  
US Navy  
Coxswain  
Islands in the Pacific  
**1943-1946**



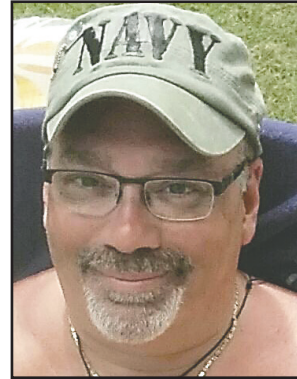
**Daniel "Danny" Hubbard**  
US Army  
Sergeant E5  
*Expert Metal Star, Vietnam*  
Saigon, Vietnam  
**1970-1971**  
*Hauled ammo and food to frontlines all over Vietnam, mostly traveling Highway 1*



**Howard Jarest**  
US Army  
T-5  
*European African Campaign Ribbon, Victory, American Theater Campaign Ribbon*  
England, France, Belgium, Germany  
**1942-1945**



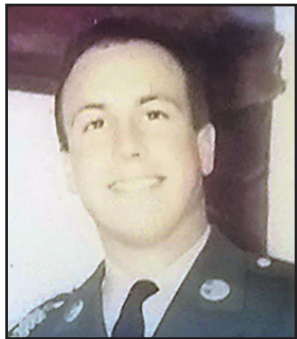
**Barney F. Jasek, Jr.**  
US Army  
Corporal  
*Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, Purple Heart, Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Presidential Citation*  
New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Bougainville Luzon, Japan  
**1943-1946**



**Richard Jean**  
US Navy  
CTT-E5  
Ft. Meade, MD  
**1977-1983**  
*National Security Agency*



**Anna Jenkins**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer First Class  
US, Spain, Japan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Diego Garcia  
**1992-2003**



**Peter Wyeth Johnson**  
US Army Fifth Special Forces  
First Lieutenant  
Vietnam  
**1964-1968**  
*Killed In Action*  
2.13.1968



**Jimmie C. Jones**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer Communication  
State Side  
**1962-1966**



**Ottis C. Jones**  
US Navy  
Certified  
South Pacific  
**1944-1946**



**James K. Joyce**  
US Army  
Corporal  
Fort Jackson, Fort Huston  
**1953-1955**



**Kenneth Juall**  
US Army  
First Lieutenant  
*Vietnam Campaign*  
Camp Korat, Thailand  
**1968-1973**



**Lloyd Dean Juhlin**  
US Air Force  
Captain  
*DFC, Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters*  
Korea  
**1949-1966**



**John Kailey**  
Marine Corp. & US Army  
Colonel  
*Legion of Merit Bronze Star*  
Many locations served; Last tour in Iraq  
**1979-1991 & 1995-2015**



**Steven R. Kandel**  
US Army  
Communications Specialist  
*National Defense Service Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Ribbon, Rifle Expert Badge*  
Germany  
**1966-1968**



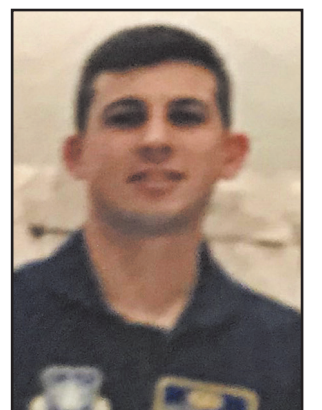
**David John Karaffa**  
US Marine Corps, US Navy, US Air Force  
MSGT  
*Over Seas Deployment Ribbons, Combat Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism, Antarctica Ribbon*  
Middle East  
**1984-Current**



**Ronald Keller**  
US Army  
Spec 4  
*Good Conduct Medal, National Service Medal, Vietnam Era Award*  
Fischbach, Germany; Fort Jackson; Fort Gordon  
**1972-1974**



**George J. Kelley**  
US Navy  
Sergeant First Class  
Alaska, California, Brazil  
**1943-1948; 1950-1953**



**Matthew J. Kelly**  
US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
Colorado Springs, CO  
**1997-2001**

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**Michael Kenjorski**  
 US Army  
 Specialist 4th Class  
*Good Conduct*  
 Republic of Korea  
**1965-1967**



**Edward P. Kent**  
 US Army  
 Sergeant  
*Purple Heart, French Legion Of Honor, Victory Medal, New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal With One Oak Leaf Cluster, European Theater of Operations Medal With One Battle Star, French Liberation Medal, American Theater of Operations Medal*  
 Utah Beach, Normandy  
**1941-1944**



**Regis F. Kim**  
 US Army/Air Force  
 Sergeant  
 Europe  
**1941-1944**



**Edward L. Kinsey**  
 US Marine Corp.  
 SSGT  
*GCM, NAM, KLM, Navy Diver, CAR, General Harold S. Schmitt Award, Jungle Warfare Expert*  
 Camp Lejeune, Okinawa, Middle East  
**1982-1994**



**James John King**  
 US Navy  
 Seaman First Class  
*WWII Victory; American Theatre; European; African; Middle Eastern*  
 Sampson, NY; Brooklyn, NY; USS A.J. Luke  
**1944-1946**



**Gerhard Klann**  
 US Navy  
 BMC/SOC-Seal Team; Special Operations Chief  
*Legion of Merit with Valor; Bronze Star with Valor; Combat Action; 2 Presidential Citations*  
 Vietnam  
**1965-1969; 1973-1989**



**Fred Jacob Kruea**  
 US Army  
 Private First Class  
 Thierry; Meuse; Argonne; Aisne River  
**1916-1919**



**Jerry E. Kuhn**  
 US Navy  
 Chief Petty Officer  
*Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal (6), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (5), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Medal, NATO Medal, National Defense Medal*  
 Holy Loch Scotland; Jacksonville, FL; Key West, FL; Pensacola, FL; Orlando, FL; Naples Italy  
**1981-2004**



**Donald James Kvale**  
 US Army  
 E4 Wireman  
 National Defense Service, Vietnam Service, Marksmanship Vietnam  
**1967-1969**



**Patrick Laskowski**  
 US Army  
 Corporal  
 Korea; Iraq, Desert Storm  
 Active Duty  
**1985-1988**  
 Reserve  
**1988-1998**

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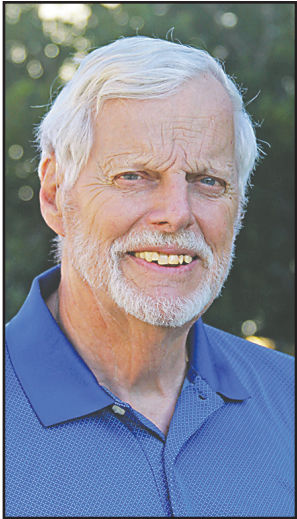
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**Dean M. Laux**

US Army  
GS 11  
*Letter of Commendation, Service Medal*  
Bonn, Germany at the US Embassy  
**1954-1957**  
Drafted in 1954, entered Counterintelligence Corps (CIC) and was assigned as an agent to US Embassy in Bonn, working in a civilian capacity. Attached to the CIA office that served a special advisor to Ambassador James B Conant.



