



## MOMM2 Salvatore M. Gaudio – NAVY

Salvatore was born December 7, 1924. He left Mt. Pleasant High School during his senior year in 1943 to enlist and serve his country in the U.S. Navy during WW II. He enlisted March 13, 1943 and was discharged March 4, 1946 with the rank of Motor Machinist's Mate Second Class USNR. His training took place at the Naval Training Station on Sampson, NY. During his time in the service he was stationed in Virginia, in California and served about 2.5 years in Guam.

The majority of his service was spent on the island of Guam in the Pacific. His duties included maintenance on diesel motors either on ships in port or land-based. He enjoyed his time on the island of Guam serving his country and serving time with friends. For his service, he received the Victory Medal, American Campaign & Asiatic Pacific Area.

After his discharge from the Navy, he completed high school at Mt. Pleasant. He went on to receive his college education at Ithaca College with a degree in Physical Therapy & Physical Education. He had a rewarding physical therapy career and continued to serve his community treating many patients in the Capital Region. Long into his retirement he continued to serve treating patients at the Glendale Home part time until the age of 80.

In May 2016, Salvatore (age 92) participated in one of the National Honor Flights to Washington D.C. to visit the WWII Memorial with his sons. Salvatore passed away November 2, 2017.

**Banner Sponsored by: Eileen, Dan & Greg Gaudio**





## Unified Military Affairs Council

UMAC's mission is to highlight the importance of the military presence in the Capital Region and Tech Valley. Its number one goal is to ensure the long term viability and success of Stratton Air National Guard Base and the Navy Operation Support Center in Glensville, NY, as well as other military units in the Capital Region which have a profound effect on our local economy.

UMAC strives to facilitate a symbiotic partnership between the community and military by increasing public knowledge of the contributions made by local military units in the Capital Region, all of which impact our global, national, state, and regional economy. UMAC highlights positive partnerships that the military has already formed with State and Federal agencies so all parties understand the vital role our Capital Region military units play in securing our nation.

UMAC also brings attention to the wide community support and pride for our local military units, as well as their significant local volunteer contributions, such as:

- Mentorship Program at Yates Elementary School
- Educational Partnership with Proctors
- Schenectady Holiday Parade Marshals
- Schenectady Inner City Ministries Summer Lunch Program
- Salvation Army Holiday Food Basket Delivery
- Naval Sea Cadet Corps
- Capital District Construction Career Days
- American Red Cross Blood Drives
- Greater Capital Region Science and Engineering Fair
- Caps for Kids Program



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## ADC Lawrence DeNofio – NAVY

Lawrence “Larry” DeNofio, the son of Italian immigrants Carmine and Margaret (DeSimone) DeNovio, was born in Schenectady, New York on April 12, 1921. He was raised in Schenectady with his four brothers and six sisters.

Larry enlisted in the United States Navy on December 4, 1939 as an Apprentice Seaman. During his time in the Navy, Larry was stationed in Newport and Quonset Point, RI; Norfolk and Oceana, VA; Chicago, IL; Los Alamitos, Hollister, and Alameda, CA; Oahu, HI and San Juan, Puerto Rico. He also served on the USS Lexington, during which time Larry’s unit earned the “Presidential Unit Citation Award” for extraordinary heroism displayed in action during World War II. After proudly serving his country during both World War II and the Korean War, Larry was honorably discharged on July 1, 1959 as an Aviation Machinist’s Mate Chief Petty Officer. While stationed in Rhode Island during his time with the Navy, Larry met and married his wife, Jennie (Riccio) DeNofio. Upon retiring from the United States Postal Service in 1981, Larry proudly ended his tenure of 40 years of service to the United States of America.

A beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather known as a lifelong fan of the Boston Red Sox, Lawrence passed away on March 27, 2008, at the age of 86, and is laid to rest in the Saratoga National Cemetery.

**Banner Sponsored by: Loving Family of Lawrence and Jennie DeNofio**



## A02 Carl J. DeNovio – NAVY

Carl was born and raised in Schenectady. His parents were Italian immigrants from the Naples area of Italy. He was educated at Draper School and enlisted in the Navy on October 3, 1942. He attended Naval Gunner’s Schools in the Great Lakes, Jacksonville and finally Memphis. He earned the rank of Aviation Ordnanceman, Second Class. On May 13, 1943 he boarded the USS Cowpens. The Cowpens was classified as a light duty aircraft carrier. The Cowpens joined the Pacific fleet in the late summer of 1943. In the autumn of 1943, the carrier participated in the battles for Wake Island and the Marshall Islands. In 1944, the Cowpens was a member of the task forces engaged in battles for Truk Island, New Guinea, the Marianas Islands, Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Guam. Carl was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal on March 23, 1944. He returned to the U.S. mainland in the later part of 1944 and served at Naval bases in San Francisco and San Diego until the end of the war. Carl was honorably discharged from the Navy on October 16, 1945. He returned to Schenectady with his wife, Eva, and his newborn son, Carl.

They built a home in Rotterdam and raised a family of four, three sons and a daughter. All four of the children graduated from Draper High School. Carl was employed at General Electric as a machinist from 1946 until 1979. He is remembered as a loving husband and father and was especially loved by his grandchildren who affectionately referred to him as “Poppy.”

**Banner Sponsored by: The Family of Carl & Eva DeNovio**





**MM2 George B. McDonald – NAVY**

George was a Machinist's Mate 2c(T) and served in the US Navy aboard the Destroyer Escort Leslie B. Knox. He enlisted in the Navy on 8/20/43 and was discharged on 11/10/45. He entered the service from Schenectady, New York. He served in the Asiatic Pacific Campaign, European African Middle Eastern Campaign, the American Campaign and received the appropriate medals for the foregoing. He also received the WW II Accommodation Medal.

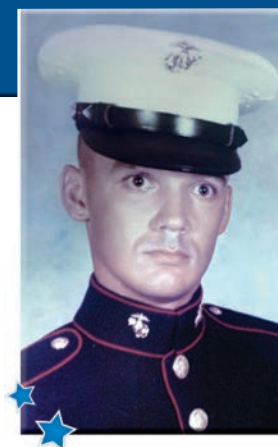
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**SGT Dennis J. Eagan – MARINE CORPS**

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*the* **310**



**LT Robert E. Nolte – NAVY**

**WW II** – Robert E. Nolte enlisted in the Navy in March of 1943. After completing boot camp as a Seaman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, he was assigned to the Naval Training Station in Norfolk, VA. He was transferred to Orange, TX and was assigned to the USS Fiske (DE-143) in August 1943. While on the Fiske, he achieved the rank of Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class (Quartermaster Striker). Early assignments placed the Fiske in Bermuda and Panama escorting a hospital ship back to NYC. The Fiske's primary Theater of Duty was in the North Atlantic (North Africa including Casablanca in Morocco). He served on the Fiske through January of 1944, completed Officer's Candidate School (OCS) in July of 1945 and received his commission as an Ensign.

**Korean Conflict** – Robert E. Nolte served as a Boat Platoon Commander with the rank of Lieutenant JG in Boat Unit Two, Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet based in Little Creek, Norfolk, VA. He left active duty in November of 1952 and remained a member of the Naval Reserves until 1961.

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**YN1 Vivian Eagan – NAVY**

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**SGT Carl A. Cappiello – ARMY/USAR**

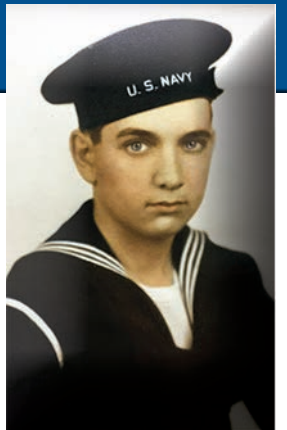
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**EM3 James P. Eagan – NAVY**

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**LT COL Joseph A.C. Solghan – AIR FORCE**



Major Solghan entered the armed forces in 1989, serving 10 years as a combat medic/field nurse in the United States Army. He received a direct commission in the United States Air Force after obtaining his nursing degree. Maj. Solghan's military service spans over 30 years, with experiences in field/combat hospital assignments; two long tours and five short tours overseas, seven deployments, which include tours in Honduras, Iraq; and four tours in Afghanistan. Maj. Solghan humbly served in many positions as Chief Nurse, Operations Officer, Medical Crew Director and Flight Instructor and Flight Standards and Evaluations Officer. He maintained flight currency/proficiency on 7 USAF and Canadian Forces airframes, accruing a total of 1250 flight hours, 252 instructor and 292 combat hrs. Prior to his retirement, Major Solghan served as Chief of Clinical Operations for the United States Transportation Command (TRANSCOM), where he led a staff of 23 medical providers in the identification, medical evaluation and flight crew/logistical coordination of inflight medical care for the military and civilian population of the entire Asian-Pacific Theater.

