

The Greensburg Community
Development Corporation Presents:

2nd Annual



HOMETOWN HEROES

Celebration

Saturday, May 21, 2022
St. Clair Park in Greensburg ■ 11am



GREENSBURG
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION





Program

Opening Music Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra String Quartet
Pledge of Allegiance
National Anthem Connor Herrington, Greensburg Salem School District
Welcome Ashley Kertes, former GCDC Executive Director
Guest Speaker Jonathan Reese, GCDC Board President
Guest Speaker City of Greensburg Mayor Robert L. Bell
Guest Speaker PA State Representative Eric Nelson
Guest Speaker Colonel Nancy P. Anderson, Greensburg Hometown Hero

Hometown Heroes Tribute

Recognition of All Who Have Served - Moment of Silence

Amazing Grace Seton Hill University Pipe Band
Closing Remarks John Stafford, GCDC Interim Executive Director
Closing Music Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra String Quartet

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CHRIS FLANIGAN

DISTRICT JUDGE



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Seton Hill
UNIVERSITY



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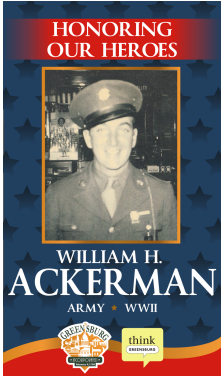
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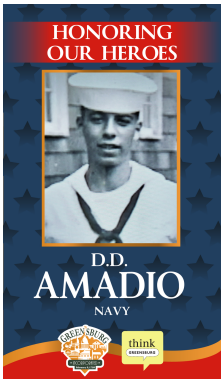
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Our Hometown Heroes City of Greensburg



William H. Ackerman was a Staff Sargent for the US Army. During his service, he fought at The Battle of The Bulge and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Silver Star for bravery under fire. Most importantly, William is a father who served his country to ensure his children could be proud to call this place their home.



D.D. "Denny" Amadio was born and raised in Greensburg. The only son of Hometown Hero Domenick D. Amadio and Mildred (Felice) Amadio, he was born on November 9, 1942, two months after his father went overseas. Sadly, father and son would never meet. Denny was an alumni of Greensburg Salem High School, Class of 1960. There he met his high school sweetheart, Marietta (Thomas) Amadio. He enlisted in the Navy to serve his country just as his father and five uncles had in WWII. Honor, Courage, and Commitment were the core values he lived by. Upon returning to his hometown, he married his sweetheart. Throughout the next 46 years spent together, Denny and Marietta established several successful businesses in Greensburg, including D.D. Amadio Auto Body, Sportsmen's Bar, Bypass Auto Wreckers, and Greensburg Towing Service, which has been proudly carried on by his youngest daughter and son-in-law. Denny was a member of the Greensburg Sportsmen's Association, a board member of the Westmoreland County Transit Authority, and an endowment member of the NRA. He was an avid sportsman and enjoyed a good golf game. Most of all, he

loved spending time with his family. Upon his passing in 2007, it was clear he loved and served his country and Greensburg community. His name was AMADIO, a name to be known and never forgotten.



Ignazio C. Avvampato, known as Carmen to his friends and family, served with the 82nd Airborne Division of the Army during the Korean War. Carmen was a lifelong resident of Greensburg and had over 50 years of service with Omnova Solutions in Jeannette. Carmen was a longtime member of Westmoreland County Philatelic Society and enjoyed vegetable gardening and traveling to Las Vegas. Along with his wife, Bertha, they had three children and five grandchildren.



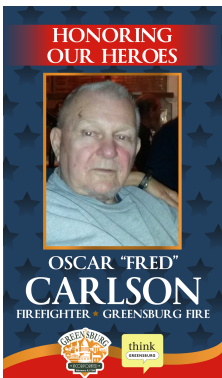
Mother of Elizabeth, Matthew, and Hannah Yothers, **Lisa Besser Yothers** is a former pediatrician at UPMC Children's Community Pediatrics at Mountain View. Due to long-term medical issues, she stepped down from her work as a doctor in 2011. However, she continued to serve her community by holding a council position of the Laurel Hills District of the Boy Scouts of America while supporting her three kids to all become Eagle Scouts. Now, as a full-time mom, she does whatever she can to support her family, friends, and community. To her kids, friends, and patients, she is a hometown hero in all of our hearts.



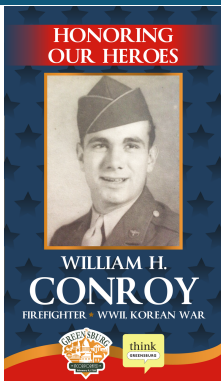
Clarence H. Brannigan served in the United States Army in WWII from October 9, 1942 until he was honorable discharged on February 21, 1946 with the rank of Staff Sargent. He was stationed at Headquarters and Headquarters Section 1, 1456 Service Command Unit, Fort Gordan, GA. After the war, Clarence returned home to his family in Greensburg where he worked at Walworth Value Company. Clarence had a rare blood type and was recognized by American Red cross for his blood donations in times of need.



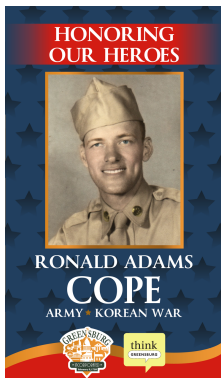
Charles K. Burkart was born and raised in Greensburg, PA. He was the son of Charles K. and Rachel G. Burkart. Charlie joined the Marine Corp. on his birthday on June 28, 1967. He earned the rank of Lance Corporal in the 1st. Marine Division, 1st. Engineer Battalion, C Company. Charlie was killed in action on June 22, 1968, just six days shy of his 19th birthday. Charlie was a proud Marine!



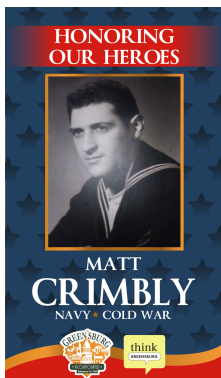
Oscar "Fred" Carlson was a member of Greensburg #7 Firehall for 66 years. Well into his seventies he was still fighting fires. He was also a long time employee of the City of Greensburg



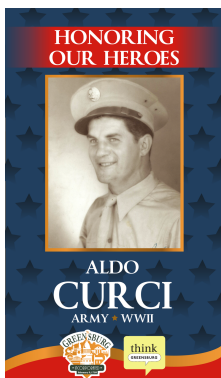
William (Bill) Conroy served in WWII in the South Pacific as a top gunner in the Army Air Force. He dropped supplies and surrender pamphlets over the city of Nagasaki the day after the Atomic bomb was detonated in the city. He was called back to service during the Korean War, where he served as a trainer. Bill worked for the U.S. Post Office until his retirement. After raising his four children, he moved to Florida where he lived a good life with his wife of 76 years, Mary Lou (Pahel), until he passed away of natural causes at the age of 95.



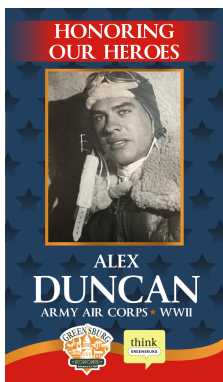
Ronald Cope, lovingly referred to as Ronnie, was a corporal in the US Army, likely in the signal corp. He was stationed in Germany during the Korean Conflict. Born 1929 in Norvelt PA, He married Dolores Albright and moved to Vannear Avenue in Greensburg. He lived most of his life on Poplar Street in South Greensburg where they raised two children.



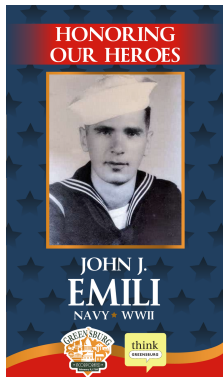
Matt Crimbly served as an electrician aboard the USS Sullivans DD-537, which is named for the five Sullivan brothers killed on the USS Juneau. He served in the US Navy during the Cold War and Cuban Missile Crisis from 1960 - 1964. Matt was an avid outdoorsman and craftsman. He was always there to help family and friends. He loved his family and his family loved him. He has been greatly missed and is alive in our hearts forever.