**Patrick LeVasseur**

US Air Force  
Staff Sergeant  
*Vietnam Service Medal*  
Vietnam, Barksdale AFB  
**1956-1967**



**David A. Lindie**

US Army  
Specialist 4  
Army Achievement Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Ribbon, Wheeled Vehicle Driver Award, Expert Rifle Badge  
B Co., 547th Combat Engineer Battalion, Darmstadt, France; HHB 7/9 Field Artillery Regiment, Pompano Beach, FL  
**1984-1989**



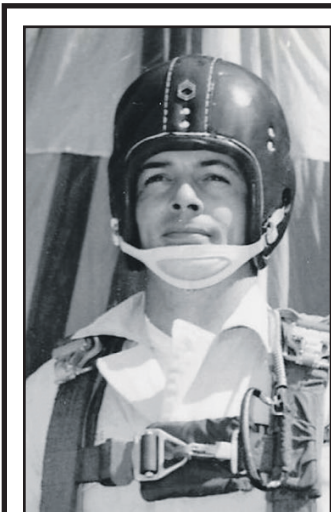
**Roger S. Leach**

US Air Force  
Chief Master Sergeant  
*Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal with Eight Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO Service Medal, 2011 US Special Operations Command ISR SNCO of the Year, 2010 Joint GEOINT Squadron SNCO of the Year, 2004 17th Reconnaissance Squadron NCO of the Year*  
Texas, Florida, Nevada, North Carolina, California, South Korea, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq and Afghanistan  
**1997-Present**



**Kenneth Lounders**

US Army  
Captain  
*Two Army Commendation Medals*  
Katterbach, Germany  
**1990-1992**



**Edward J. Maguire, Sr.**

US Army Airborne  
Sergeant 1st Class  
Korea, Germany  
*Served in the Korean War and later taught tactical weaponry and later was head of the High Altitude Airborne.*



**James Leonard**

US Army / US Army Air Corp  
Private First Class/Airman 3rd Class  
*WWII, Victory Medal*  
Panama Canal  
**1942-1943 & 1945-1947**  
*Radio Communication*



**Walter LeVasseur, Jr.**

US Army  
Private First Class  
*Good Conduct*  
Stuttgart Germany, Fort Sam  
**1980-1983**



**Donald J. Lumsden**

US Navy  
Lieutenant Junior Grade  
*Bronze Star*  
Okinawa; Borneo  
**1943-1946**



**John LeVasseur**

US Army  
Sergeant  
*Vietnam Service*  
Vietnam, Fort Dix  
**1964-1965**



**Walter LeVasseur, Sr.**

US Army  
Master Sergeant  
*Silver Star, Purple Heart, Bronze Star*  
Vietnam, Fort Rucker, Fort Knox  
**1954-1955, 1967-1985**



**Lawrence LeVasseur**

US Army  
SP4  
*Good Conduct*  
Panama, Fort Dix, Fort Leonard  
**1957-1959**



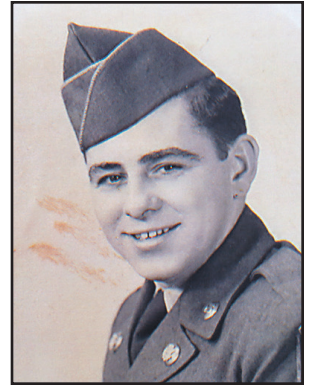
**Michael A. Levesque**

US Army Security Agency  
**1970-1972**



**Tom Macey**

US Army  
Lieutenant Colonel  
*Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal*  
US, Vietnam, Korea, Marshall Islands  
**22 Years**



**Louis LeVasseur**

US Army  
Sergeant  
*Korean Service Medal*  
Korea, Fort Dix  
**1949-1953**



**Jay D. Linden**

US Army - Corps of Engineers  
Captain  
*Marksmanship*  
Ft. Belvoir, Virginia  
**1971-1972**



**Bruce E. MacNeil**

US Air Force  
Sergeant  
*Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Service Ribbon, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Small Arms Expert, American Defense Service Ribbon Air Force Commemorative Ribbon, Honorable Service Medal*  
Charleston Air Force Base  
**1967-1971**  
Jet Aircraft Maintenance

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**Edward J. Maguire, Jr.**  
US Army Reserve  
2nd Lieutenant  
Ft. Rucker, AL; Ft. Dix, NJ  
**1974-1982**  
Helicopter Pilot



**John D. Maguire**  
US Army, 101st Airborne  
Spec 4  
**1957-1960**



**Rachael Maguire**  
US Army  
Corporal  
Afghanistan Campaign, *Army Achievement, Good Conduct, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Bar, Marksman Badge M-16*  
Ft. Campbell, KY; Afghanistan  
**1999-2003**



**Richard F. Mann**  
US Coast Guard  
Gunner's Mate  
Iceland, England  
**1941-1943**



**Jesse Manning**  
US Army National Guard  
SP4  
State Side  
**1964-1971**



**Jennifer Dee Marana**  
US Air Force  
E5  
Commendation Medal  
Tucson, AZ; Jordan  
**2000-2004**



**Arnold L. Martin**  
US Navy  
Senior Chief  
Naval Air Station Oceana; NAS Memphis, TN; Millington, TN; USS John Kennedy; Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL  
**1961-1981**