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**SP4 Francis B. DeAngelo – ARMY**



SP4 Francis "Fran" B. DeAngelo, was born to immigrant parents and along with his two sisters, grew up in the Goosehill Neighborhood on the Northside of Schenectady. He graduated from Linton High School. Fran enlisted in the USAR in 1965, serving with Unit 413 at Hillside Reserve Center. He graduated his basic training at Ft. Dix, NJ in 1967. Upon completion of Basic, Fran served with the 1018 at Ft. Lee, VA. The 1018 was activated on May 13, 1968, and before leaving Fran married his high school sweetheart Nancy Kerr. His Unit was deployed to Da Nang, Vietnam, before becoming engaged at LZ Baldy (Hill 63) where he served out his tour of duty. Returning to Schenectady after his honorable service to his country, Fran attended SCCC and began his long career with UPS. A seasoned chef, Fran and his family ran Maria's Pizzeria, Geppetto's and the concession at the Bingo Palace. After retirement, Fran enjoys the time he spends with his three children and their spouses; his six grandchildren; helping his daughter at Maria's Home Catering; his friends at Rossi & Ditoro Funeral Home; and golfing and gaming with his best buddies.

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**PFC Edward A. Villano – ARMY**

Edward proudly served his community in the U.S. Army during the Korean War Era as Communications Specialist in the 10th Special Forces and was honorably discharged in 1956. Ed was assigned to Camp Gordon. While serving as a PFC, he earned two medals: the Army of Occupation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. Ed worked at St. Clare's hospital, where he was Chief of Chemistry. He settled in Rotterdam where he and his wife Patricia raised their family. He was active in the VFW Post 357, the Schenectady Polish-American Veterans, the Rotterdam Eagles and the American Legion Post 1485.

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**SSG Michael R. LaMalfa – ARMY**

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**SM3 Robert L. Wurster – NAVY**

SM3 Robert L. Wurster was born in the Town of Niskayuna on November 1, 1945. He attended Schenectady Public Schools and graduated from Linton High School in 1963. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1967, before Selective Service could draft him. Robert served on a destroyer and eventually transferred to a Guided Missile Cruiser homeported in the Mediterranean Sea in Gaeta, Italy, in 1969. Being on the flagship of the Sixth Fleet, Admiral's Staff was very lucky for Robert, as he remained on board until he was discharged in 1971. He met his wife in 1971 and was married in 1972, and raised two daughters. His first job after his time in the Navy was in 1971 with Link and Cullen, Architects. In 1973 he went to work with the NYS Dept. of Transportation in the Bridge Design Unit as a Principle Drafting Technician. He remained there until his retirement in 2003. He now keeps busy with four grandchildren all under the age of 10.

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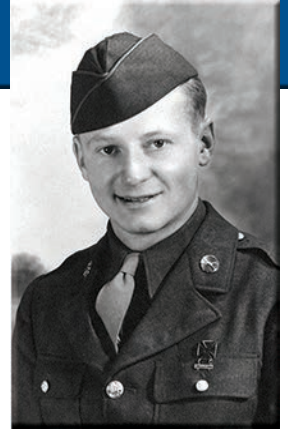




## TEC5 Louis J. Wurster – ARMY

TEC 5 Louis J. Wurster was born in 1921. Before his time in the service, Louis graduated from Nott Terrace High School in 1941 and was employed by Wurster's Food Market on McClellan Street. TEC 5 Wurster was inducted into the Army on November 5, 1942 and was honorably discharged on February 14, 1946. He served in the 98th Division and 389th Infantry as a truck driver and served 20 months overseas in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, American Service Medal, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, and World War II Victory Medal. After his time in the service he worked for East End Lumber Co., Schenectady Railway Co., and finally was a custodian and bus driver for the Niskayuna School System until his retirement. He married Marion Mann in 1943 while still enlisted in the Army. He and Marion raised three children together in Schenectady.

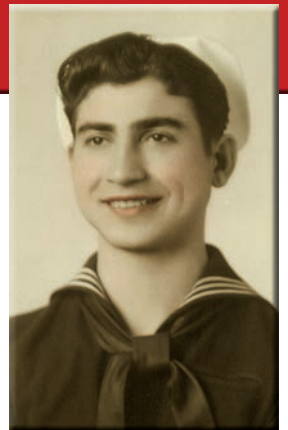
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## P03 Julius J. Boreali – COAST GUARD

Julius grew up in the small village of Howe Cave, NY and enlisted in the Coast Guard during Nov. of 1942. His two brothers and most of his childhood friends went into the service around this time to help win the War. He was assigned to the Coast Guard LST 27. Their mission was to carry troops and supplies to the wartime offensives in North Africa and later for the D-Day initiative in France. Most significant is his memory of D-Day. The waters were very rough that day; they were transporting troops to land on Omaha Beach. There was heavy shelling and land mines and it was a miracle that their LST was undamaged. Many of the men they were transporting were not so lucky. So many of the men were slaughtered on the beach that first day. He made 110 crossings across the English Channel. Julius was discharged in April 1946. He received five medals during his time in service: the European/African Campaign Medal, the American Campaign Medal, World War II Medal, the Middle Mediterranean/African Medal and a Good Conduct Medal. He also received two battle stars, one for D-Day and the other for action off the coast of Africa.

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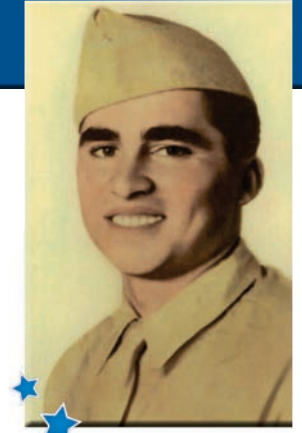






**PVT Federico Polsinelli – ARMY**

Federico Polsinelli was born May 16, 1924 in the City of Arpino, Province of Frosinone, Italy. After immigrating to this country and as duty called, Federico proudly joined the U.S. Army on March 10, 1943 to serve the country he loved, in WW II. In addition to being a hometown hero, Federico was a hero to his immediate family and is for generations to follow. When given the option to return home from war after completing his tour, he chose to stay and fight so that his younger brother, Biagio, would not have to and could remain at home to work the family dairy farm; a selfless decision that not only changed the course of his family's history forever, but also cost Federico his life on the battlefields of the Philippines on January 13, 1945. Federico predeceased his parents, Vincenzo and Antonia Polsinelli, as well as five other siblings living in Schenectady, New York. Biagio, his younger brother, went on to marry Vincenza (Pennacchia) Polsinelli and together had 5 children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. The courage Federico showed will serve as a moral standard for years to come. His core values live on through his family and can be seen in many ways, every day. Federico's legacy will live forever, and we will be eternally grateful for who he is and what he has done.



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**CPL Herman J. DiMeo – ARMY**

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**CPL George M. Fennicks – ARMY**

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**CPL Samuel J. Denisoff – ARMY AIR CORPS**

Samuel was born in Schenectady in 1921. The oldest of six children, he grew up on Congress Street in the Mont Pleasant section of the city, attended local schools and graduated from Mont Pleasant High School in January of 1940.

After graduation, Sam worked for General Electric until 1942 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving during World War II. After completing an Air Forces Technical School program at Chanute Field, Illinois, he was assigned duty as a teletype operator and mechanic stationed with the 381st Bomb Group in Ridgewell, England. He saw action in air offensive campaigns in Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland. Attaining the rank of Corporal, he was honorably discharged at the end of the war in September of 1945. Sam was awarded the Distinguished Unit Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal and a Good Conduct Medal for his service.

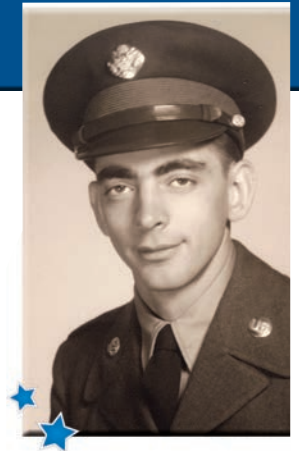
Returning to Schenectady, Sam went back to his job at GE, married Lucy Tavoletti and together they raised 4 children. In 1952 they moved to Rotterdam where he was a volunteer with the South Schenectady Fire Department District 6 for many years, eventually becoming Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners. He retired after 44 years with GE and passed away soon after at the age of 62 in 1984.