Aldo Curci was the son of Italian immigrants along with brothers Joseph and Biaggio. He served his country in the United States Army during WWII. Aldo and wife Cecilia raised two daughters, Theresa and Georgia. He worked at ITE in South Greensburg and operated a small barber shop at their home in Luxor. Aldo was a positive influence o everyone he met during his life, most notably his six grandchildren, Randy, Sandy, Ron, Brenda, Art, and Bobby. Aldo Curci is a hometown hero to our family, who have been able to realize the American dream because of his sacrifices and work ethic.



Alex Duncan attended Greensburg Salem High School. While there, he became the Pennsylvania pole vault champion. He joined the Army directly out of high school and served as a pilot in The United States Army Air Corps, 26th Fighter Squadron under the leadership of Gen. Claire Chenault in the China, Burma, India theater. These pilots were known as "The Flying Tigers," and commanded their P40 Curtiss Warhawks with extreme skill and heroism. Alex was the recipient of The Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism and extraordinary achievement, The Air Medal for meritorious achievement, and The Purple Heart.



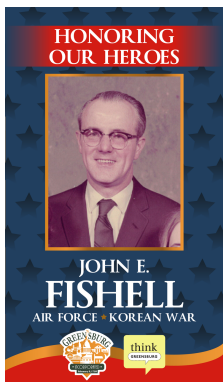
John J. Emili was from Crabtree, PA and later was a resident of Greensburg. He entered the U.S. Navy in April 1943 where he served as a Master Bugler, Third Class, on the USS Hector in the Pacific Theatre. He participated in three major campaigns, including the Philippines, Leyte, Luzon, and Saipan. He was awarded three battle stars, and honorably discharged in March 1946.



Leonard E. (Ben) Ferace served with the U.S. Army 63rd Infantry Division in Germany during WWII. He was born on October 13, 1917 in Monongahela, PA. He grew up in the Ludwick Section of Greensburg with his parents and three siblings and was a graduate of Greensburg High School. Ben was self-employed as a local barber for over 50 years. His two Barber Shops, Esquire Barber Shop and Ben's Barber Shop, were both located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Greensburg. He was always known to his customers as Ben. Ben was also employed by the Pennsylvania Turnpike until his retirement in 1980. He was a lifelong member of the Maplewood United Presbyterian Church in Greensburg, where he was a proud member of the church choir for many years. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Ben was especially proud of his service to his country, his faith in God, and his family.



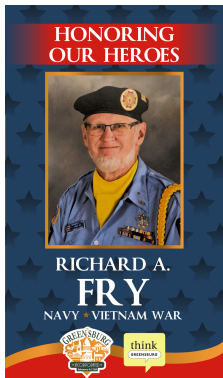
David J. Fidazzo Sr. enlisted in the United States Air Force in January 1949. He was a member of the 3515th Maintenance Squadron in Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. In May, 1949, he attended the A and E Mechanical School at Johnson Air Force Base and became a certified aircraft mechanic. His service took him to Japan and Korea, where he received the Japan Occupation Medal and the Korean Service Medal, along with the UN Service Medal and the Distinguished Unit Citation. When Dave was discharged in October, 1952, he returned to his hometown, Forbes Road, PA. He worked as an auto mechanic for Frank Pultz garage and married Mathilda Emanuel, with whom he had two sons, Allen and David Jr. David passed away in April, 1998.



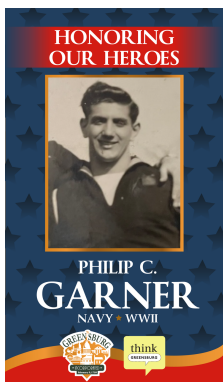
John (Joe) Fishell grew up in the Greensburg area. A graduate of Greensburg High School and then a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in Pharmacy, he served as a medic in the Korean War with a rank of First Lieutenant. Joe started working in the "soda fountain" area of Thomas Drug Store, Inc. in Greensburg, working his way up to owner of the store. Many people and organizations were blessed by his time and talent - Otterbein U.M. Church, Kiwanis, DGAB, Tall Cedars of Lebanon and the Syria Shrine and more but none as much as his family. He said many times " family is everything".



The son of Chinese immigrants, **Dr. Jake Fong** was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, but he lived and worked most of his life in Greensburg. In January 1944, young Jake joined the Army and was assigned to a post at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, creating maps of Japan and the Pacific Islands. After the war, he attended the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine on the GI bill. Upon graduation in 1953, he interned at Westmoreland Hospital, then joined a family practice in Greensburg. From 1964 - 1965, he served as an on-site doctor for U.S. Steel in Homestead. In 1965, he was offered a position as head of the Intern Residency program and Director of Emergency Medicine at Westmoreland Hospital. Through his 14 year tenure in the ER, as well as countless house calls, he earned the trust and respect of the community that he called home. Dr. Fong passed away in 2010. In 2021, along with many other Chinese American veterans of WWII, he was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal of Honor for his service to this country.



Richard A. Fry was a Navy veteran serving during the Vietnam War. He was a member of Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Hose Co. No. 7, where he joined in Dec. 1972 a member of Westmoreland County Firemen's Association, Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association, Westmoreland County Fire Chief's Association, Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association's Over the Hill Gang, former member of Latrobe Fire Department, and former member of St. Vincent Volunteer Fire Department. He was a life member of VFW Post No. 33, Greensburg, where he was a past commander, past senior vice commander, past all state commander, He also was president and served on VFW honor guard. Rich dedicated his life to serving others.




Philip C. Garner was born April 5, 1926 in South Greensburg. He served in the Navy in WWII from 1944-1946. Philip was part of the Navy Construction Battalion, better know as the Seabees, which built much of the temporary and permanent infrastructure at US military locations around the world. Philip was a Barber by trade along with his father and three brothers. Philip married his wife of 59 years, Carmella DiOrio, from Hilltop. He left the family business in the 1970's to take a full time job with Walworth Valve Co. and retired from the Westmoreland County Housing Authority. Phil really never left haircutting behind. On many Saturdays, you would still find him in the basement on Poplar Street cutting the hair of family and friends. He had a barber chair and the whole set up in the family basement. Family came first to Philip and he was very hardworking and fun-loving. He loved his family and country very much.

HONORING OUR HEROES




RAYMOND C.
GORON
NAVY • WWII






Raymond C. Goron was a Navy Corpsman in the Pacific Theater of WWII. He served in the Battle of Iwo Jima, where he witnessed both flags being raised on Mount Suribachi. He served on the USS Sandoval, where his ship was attacked by several kamikaze planes near Okinawa. He was married to Catherine King Goron for 60 years, and raised three sons, Frank, Mike, and Patrick. He was born in McKees Rocks, and lived in Greensburg for 47 years.

HONORING OUR HEROES



DR. RICHARD
HERD
INFANTRY • WWII





Dr. Richard Herd was born and raised in Greensburg, served four years in the South Pacific fighting island to island. He was decorated with two Purple Hearts and two Bronze Stars. Upon returning from the war, he was married and went on to chiropractic school in Iowa. Upon graduation he established a practice in Mt. Pleasant for 50 years.

HONORING OUR HEROES



RORY
HOGAN
MARINE CORPS • PERSIAN GULF

Rory Hogan left for Marine Corps Recruit Training on April 29, 2002 at Paris Island, South Carolina. He graduated Recruit Training on July 11, 2002. He then attended Marine Combat Training. Rory then was assigned to train to be a UH-1N Huey Crew Chief/Door Gunner. After a year of training he was assigned to HMLA 775 at Camp Pendleton CA. While with 775 he deployed to AL Anbar Providence twice for total of 13 months 16 days. Rory was awarded 8 Air Medals one with Valor Device for actions during Operation Urgent Resolve (First Battle of AlFalujia). Rory separated from the Marine Corp in 2006 and began an Apprenticeship as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Two ex-wives and four children later Rory is Head Mechanic for Wagner Development out of Bridgeville, PA.

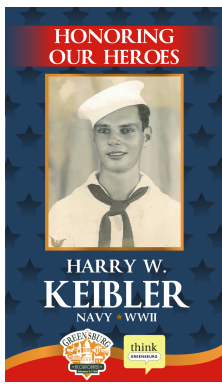
HONORING OUR HEROES



CHARLES
KEEFNER
ARMY • WWII




Charles Keefner was a Technician 5th grade and was honorably discharged from military service in the 8th Calvary Reconnaissance Troops, U.S. Army in October of 1945 after serving 18 months in Europe during WWII. His unit was part of the Battle of the Bulge and spent the balance of the 1944 holiday season repelling Germany's final counteroffensive. Charley also participated in the liberation of prisoners in a concentration camp in Luxembourg. After returning home in October, 1945, he married Winsome Ramsier and was a member of Operating Engineers Local 66 for 50+ years while working in road and bridge construction; raising son Richard and daughter Charlene in Greensburg until his death in 2007.