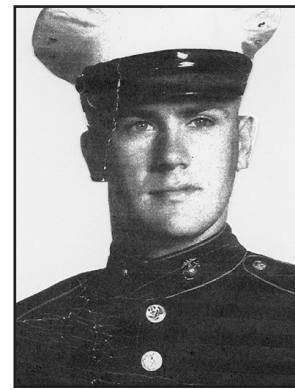
**Paul M. Martin, Sr.**  
US Navy  
HM3  
Great Lakes Navel Base, Great Lakes, IL; Rodman Naval Base Canal Zone, Panama  
**1957-1963**



**Paul M. Martin, Jr.**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
*Good Conduct, Cold War Victory, Longevity*  
Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota; Luke AFB, AZ  
**1978-1986**



**Suwimon Panalak Martin**  
US Army Reserve;  
National Guard  
Sergeant  
Afghanistan  
**2008-2015**



**Eugene H. Maulding**  
US Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant  
Camp Lejeune, Mediterranean, Cuba, Puerto Rico  
**1956-1960**



**Richard W. Mayer**  
Army Air Core 51 troop Carrier Wing  
Staff Sergeant  
Germany, France, Italy  
2 1/2 Years



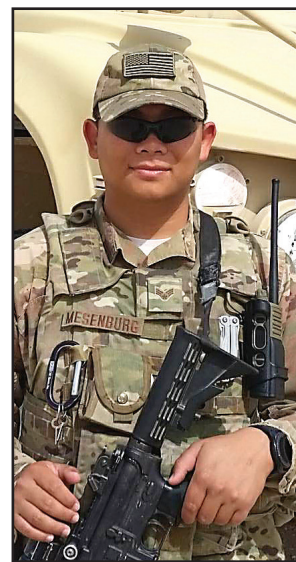
**Jack McDermott**  
US Army  
Colonel  
World Wide  
**1960-1990**



**Denise McKee**  
US Air Force  
Buck Sergeant  
Anchorage, AK  
**1982-1986**

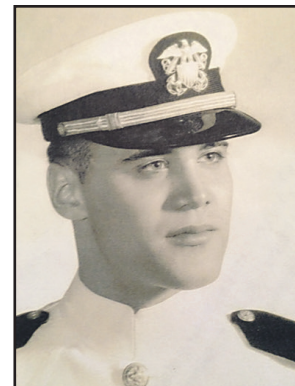


**Terrance R. Mesenburg**  
US Army 9th Infantry Division,  
29th Infantry  
Sergeant  
2 Purple Hearts, Bronze Star,  
Good Conduct, National Defense,  
Vietnam Service, Vietnam  
Campaign  
Kia Mekong Delta, Vietnam  
**1968-1969**



**Xin Hua Mesenburg**  
US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
Andrews Joint Base  
**2014-2019**

Xin Hua was adopted from China when he was 8-years-old. He couldn't speak English and learned from reading books. He was a voracious reader, sometimes reading 5 or 6 books a week. He loved Sci-Fi. On January 5, 2019, Xin Hua lost his battle with his demons and committed suicide. The airman he worked with never saw it coming. He was a great kid and we miss him terribly. Please say his name out loud so he won't be forgotten. (SHIN WAH).



**Charles S. Mihalik**  
US Navy  
Lieutenant  
*Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal*  
USS Seminole (AKA-104) Western Pacific; Great Lakes Naval Training Center  
**1962-1973**



**David Miller**  
US Coast Guard  
E5  
*Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal*  
Cape May, NJ; RTC Yorktown, VA  
**1971-1975**

**Bill Moore**  
US Air Force  
Technical Sergeant  
*Commendation w/1 Device, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Outstanding Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal w/5 Devices, National Defense Service Medal, Longevity Service Ribbon w/3 Devices, AF Training Ribbon, Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/ Device, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Presidential Service Badge*  
March AFB, Riverside, CA; Tan Son Nhut Air Base, South Vietnam; Wright Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH; White House Comm. Agency, Washington D.C.; Edwards AFB, CA; National Military Command Center, Ft. Richie, MD; White House Comm. Agency, Washington D.C.  
**1967-1987**



**JR Morris**  
US Navy  
O3 Fighter Pilot  
**1964-1966**

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**Susie Porter**  
941-468-4955

I grew up in Sarasota and have been a resident of Englewood for over 30 years. I love sharing my passion for the region with others, helping buyers and sellers to discover their perfect home. I believe the key to a successful real estate experience is "listening" – building a relationship and working hard to provide service that is professional, prompt, and fulfills even the unexpressed wishes of my customers. I enjoy everything about Englewood... and when someone asks me if I could live anywhere in the world, where would it be? I simply say I already live there!

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**David Morton**  
US Army  
Corporal MP  
*Army Commendation Award*  
Germany  
**1977-1980**



**Christy Moulton**  
US Army Reserves  
E4 Specialist  
399th Combat Support Hospital  
(Taunton, MA)  
**6 Years**



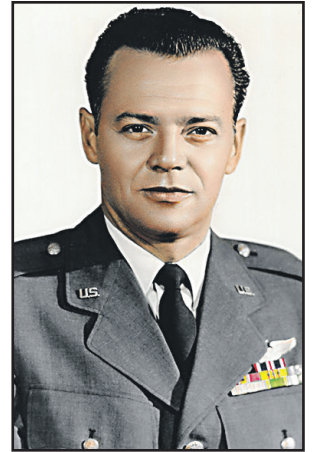
**Charles Murdock**  
US Navy  
WT 2/C  
Mediterranean Sea  
**6 Years**



**Richard Tyler Murray**  
US Navy  
EM3  
*Commendation for helping to re-float the USS Missouri*  
Navy Tug YTB 890-Norfolk, VA;  
USS FDR; USS WASP  
**1948-1952**



**Stephen Carl Nalewajko**  
US Navy  
Aviation Metalsmith 2nd Class  
NAS Pensacola, FL; USS Boxer,  
Korea; USS Franklin D. Roosevelt;  
NAS Patuxent River, MO  
**1950-1956**



