

The Veterans of Marjorie P. Lee



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

November, 2025

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God such men lived"

George S. Patton



John S. Bruner, 1st Lt. CE Army Corps of Engineers – 1949-1958

Active Reserve: November 1949 to May 1951

Active Duty: May 1951 to April 1953 Inactive Reserve: Additional five years

Major Active Duty Stations

• Summer to early 1951/1952 winter at Yuma Test Station, California

• Spring 1952 to Spring 1953 at Joint U.S./Canada Air force Base, Goose Bay, Labrador







Robert M. Elkins US Marine Corps Reserve - 1948-1949 US Army - 1952-1953

I spent years in the US Marine Corps Reserves during my first two years at the New London branch of the University of Connecticut. The Reserve placed me in the machine gun platoon. We did one week of training at Camp Lejeune, ending with a mock landing from a landing craft.

I received an honorable discharge when I moved to New York City. This resulted in me being drafted into the Army by the New London Draft Board. I ended up in infantry training at Columbia, S.C.

I was sent to Seattle and then to Pusan, South Korea where I served as an Official U.S. Army Correspondent. I worked for the Public Information Section of Headquarters, Korean Communication Zone (KComZ,) Taegu. I did not see combat but did cover such actions as the exchange of prisoners-of-war at Munsn and an armistice talk in Panmunjon, North Korea. This led to an armistice declared on July 27, 1953. The conflict never officially ended in peace.



My boss, Lt. Col. James Chestnutt awarded me a Commendation ribbon with Metal Pendant for meritorious service. Our ship of Korean vets was welcomed by a bevy of young dancers on the pier and a fireboat squirting a plume of water on Puget Sound. It was Seattle's last time to officially welcome such a ship from Korea.







Bill Fogle Army

He was in the Army in the 1950s, stationed in Camp Handford, WA. Basic training in Fort Lewis, WA (nothing but snow)! When his service was finished, he was a Corporal, but they said he deserved to be a Sargent. By the time he reached home, a letter was waiting which said, "It was a mistake, you shouldn't be a Sargent. Therefore he had to return his extra pay for the short time he was a Sergeant!









Frederick W. Haas "Fred" 1959-1981

I entered the Air Force from Huntington, West Virginia and retired as a Major at Elmendorf AFB, Anchorage, Alaska.

My most memorable USAF assignment occurred in late 1965. I was flying EB-57 aircraft as an Electronic Warfare Officer out of Hill AFB, Utah when I received notice that I was assigned to a one year tour to a classified location in Southeast Asia. That turned out to be Takhli Royal Thai AFB in Thailand.

When I arrived, I found that I would be flying EB-66 aircraft over North Vietnam. The mission was to locate and jam the Russian made radars used to direct MIG fighters, and surface to air missile systems that were used to defend what at the time was known as the most heavily defended airspace in the history of air warfare. I was further told that if I could survive 100 missions flying there, that I would be allowed to go home early.



Fortunately, I survived and completed the 100 missions in eight months, and received a nice assignment to Ramstein AFB, Germany.

I still think of those who flew and had to wait years to come home and those who will never come home.

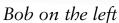




Bob HabelArmy Reserves – 1957-1959

Army served from 1957 to 1959 in the ROTC US Army Artillery in Fort Sill Oklahoma. I was a Battery Commander until the Post Engineer found I was an architect. I was then put on temporary duty to build a sewage treatment plant. This assignment lasted for the last six months of my service.





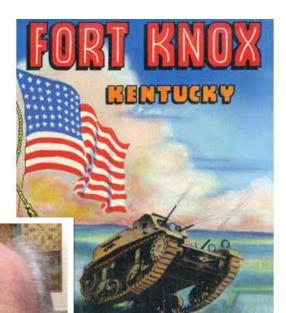






William Hackman Army - 1954-1956

"I was an instructor at the Clerical School at Fort Knox, Kentucky. With the other instructors and students, who were generally college graduates, I was able to form a few lasting friendships. Although I was not happy about being drafted for two years, in certain respects the Army was a rewarding experience."







Bravery doesn't mean you aren't scared. It means you go anyway.