Harry W. Keibler served in the US Navy during WWII. He was a wonderful family man and a hard worker with many talents. Harry was an avid hunter and fisherman who truly enjoyed the mountains and streams. He enjoyed time spent with his four children and grandchildren. He also excelled as a business man, owning his own business for over 40 years. He will never be forgotten. Love you Pop Pop!!




Rudolph "Sonny" Kolbosky was a family man and loving husband. He and his wife raised a big family during the 1960's and early 70's. He had a great sense of humor and made everyone laugh.





Bill Kowinski volunteered in 1943 at the young age of 17 to serve in the Navy during WWII. He was stationed on the USS Pennsylvania, a battleship that was torpedoed in August of 1945 at Buckner Bay in Okinawa. Bill's classification was a radio technician in communications. He sailed for 2 ½ years in the South Pacific theatre until his discharge in 1946. In 1992, he was awarded a plaque from the City of Greensburg Fraternal Order of Police #56 for being an outstanding citizen for his heroic assistance in subduing an attacker that put a city police officer's life in danger. Bill has always had a passion for electronics, but he completed his career in quality assurance at the Elliott company in Jeannette. Bill's moto was "good enough was not good enough." Bill has been married to his wife Carmella for 71 years and they have 2 daughters. His hobbies include cooking, gardening & traveling.

HONORING OUR HEROES




WALTER
KRAUTZ
ARMY • WWII






Sgt. Walter Krautz, Company B, 1st Battalion, White Combat Team, was one of the heroes that served with Composite Unit 5370th Provisional (Original Merrill's Marauders). He was one of a brave group of men that answered the president's call and volunteered for a dangerous and hazardous secret jungle warfare mission that expected more than 90% casualties. Walter started out with the Marauders from the beginning and went through all the suffering that comes with being deep behind enemy lines and consistently in active jungle combat for more than 110 days. During this operation, he fought malaria, deadly mite typhus, amoebae dysentery, malnutrition, exhaustion, as well as the Japanese. He endured what was believed to be humanly unendurable and yet he still performed beyond expectation. He is and always will be an American hero among heroes. He earned, among other medals, The Combat Infantryman Badge, The Presidential Unit Citation, and The Bronze Star Medal.

HONORING OUR HEROES




CHESTER J.
KUZMINSKI
ARMY • WWII






Chester J. Kuzminski served in Army WWII 28th Div. 110th Infantry Co. He was captured during Battle of Bulge and survived being a Prisoner of War. He was the first Commander of Amvets Post 88 in Greensburg and served his entire life as a veteran and family benefit advocate for all wars. His many medals and awards included two Bronze Stars, four Purple Hearts and P.O.W. Medal. Chester married the love of his life, Mary Malick, and had two children - Elizabeth and James. He was blessed with one granddaughter, Bethany, whom he worshipped! Chester retired from General Tire Co. in Jeannette, PA. He always lived and loved GOD, FAMILY and COUNTRY! GOD BLESS ALL OUR VETS!

HONORING OUR HEROES



LAMECH D.
LONG
ARMY AIR CORPS • WWII

Lamech D. Long (aka Lem) was born in Greensburg on April 14, 1923. He married Mary Ann Brodesky in July, 1944. They had three sons - Larry, Thomas, and David. Lem was employed by Brown Boveri. He was dedicated to his faith in God, love for his family, and patriotism. He was a volunteer for the Carbon Fire Hall. Achieved American Theater ribbon, EAME theater ribbon, one bronze star, Asiatic - pacific ribbon, good conduct metal, victory medal WWII.

HONORING OUR HEROES



ALFONSO A.
MARTINEZ
ARMY • WWII




Alfonso A. Martinez was a veteran of World War II. He joined the Army on February 27, 1943 and received an honorable discharge on December 27, 1945. He served in the 44th Division, 71st Infantry Regiment, 3rd Battalion, K Company. He was stationed in France in 1944 and Germany in 1945. Upon discharge he became a welder and along with his father, they made countless ornamental railings that you see around Greensburg to this day. He went on to work at Greensburg Machine Company and then to Adam Eidemillers, from which he eventually retired. He constructed a 25 foot flagpole that he proudly displayed the American flag on in his yard. He belonged to the VFW Post 33. Alfonso enjoyed meeting his friends at Westmoreland Mall discussing how to fix the worlds problems. He was proud of his service to his country.

HONORING OUR HEROES



1ST SGT. RONALD L.
MAXSON
MARINE CORPS • VIETNAM AND COLD WAR




Ronald L. Maxson was born and raised on W. Pittsburgh Street in the Ludwick section of Greensburg in 1941. He enlisted in the US Marine Corps in 1958 and spent 21 years active duty. Ron travelled all around the world, but knew that Greensburg was and always would be home. Ron has been married since 1964 to Nancy Banner of Greensburg, and has three daughters, Wendy, Kim and Dawn. Ron and Nancy have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Additionally, Ron had over 18 years with Old Republic Insurance Company, 21 years with the Westmoreland County Young Marines, 19 years as the Commanding Officer, and still spends time in the Laurel Mountains with family and friends. Ron is a WWII Marine Corps memorabilia collector and maintains contact with many active duty and Marine veterans. Semper Fidelis

HONORING OUR HEROES




CORPORAL FLOYD "JACK"
MAXSON
MARINE CORPS • VIETNAM WAR






Corporal Floyd "Jack" Maxson served as a Field Radio Equipment Officer in the Vieques Island in Puerto Rico. He won a National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Metal and Rifle Marksmanship Badge. There was an article in the Tribune Review about him transmitting calls home from soldiers to their loved ones. He was very proud of his service with the USMC especially since their birthdays fell on the same day.

HONORING OUR HEROES



JOHN V.
McFEELEY
ARMY • WWII

John V. McFeeley served with the 349th Infantry Regiment, 88th Infantry Division. He was stationed in Gozia, Italy and served in an anti tank squad as Gunner and Assistant Squad Leader, guarding the border separating Italy from Communist Yugoslavia. He proudly attended the 88th Division NCO Leadership School and achieved the rank of Corporal. He was awarded the Expert Infantry Badge, Army of Occupation Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. Upon his discharge, he returned to his hometown of Greensburg, where he was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He married his wife Rita and they settled in Greensburg with their four children. John worked for General Motors in Dravosburg until his retirement. He was a passionate man when it came to his city and was the patriarch of his neighborhood. He was faithful to his church. He was an avid Pittsburgh Pirate and Steeler Fan. He adored his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He took great pride in his country and his role as a World War II Veteran, with his hat removed and his hand proudly on his heart every time he heard the National Anthem. John died in April of 2020 at the age of 93.

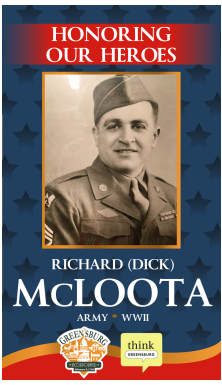
HONORING OUR HEROES



M. ROBERT
MCGILL
ARMY • KOREAN WAR



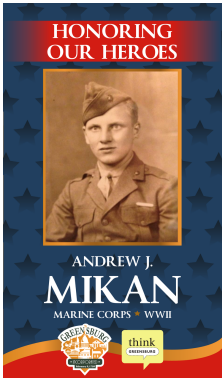

M. Robert McGill was born, raised, lived, and retired his entire life in 5th Ward of Greensburg. He has been married 69 years and counting to his high school sweetheart, Gilberta. Their only time apart was the 16 months he was stationed in Korea while serving in the Army. Bob has five sons, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, who he coaches, supports, and attends their events. His love for sports led him to wrestle and play baseball and football in high school, and then volunteer with the Greensburg Midget Football league, serving alongside Ed Hutchinson. Bob also volunteered with the Greensburg Hose Company #3. Bob retired from Westinghouse where he spent time as a welder. He is a fervent supporter of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins, Pirates, and the University of Pittsburgh, watching all of their games from his home, surrounded by his sports memorabilia. M. Robert McGill has made a lasting impact on Greensburg in his 90 years, and has always been a hero to his family. Today, he can be recognized for the hero he has been to his hometown.