**Richard Napolitano**  
US Air Force  
Major  
*3 Air Medals*  
Vietnam, Japan and  
US Bases  
**1954-1984**



**Cameron Nelson**  
US Army  
E-4  
*CAB, NATO National Defense Medal, Unit Commendation, Army Commendation, Afghan Medal, 2 Over Seas Ribbon, 2 Stars*  
Afganastan, Germany  
**2009-2012**



**Rick Nelson**  
US Army  
CW-5  
*Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Bronze Star*  
Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa  
**1968-2008**



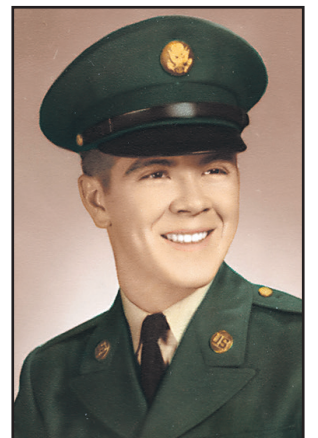
**H.G. "Hal" Neubauer**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer First Class  
*Good Conduct Medal*  
NAS Grosse Ile.,  
NAS S. Weymouth  
**1955-1962**



**Arthur J. Nicholas**  
US Navy  
Boatswain Mate 1st Class  
*French Legion of Honor, Purple Heart, Navy Good Conduct, American Defense, Europe African Middle East Victory, WWII Victory, USN/USMC Combat Action*  
North Africa, Normandy  
**1941-1946**



**William J. Oakley**  
US Army  
Sergeant/Veterinary Technician  
*Vietnam Era, Good Conduct*  
Walter Reed: Edgewood Arsenal,  
MD  
**1968-1971**



**Jerry O'Connor**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
Hawaii  
**1961-1964**



**Edward J. Opatrny**  
US Navy Seabees  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
*Vietnam Service Medal w/ Bronze Star & Fleet Marine Force Combat Operations Insignia, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal*  
Vietnam  
**1966-1969**



**Ricardo Orozco**  
US Marine Corp.  
E6  
Hiroshima, Japan  
**2005-2009**  
*Medical Discharge*



**Veronica Orozco**  
US Navy  
E5  
*Battle E*  
Reserves  
**2007-Present**



**William Orren**  
US Army  
E2  
Marksman Badge  
United States, Giessen Germany  
**1974-1976**

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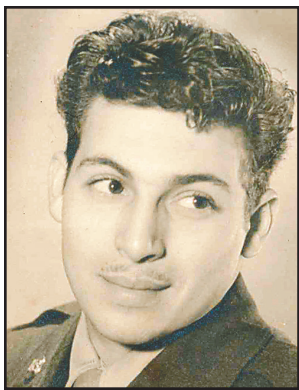
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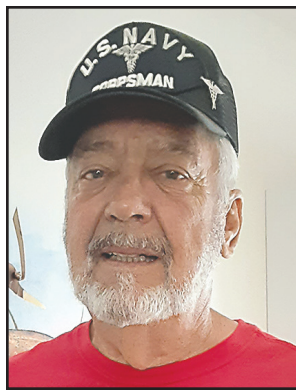
**Robert Pacifico**  
US Army  
Marksman  
Germany



**Kayla Newell Peck**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
*Purple Heart, ARCOM with Valor, Combat Medical Badge*  
82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, Afghanistan  
**2010-2014**



**Gene E. Pederson**  
US Air Force  
AIC  
TX, IL, MI, Germany  
**1966-1969**



**Donald L. Pelton**  
US Navy  
HM3 (Medic)  
*Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal*  
AGC7 Mount McKinley, NAS Jacksonville, Cuban Crisis, Libyan Crisis, Mediterranean  
**1960-1964**



**Jack M. Perry**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Great Lakes, IL; Dam Neck, VA; Pearl Harbor, HI  
**2014-Present**



**Joseph A. Piccolella**  
US Air Force  
Lieutenant Colonel  
*Air Force Commendation, Good Conduct*  
Loring Air Force Base, Vietnam  
**1962-1982**



**Donald Dee Platt**  
US Navy  
Chief Mechanic  
*American Theatre; Asiatic-Pacific Theater with 4 Bronze Battle Stars; Philippine Liberation with 1 Bronze Battle Star; American Defense Ribbon; Good Conduct*  
Key West, FL; Pacific Fleet  
**1941-1945**



**James H. Pollard**  
US Navy  
Seaman 1st Class  
Freedom, American Campaign Pacific, Guadalcanal  
**1940-1946**



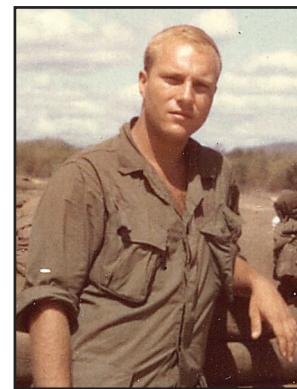
**Douglas Prive**  
US Navy  
Petty Officer 2nd Class  
*Good Conduct, SW Asia Service*  
Norfolk, VA; Persian Gulf, Croton, Ct.  
**1987-1994**



**Wayne M. Prive**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
*Good Conduct, Tet Offensive, National Defense, Expert Marksman, Vietnam Service*  
Quy Nhon, Vietnam  
**1966-1969**



**Jeffrey Prosser**  
US Navy  
Chief Petty Officer  
*Two Navy Commendation Medals, 4 Navy Achievement Medals for Valor, Combat Action Ribbons Iraq, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom; Southeast Asia, Korea*  
**15 Years**



**Mike Raymond**  
US Army, 4th IO  
E5  
Dau Tieng, Vietnam  
**1966-1967**



**William H. Richardson**  
US Air Force  
Airman Second Class  
Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas



**Brenda Robinson Lumsden**  
US Coast Guard SPAR  
Lieutenant Junior Grade  
Curtis Bay, MD; St. Augustine, FL  
**1943-1946**



**F.W. Carl Ropke, IV**  
US Navy  
Lieutenant  
*Navy Expeditionary Medal; Sea Service Award*  
USS Coral Sea (LV-43); USS La Salle (AGF-3; Norfolk, VA)  
**1981-1987**



**Stephen D. Rosen**  
US Army  
Specialist E5  
Vietnam  
**1968-1971**



**William "Cody" Rowley**  
US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
*Combat Communications Aviano, Italy; Al Dhafra AFB, Adu Dhabi; Chabelly AFB, Djibouti Africa*  
**2018-2023**