Charles Rudy Heath II Army Reserves – 1957-1960

I served six years in the peacetime reserves—four years while in college and two years thereafter. No tours of combat duty. I attended weekly meetings and received two weeks of active duty for training each summer. In 1960 that changed to one weekend per month (Saturday and Sunday) plus two weeks summer training. When discharged I was an E-5.

I enlisted at Fort Thomas, Kentucky in 1956. There I served in Company A, 365th Engineer Aviation Battalion that built airfields and bridges in WWII. I transferred to the 834th Engineer Battalion (Heavy Construction) while attending the University of Kentucky in Lexington from 1956 to 1960. About 15% of the personnel (officers and enlisted) consisted of WWII veterans serving reserve duty to gain retirements points toward a military pension. My last assignment was with Headquarters Company, 2nd Special Training Group of the 2420th ERTC in Cincinnati from 1960 to 1962.

My MOS was engineer heavy equipment mechanic. I never did that. When the officers of the 834th and 2420th found out I could type, I was assigned to perform clerical duties. The closest I ever got to heavy equipment tools was at Fort Eustis, Virginia. I was part of an advance team that set up the head-quarters office. As we loaded desks we walked past heavy equipment parts and tools also stored in that warehouse!



Active duty for training was received at the following duty stations:

- 1956: Fort Knox, Kentucky for Basic Training
- 1957: Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky
- 1958: Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky
- 1959: Fort Eustis, Virginia
- 1960: Fort Eustis, Virginia
- 1961: Fort Belvoir, Virginia



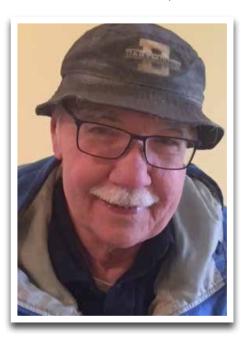




Stanley Hooker ARMY - 1968-1972

Upon attending Walnut Hills Hugh School and Dartmouth College, Stan enlisted in the U.S. Army and completed his Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. After training he took the recruitment test and scored very high on the language portion (94th percentile), whereby he was recommended for the Language School in Monterey California where he studied advanced Russian for 16 months. From there Stan was recommended for the Army Security Agency, equivalent to the National Security Agency. He reported for technical training at Good Fellow Air Force Base in Texas and upon completion was transferred to Berlin where he spent the remainder of his military service. In this top security position, Stan listened in on the Russian radio conversations and reported the gist of the conversations, known from within as "gisting". In his words, 90% of the conversations were classified as "UI to UI Com Chat", known as Unidentified-to-Unidentified Communications Chatter, which were insignificant. However, occasionally there could be heard a deep booming voice in Russian interrupting the conversation, telling the individuals to essentially shut up as they were on open airways. One very memorable conversation from a Russian was "I need a body, and I've chosen you...see you soon". Stan moved up in rank to Specialist Grade 6, which is the equivalent of Staff Sergeant. Stan is very proud of his military service. To this day Stan can still speak some Russian and proudly displays his Russian dictionary on his desk.









Alton Mayo Army – 1945-1947



I am a veteran, but I did not participate in any actual war activity.

I graduated from high school in Alabama in May 1945. Regular Army enlistment was not open to me at that time, but I was accepted into the Army Enlisted Reserve Corps program at Clemson University starting in July. That program ended in November, and I was then transferred to active duty in the Army. World War II was already officially over.

My first assignment in the Army was two months Armored Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky.



Then I was sent to the U.S. Iceland Base Command in Keflavík, Iceland via Westover Field, Massachusetts. The U.S. Military had been in the process of moving out of Iceland for some time, and I arrived there in the final stages. As it turned out the base closed eleven months later. Almost all the remaining troops returned to the U.S. by ship. The office that I worked in at that time was the last operation to close, so I returned to Westover Field on the last flight out on April 9, 1947. I was separated from the Army of the United States on May 18, 1947 with the rank of Sergeant. Total active service: 13 months.

Iceland was a good experience for me. The weather was difficult and the living was uncomfortable, but I was able to grow in many ways.



Fred McGavran Navy - 1965-1969

After graduating from Kenyon College in May 1965, I entered Navy Officer's Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. Upon graduation from OCS in December, I attended the Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, Georgia for six months. My first assignment was as disbursing officer (paymaster) and assistant supply officer (laundry and morale officer) aboard USS Henrico (APA 45) a "fast attack transport" (16 knots with fair winds and a following sea) that carried a battalion of troops and the boats to put them ashore over the beach.