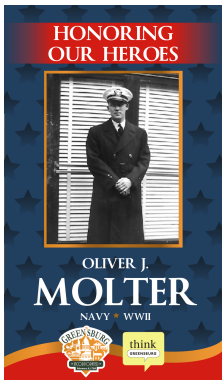
Richard (Dick) McLoota served in WWII for 3 1/2 years as Staff Sergeant. He was shipped to Europe with destination being Northern France, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. There he earned a Bronze Star for gallantry. He was sent to Germany until the end of the war, then shipped to the Philippines awaiting the invasion of Japan. After his discharge in 1946 he returned to his job at Westmoreland Hospital. He then continued his love of baseball which started at age 17 playing for Andersons Market. Baseball scouts wanted to recruit him to the St. Louis Cardinals minor league team but he declined and remained in Greensburg. Playing and managing local teams throughout the area is what he loved to do for many years following his return from the military.



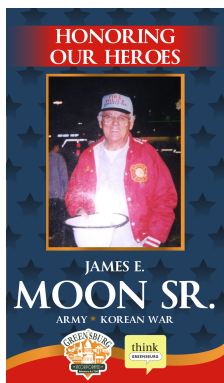
Jackson McNair: After graduating Greensburg Salem H.S. in 2018, Jackson enlisted in the Army to make a difference in this world. After three years, he has been promoted to Sergeant. He has not seen action yet, thank goodness, but volunteers for any mission available.



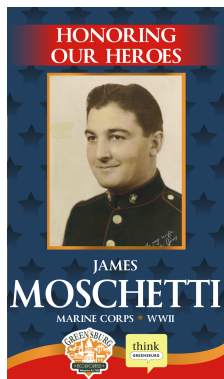
Andrew J. Mikan was born in Crabtree, PA and enlisted into the Marines where he served with the 4th Marine Division, 23rd Regiment, 2nd Battalion from 1942-1946. He is a Two Time Purple Heart Recipient wounded in action in Saipan in 1944 and Iwo Jima 1945. Andrew was married to the late Helen DeFrances Mikan with whom he raised five children and resided on Hawksworth Dr., Greensburg. He was inducted into The Pacific War Museum in Fredricksburg, Texas in November of 2021.



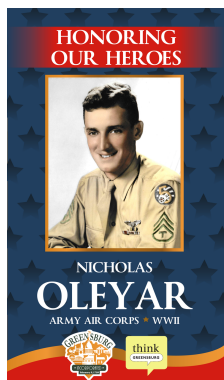
Oliver "Ollie" Molter was born and raised in New Brighton, PA. He graduated from W&J where his football proficiency earned an invitation to play professional ball. Instead he chose teaching for the financial benefit. He served 3 years on a supply ship in the Pacific during WWII. He returned to teaching until retirement in the Greensburg Salem School District where he coached football for several years and served as Athletic Director. Simultaneously he was a draftsman for BP Engineers. He served as a member of both the Free Masons and Shriners International. He was faithful to his church and his community. He was a loving father of 3 and grandfather of 5.



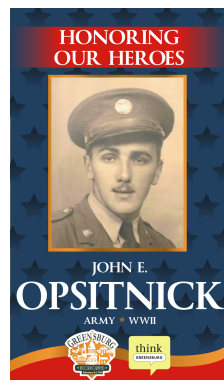
James Moon Sr. was a CLP US ARMY and was very proud of his service, so is his family, He was also a founding member of the WEST POINT FIRE DEPT. and extremely proud of being a fireman!!



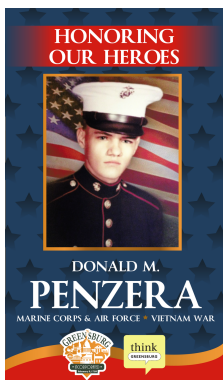
James J. Moschetti was born on November 7, 1917, in Chandler, Colorado. He was one of eight children born to a family of Italian immigrants. His father was killed in a mining accident when he was eight years old, and his family moved to Greensburg, Pennsylvania where he lived all his life. He was a United States Marine during World War II, a police officer for the state, and a Pennsylvania Railroad Detective for 30 years. He loved to fish, hunt, and garden. He married Anne DeMarino and was a father to Carol and Jerry. He passed away in November 2005.



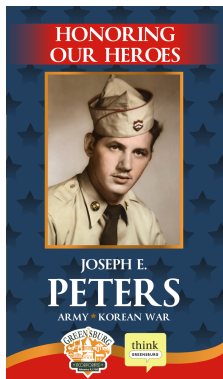
Nicholas Oleyar served in WWII. He was in the US Army Air Corps as a medical assistant. He served in the Pacific theater stationed in the Philippines. Upon his return to the states, he worked at the GC Murphy Co in Greensburg until his retirement



John E. Opsitnick was an Infantryman in the 100th Division of the 5th Army serving in the North African Campaign, the invasion of Sicily and the European theater during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his service. Returning home to Greensburg, he and his wife Margaret, raised six children. John retired from the Walworth Valve Co. with over 40 years of service. In 1975 he was awarded the Greensburg Fire Department Meritorious Metal for saving a man's life from his burning car. John was a devoted father, grandfather and great grandfather and an avid bowler on several leagues in Greensburg.



Donald M. Penzera USMC-USAF is the 2nd son of the late Anthony and Mary Penzera of Greensburg. He attended Blessed Sacrament Cathedral School now known as Aquinas Academy and GSHS. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1967 at the age of 18 and was deployed to Vietnam. Donald served with the 1st Battalion 9th Marines BRAVO Co. which was nicknamed "The Walking Dead", he fought in the battle for KheSanh. He was honorably discharge from the Marines and approximately 1 year later he re-enlisted into the USAF as a SSGT and was re-deployed back to Vietnam where he served at DaNang Air Base. As a result of his extensive exposure to Agent Orange during his two tours of duty, he succumbed to AO related cancer at the age of 56 in 2006. He was a member of the VFW Post 981 and is buried at The National Cemetery of the Alleghenies in Bridgeville , PA. He will also be Honored at the Vietnam Memorial Fund for Agent Orange casualties in Washington, DC on June 18, 2022.



Joseph (Joe) Peters entered the service on February 1951, and served in the Korean War. Joe was stationed in Germany and was part of the Artillery Division. He received an honorable discharge in February of 1953. Upon his return to Greensburg he met the love of his life, Pauline Yukich and was married for 53 years until her death. After the service he took a job as a milkman and later became a crane operator for 27 years until his retirement in 1991. Joe always enjoyed playing basketball with the neighborhood children. He is an avid Steeler and Pirate fan, and a die hard Notre Dame fan




Angelo Pietropaoli, US Army, 18th Infantry Regiment - Medical Detachment. Angelo received the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in connection with military operations in the vicinity of Brecey, Normandy, France, August 1944. Private Pietropaoli risked his life to treat and evacuate scores of casualties when he voluntarily entered a vulnerable area during a severe bombing attack by enemy aircraft. He also received 4 Campaign Stars, an Arrowhead, a Soldier's Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation, and a Purple Heart. After his service, Angelo worked at the Walworth Valve Company and was then self-employed at the Clear-View Television Company in South Greensburg and also in Greensburg. Later, he built and operated the Motel Americana on Route 30 and the Best Western Motel in New Stanton. He was a proud and hard-working Italian immigrant who came to America at age 15 from Morolo, Italy in October 1937.





Al Platos joined the Army in 1950, ranked as a Corporal in the 168th military police battalion and served in the Korean war. He was passionate about his country, his countrymen and especially those who served and is actively serving in our military. Al would incorporate things into his everyday life to show support and raise awareness in others. During the Iran Hostage Crisis, he placed a candle in his front window for 444 days and never let it burn out until these hostages had returned home. Another instance, Al had a sign made for his front porch that stated, "We Shall Never Forget 9/11". In 1976, he walked from Mt. View Hotel to the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia in 10 days so he could raise money for the founding of the Mutual Aid Ambulance Service in Greensburg. As a member of the 1st United Methodist Church in Greensburg for over 50 years, Al volunteered countless hours performing various projects and ushering. He loved his church! Al also belonged to the East Hempfield Lions Club for over 60 years where he served in every office. He provided his time help with many fundraisers over those 60 years so the Lions Club could assist others in need. Al was also a very active member and fundraiser of the Aerobic Center in Greensburg. When we think about Al Platos, we remember him to be a proud American who loved his family, his church and his community, who was also loved by so many.

HONORING OUR HEROES




ROBERT E.
PRICE
AIR FORCE & FIREFIGHTER



Robert E. Price enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1978. He completed basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas and then was assigned to March Air Force Base in California as part of the Transportation Squadron.