**Troy Rudisill**  
US Navy  
E-9 Command Master Chief  
*2022 Del Black Leadership Award, Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist, Naval Air Crew Warfare Specialist, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Metal (9), Numerous campaign awards Andrews AFB VR-53 & VR-48; Sigonella Sicily ERD Catbird; Air Logistics Training Center Fort Worth, TX; Jacksonville, FL VR-62; Fallon, NV VFC 13*  
**1999 - Present**



**Dominic Ruggerio, Sr.**  
US Army  
Colonel (O6)  
*Def Superior SVC Medal, Legion of Merit, 3 Bronze Stars, 3 Air Medals, Army Achievement, 2 Meritorious Svc Medals, 5 ARCOM VN Svc Medals, Korean SAM, LE Medal, Combat Inf. Badge, Airborne Qualified, Army Air Assault*  
Germany, Vietnam, Korea, Italy, Budapest  
60-61 Enlisted in Army National Guard; 1962-90 Commissioned Active Duty  
**1960-61 National Guard**  
**1962-90 Comm. Active Duty**

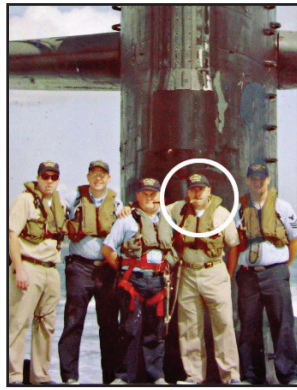


**Joseph John Saltalamacchia**  
US Army  
SFC (T) 1  
*UN Service Medal, Korean Service Medal w/2 Bronze Stars*  
Korea  
**1951-1952**





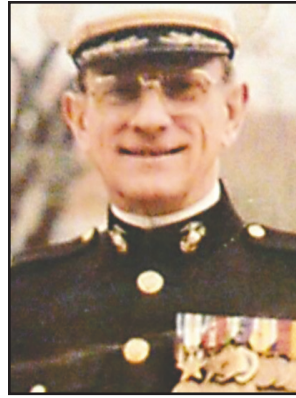
**Terry L. Sanders**  
 US Navy  
 Chief Warrant Officer 4  
 Navy & Marine Corps  
*Commendation Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, 3 Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 2 Vietnam Service Medals, 2 Navy Sea Service Deployment Awards, 6 Navy & Marine Overseas Service Ribbons, Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, Vietnam Civil Actions Unit Citation, 3 Good Conduct Medals*  
 Alaska, Vietnam, England, Iceland, Spain, Japan, USS Midway (CV 41)  
**1966-1990**



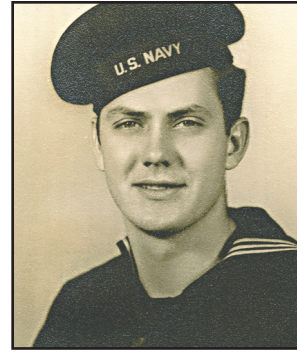
**Jack R. Sanzalone, Jr.**  
 US Navy Submariner  
 Command Master Chief E9  
 Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal  
 Worldwide; 7 Submarines; 3 Destroyers  
**1982-2012**



**Tony Sarica**  
 US Navy  
 Boatsman Mate 2nd Class  
*National Defense Service Medal*  
 Vietnam Era  
**1964-1966 Active Duty**  
**1963-1973 Naval Reserve**



**Richard H. Sengewald**  
 US Marine Corps.  
 Full Colonel  
*Silver Star-Korean War; Many Purple Hearts & Letters of Bravery, Valor in Leadership from many Presidents*  
 WWII, Korea & Vietnam  
**30 Years**



**Robert Seymour**  
 US Navy  
 MOMM2  
 Victory Medal, Philippine Lib., Asiatic Pacific, American Area, Good Conduct  
 Idaho, Virginia  
**1943-1946**



**Jane C. Shaner**  
 US Army  
 SP4  
*Good Conduct Medal, NDSM*  
 Patterson Army Hospital, Ft. Monmouth, NJ  
**1971-1974**



**Mary D. Shaner**  
 US Army  
 SP4  
 NDSM  
 Sandia Base, NM; Ft. Benjamin Harrison, IN  
**1970-1973**



**Fred Shantek**  
 US Marine Corps.  
 Corporal  
*Bronze Star Pacific*  
**3 Years**



**Bill Shaw**  
 Navy SeaBee  
 CA  
*National Defense Service Medal*  
 Gulfport, MS; Okinawa, Japan  
**1973-1975**



**Henry A. Skubik**  
 US Army Air Corps, 8th Air Force, 398th Bomb Group, 601 Bomb Squadron  
 First Lieutenant  
*Purple Heart w/Oak Leaf Cluster; European African Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon, Air Medal w/3 Oak Leaf Clusters*  
 2 Silver Stars, Presidential Unit Citation, POW Medal, WWII Victory Medal  
 Nuthampstead, England, Station 131  
**1944-1945 Active; 1945-1960 Air Force Reserves**



**Charles "Sonny" Smyth**  
 US Navy  
 E-4, AOJ-3  
*Plane Captain of the Month*  
 CVA-42 MED, FL, TX, VA, TN, CVA-59 MED  
**1959-1965**

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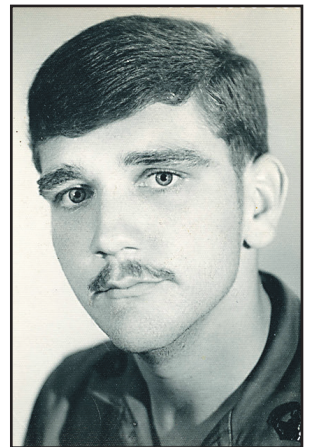
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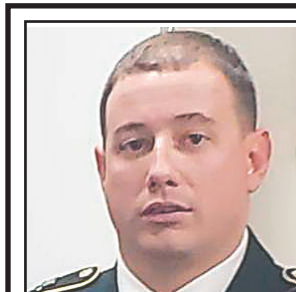
**Karleen Smith**  
 US Air Force  
 Senior Airman  
 Offutt AFB Omaha, NE  
**2006-2009**