The Henrico's home port was San Diego, California, America's most beautiful city. After a nine-month deployment shuttling Marines between San Diego to Vietnam and then rotating them from Vietnam to Okinawa or Subic Bay, the Henrico was put out of commission in Bremerton, Washington. I then had additional training in San Diego before reporting as supply officer aboard YRBM 18 (yard repair, berthing, and messing), a repair barge in the Mekong Delta that was the home base for twenty fiber glass patrol boats.



I spent a year aboard the barge, participating with the other units of our task force in Operation Giant Slingshot, an attempt to stop the infiltration of enemy troops from Cambodia by patrolling the rivers that ran alongside the "parrot's beak" of Cambodia that jutted into Vietnam. Everyone in our task force was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for participating. When I returned to the United States in March 1969, I was released from active service as a lieutenant.





Chris Neely Navy - 1943-1946

I was in Boot Camp on VJ day. On completion of boot training I was assigned—as a Seaman First Class in the Radar Tech Program—to the USS Rutland. We shipped out on the Rutland to Sasebo Japan to ferry the 7th Marines home. I was honorably discharged on our ship's arrival at Norfolk - credited with fifteen months active service—and ten days later returned to MIT to complete my Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering.









Jim Powers Navy – 1958-1962



Here I am in my senior year bringing a manuscript over to my weekend date for her to help me type.

In senior year each midshipman is required to submit a history essay on a topic of his own choosing. My faculty advisor was Capt Karl Heinz Peter of the Bundesmarine who was on a two-year stint with us. He had been a young officer on Hitler's invasion of Denmark and Norway in April, 1940. He advised me to write on the event using his

first person input and a newly published history on this event during the Sitzkrieg.

I still have the paper and its scoring sheet, which I used as the model for my high school students papers.



Although I wasn't able to serve after my four years at USNA, I have put to good use what I learned there.



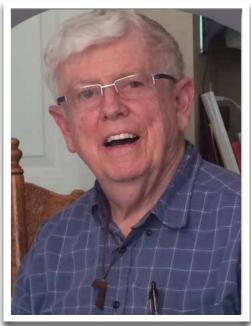


Peter Sullivan Army – 1959-1961

I was an active-duty member of the U.S. Army for two years during the 1950s and early 1960s. In those years I never left the U.S. mainland. There were three main events in that period.

I got married

It was necessary to ask for permission to get married in those days. So, I called General William A. Harris to ask for his approval. His answer was, "Lieutenant Sullivan, If the U.S. Army wanted you to have a wife, they would have issued you one." Two months later I was married.



GPS

There was nothing approaching the GPS we

have today, but the Army did have two survey units which calculated locations from the relative positions of stars in our galaxy. I was lucky enough to have one assigned to me. I was then able to assist other units needing survey help.



Honest John Rocket

I was called upon to assess the accuracy of the rocket. I surveyed the launch pad the evening before the launch.

In the morning, I had three of my soldiers posted on the nearby hills while I flew into the impact area to mark the center of the impact. We completed the job in an hour.

The interesting part of the assessment is the device was the first rocket that would carry an atomic bomb and had a maximum range of less than 5 miles. Too close for comfort.





ERS Staff Member

Joel Erisman Navy – 2000-2005

Joined the Navy in 2000, Boot camp at Great Lakes Chicago

Anti-Submarine Warfare school, San Diego

Embarked the Ticonderoga Class guided missile cruiser USS Vincennes CG49 at 7th Fleet Yokosuka, Japan

USS Vincennes was infamously known for the downing of Iran Air flight 655 in 1981, resulting in a \$40 million dollar bounty on our ship and an everlasting exile from the Mediterranean Gulf. Following the tragic events of 9/11, Vincennes was immediately dispatched to the island of Diego Garcia for 3 months in an Anti-Air Warfare roll. This provided cover to the various bomber squadrons and their first retaliatory strikes against Afghanistan, kicking off Operation Enduring Freedom.

Vincennes was the last all male enlisted surface ship in the US Navy and was finally decommissioned in the summer of 2005. While on board, I went through five typhoons at sea and visited many South Pacific ports that I would never had seen without the experience of being part of that crew. Saipan, Guam, Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, South Korea, and Hawaii were just a few of many memories. A truly amazing adventure and I still keep in touch with my shipmates to this day!