Airman Price had the honor of escorting General Curtis LeMay during his service and was part of the 1981 USSSA Armed Forces All-State Tournament Team. Airman Price served a tour of duty at the 6171st Air Base in Kwang Ju Korea. After serving a four-year term, Bobby returned to his hometown of Greensburg where he is currently employed by the Greensburg Salem School District, going into his 20th year. Bobby has been a first responder firefighter since the age of 15 and is currently a Lieutenant in the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department, Truck 2 Station. He looks forward to retirement in the very near future.

HONORING OUR HEROES




ROBERT C.
REAGAN
ARMY - VIETNAM WAR






Robert C. Reagan, U.S. Army was born and raised in Duquesne, PA. He worked for U.S. Steel Homestead Works, the decline of the Steel industry led him to start a successful small business. He served in the U.S Army during Vietnam where he served in the Me'kong Delta. This led to exposure to agent orange. In 2019 Robert passed away due to many illness directly caused by his agent orange exposure. Robert is an honoree in the in memory program sponsored by the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C.

HONORING OUR HEROES




RONALD H.
REEPING SR.
ARMY - KOREAN WAR






Ronald H. Reeping, Sr. was born in Latrobe, Pennsylvania but grew up in nearby Derry, Pennsylvania. He joined the Army in March of 1953 and was stationed at Fort Campbell - Kentucky. Ron earned his Expert Badge with Rifle bar along with a Sharpshooter Badge with Carbine bar. Transferring to Fort Benning, Georgia he joined the 113th Airborne Division where he earned his Parachutist Badge logging hundreds of jumps. Transferring overseas to Germany, Ron served during the Korean War as a Sergeant with 113th Airborne Division. After his Honorable Discharge in April of 1958, he and his wife Mary, settled in Greensburg where they raised three children, and eventually grandchildren. Ron was a devout Catholic, who found enjoyment in the simple things in life. He worked for Westinghouse, in Derry for many years before his retirement, and was a member of many of the military auxiliary clubs in the area.

HONORING OUR HEROES




BARRY CLYDE
RUBLE
ARMY - VIETNAM WAR






Barry Ruble was born in Madison and was raised in New Alexandria and Delmont, later moved to Greensburg. He graduated from GHS in 1960 and joined Plumbers and Pipefitters Union #354. In February 1964 he was drafted into the U S Army and in 1965 he was deployed to Vietnam. He served with the Combat Engineers and received the Expert Rifle and the Vietnam Service medals. Barry loved playing baseball and played for many teams along with coaching West Point Little League. Over the years he reverted to golf and bowling. He loved helping out at the church and delivering Meals on Wheels. But above all, he loved his family. The light of his life was his three Grandchildren.

HONORING OUR HEROES




JOSEPH HENRY
RUSH JR.
GREENSBURG FIRE CHIEF - FIRST RESPONDER






Joseph Henry Rush, Jr. joined the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department in 1926 and served as Greensburg Fire Chief from 1944 - 1952. He was a member of Hose Company No. 7, where he once served as captain and later president. A Democrat, Joe was elected to Greensburg City Council in 1953, and again in 1957, serving until his death in 1959. Councilman Rush was the Director of the Department of Public Safety as well as operating an Atlantic Service Station on East Pittsburgh Street. Joe was the husband of Alice (McConnaughey) Rush and the father of Mary Louise (Rush) Truxal.

HONORING OUR HEROES




FRANK E.
SAUNDERS
ARMY • WWI






Frank E. Saunders (2/9/1886 - 4/11/1969) volunteered for service and was assigned as a Wagoneer in the 79th Division, 304th Ammunition Train. After the Great War, he returned home to Bovard to marry Helen Buttermore. He also returned to the Crowsnest Mine, where (as a member of the United Mine Workers) he worked as an electrician for Keystone Coal and Coke Company. After the mines closed, he worked for PennDOT. Frank and Helen raised two sons, Frank, Jr, and Ross.

HONORING OUR HEROES




ROSS H.
SAUNDERS
ARMY • WWII






Ross H. Saunders (11/30/1924 - 12/26/2011) served as a Staff Sergeant and Squad Leader as a member of the 66th Infantry Division in the European Theater of Operations. He survived the tragic sinking of the SS Leopoldville in the English Channel on Christmas Eve 1944. After WWII, Ross remained in the National Guard's 28th Infantry Division as a Lieutenant, and was reactivated to serve in Germany during The Korean Conflict. After returning home to marry Mary Kathryn Kocur, with whom he raised eight children, Ross remained active in his community through St. Bede Men's Club and Bovard Recreation. He was chairman of Bovard's Memorial Day committee

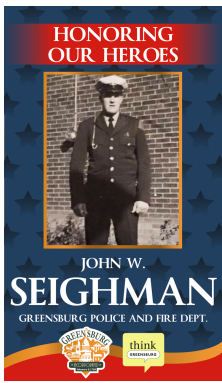
HONORING OUR HEROES



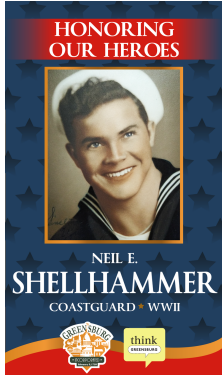
CHARLES M.
SEAMENS
NAVY • NAVAL AVIATOR

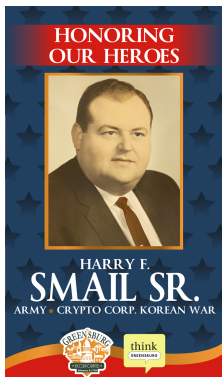
Charles M. Seamens proudly served in the US Navy as a Naval Aviator. He was accepted to Navy Officer Candidate School and became a designated U.S. Naval Aviator and Patrol Plane Commander with the Airborne Early Warning Squadron Thirteen. He served from 1959-1964, receiving his Wings of Gold as a Navy Pilot in 1960. He was a recipient of the National Defense Service Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation recognizing heroism and outstanding actions performed in an aircraft, and the Navy & Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon. He served and trained in Pensacola, FL, Patuxant River, MD, Keflavik, Iceland, Argentia, Newfoundland, Thule, Greenland and completed Naval Air Advanced Training in Corpus Christi, TX. He left the Navy in 1964 as a full lieutenant.



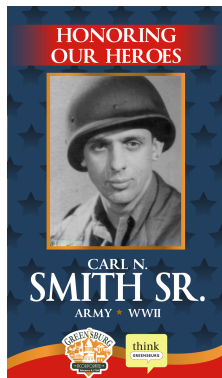
John W. Seighman served with the Greensburg Police Department from 1957 to 1992, where he served as Sergeant and started the Truck Enforcement Division. He was also a member of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department where he was a handler for the Bloodhound Team and a trainer for the National Police Bloodhound Association. He was born and raised in Greensburg, where he met and married Sally (Craig) in 1954. They lived and raised their four children in the City of Greensburg. He now has three grandsons and is a great grandfather of four. He is a busy retiree, splitting time between PA and FL where he enjoys playing bocce and woodworking.



Neil E. Shellhammer served in the Coast Guard aboard the LST 268 in WWII. His ship was assigned to the Asian-Pacific theater, where he participated in multiple operations in and around the islands off of Japan. Upon returning home Neil, and his family, lived in Greensburg where he worked as a self-employed plasterer, along with working at U.S. Steel Irvin Works. He was a member of the VFW Post 33, and the Foxhill Social Club where he loved to shoot pool. Neil was an avid gardener, often giving away tomato plants he raised, and vegetables he grew, to friends and neighbors.



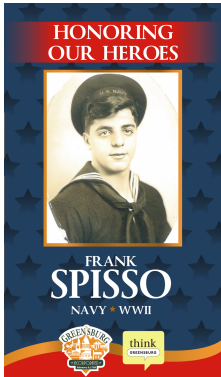
Harry F. Smail Sr. was born on March 27, 1929. He graduated from Jeannette High School. He went on to earn a B.S. in Accounting from Robert Morris College in 1951. Soon after, he entered the US Army and rose to Sgt 1st Class Specialist Crypto Corp. He trained with the intelligence battalion and was stationed near Las Vegas, NV and Washington, DC. Upon his return to Pennsylvania, he worked at Southwest Bank in New Alexandria where he became a bank manager. From there he became manager of the Elliott Company Federal Credit Union. Harry also became a Professional Umpire for American and National baseball leagues. In 1979, he was selected to be an umpire for the World Series where the Pirates took home the win at the Three Rivers Stadium. On December 3, 1993, Harry passed away at age 64 from a heart attack. He was a true lifelong veteran, patriot, republican, and Presbyterian. Above all, Harry's beliefs were based upon his depression era struggles, war survival, business acumen, and commitment to God, Family, and Country.