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**SP3 Robert E. Molloy – ARMY**

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**S2 Pasquale Gabriele – NAVY**

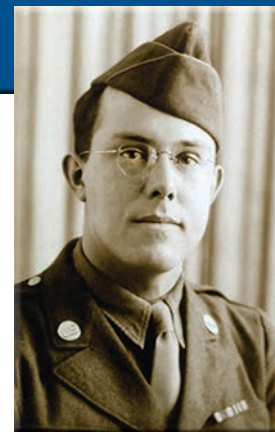
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**PFC Edward C. Pangburn – ARMY**

PFC Edward C. Pangburn was born April 19, 1919, in Schenectady, NY. He grew up on Summit Avenue, graduated from Mont Peasant High School in 1938, and then went to work at General Electric. He enlisted in the Army on July 9, 1942, at the age of 23. He was in boot camp at Fort Knox and was trained as a mechanic for armored vehicles. He left for overseas in February 1943. PFC Pangburn was in the battles at Normandy, North France, Sicily and Tunisia in World War II. PFC Pangburn was wounded in the battle at Pont Farcy, France on August 4, 1944. His tank received a direct hit from the enemy and he was the only one to survive in his tank crew. He had 2nd and 3rd degree burns over his entire back and arms and spent a year in a hospital in England before he was able to return home. PFC Pangburn was honorably discharged on September 14, 1945, at Fort Dix, New Jersey. For his service, PFC Pangburn was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal and Purple Heart.



After World War II, PFC Pangburn returned to work at GE and retired in 1984 with 42 years service. He met his wife there and together they had nine children, 12 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren with another one on the way.

Ed died on October 16, 1989, after six months in Boston trying to recover from complications from heart surgery. He is buried at Vale Cemetery.

**Banner Sponsored by: His Loving Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren**

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**EM2 William E. Leonard – NAVY**

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**SGT John Stoodley – AIR FORCE**

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**SK-2 Richard DiCristofaro – NAVY**

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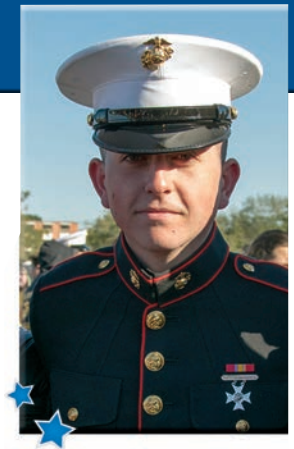


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**LC Joseph Mallozzi – MARINE CORPS**

Joseph Mallozzi was born and raised in Schenectady and a 2018 graduate of Schalmont High School. He completed Marine boot camp at Parris Island, SC on January 12, 2019 and is currently in MOS training in Pensacola, Florida.

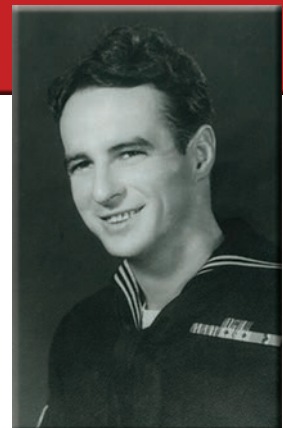
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**GM3 Robert O'Neil – NAVY**

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## TEC4 Armando S. Canestraro – ARMY

TEC4 Armando Salvatore Canestraro proudly served during World War II in Italy as a soldier of the Fifth U.S. Army – Company A – 103rd Division. He was inducted into the Army on February 13, 1942 and completed his basic training at Ft. Hood, Texas. He was discharged on October 6, 1945 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Returning to his new home of the United States as a veteran and U.S. citizen, Armando married his wife Mary and together raised a family in Schenectady. A proud veteran, he resided in Schenectady until his death on May 12, 1979. In recognition and gratitude for his service to his country during World War II, his flag draped casket was accompanied to his final resting place by six U.S. service men from the Navy Recruiting Command Area ONE headquarters.

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## SGT Tadeusz (Ted) J. Sierocki – MARINE CORPS

Tadeusz (Ted) Joseph Sierocki, was born and raised in Albany, NY. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on December 4, 1943. After basic training, Ted was deployed to Hawaii. He served with the Marine Company "I," 3rd Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division. Ted's classification was a Rifleman (745) and Heavy Anti-Aircraft gun Crewman (601).

The battle of Okinawa had begun on April 1, 1945. In April 1945, Ted left Hawaii aboard troop transports to Okinawa. He landed on Okinawa on May 3, 1945, nearly 30 days into the battle of Okinawa. Ted fought with the 7th Marines in the battles of Shuri Ridge and Kunishi Ridge. These battles were where some of the fiercest battles were fought.

Ted was discharged from the Marines in April 1946, achieving the rank of Sergeant.

During Ted's time in Hawaii, he met a soldier from Rotterdam, NY. This man had received letters and a photograph from his cousin back in the United States. Ted saw the picture of this woman and began corresponding with her. When Ted was discharged in April of 1946, he returned home to Albany, NY. He went to Rotterdam to meet the woman he had corresponded with and would eventually marry. Ted married Edith Longo on January 19, 1947. He settled in Rotterdam where he built his house and would raise his three children and work for General Electric. Ted was very talented and an excellent carpenter. He made many model airplanes and enjoyed flying them. Later in life, he became very interested in computers and would take pride in making cards for his family.

Our father never talked much, if at all, about his service in the Marines. I know our father was very proud to be a Marine.

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**CPT Walter G. Ryon, II – ARMY**

CPT Walter Gohring Ryon, II was born in Ogdensburg, NY, May 16, 1908, the son of Isabel Hall Ryon and Dr. Walter Gohring Ryon I. His father was one of country's best known authorities on mental illnesses at the time. His father interned at Manhattan Psychiatric Center, Wards Island, in New York City. He took positions at Central Islip State Hospital, St. Lawrence Hospital and Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane. His father then became Medical Inspector of NYS Hospitals, Albany, NY, and was then appointed Superintendent of the Hudson River State Hospital, the position he held until his untimely death at the age of 51. Walter Gohring Ryon II graduated Poughkeepsie High School 1926, attended Union College in Schenectady, NY, graduating in 1930 with a BA Degree. He married Helen Fitzgerald in 1931 and went to work for New York Telephone and Telegraph. Following in his father's footsteps, in 1937 he entered Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, MD, graduating in 1938 to return to Schenectady, NY to complete his residency at Ellis Hospital. He purchased a home on Glenwood Boulevard in Schenectady, NY. After Pearl Harbor, he made an incredible sacrifice to give up his new practice and entered the United States Army Medical Corps in July of 1942, leaving behind his wife and four children. He served with the 12th Infantry Division Medical Corps in the Philippines, treating and healing the wounded of the Pacific theater. He received an honorable discharge with the rank of Captain. He returned home to rejoin his family and resume practicing medicine. He served the residents of Schenectady, was the Physician for Van Antwerp School, Niskayuna and donated his services to the Schenectady Children's Home and Schenectady Housing Authority until his untimely death in a boating accident on Lake George, NY, October 1, 1960.



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**LCPL Peter Nocera, Jr. – MARINE CORPS**

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**COX Edward Wrubleski – NAVY**

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**AZ2 Cyril E.R. Harris, Sr. – NAVY**

Cyril E.R. Harris is a life-long resident of Schenectady, New York. He attended local grade schools, and lastly, Mont Pleasant High School. He didn't graduate from high school, however, he received his High School Equivalency Diploma while in the Navy. He served 21 years Honorable Federal Military service in the United States Navy. Cyril served our country from the Korean War to include a tour to Vietnam (1963), and received an Expeditionary Service Ribbon, a National Defense Ribbon and Fire Arms Certification Ribbon.

His time in service, noting the following years 1947-1968: He served aboard several naval vessels, crossed the International Date Line and the Equator several times. Stationed at Detachment ZP-2, Airship Crew Member and HU-2, Lakehurst New Jersey. Oceana, Virginia, Crash Crew Member on Flight-Line with Fire Department, Flight-Line Crew and Master-At-Arms. NAF Yokohama, Japan, Crew Member for Sea Planes - Observer. Also, served as Shore Patrol Support 1957-1958 at that same time in that time period.

Later, he and his family moved to VR-8 Moffett Field NAS and Cargo Aircraft MATS crew member, located at Mountain View, California. His duty station was then moved to southern California in the early 1960s, where he was stationed with VAW-11 and served aboard the CV-20 (Aircraft Carrier), VFW-11, KAG-59. This was known as Aircraft Carrier, CV-20, was under the command of Cmdr Hauge, on the USS Bennington in 1963, in the South China Sea in a support capacity during Vietnam for sortie launches in aid of the U.S. and Allied operations.

He had duty on ships in the Mediterranean Sea, North Sea and Atlantic. Atlantic Duty also found him stationed in support of VP-48 and VP-34 PVM Patrol Bomber Support and FARON-105, Trinidad, TWI. Also, Cyril is small arms trained and qualified on proper use of small arms, employment of firearms and maintenance of weapons: Navy Colt-45 and M-1, Garrant Rifle.