My enlistment ended in 2005 and I left the Navy with many medals & all my stripes.

- -Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, 2x (NAM)
- -Good Conduct Medal
- -Global War on Terrorism Medal (GWOT)
- -Expeditionary Global War on Terrorism Medal (EGWOT)







"Never was so much owed by so many to so few"

Winston Churchill



VETERANS DAY

Thank you to all who served

Current Residents

Jack Bruner-Army Robert M. Elkins-Army Bill Fogle-Army Bob Habel-Army Reserve William Hackman-Army Rudy Heath II- Army Reserve Stanley Hooker-Army Jim Howe-Army Al Mayo-Army Chris Neely-Navy Jim Powers-Navy Peter Sullivan-Army



Former MPL Residents

Hans Amstein-Swiss Army Roy Anderson-Army Howard Ayer-Army George Behymer-Air Force Eunice Beltz-Army Nurse Corp Robert E. Boling-Army Ed Bradley-Army Ralph Borcherding-Army William Browne-Army Mary Lou Busam-Navy Gerald Cavanaugh-Army David Choate-Navy Mick Colangelo-Air Force Arthur Collinson-Navy Ralph Conaway-Navy Robert Conlon-Army Thomas Craig-Navy Dana Crandall-Office of Emergency Medicine Lloyd Crider-Navy Robert Cuff-Us Army Air Corp Julius Dean-Marine Corp James Dent-Navy John Derrick-Army Engineers William C. Downing-Army Mark Draves-Army Reserves Alonzo Folger-Air Force Joe Front-Army William J. Fuller Jr.-Navy David Garner-Army Elden Good-Army Philip Gossard-Air Force Robert Greiwe Don Gurney-Army Reserves Donald Hattersly-Navy Robert Helton MD-Army Frederick (Jack) Henn-Army John Hoover-Air Force

Bill Howe-Air Force Jim Howe-Army William Hueneke-Ammunition Ordinance Robert Hughes-Army Air Corps Kornel Huvos-Horse Artillery in Hungary James(Jim) Imbus-Navy Frank Juettner-Army George Keil-Navy Robert Keller-Army Seigfreid Knappe-German Army Ken Knox-Army Ralph Kohnen-Army Reserves Tom Kreider-Army Joe Krey-Navy Alan Lafley-Army Armored and Air Corps Robert LaShelle-U.S. Air Force Elmer Mahlin-Navy Roderick Malone-Navy Addison Maupin Sr.-Infantry Army Samuel Maxwell-Army Air Corps Robert McFarland-Navy-pilot George McHugh-Army Frank McQueen-Army Jack Mehornay-Coast Guard (Korean war vet) Ike Mirsali-Marines Authur Moren-Army Francis Mountel-Air Force Henry "Jim" Nunlist-Army Dick Paulsen-Navy Frances Perry-Army Nurse Corps Manuel (Russ) Peters-Army Joe Pirraglia-Army Lou Prince-Army Walter Randall-Army Corps of Engineers Harold Rose-Air Force

Arthur Rothenberg-Army and Air Force Rev. Milton Saville-Army Thomas Schilling-Air Force Jay Sikes-Navy Hospital Core Milton Schmitt-Army Jack Schwab-Air Force Elmore Silverstein-Navy Edith Simon-Army Corps of Engineers Jerry Simpson-Army Orville Simpson-Army Carl Smith-Air Force Eugene Stanton-Army Ralph Starr-U.S. Navy Betty Stewart-Navy(code breaker) Joe Sumner-Navy(Pearl Harbor Survivor) Lee Swick-Navy Art Theobald-Air Force Dr. Bernard Toney-Navy Dick Waller-Navy Samuel Ward-Army Air Corps Joseph Weissmann-Army Robert Wildermuth-Army Gladys Williams-Marines Leonard Williams-Army Kenneth Williamson-Army Robert Wilson-Air Force J. W. "Bill Worrel-US Army Infantry Alan Zaring-Army & National Guard- Field Artillery Ken Ziegel-Army Helen Zimmerman-Army Nurse Corp Harvey Zorn-Army