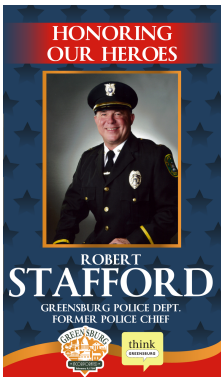
Carl N. Smith Jr. was born on December 6, 1923. He was a proud US Army veteran who served in the 148th combat engineers, Battle of the bulge 1943 . He received a Purple Heart and was a recipient of the French medal of honor, the region's highest honor at the veterans of foreign wars post 33. Carl raised four children with wife Barbara, including daughter Bonnie, sons Nicholas, Bennet and Curt. Carl passed away on December 15, 2019 at the age of 96.



Frank J. Spinelli was from Crabtree, PA , and later was a resident of Greensburg. He entered the U.S. Navy in April 1944, and served as an Electrician's Mate Third Class, on the U.S.S. Pensacola in the Pacific Theatre. He participated in the battles of Iwo Jima, Okinawa, the Philippines, and the Marshall Islands, and served in Japan and Alaska. He was awarded four Battles stars. He was honorably discharged on December 20, 1945. His biographical U.S. Naval history and artifacts are preserved in the Library of Congress Veterans History Project.



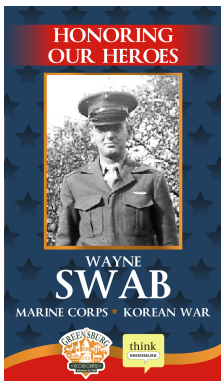
Frank Spisso was born in Scottsdale PA in 1926, a first generation US Italian born to Italian immigrants. He joined the Navy after graduating HS, met my mother in Pensacola, and returned to SW PA to live and raise his family. He also served as a Deputy Sheriff for Westmoreland County from 1970 until his death in 1986.



Robert (Bob) Stafford is a life long resident of Greensburg and 1982 graduate of Greensburg Salem High School. Bob joined the Greensburg Police Department July 1, 1987. Through the years Bob served the community as Seargent, Lieutenant, Captain and in 2020 became Chief. Bob enjoys his retirement with his wife Jeanne and his two sons, Bobby and Johnny.



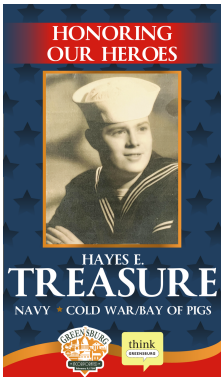
Lynn E. "Bud" Stannard Jr. was a 1st Lieutenant of the 771 anti-aircraft Battalion during WWII in the US Army stationed in Fort Knox Kentucky. Originally from Ridgway, Pennsylvania, Bud married Lois Herzing in 1943. After his discharge from the Army, Bud and Lois eventually settled in Greensburg where he started his career with West Penn Power in Residential and Farm sales. He traveled to many of the rural areas in Westmoreland and Fayette Counties and helped bring electricity to our communities of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Bud was featured in many of the early promotional marketing photos for West Penn Power. Sadly, Bud passed in 1967, leaving behind his loving wife and 4 young children.



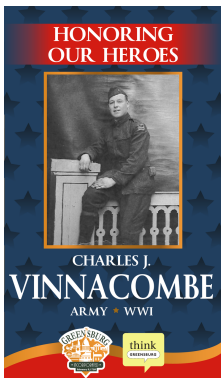
Wayne Swab Served as a Sargent in the Marine Corps. HQ, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division. Camp Lejeune, NC. Wayne was proud of his service to his country and loved to tell endless stories of his days in the Corp. After his honorable discharge in 1953, he went on to work as a chemist for 35 years. Wayne enjoyed fishing, gardening, working in his garage and volunteer work with the Boy Scouts of America. Wayne was dedicated to his faith in God, his wife of over 68 years and his three children, ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.



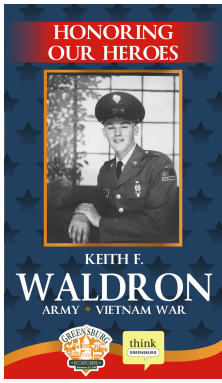
Christopher Treasure joined the Navy after high school to see the world. He was on the USS America. He did two deployments to the Persian Gulf, which also included trips to the Adriatic Sea for the Bosnia Crisis, and off the coast of Somalia for the Black Hawk down incident, where became a shellback while on station.



After high school, **Hayes E. Treasure** had to choose between working in the brick yards in Bolivar or joining the Navy. He chose the Navy. He made the rank of Petty Officer Second Class Radarman. During a watch shift at night, he single handily forced a Russian sub to surface by tracking the sonar and telling the watch where to go during the Bay of Pigs before the Captain was able to get on the bridge. He was given a promotion by the Captain for his duties that night, but left the Navy shortly after and never sewed the First Class Crow on his uniform.



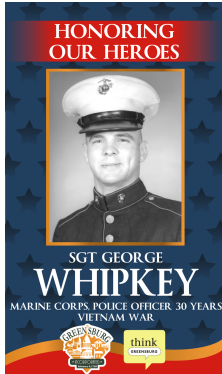
Charles J. Vinnacombe served in the 1st World War volunteering as a runner to deliver messages. In this position, he ran on top of the trenches which was one of the most dangerous positions to be in. Upon returning from the war, he married his sweetheart, Mayme Ford, and started a successful Plumbing and Heating Business in Greensburg. He had two daughters, Dorothy Vinnacombe Frye and Patricia Vinnacombe Whipkey. He was a hero in the eyes of everyone whose life he touched.



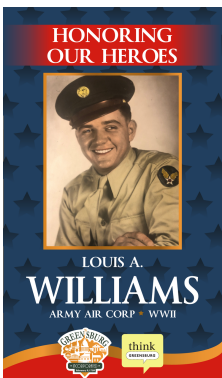
Keith F. Waldron was born in Stourbridge/Worcester England in 1947. He came to the US on the Queen Mary when he was 11 months old and resided with his family in Jeannette throughout his childhood. He was in the military from '66-'68 in the Army Branch of Service. He served in Vietnam from '67-'68 and was wounded in service. He was in the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 46th Infantry. He was recipient of Purple Heart, combat infantryman's badge, Vietnam service medal, and Vietnam campaign medal. He retired after 30 years of service with the Greensburg Postal Service as a letter carrier. His greatest attributes were the love of his family and his country.



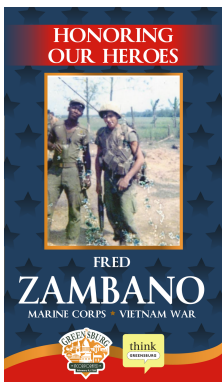
Hilda Jane Werner served as a 2nd lieutenant in the Korean Conflict and was a MASH Nurse. Upon her return to the United States, she worked as a nurse at Westmoreland Hospital until her retirement.



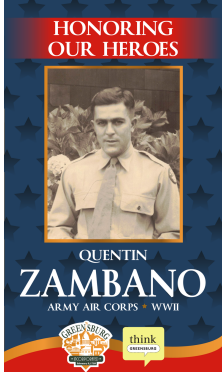
Sgt. George Whipkey wore the two proudest uniforms a man could wear. One as the United States Marine Corps, and the other as a police officer. He served proudly in the United States Marine Corps from 1962 to 1967 during the Vietnam War, where he earned a number of ribbons, medals, and commendations. He also served as a Sergeant with the Southwest Greensburg Police Department for 30 years. After being discharged from the Marine Corps, George worked for the Pepsi Company in the Frito-Lay Division as a transport driver. During the night, George worked at the Police Department, and during the day, he managed a car wash with his loving wife Patricia. The couple owned The Auto Spa at the foot of Toll Gate Hill where Otterman St. merges with Pittsburgh St. George became an avid car collector and restorer, having restored several antique vehicles that were mostly old Corvettes. He is currently a member of the Greater Greensburg Marine Corps League Dept. #834 and also served as one of the logistics coordinators for the Marine Corps Toys-For-Tots Program in Westmoreland County. Most of all, George loves our country and flag.