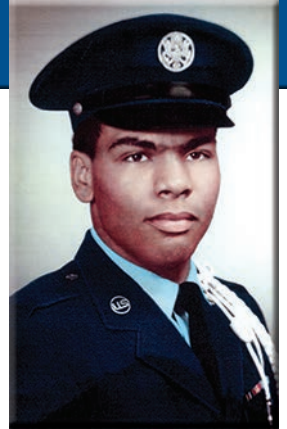
Cyril E.R. Harris, Navy (Retired), 21 years USN Active Federal Military, 10 years Inactive Reserve Recall after retiring.

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## MSGT Robert E. Harris – AIR FORCE



Robert Harris is an American Military man from a Military family. He attended Mont Pleasant High School, where he graduated with a College Prep Diploma in 1972.

Robert enlisted in the United States Air Force in April 1972 and stayed in Federal Military Active Duty service until the end of December 1992. He retired from the United States Air Force with almost 21 years of service. He then spent 20 years in active reserves, in which he was called up once for Bosnia in 1996. After completing Basic Training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas, in October 1972, he was promoted to Airman 1st Class and assigned to Technical Training to learn how to be an aircraft electrician. Upon graduation, Robert was assigned to Strategic Air Command (SAC), the 380th Bombardment Wing at Plattsburgh, NY. The Field Maintenance Unit where he worked received a Presidential Unit Citation for work which supported activities during the Vietnam War. In 1976, Robert was cross-trained on communication security systems and cryptography.

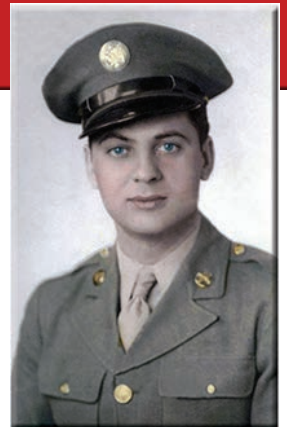
While employed at 3rd Air Force, with Detachment 1, 98th Strategic Wing, Robert worked on recovering and launching the SR-71 and U-2 aircraft under the program known as "Project Raven." Aircraft also supported was the United States State Department Aircraft, National Emergency Airborne Command Post, among others. Near the end of his career, Robert was employed to Military District Washington, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency and supported White House Communications Agency. His office was based in the Pentagon where he had direct primary support for the Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other agencies from 1986 to 1992.

Robert's military career through the Vietnam War to the end of the first Gulf War afforded him & his wife extensive travel around the world. He has several Academic Degrees with Strayer University and graduated Magna Cum Laude and was nominated for entry into the scholarly Alpha Chi honors society. He is currently the President (since 2006) of TREA: The Enlisted Association (formally known as TREA: The Retired Enlisted Association) for the Empire State Chapter 120 of this New York region and he currently resides in Schenectady, NY.

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## PVT Dominick F. Tiscione – ARMY



PVT Dominick F. Tiscione was born in Schenectady on July 13, 1913, one of seven children born to Italian immigrants, and was a lifelong resident of Schenectady County. He entered service in the U.S. Army on May 15, 1943, where he served as a military policeman, and was honorably discharged on December 2, 1944. He believed in God, his country, and family. Dom was a member of St. Gabriel's Church in Rotterdam, where he was an usher for 35 years. He was also a 60-year member and past commander of DAV Post 88. He was most proud of his serving as a two-time Grand Marshall of the Rotterdam Memorial Parade. Dom and Adelaide, his wife of 60 years, were devoted to their one son, Frederick. He was the proud grandfather of Matthew and Marcus, and the proud great-grandfather of Matteo and Lorenzo. He was a letter carrier for the USPS for many years, retiring in 1975. Dom passed away on June 22, 2010, three weeks shy of his 97th birthday.

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## PFC Angelo C. Pedone – ARMY

PFC Angelo C. Pedone served in the Army during World War II. He was in the Army 36th Combat Engineering Regiment and was a Purple Heart recipient. He also received the Good Conduct Medal and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

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## SFC Kevin Lyons – ARMY

Kevin Lyons, U.S. Army Retired, served August 4, 1981-April 30, 2007. He attended Basic at Fort Sill, OK, as a Cannon Crewman, then Graduated for Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA. He was stationed at: Fort Bragg, NC 1981; Hanau, Germany 1983; Fort Carson, CO 1986; Camp Howze, Korea 1987 including 6 months on the DMZ; Boeblingen, Germany 1988; Erlangen, Germany 1990; Hohenfels, Germany 1993; Fort Knox, KY 1994 served as a Drill Sergeant; Baumholder, Germany 1998. Deployed to Task Force Hawk in Albania 1999; Camp Bond Steele, Kosovo 2000; Fort Carson, CO 2001. Deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003 and Operation Iraqi Freedom 2005. He was awarded many commendations/medals/awards during his time in the service. After retirement, 2007 graduated from the Colorado State Patrol Academy, shortly after he accepted a position in the U.S. Army Civilian Service Corps with U.S. Army Material Command TACOM in 2008. He has been assigned to Fort Carson, CO; Fort Drum, NY; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK; TACOM Headquarters in Warren, MI; as an Army Civilian was deployed to Shindand, Afghanistan 2010; Jalabad, Afghanistan 2012; and Camp Beuhring, Kuwait 2015.

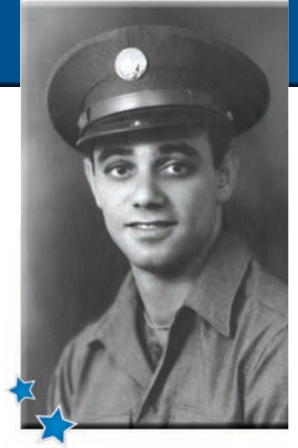
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**PFC Fred A. Pedone, Sr. – ARMY**

Army PFC Fred A. Pedone, Sr. was born in Schenectady on October 4, 1919 to Italian immigrants, Antonio Pedone and Mary Grace LaVecchia Pedone. He was raised in Schenectady, along with his 7 siblings. Upon the death of his parents, he began work in the rubbish removal business as a young boy. He married his beloved wife, Theresa Natole Pedone, on January 18, 1942. A year later, on January 18, 1943, he entered the Army and served as a truck driver in the Ardennes, Central Europe, Northern France and in the Rhineland. He earned the European-African-Middle Eastern Good Conduct Medal for his service. Pedone was honorably discharged on September 21, 1945. Upon returning home, he returned to work in the rubbish removal business with his brothers, establishing Modern Waste Service. In 1965, he launched Ace Rubbish Removal, where he served as president until his retirement. Together, he and Theresa raised six children – Olivia; Fred, Jr.; Robert; Michael; Susan; and Peter and were the proud grandparents to more than 40 grandchildren. Following a wonderful life, filled with love and laughter, Pedone died on October 1, 2006 and was interred in St. John the Baptist Cemetery on his 87th birthday.



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**CPL Leo J. Walsh – ARMY**

Leo joined the Army January 11, 1944 just before his 31st birthday, leaving behind his wife and three children. He attended Armored School at Fort Knox, KY. He spent his time stateside. After almost two years of service, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Corporal November 27, 1945. Leo received the American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

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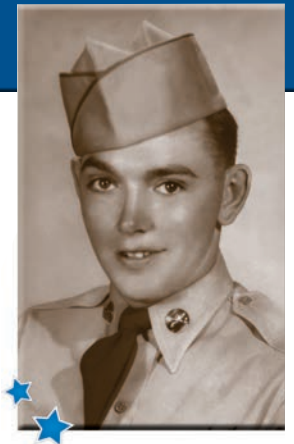


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**PFC Arthur W. DeBraccio, Jr. – ARMY**

Arthur joined the Army December 5, 1952, when he was 20 years old. After seven months of training, he was sent to Korea. After almost two years of service in Asia, he returned to the United States receiving the Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal and National Defense Service Medal. He was honorably discharged as Private, First Class on November 4, 1954.