**Randall Dee Smith**  
 US Marine Corp.  
 E8 First Sergeant  
 2 Purple Hearts, Meritorious Service Medal  
 Paris Island; South Carolina; Beirut Lebanon; Vietnam; Ocwanawa Philippines; Fort Wayne, GA  
**1966-1988**



**Robert Smith**  
 US Army  
 Sergeant  
*Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign, Army Commendation, National Defense, Good Conduct*  
 Vihn Long, Vietnam; Germany  
**1968-1971**



**William L. Smith**  
 US Army  
 Sergeant  
*Global War On Terrorism, Air Assault Badge*  
 Korea, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia  
**2010-2019**





**David E. Sowers**  
US Marine Corps.  
Major  
*National Defense, Good Conduct,  
Bronze Star*  
Vietnam, Iraq  
**1970-2003**



**Earl J. Sowers**  
US Army  
Private First Class  
*WWII Victory Medal,  
Good Conduct*  
Germany, Philippines  
**1945-1946**



**James R. Sowers**  
US Army  
Sergeant E-5  
*Purple Heart, Bronze Star,  
Good Conduct*  
Vietnam, Ft. Polk, LA  
**1968-1969**



**Von D. Spahr, Jr.**  
US Army Air Corp  
Staff Sergeant  
Pacific-Australia, Philippines,  
New Guinea  
**1941-1945**



**Stephen H. Stark, Sr.**  
US Air Force  
MSGT  
*3 Commendation Medals, Vietnam  
Medal, Campaign Medals, Antarctic  
Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal*  
Vietnam, Thailand, Southeast Asia,  
Middle East, Europe  
**1960-1987**



**Stephen H. Stark, Jr.**  
US Coast Guard  
Bangor, ME; Boston, MA  
**1983-1987**



**Robert C. Stern, Jr.**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
**1985-1991**



**Robert Charles Stern, Sr.**  
US Army  
Army Specialist  
*Letter of Appreciation from  
President Kennedy*  
White Sands Missile Range, 25th  
Signal Battalion; Karlsruhe,  
Germany  
**1962-1965**



**Donald L. Striplin**  
US Navy  
Pharmacist's Mate  
3rd Class  
North Atlantic, England  
**1940-1944**



**James V. Sullivan**  
US Navy  
E5 (RM2)  
*National Defense Medal*  
Derry, Northern Ireland; USS.  
Bordelon DD-881 Charleston, SC  
**1963-1967**



**Jeremiah "Jay" Sullivan**  
US Army  
PFC  
*Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of  
Vietnam Service Medal,  
National Defense Medal*  
Vietnam  
**1965-1966**



**Joseph E. Sullivan**  
US Army  
Captain  
*National Defense Service Medal,  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal,  
Army Commendation Medal,  
Parachute Badge*  
82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg,  
NC; Eight Army Headquarters,  
Seoul, S. Korea  
**1968-1972**



**Robert R. Sweet Sr.**  
Marines, US Air Force  
Airman 1st Class  
Kansas; Thule, Greenland; Tampa,  
New Hampshire  
**1955-1957 Marines,  
1957-1965 USAF**



**J.D. "Jack" Tate**  
US Army Air Corp  
Private First Class  
Venice AFB, Kansas,  
Washington DC  
**1944-1964**



**Earl F. Taylor**  
US Air Force  
Sergeant  
Lackland AFB, TX;  
US Naval Airstation, KS  
**1948-1951**



**Laura Tilton**  
US Navy  
Pharmacist 1st Class  
*Honor Flight 2015*  
Pensacola Naval Air;  
Mayo Clinic-Rochester, MN;  
Great Lakes  
**1942-1945**

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**Michael Duane Thomas**

US Army  
SFC

Army Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Achievement Medal, Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Reserve Component Button, Overseas Training Ribbon (2nd Award), expert Badge Rifle M16, Army Lapel Button Ft. Stewart, GA; Ft. Franklin, PA; Washington, PA; St. Petersburg, FL  
**1975-2005**



**Louis A. Tosto, Jr.**

US Navy, USNR  
Medical Technician  
National Defense Service  
Naval Submarine Base, New London, CT  
**1964-1969**



**Stephen Tortorelli**

US Navy Seabee  
PO1  
NMCB27, Seabee Combat Warfare Ribbon, The Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, FMF, Overseas Service Ribbon Iraq 2008-2009

**24 Years of Service**



**Albert L. Trombi**

US Navy  
Machinist Mate 2nd Class  
3 Bronze Stars,  
Asiatic-Pacific Medal,  
American Area Medal,  
WWII Victory Medal  
USS Wren  
**1943-1946**



**Marty Tucker**

US Navy  
EM1  
USS Somers, Pearl Harbor, HI; USS Shenandoah, Norfolk, VA  
**1980-2001**



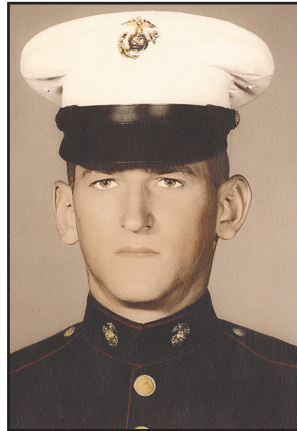
**Gilbert T. Ulrich**

US Army  
SP4  
Commendation to Firing Platoon Camp Page, South Korea  
**2 Years**



**August A. Vaccaro**

819th Chemical Co. AO Technician Fifth Grade  
American Service Medal, European African Eastern Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal USA, Foreign Service  
**1941-1945**



**William S. Vanderbilt**

US Marine Corp.  
Lance Corporal  
3 Purple Hearts, Citation letter for heroic achievement, Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Commendation Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Vietnam Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Rifle Marksman Badge Quantico, VA; Duc Pho District, Vietnam; Goi Linh, Vietnam  
**1965-1967**



**Jonathan T. Varner**

US Army  
Sergeant  
Combat Action Badge, AAM/ARCOM FOB Shank, Afghanistan; Ft. Stewart, GA; Ft. Leonard Wood, MO  
**2008-2015**