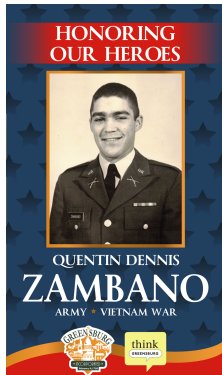
Louis Angelo Williams served as a Corporal in the 355th Army Air Force Base Unit, stationed at the Gulfport, Mississippi Army Air Field & Willow Run Air Base, in Michigan during WWII. As a technician, he participated in building the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, B-24 Liberator Heavy Bomber & B-25 Mitchell. He was born and raised in Jeannette. He started his career at Jeannette Glass Co. as a shipping clerk, then went off to serve in WWII. When he returned home he attended Robert Morris University on the GI Bill, earning an accounting degree while continuing his career at Jeannette Glass Co. He worked his way up to an executive position. He married, had four children and was a very dedicated family man. He was known for his sense of humor, warmth and deep voice.



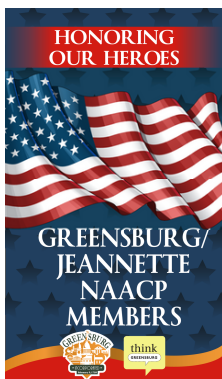
Fred Zambano was born at Greensburg Hospital on September 22, 1948. He left for Vietnam in June of 1967 at the age of 18. He was sent to Fox Co. 2nd. Bn. 5th. Marines of the 1st. Marine Div. During his tour, Fox Co. was the 4th. company sent to Hue during Tet. On April 7, 1968 Fred was wounded and sent stateside. Because of his wounds, he retired from the marines on November 1, 1968.



Quentin Zambano was born in Hannastown. The family moved to Greensburg and he worked as a heavy equipment operator for his family's construction company, Zambano and Sons. He served in the Army Air Corps during WWII in the Pacific Theater. He was a member of an engineering combat battalion of the 5th Air Force that created airfields in New Guinea, Papua, and Netherlands East Indies. During his time in the southwest Pacific his battalion received a Presidential Unit Citation and Bronze Battle Stars for 3 campaigns. After the war he rejoined Zambano and Sons.



Dennis Zambano was born in Greensburg in 1946. In the summer of 1962 he moved to Bellevue, WA where he finished high school. He joined the Army in 1966 and attended Officer Candidate School (Infantry) at Ft Benning, GA. He served in Vietnam as a platoon leader in the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Dennis was killed in action on October 15th, 1967 while serving as a military advisor in Binh Dinh province. He was awarded a Purple Heart for his injuries received that day. Dennis also received Bronze Stars (Valor) and (Merit).



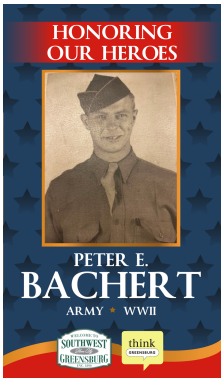
The Greensburg - Jeannette NAACP would like to honor all past and present members who served our country and community. The duties of the Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committee of the NAACP are: (1) To seek to establish a working relationship with those agencies having the responsibility in the affairs of members of the various Armed Services and Veterans and to see that the programs to which they are responsible are administered fairly and justly to members of the minority community; (2) to study conditions pertaining to veterans and their dependents and/or survivors in the community; (3) to serve as a center of information on matters affecting members; and (4) to receive and act on all complaints relative to acts of discrimination on account of race, color, creed, or denial of benefits to which they are entitled because of discrimination.



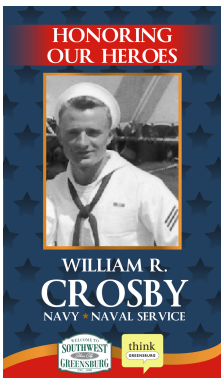
Our Hometown Heroes Southwest Greensburg



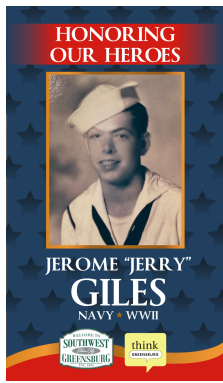
Staff Sgt. Charles J. Anderson was born and raised in Southwest Greensburg on Cribbs Street. He joined the military in 1968 and served in the Vietnam War from 1968 - 1969. He was a combat Vietnam veteran, C. Company 1st and 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Division - "The Big Red One". Charles married his wife, Sandy, in 1979 and had a son, Charles Jay Anderson.



Pvt. Peter E. (Bud) Bachert, son of Peter A. and Marie Bachert entered the service on February 6, 1943 and went overseas June 6. He had been stationed in North Africa until March 16, 1944 when he was sent to Anzio, Italy. Three days after his arrival he was killed in action. He was buried at the Anzio cemetery until his parents exhumed his body and was brought back to the United States and is buried in the family plot at the Catholic Cemetery. Bud lived in South Greensburg all his life and graduated from Greensburg High School. He was active in music and athletics, being a basketball manager and varsity track man and a member of the choir. Before entering the service he was employed by Greensburg Office Supply and Walworth Company. Bud received a purple heart along with a letter to his mother from President Harry S. Truman for his bravery. He was 21 years old when he was killed in action on March 19, 1944.



William R. Crosby served as UDT Frogman with the US Navy. He was born and raised in Southwest Greensburg, where he still resides to this day.



Jerome "Jerry" Giles and his brothers all served our country with pride and honor. After his service, Jerry met and married his wife and raised a family of ten children. He loved golf, naming his sons Ben Hogan and Arnold Palmer!



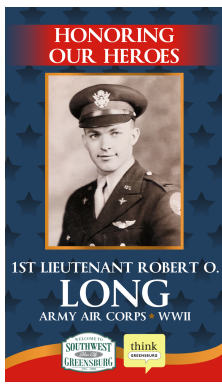
Charles W. Gorna, S/Sgt 8th Armored Division, was a recipient of the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action March 1, 1945. He loved his country. He loved his hometown of Red Onion, Greensburg. Charles was so proud of his family, including his wife Mary, son George (who was a Marine), daughter Charlotte, and son-in-law Kenneth (a Vietnam Veteran). If you were his friend, Charles would always be there for you. He retired from I.T.E. and he was a loyal supporter of the Roosevelt Club, South Greensburg American Legion, and Hunt Club.



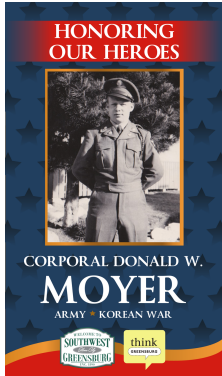
Elmer Klingler was in WWII from the beginning, but he was also involved with the D-Day invasion. He was shot as he crawled up the beach in France. They took him back to England, patched him up and sent him back to the war. He also fought in Belgium, during the Battle of the Bulge. He was sent home when the war was ending in Europe, and would have been sent to the Pacific except that the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki ended the war in the Pacific. He then married my Mom and started our family. They had two kids, David Klingler and Linda Klingler Cooper. My Dad was a true hero in every sense of the word.



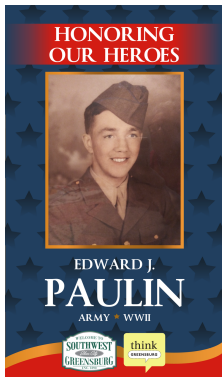
Ray C. Leydig Jr. served in the United States Marine Corps as a Sergeant in the "fighting third" 3rd Marine Division. Ray fought for his county in Vietnam and was a true patriot. Ray continued in his service to others upon his Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps. Ray became a Police Officer in the City of Jeannette, Pennsylvania and retired as Captain of the department after thirty plus years of service. As a Police Officer and Drug Task Force Team Member, Ray saved numerous lives by helping remove illicit drugs from our streets. Ray was also an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt and fish and he never missed a season.



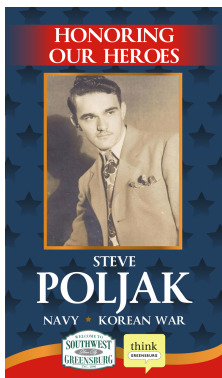
1st Lieutenant Robert O. Long of the U.S. Army Air Corps (12/5/43 - 10/25/45) was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Three Oak Clusters for extraordinary achievement while serving as a pilot of a B-17 during WWII. He flew 33 combat bombardment missions over Germany and German occupied countries. In 2019 he was one of nine inducted into the Hall of Valor at Soldiers and Sailors Hall in Pittsburgh, PA. He retired from Robertshaw Controls, New Stanton, with 43 years of service. As a life member of the Southwest Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department, he served for 63 years. Archie, as he was called by his friends, enjoyed golfing, hunting and carpentry.