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**QMI Nichole Evans-Harden – NAVY**

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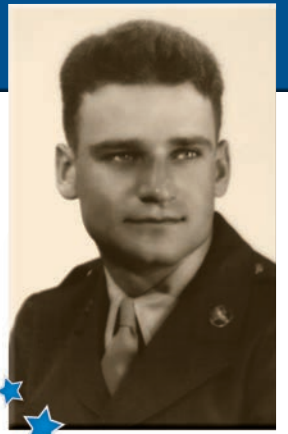


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**22**

**TSGT Casimir J. Ostrowski – ARMY**

Casimir was a true hometown hero who served two military terms and was a lifelong resident of Schenectady. He was a first generation American of Polish immigrants who settled in Schenectady. Casimir originally enlisted in the Army and served from 1938 until 1941 at the Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. When he came home, he briefly worked at Schenectady's ALCO Locomotive Plant. Casimir re-enlisted from 1942 to 1946, fighting in both France and Germany. He was a part of the 397th Infantry Division and earned the ranking of a Technical Sergeant. Casimir and the 2nd Battalion of the 397<sup>th</sup> were a part of the Rhineland Campaign, which was the final push in the European Theatre. Casimir was honorably discharged on February 5, 1946 and including both terms, he served for a total of eight years. For his service he earned the following decorations: The Bronze Star, American Defense Service Ribbon, EAME Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantry Badge GO #14, 397<sup>th</sup> Infantry '44, World War II Victory Medal, and American Theater Ribbon. He is survived, loved, and honored by his children and grandchildren, all of whom still have ties to Schenectady and the Capital Region.

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**SGT Nathan M. Higginbotham – ARMY**

Nathan entered into service to his nation in 2010. He joined the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of Sergeant, E-5 holding significant training and leadership positions. He was as part of the Troop B 5th Squadron 1st Cavalry 1st BCT at Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. SGT Higginbotham served in Lancer Platoon for over two years before moving to Headquarters. During his time in Lancer Platoon, SGT Higginbotham served as a team leader and the platoon Javelin trainer. He deployed with the Platoon to NTC 15-03 and conducted numerous dismounted reconnaissance operations in support of the Brigade. He took an active role in the Squadrons MACP and assisted in certifying over 100 Soldiers in Combative level 1 and 2. SGT Higginbotham was responsible for coordinating and running the squadron's 2014 combative tournament, which had the largest participation of all other tournaments before. As the Troop BOSS representative, SGT Higginbotham boosted the morale of the single soldiers by always encouraging them to travel and take advantage of MWR trips. He served in the capacity of a Cavalry Scout while serving in Iraq in 2011. An avid football and Atlanta Falcons fan, Nathan was a volunteer at Northeast Parent and Child Society when home and a friend to everyone he met.

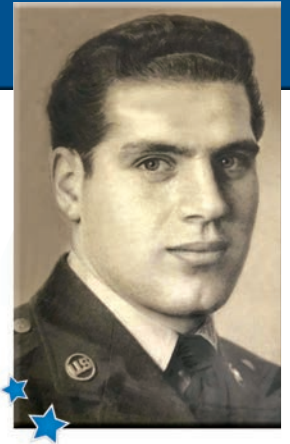


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**PVT Vincent Farina – AIR FORCE**

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**SPC Shawn P. Latour – ARMY**

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**SSGT Raymond M. Circe – ARMY 20th ARMORED DIVISION**

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**LT COL Joseph C.E. D'Antoni – AIR FORCE/ARMY**

Born in the Bronx and raised in Westchester County, Joseph decided to make the military his career and served in combat with the Air Force in the Korean War. After cease fire, he received training as an EOD Specialist and spent several years disposing of WW II or Korean War ordinances in the Pacific Theatre. During a tour a Japan, he uncovered the theft of U.S. munitions and their sale to Japanese criminal gangs and subsequently, was invited to join the Air Force Office of Special Investigations as a special agent. He completed several tours in Korea, Japan and other locations in Southeast Asia. When not assigned overseas, he served as an OSI Detachment Commander in Scranton, PA and at the Scotia Naval Depot. During the course of his career, he was awarded several medals including Purple Hearts and many presidential citations from both the U.S. and Korean governments. Upon retiring, Joseph worked for the Carl Company as the head of security and later as the head of the Schenectady County Sheriff's Civil Unit before joining the NYS Board of Elections as a Senior Investigator until his retirement. He was member of the Sheriff's Assoc., NE Chiefs of Police Association, ASIS, Air Force Sgt. Association, Association of Former OSI, VFW, American Legion and the 10th Brigade New York Guard, where he was a commander. Retiring as a Lt. Col., Joseph was also involved in the clean up after 911. He passed away in 2018.

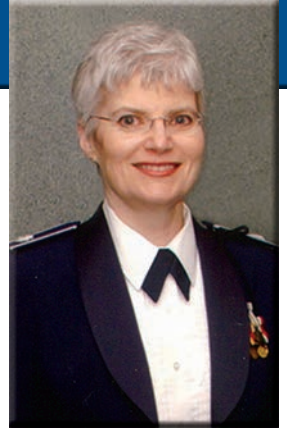


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**LT COL Deborah Ann Reid D'Antoni**  
**AIR FORCE/AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

Deborah was born in Schenectady and attended Schenectady and Niskayuna schools before graduating from the University of Rochester and the New England School of Law. She subsequently joined the Air Force as an Intelligence Analyst. Upon leaving the Air Force, she joined 109th Airlift Wing, New York Air National Guard as a traditional guardsman and practiced law for several years. She later became the full time Air Technician for the intelligence section and then was promoted to the commander of the 109 Communications Flight. While working full-time, she graduated with a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Albany. She retired from the Air National Guard as a Lt. Colonel on 2007 after over 28 years of military service. Deborah also helped with the cleanup after 911. She passed away in 2015.



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**MM Costondo (Angelo) Romano – NAVY**

MM2C Costondo Angelo Romano was born to Italian immigrants Mary and Fred Romano. At age 16, he worked in the Civilian Conservation Corp in Idaho. He served as a Machinist's Mate Second Class in the United States Navy from September of 1943 until January 1946. He was stationed in Chicago, Bora Bora and Tahiti in the South Pacific. He married Madeline DeCata and together they raised their four children in Rotterdam. Costondo started his own construction company, Pelo and Son Builders. He constructed many new homes, particularly in Rotterdam. Skilled in many trades, he was a mentor to many, always willing to share his knowledge and lend a helping hand. We thank him for his service to our country, love and dedication to his family and friends.



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**CPT Christopher J. Bailey – ARMY**

Christopher J. Bailey was born on January 27, 1964. He grew up in Williamson, New York, and went to college at SUNY Oswego where he was in the ROTC. He joined the Army as an officer at the age of 22 and was an Airborne Ranger. He received an Army Service Ribbon, an Army Achievement Medal, an Army Commendation Medal and an Expert infantry Badge, a Parachutist Badge and a Range Tab. He was stationed in Germany and then came back to the states to pursue his Master's Degree at the College of St. Rose. He spent 30 years as dedicated guidance counselor at Schalmont High School, where he was also an outstanding Boys Varsity Soccer Coach. Chris recently retired and is enjoying living in Schenectady County.



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## PN2 Louise E. Casscles – NAVY

Louise proudly entered Active Duty in the United States Navy in October of 1944 at the Navy Recruiting Station located in Washington. Louise was part of the World War II effort, and was classified as a WAVE – Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Services. Affectionately known as “Pinky” by her fellow WAVES, Louise stayed in the Navy for ten years, with rank of Personnel Man, Second Class, and was discharged from the Naval Air Station, in Alameda, California. Louise resided in the Goose Hill area of Schenectady for over 34 years with her two daughters and husband, Charlie. At her passing in December 2014, she was buried with full military honors at the Gerald Solomon National Cemetery in Saratoga County, New York. She was affiliated with the local Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter, the National WAVES Re-Union Group and a participant at the Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Niskayuna. Louise served her country and family with great dedication and God-fearing loyalty.



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## ADC Charles W. Casscles – NAVY

Charles enlisted in the United States Navy at the Naval Reserve Station, Brooklyn, New York, at the age of 17 as an Apprentice Seaman. He served on numerous aircraft vessels to include the USS Asheville, USS Augusta, USS Hornet and his last home, the USS Ranger, stationed in Alameda, California. Specializing as an Aviation Mechanic, he rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer, First Class. He received several Presidential Citation Awards. Upon honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy, he continued in the private sector as a civilian Civil Servant at the Alameda Naval Station, California, retiring from the Bay area in 1969. Charlie succumbed to ill health, military related, and passed at the Stratton Veterans Hospital in the Fall of 1980. Reflecting on his life in the Navy, he was born to the military, served proudly and was grateful for the years of service to his country. His shipmates were life long friends and he continued this lifeline with membership to the USS Ranger CV-4 Re-Union Group and, his affiliation with the Veterans of Foreign Wars-Schenectady Chapter, as well as the Disabled American Veterans.



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## MAJ Michael R. Audette – ARMY

Mike Audette enlisted in the Army in 1991 to become an 11B (Infantryman). After basic training and Infantry School, he was reassigned to Fort Bragg, NC, and then to Fort Wainright, AK. In 1997, he received a Green to Gold scholarship to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Upon completion of officer basic and scout leaders' training, he was reassigned to E Troop 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Regiment, Fort Wainwright, AK, where he served as Scout Platoon Leader, Mortar Platoon Leader, and Troop Executive Officer.