**John Ryan Wandersee**

US Army  
Corporal  
ARCOM, AAM, AGCM, NDSM, GWOT, Combat Action Badge Mosul, Iraq  
**2007-2011**



**Jeanette Ventresca**

US Marine Corps.  
Women's Reserve  
Staff Sergeant  
Honorable Discharge  
U.S. 2nd Hdqtrs. Bat.  
Arlington, VA  
**1943-1944**



**Guy A. Vereerstraeten**

US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
Greenland, California  
**1956-1960**



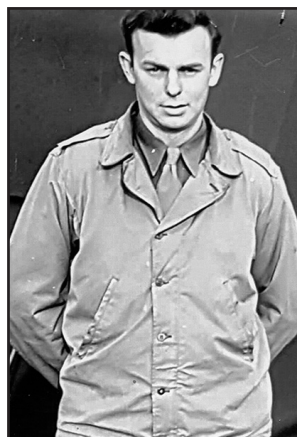
**Suzanne M. Vereerstraeten**

US Army  
Spec 4  
Ft. Knox, KY  
**1955-1957**



**Alphonse J. (Sonny) Voza**

US Army  
Corporal  
Korean Service Medal w/3 Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal  
Korea  
**1952-1954**



**Donald James Walsh**

US Army  
1-A, Paratrooper  
82nd Airborne  
WWII Victory Medal  
France, Germany, Belgium  
**1942-1945**

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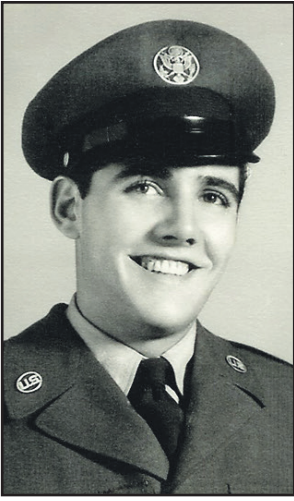
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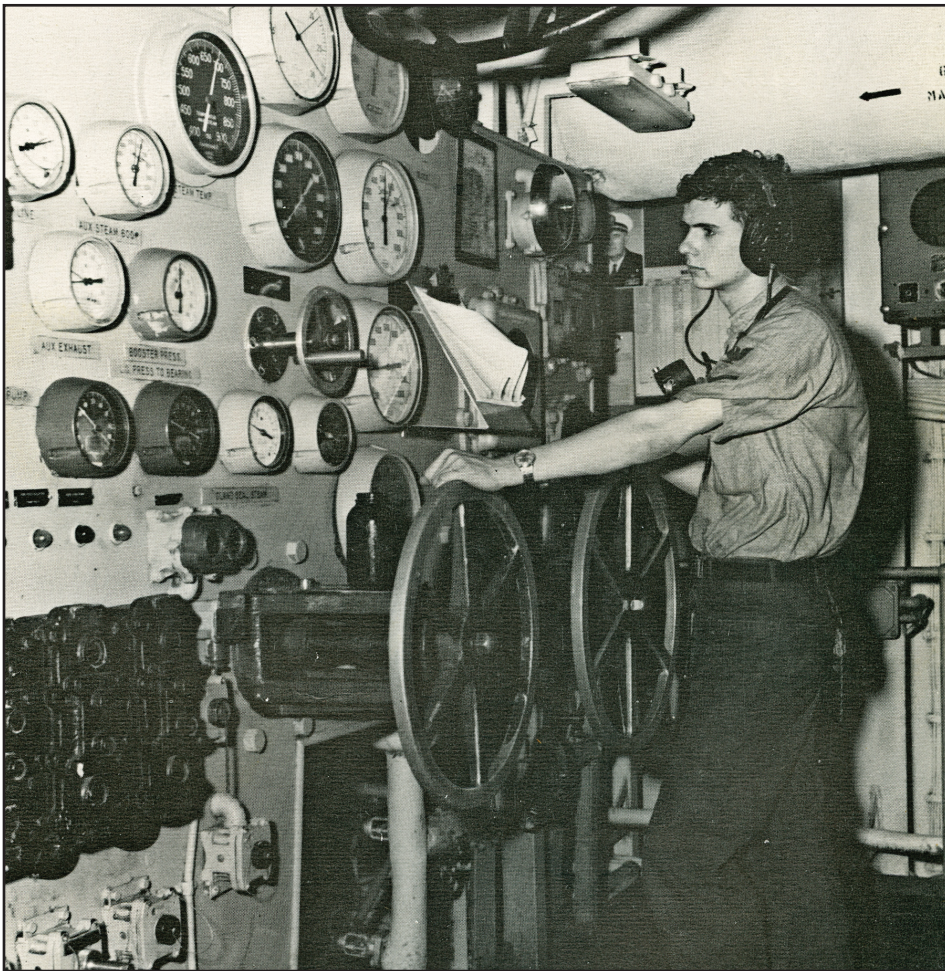
**Raymond R. Warner**  
US Air Force  
Korean War Yokota AFB, Tokyo &  
Walker AFB, Roswell, NM  
**1951-1955**



**Ron Watts**  
US Army  
Lieutenant General  
*Distinguished Service Medal (OLC),  
Defense Superior Service Medal,  
Legion of Merit (OLCs), Bronze Star,  
Air Medals (V Device), Combat  
Infantryman Badge (CIB, Parachutist  
Badge*  
Vietnam, Germany, Korea,  
Pentagon, and Ft. Riley, Ft. Benning  
& Ft. Meade  
**1956-1989**



Specialist 4 Nicola B. De Fazio, Headquarters Company 16th  
Armor Group, was presented the Air Medal by Colonel Donald  
W. Mather, (left), commanding officer of the 16th Armor Group,  
for "meritorious achievement" while participating in sustained  
aerial flight in support of combat ground forces in the Republic  
of Viet Nam during the period of February to June 1964. Sp4 De  
Fazio participated in more than twenty-five areil missions over  
hostile territory in support of counterinsurgency operations. At  
right is Lt. Robert T. Liles, commanding officer of Headquarters  
Company, 16th Armor Gp.—(US Army Photo by Charles...)