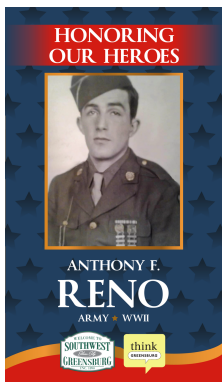
Donald W. Moyer was born on April 22, 1930 in Greensburg. He graduated from Greensburg High School and entered the Army where he served in the Korean War. He married Marian Johns and they were married for 70 years. In fact, an article in the Tribune Review during the war details how his mother and his fiance went to pick out the engagement ring together as he was overseas. The wedding had to be initially postponed, as he contracted malaria, which led to another article published in Tribune Review about hometown boys serving in the war. After honorable discharge as a Corporal he began his career at the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County until his retirement. His favorite hobby is to play golf and work in the yard. He continues to be an active member of the First Baptist Church in Greensburg.



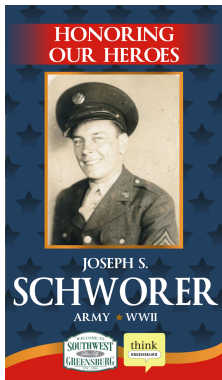
Edward J. Paulin served in WWII from April 1943 until March 1946. He received a Good Conduct Medal & a Victory Medal European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.



Steve Poljak was born, raised and a lifetime resident of Greensburg (Hufftown). He was in the Navy and served during WWII/Korea. He loved ships and submarines. He was very proud of his country and of his Serbian heritage. He had a profound love for Tamburitza music. After his discharge from the Navy, he worked at Robertshaw for 45 years.



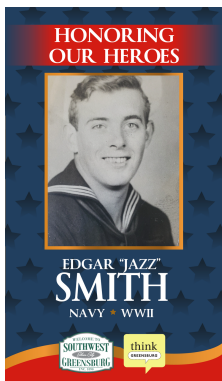
Anthony F. Reno (February 11, 1925 - December 3, 2017) was born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, to first generation Italian Immigrants. At the age of 18, he enlisted into the Army and joined the First Engineer Special Brigade. His unit was the 556th Quartermaster Railhead Company where he was a combat engineer and qualified as a rifleman in the Engineer Amphibian Regiment. While in service, he participated in Operation Tiger aboard LST-289 and was part of the first hour of the invasion of UTAH Beach. He was awarded the Bronze Arrowhead Medal. On February 14, 1946, he returned home from the war to Greensburg, where he eventually married Marian Rouse and had three children.



Joseph S. Schworer served as a Sergeant in General Patton's 3rd Army during the landing in Normandy several days after D-Day. He fought across France, Germany and Belgium. He was captured and held prisoner after his entire unit was wiped out. He escaped on his own initiative. While the Germans marched the prisoners in a line he fell to the ground, rolled down a hill and ran into the woods. He hid behind a tree for two hours until nightfall. It took him two weeks to work his way back to U.S. lines. On Sundays he would encourage fellow soldiers to attend mass in the field. After the war he and his childhood friend co-founded Commercial Printing Co. on Beaver Street in Greensburg, the street on which he had grown up. He was a lifetime member of North Hempfield V.F.D. He also served two terms as President of the McKenna Senior Center, he was a strong force behind the success of the Senior Olympic games in Westmoreland Co. He and his wife raised three children, one of whom was severely handicapped. "Joe" as he was known to all was an all around good guy.




Joseph Scifo was born on April 17th, 1944. He joined the Army, and in 1964 he was sent overseas to help serve in Germany. After his service, he returned home to his wife Gloria and raised a family in Greensburg. Joseph has since passed away, but his family continues to honor his memory and dedication to his country.



Edgar "Jazz" Smith proudly served in the US Navy in WWII in the Atlantic Theater as a Gunnery Instructor. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

HONORING OUR HEROES



EDWARD A.
SOLOCHIER
ARMY • KOREAN WAR

SOUTHWEST GREENSBURG think

Edward A. Solochier served in the United States Army as a welder attached to the 65TH ENGR Company (Depot Maintenance) stationed in Inchon Korea. He was a welder by trade who enjoyed fixing up cars. He was able to utilize his skills and mechanical ability repairing military vehicles and advancing to the rank of Corporal March 17, 1954. A native of Southwest Greensburg he returned after his Honorable Discharge in 1954 and married the love of his life, Olga Hutnick.

Ed has been an avid car and motorcycle enthusiast. He enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson and in later years traveling on new adventures with the Redwing Motorcycle Club. His collection of photographs illustrates a lifetime hobby and love of the ride. Ed is a gentle soul who is dedicated to his faith and his love of family.

HONORING OUR HEROES




WILLIAM N.
TUSCANO
NAVY • WWII

SOUTHWEST GREENSBURG think

Bill Tuscano graduated from Greensburg High School in 1945 and immediately enlisted in the Navy. When the war ended, he married his childhood sweetheart Virginia (Jinny) Boone. After 17 years as a long-haul truck driver, Bill ran for and won a seat in the PA House of Representatives, 57th district. At that time, he changed careers and started working for a local Workers Comp insurance company as a regional field rep. In 1970, Bill opened an insurance brokerage firm in Greensburg and for the next 22 years he led the organization. In 1992 Bill retired from the agency though he couldn't stay retired for long. Two years later, he bought Longbridge Station on Route 30 in Ligonier where he made loads of friends selling bait to fisherman, sheds to homeowners, and whatever else he could make a buck or two on. Bill is a hero to many people, having left his mark in our community through his business, his family and his service.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING
First Responders,
Veterans, and Heroes



LEO M. BACHA
FUNERAL
HOME, INC.

SOUTHWEST GREENSBURG think

Leo M. Bacha Funeral Home is proud to honor all veterans and heroes who have served our country and helped our city.

think
GREENSBURG

GREENSBURG
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION



About the Greensburg Community Development Corporation (GCDC)

The Greensburg Community Development Corporation (GCDC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established to assist with the development and revitalization of downtown Greensburg. For nearly 50 years, we have obtained dilapidated properties for redevelopment, secured land for new construction, and helped to attract new businesses to the City. The GCDC is not a department of the City of Greensburg, but a separately funded non-profit organization that works closely with the City to assist businesses, institutions, property owners, and residents in implementing community development programs.

- GCDC launched the COVID-19 Relief Main Street Jump-Start Program in 2020. This program awarded grants of \$10,000 or less to 36 City of Greensburg small businesses to aid in their recovery from the pandemic. A combined total of \$230,000 was awarded to Greensburg small businesses in Rounds 1 & 2 of the program.
- GCDC provides matching grants for façade, storefront, sign upgrades and improvements through our Façade Improvement Grant Program. Since the program's launch in 2007, the GCDC has awarded over \$175,000 to City businesses and property owners who've made improvements to their commercial façade.
- GCDC facilitated the joint agreement of the Greensburg-Salem School District, Westmoreland County, and City of Greensburg to implement LERTA, a 10 year tax abatement program, serving as an incentive to developers to build new and renovate older properties within the city. Developers committing to the project donate a portion of their abated tax to a fund enabling the purchase and upgrade of older properties within the city, called the Greensburg Revitalization Fund (G-Fund).
- GCDC launched Greensburg's inaugural Restaurant Week, highlighting the diverse dining options within the City of Greensburg and promoting local small businesses. This summer's Greensburg Restaurant Week will take place August 20 - 29, 2021!
- GCDC introduced the Greensburg Revitalization Fund (G-Fund) Grant Program, implemented to assist with revitalization efforts of the City of Greensburg including, but not limited to, acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, public infrastructure and programs related to implementation of the City's revitalization strategy.

\$230,000

awarded to City
businesses impacted
by COVID-19



\$1.5 MILLION

of private investment
leverage supported by
financial assistance from
the GCDC in 2020



\$175,000

awarded to business
and property owners for
improvements made to
building facades



\$55,000

awarded to business and
property owners as part of
GCDC's Greensburg
Revitalization Fund
Grant Program




@ThinkGreensburg

Visit our website at:
www.thinkgreensburg.com



GREENSBURG
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

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