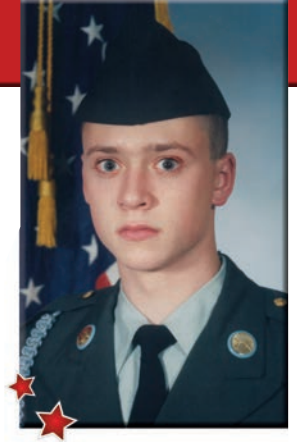
In 2001, at Fort Huachuca, AZ, Mike served as a UAS/Drone flight platoon and then Officer in Charge of the entire UAS training center for the US Army. He attended Initial Entry Rotary Wing training at Fort Rucker, AL, and then operational training in Honduras with UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter company. In 2006, he attended the Aviation Captain Career Course, and then was assigned as Commander HHC 42<sup>nd</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade. In 2007, he was reassigned as 42<sup>nd</sup> CAB Assistant Aviation Logistics Officer.

Mike was deployed to Iraq twice, 2008-2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and in 2013 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Between tours, he was promoted to Major. Upon return from deployment, he was selected to be the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Commander's Secretary of General Staff. In 2017, he was reassigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade as assistant S3 Operations Officer.

In 2018, Mike retired from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade with the rank of Major.

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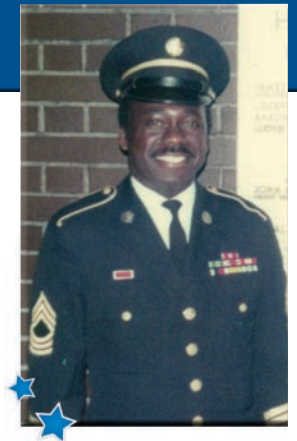
## SGM Edlouis Perkins – ARMY

Ed was inducted into the United States Army in 1952 and served in Korea, Hawaii, Vietnam, Europe and various locations in the United States, and was promoted to the grade of Sergeant Major. As an Educator Coordinator, he networked a cooperative program between civilian educational institutions and the military for Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states. He served overseas and stateside as a Troop Information and Education Advisor. In the capacities of Guidance Counselor and Career Counselor schooling and assignment choices were reviewed with men and women prior to and during military service. As Area Commander, Ed was in charge of all Army recruiting in the New York City area and as Sergeant Major, he oversaw the Army recruiting activities for most of the upstate NY area and the state of Vermont.

During his 29 year military career Ed was decorated with numerous awards, and trophies, including Bronze Star, Army Commendation with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct with 8 Clusters, National Defense Service with 1 Cluster, Army Occupation (Berlin), Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Meritorious Unit Citation, Gold Recruiting Badge with 2 Sapphires, Weapon Badges, and Safe Driver Badges. He also received 95 commendation letters and certificates.

Ed was happily married to Margaret (Peggy) for 57 glorious years, and they have two wonderful children, Keith and Patrice. Ed and Peggy's names are listed on the membership roll of the Rotterdam United Methodist Church.

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**SP5 Noe F. Boilard, Jr. – ARMY**

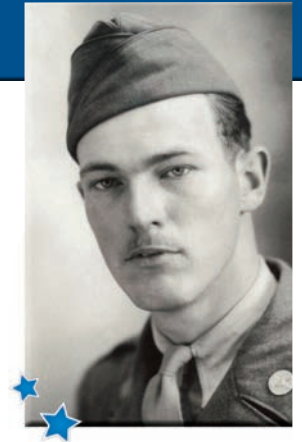
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**PFC Frederick R. Neuhaus – ARMY**

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**PVT John S. Aragona – ARMY**

John served as a Private in the Medical Department, U.S. Army during World War II. He resided in Schenectady County, New York prior to the war. He enlisted in the Army on August 31, 1942 in Albany, New York. He was noted as being single, without dependents. John was declared "Missing In Action" when the USAT Dorchester, on which he was a passenger, was torpedoed by German U-boat U-223 south of Greenland in the Atlantic and sunk. This was the same ship that received national recognition during the war since the "Four Chaplins" were also lost during this sinking. A total of 675 soldiers and sailors were lost. He was awarded the Purple Heart.

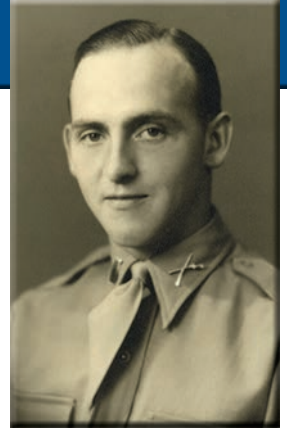
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**LT Joseph W. Kennedy – ARMY**

Born January 17, 1921, Joseph was brought to Schenectady at the age of 2 and raised by his two aunts - both teachers in the Schenectady City School District. He attended Parochial schools in Schenectady, graduating from CBA, Albany. He was a member of the first graduating class of Siena College and went on to Albany Law School. During his time at the law school, WW II broke out and he volunteered to serve. Before leaving for war, he met and married his wife, Emeline, in Nashville, Tenn. Joseph then went off to serve in the Pacific. He was involved in the battle of Pelelu, a bloody battle on a Pacific Island. Originally scheduled to be part of the invasion force of Japan, course of the war led him to be part of the occupation. Returning from the war, Joe returned to Nashville to pick up his wife and child and came back to his hometown, Schenectady. He finished Law School in 1947 and started to practice law in the Law Firm of Begley, Diamond and Begley. (Owen Begley was a Mayor of Schenectady during this time). After some time, he began his own practice of law in downtown Schenectady. When he retired in 2007, he had practiced law for 60 years. Joseph passed away at the age of 89.



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**CPL George Hartshorne, Jr. – ARMY**

George J. Hartshorne, Jr., was born on April 3, 1922, in Oneonta, NY, but was proud to call Schenectady County home for much of his life. During World War II, George served with the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged on January 10, 1946, as a Corporal. After returning home from WW II, George was the head custodian for the Niskayuna School District for many years until his retirement in 1984. An inspiration and role model to all he met, George was truly loved by his family and many friends. He met his beloved wife, Jean Clark, on a blind date and together they shared 69 years of devotion and created a beautiful family, raising four sons and six daughters. He later became the much-loved grandfather of 22 and great-grandfather of 16 wonderful joys. Known for his love of the Boston Red Sox, his enduring faith and his sly sense of humor, George is missed by many. He passed, surrounded by those he loved, after a brief illness on January 24, 2016.



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## SGT Keith E. Barney – AIR FORCE

SGT Keith E. Barney enlisted in the USAF on November 20, 1965. He was in boot camp at Lackland AFB from November 1965 to March 1966. During his time in the USAF, he served at Holloman AFB, New Mexico from March 1966 to April 1967, where he was an aircraft weapons systems mechanic on the E4D Phantoms, involving weapons systems research and development. In April 1967, he married Patricia Kennedy at St. John the Evangelist Church, Schenectady. From May to July of 1967, he was stationed at England AFB in Louisiana and was transferred to Vietnam in July 1967 and stationed at Bien Hoa AFB where he survived the 1968 Tet Offensive. His primary responsibility in Vietnam was performing aircraft weapons systems maintenance for the A37 aircraft and twin engine close air support jet. He was then transferred to Westover AFB in August 1968, where he performed weapons systems maintenance for B52 bombers until his honorable discharge in February 1969. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal. Upon his discharge, he returned to Schenectady and has lived in both the city of Schenectady and Niskayuna since then.



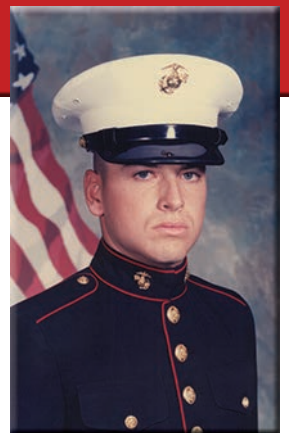
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## PLCL Eric Berghammer – MARINE CORPS

Eric F. Berghammer served in the United States Marine Corp from 1990-1994. He graduated boot camp from Paris Island, South Carolina. Eric served two tours overseas in Okinawa and his four years was with BRAVO 1/5. With his battalion, he fought forest fires in Oregon, Washington & Montana.