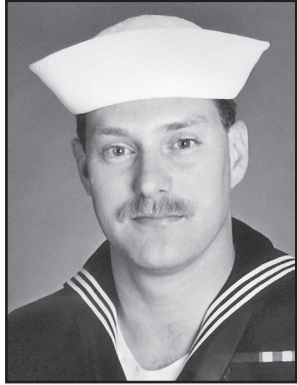




**Charles "Skip" Wehrle**  
US Navy  
Vietnam  
**1968-1972**  
*Radar man, Swift Boat, Intel, Black Barrett*



**Larry T. Young**  
US Marine Corp.  
Lance Corporal  
San Diego, CA  
**1978-1980**

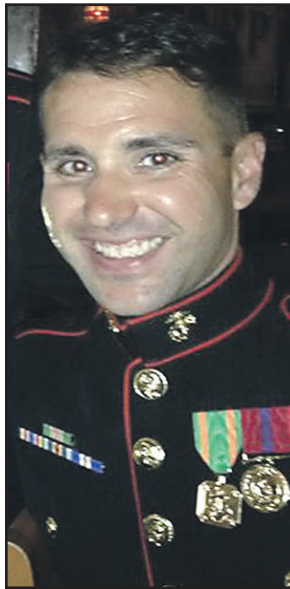


**Donald R. Wilson**  
US Navy  
AMH1/E-6  
*Navy Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, 2 Good Conduct Medals, 2 Sea Service Deployment Ribbons*  
VA-27, NAS Lemoore, CA; VAQ-141  
NAS Whidbey Island, WA; VF-201  
NAS Dallas, TX

**1980-1990 Active**  
**1991-1993 Reserve**  
During Mr. Wilson's decorated service period he was deployed aboard multiple aircraft carriers including USS Coral Sea CV-43, USS Theodore Roosevelt CVN-71 and USS Abraham Lincoln CVN-72. These deployments allowed him to sail all of the five oceans and seven seas of the world logging nearly 200,000 nautical miles with port calls in 21 different countries on five of the seven continents. The lessons learned and leadership skills developed laid the foundation for his extraordinary success in business for the next 30 years, which ultimately brought him and his family to the Englewood area to enjoy the fruits of their labor in paradise!



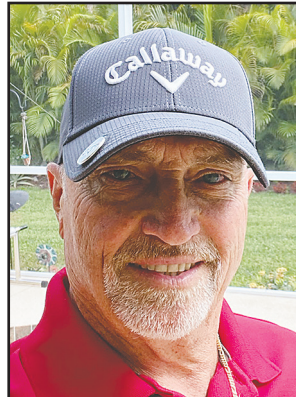
**Joyce B Winkle**  
US. Women's Army Corp  
Private  
Ft. Hayes, Ft. McClellan,  
Ft. Benjamin  
**1961-1962**



**William John Zett, III**  
US Marine Corps.  
Corporal  
*Iron Man of Platoon, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement*  
Cairo, Egypt; Guatemala City, Guatemala  
**1998-2002**



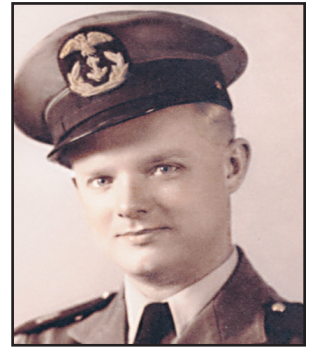
**James P. Withers**  
US Army  
Corporal  
Germany, France  
**1952-1954**



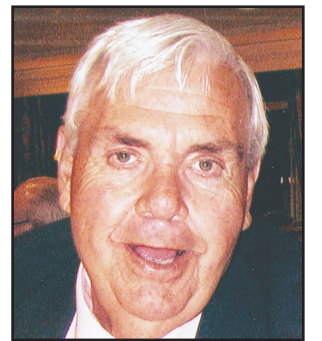
**Al Goslowski**  
US Army  
Spec 4  
Korea  
**1973-1976**



**James H. Woltman**  
US Army  
Sergeant  
Defense Service Medal,  
Vietnam Service Medal, Army  
Commendation Medal, Air Medal  
Vietnam  
**1969-1970**



**Edward C. Wright**  
Merchant Marine  
A.B. Seaman 1st Class  
*Atlantic War Zone, Torpedo*  
England, Belgium, France  
**1944-1945**



**John Madden**  
National Guard, US Navy  
2nd Class  
*Good Conduct, Penguin Award*  
Mediterranean  
**1957-1959**  
**National Guard**  
**1961-1964 US Navy**  
*USS Myles C Fox, DDR829*



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**Jerry E. Kuhn**  
NCC(AW) US Navy Ret  
Licensed Mental Health Counselor

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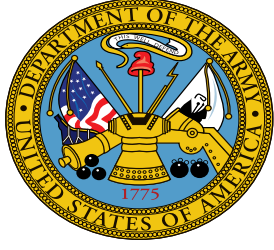
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**Robert Anthony Avena**

US Army  
Sergeant Major  
*Combat Infantry Badge, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Commendation, Meritorious Award*  
Korea, Vietnam, Israel, Europe, Japan  
**30 Years of Service**

**Ronald J. Barros**

US Air Force  
Airman  
California, Hawaii  
**1955-1959**

**Emanuel E. Bingaman**

US Navy  
Corporal  
Newport, II, Mediterranean Sea, Cuba  
**1960-1964**  
Cuban Crisis

**Kenneth W. Campbell**

US Marine Corps  
Corporal  
Expert Rifleman, National Service Defense  
Parris Island, Camp Lejeune, Palms  
**1952-1955**

**Joanna "Jojo" Colburn**

US Air Force  
Senior Airman  
MacDill AFB, Keesler AFB  
**1994-1998**

**Jeffrey Crandall**

US Army  
E-4  
Germany  
**1971-1972**

**Suzanne M. Vereerstraeten**

US Army  
Spec 4  
Ft. Knox, KY  
**1955-1957**

**Kenny Eckert**

US Marine Corps  
Corporal  
*Combat Action*  
Solomia, Philippines, Okinawa  
**1991-1995**  
*Saw Combat in Somalia*

**Winsor Eveland**

US Navy

**Donald Hamsher, Sr.**

US Army  
PFC  
*Sharp Shooter*  
Korea  
**1963-1965**

**Mike Raymond**

US Army



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