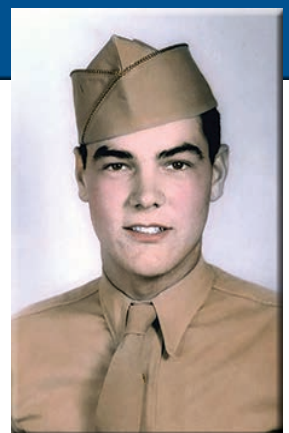
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## CMSGT Donald M. Legere – AIR FORCE

CMSGT Donald M. Legere served in the Air Force during World War II, Korea, and the Cuban Missile Crisis and retired from the Schenectady Air National Guard as Chief Master Sergeant. Born in Schenectady, he was the son of the late Charles and Margaret (Savage) Legere. He was a graduate of Draper High School. Donald served his country in the Air Force during World War II and was employed for over 38 years in the Schenectady Air National Guard as a Chief Master Sergeant, acting as a supervisor prior to his retirement. A member of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Schenectady, Donald had a great passion for fixing things and making old things new again. He also enjoyed going camping with his family, music, and playing the organ.

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**1st LT John J. Neary, Jr. – AIR FORCE**

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**CW2 Hal J. Gray, Jr. – ARMY**

Hal is a proud veteran of the Vietnam War. He graduated from Linton High School in 1966 and enlisted in the U.S. Army in January of 1967. After completion of basic training, Hal was sent to the U.S. Army Helicopter Aviation School at Ft. Wolters, Texas and Ft. Rucker, Alabama, where he graduated as a Warrant Officer & helicopter pilot. He was then assigned to the Aero Scout Company, 123rd Aviation Battalion in I Corp Vietnam in 1968. Six months into combat, he was wounded. After recovering from his wounds, he volunteered to go back to Vietnam for another tour of duty, from April 1969-April 1970. Before his return to Vietnam, Hal was sent to Ft. Rucker Alabama to be trained as an instructor & Test pilot. He flew Huey & Cobra Gunships, LOH Scouts and Med-e-Vac. During his tours in Vietnam, he received many awards and decorations, to include several Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medals, 2 Air Medals with "V" for Valor, Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medals.

Hal now lives with his wife, Deborah, in Burnt Hills. He is retired as a Veterans Service Officer, but continues to assist Veterans and their families to obtain well deserved benefits through the Veterans Administration. Hal is a proud member of the following Veterans' organizations: The American Legion, The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association and a lifetime member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which he is a past NYS Department Adjutant.

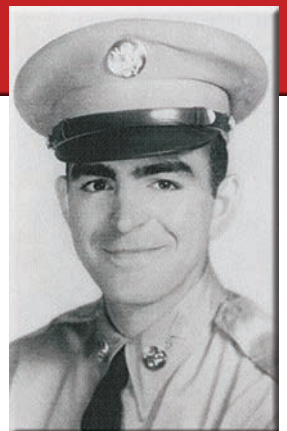
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**CPL Gustino (Gus) Luciani – ARMY/AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

Gustino "Gus" was born on July 10, 1930, and passed away on November 20, 2017. Gus was a lifelong resident of Schenectady. He was devoted to his country and worked for the Federal Government for 30 years. In 1947, he worked for the Army Depot before joining the Air National Guard in 1949. In 1953, he enlisted in the United States Army. After completing basic training in Fort Dix, NJ, he was stationed in Frankfurt, Germany. During his time in the military, Gus traveled through Europe. He left the military in 1955 as a Corporal. Upon returning to Schenectady, he resumed his career at the Army Depot. Gus retired from the United States Postal Service in 1979. Gus lived a long and happy life and was proud to serve his country. He was laid to rest in the Gerald B.H. Salmon Saratoga National Cemetery.

Banner Sponsored by: **His Loving Family**



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## SP4 Jack Bryans – ARMY

Jack Bryans reported for duty with the Army at Fort Dix, Georgia in 1952, where he trained as a heavy vehicle operator. From there he enrolled in Jump Training School at Fort Bragg, then on to Ranger training at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

In 1953, he was stationed in Uijongbu, Korea with the 1169<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group.

1 1/2 years later he returned stateside to serve as a missile transport specialist, transporting missiles from Fort Bliss, Georgia to the Red Canyon and White Sands missile proving grounds.

He was Honorably discharged June 30, 1961.

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## 2LT Gordon A. Warner – ARMY AIR FORCE

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## SGT William J. VanderHorst – ARMY AIR FORCE

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## HN-E3 James V. Hoteling – NAVY

James V. Hoteling was born in Schenectady, NY on February 14, 1945. He graduated from Linton High School in 1963 and attended college in Bangor, Maine where he received a degree in business administration. In June 1968, James volunteered for the United States Navy and was sent to basic training at Naval Station Great Lakes in Lake County, Illinois. Upon graduation, he was moved to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego where he trained as a corpsman. James was then stationed at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, California until November of 1969 when he received orders to depart for Vietnam.

From November 1969 until October 1970, James was stationed aboard the USS Sanctuary, a naval hospital ship travelling between Vietnam and the Philippines. Aboard the Sanctuary, he took care of wounded United States Marine and Naval personnel, as well as South Vietnamese soldiers that were brought to the ship by helicopter from the war zone.

After his service aboard the Sanctuary, James returned to the states and was stationed at United States Naval Training Center Bainbridge in Port Deposit, Maryland where he continued to work as a corpsman. James was honorably discharged from the Navy in June of 1972.

For his service in Vietnam, James received the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

**Banner Sponsored by: Jim, Mike & David Hoteling**



## CPL Frederick Navaretta – MARINE CORPS

Fred was born and raised in the City of Schenectady. He enlisted in the Marines on December 29, 1952. Fred received an Honorable Discharge upon his release from service on October 1, 1954, having reached the rank of Corporal. He trained and served as an Engine Equipment Mechanic in San Francisco, California before actively serving in the Korean War. Fred earned the Korean War Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal.

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**SGT Donald J. Włodarczak – ARMY**

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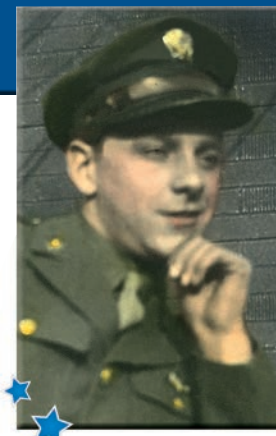


**PFC Matthew (Mike) C. Dockal – ARMY**

Mike was born in Watervliet in 1922, and moved to Schenectady when he was two years old. The third youngest of eleven children, he lived on Park Street in the Mount Pleasant section of the city and went to local schools. Mike left school to help his family, and took a job with General Electric while he attended Vocational School, up until his induction into the US Army Air Corps in February 1943 serving during WW II. After completing Basic & Combat training, he was assigned to Lavelyn, a base in England. He saw action in combat in the Air Offensive in Europe, Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland. He was honorably discharged at the end of the war on his wife's birthday, November 18, 1945. Mike was awarded the World War II Victory Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal: Good Conduct Medal.

Returning to Schenectady, Mike went back to his job at G.E. and his new wife, Sophie (Bochenek) Dockal and together they raised 2 children. Mike was a lifetime member of the VFW post in Rotterdam and a volunteer fireman for the city of Schenectady for many years. He worked for GE all his working life, and retired after almost 50 years of service as a Class A Electrician – enjoying many trips with his wife to Sanibel Island, and many other places all over the country and Europe.

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## SPC Angelo Santabarbara – ARMY

Born on September 14, 1972, in the city of Schenectady, SPC Angelo Santabarbara is a first-generation Italian-American. He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from Schalmont High School in 1990 and completed his training at the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, before attending the U.S. Army Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, Virginia.

As an Army Specialist, Santabarbara served in the United States Army Reserve for eight years with an honorable discharge in 1998 and has remained involved with local veterans service organizations. He is the founder of the first Amvets Post in his hometown of Rotterdam and served as Post Commander from 2012 to 2015. He was elected in 2007 to the Schenectady County Legislature where he served on the Veterans Committee.

SPC Santabarbara currently holds public office as a New York State Assemblyman representing the 111th District, which includes Montgomery County and parts of Schenectady and Albany counties. He is a graduate of SUNY Albany and a Professional Engineer. He worked in Civil Engineering for more than 15 years before taking office, where he continues his service on the New York State Assembly Committee on Veterans' Affairs.



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## COL James S. Casey – ARMY

COL James Seaman Casey was born January 28, 1833, in Philadelphia and died December 24, 1899. COL Casey was a U.S. Army officer who received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Indian Wars. COL Casey joined the 7th New York Militia in April 1861, just after the outbreak of the American Civil War, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of the 5th Infantry Regiment in August of the same year. He was promoted to captain in December 1863, and became Commissary of Musters of the Army of the Potomac. He was brevetted major in March 1865 for his actions in the Battle of Fort Stedman. After the war, Casey served under Colonel Nelson A. Miles in the Black Hills War, later receiving the Medal of Honor for leading his company's assault in the Battle of Wolf Mountain. He was promoted to major of the 17th Infantry Regiment in June 1884 and to Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st Infantry Regiment in April 1890. He was eventually promoted to Colonel of the 22nd Infantry Regiment in January 1895, and retired two years later. COL Casey is buried in Vale Cemetery in Schenectady. COL Casey was an Original Companion of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.



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## S1 Louis D. Zampella – NAVY

Seaman 1st Class Louis D. Zampella was born on April 5, 1928, in Schenectady, NY. Louis Zampella enlisted in the U.S. Navy, February 22, 1946. Seaman Louis Zampella served on the USS Joseph P. Kennedy, which was commissioned in Boston in 1945. The new destroyer sailed its maiden voyage that February to the Caribbean for training and is currently preserved as a floating museum in Fall River, MA. After his service in the Navy, Louis returned to Schenectady and married his wife of 62 years, Pauline Kornacki, and together they had three children. Louis worked for the City of Schenectady for 39 years in Public Works and later for the Police Department. He passed away in 2011 and is buried at St. Joseph's Cemetery.

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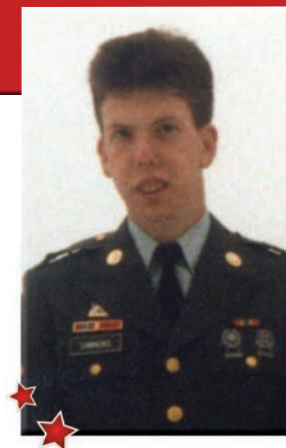


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## SPC John Simmons – ARMY

John was born and raised in the City of Schenectady. He enlisted in the Army on December 4, 1986. John received an Honorable Discharge upon his release from service on September 5, 1990, having reached the rank of Specialist. He served as an Electronic Warfare Signal Voice Interceptor with the 511th Military Intelligence Company, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, in Fulda, (West) Germany. John was a German Linguist, who was also trained in signal/voice interception, signal/voice jamming, interrogation, and electronic warfare equipment operations. He earned the Army Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, and the Expert Marksmanship Badge for hand grenades.

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## CPL Jack Simmons – ARMY

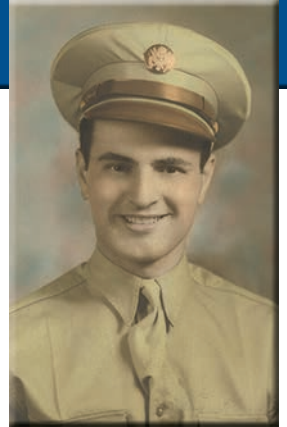
Known affectionately as "Big Jack," he was born in Queens and grew up in northern New Jersey. Jack served in the Army during World War II, from 1942-1945. He reached the rank of Corporal in the Infantry. Schenectady became his home in the mid-1960s. He and his wife Eunice raised two sons, John and Oliver. Jack was the long-time foreman for Scotia Home Service.

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## SGT Michael Marotta – ARMY



SGT Michael Marotta, the son of Italian immigrants Michael and Concetta DeAngelo Marotta, was born in Schenectady, NY, on March 11, 1917. He was a 1935 graduate of the former Nott Terrace High School, excelling as a champion cross country runner and setting many records while enrolled.

After the United States entered the war in 1941, Michael's love of all things mechanical led him to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942. He reported for duty with the Army Air Force Technical Training Command and was stationed at Yale University where he rose in leadership rank to be named one of the Inspector Generals on campus.

As a SGT in the command, he was charged with and responsible for the indoctrination, training and operational instruction of over 20,000 service men and women in becoming proficient aircraft maintenance engineers, communications officers, photographic lab technicians and armament handling officers.

After the war, he returned to Schenectady and married Mary Iovinella in 1946 and continued to serve his country in the National Guard. He graduated from Siena College and was a master tradesman building homes and roads along with his father and brothers Alfonse, Arthur, Dominick and Joseph while the family home was cared for by his sister Florence "Philomena" Marotta. Michael also had a long and distinguished career working as a placement counselor for the disabled with the Schenectady County Department of Social Services.

Michael passed away July 17, 2010, at the age of 93.

He is survived by his daughter Michele and four sons: Michael, Christopher, James, Jeffrey and grandchildren.

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## PFC Dominic Scavia, Jr. – MARINE CORPS



Dominic Scavia, Jr. was born in Schenectady in 1927, the youngest of four children born to Italian immigrants Dominic and Nellie Scavia. He joined the U.S. Marines when he turned 18 in April 1945, foregoing his graduation from Nott Terrace High School in order to join the military. He trained at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. His first assignment was a combat swimming instructor at Camp Pendleton in California, where he prepared Marines for possible invasion of Japan. He was then assigned to Fleet Marine Force Headquarters at Pearl Harbor. When WW II ended, Dom returned to Schenectady, married his high school sweetheart, Flora Rossi, and raised four children. At Schenectady GE, he rose through the ranks to become head of test in the Gas Turbine Department, retiring in 1986. In 2013, at age 86, he was among the youngest WW II vets to take the Honor Flight to Washington to visit the WW II memorial. Dom is an active member of the WW II Veterans and Friend Breakfast Club.

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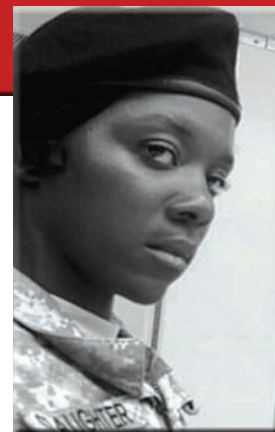
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## PV1 Nikeya C. Slaughter – ARMY

PV1 Nikeya Cynthia Slaughter proudly entered service with the United States Army in February of 2011. After eight weeks of Unit Supply Specialist School, Nikeya began her deployment in Afghanistan. While serving overseas, Nikeya achieved the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Two Campaign Stars, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, an Army Service Ribbon, and a NATO Medal. Nikeya honorably separated from the Army in 2012, and currently serves as an active member of the Schenectady community.

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## EN3 Patrick J. O'Connor – NAVY

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## SSGT Felix A. Jiusto – ARMY

Felix's parents, Emidio and Carmella, immigrated to the U.S. from Frosolone, Italy. Felix was born on March 9, 1917, the 6th child of a family of eight children all born in the U.S.A. A graduate of Nott Terrace High School, Felix entered the Army of the U.S. in 1942, where he was awarded a Bronze Medal for combat operations with 350th Fighter Group.

Upon returning to his home town, he joined his father Emidio and his brother Daniel in operating the family business. Jiusto Brothers Grocery Store, which was started in 1925 as a soda fountain, remained operational until Felix and Daniel retired in 1985. Felix was a lifelong member of the Knights of St. John's Commandery 100. Felix lived independently until his death in 2004.

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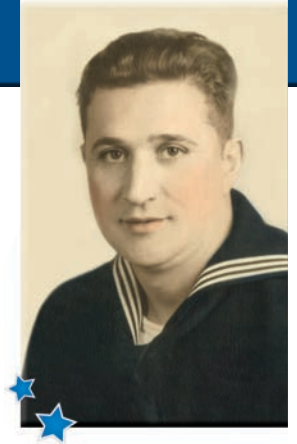


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**MM2 Dominick L. Santoro – NAVY**

Dominic Graduated from Mont Pleasant High School in 1934. He entered into the U.S. Navy was assigned as a Machinist's Mate on Active Duty from July 1943 to December 1945. He was employed by the General Electric Company in the Steam Turbine division for many years, and was lifelong resident of Schenectady County.

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**T SGT Nicholas V. Pallotta – ARMY**

Technical Sergeant Nicholas V. Pallotta was born and raised in Schenectady and attended school in the Schenectady City School District. The only period of time that he did not live in Schenectady, before his death in 2012, was from January of 1942 through August of 1945 while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. Nicholas was awarded several medals for his service in Africa, Sicily, Italy, and the China-Burma-India Theater, including the Bronze Star. After World War II, he returned to Schenectady, started a family, and took advantage on the G.I. Bill to graduate from Siena College. From that point on, he spent his life working hard and raising his own family in Schenectady. One of his proudest days was in May of 2004 when he attended the dedication of the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. Although he would tell funny stories about his and his buddies' activities during the war, it was obvious that day in May 2004 that there was a lot he never spoke about. There is no doubt that his time spent serving his country was instrumental in shaping his life, and that it gave him an appreciation for where he was from and a reason to return to his hometown, Schenectady.

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**CPT Henry R. Grosso – ARMY**

Henry was born in Schenectady, the son of Felix and Venera Rossi Grosso. He was Captain in the Army in WW II and earned a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. Henry owned and operated Boulevard Rug Co. in Schenectady for over 30 years.

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