



Charles H. Alexander Jr.

Charles H. Alexander Jr. was in the Navy when he participated in the D-Day landing at Normandy Beach on June 6, 1944 as a landing craft operator who transported injured troops among Sword, Utah and Omaha beaches. After the war, he moved back to Canton where he married and raised three children and two nieces and became a U.S. Post Office rural mail carrier for 26 years. In addition, he coached Little League for 20 years. He also became a life member of the Canton VFW, providing military honors for over 73 deceased military members and is a founding member of the Honor Guard.



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Ronald Ralph Bauter

In 1955, Ronald Ralph Bauter began in the Air Force as a radar operator who worked on the Distant Early Warning Line, also known as the DEW Line or Early Warning Line, in the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador. This special line was a system of radar stations set up in the far northern Arctic region of Canada and other cold places to track Soviet bombers during the Cold War and send warning signals if there was a land-based invasion. The Labrador DEW Line tracked the Soviet's Sputnik, the first artificial Earth satellite. After Canada, Ronald was sent to New Mexico where he later worked as a cable splicer for AT&T. Then he moved to La Fargeville where he owned and operated a dairy farm for 27 years.



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Richard L. Berghorn

Richard L. Berghorn was in the Air Force for five years. In 1954-1955, he was stationed in Korea where he supervised the transporting of ammunition and weapons to various positions. In the US, he continued doing transportation work, picking up Generals and Congressmen and taking them to different locations. When he was discharged from the Air Force, he was a mechanic and truck driver. He is retired now and lives in Tylerville. His military service and patriotism carried on with his family, including sons who served in the Army during Desert Storm, and other family members who have served in Afghanistan, the Iraqi Freedom Campaign and are in the ROTC Army program at Clarkson University.



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David E. Bulterman, Sr.

The son of a WWII veteran, David E. Bulterman Sr. was an engineer and took apart nuclear weapons during the Vietnam War in the Navy. He is a retired boat captain with Uncle Sam Boat Tours and an active member of the Clayton Volunteer Fire Department and Wart Hogs motorcycle club. In addition, he is a member of the American Legion Post 904 in Alexandria Bay and the Legion Riders 1757 in Sackets Harbor. David is a widower and cancer survivor who is close to his three grown children who were raised to be proud of their military and country.



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Joseph Scott Chrisman

Joseph Scott Chrisman was in the Army from 1982 to 1989, serving in Germany and later at Fort Drum. He left the Army to raise his two children. In 2005, he returned to military service, joining the Army Reserve. He was deployed to Iraq with his unit from 2007 to 2008 for Operation Enduring Freedom. His second deployment was in Afghanistan 2010 to 2011. Joseph, who lives in Clayton, is a heavy equipment mechanic at the equipment collection site at Fort Drum.



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Darrell L. Dailey

Darrell L. Dailey is a highly decorated Army veteran who served in Vietnam and now lives in Massena. Since 2005, he has been involved with a program at his church to honor veterans in two local nursing homes on Veteran's Day during a special ceremony. He marches in local parades as a member of various veterans' clubs. In addition, he volunteers for Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley and participates in the organization's "We Honor Veterans" program.



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Roy B. Forsythe

As a Purple Heart recipient, Roy B. Forsythe of Gouverneur served in the Army in Vietnam where he was wounded in battle several times. He was eligible to return home, but bravely chose to fight until his tour of duty was up. Roy still carries a lead bullet in his body that the doctors said would do more damage if it were removed. His courage saved many men's lives, including his commanding officer who was shot down. Roy carried him to safety under enemy fire to be treated for his injuries. He worked at the St. Joseph Mineral Lead and Zinc Mine until it closed and then he was employed as a civilian at Fort Drum until he retired due to his disabilities.



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John Freego

John Freego served one tour of duty in Vietnam in the Army. After three years on active duty, he went back home to Canton and continued his military service with the U.S. Army Reserve and the New York Army National Guard for 12 years. One of John's current hobbies is restoring antique cars, and then using them to drive older veterans and guests during parades who otherwise could not participate. As a member of the Canton VFW, he has participated in more than 100 funeral and military honors for deceased military members.



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James Gioia

For his military service, James Gioia of Phoenix was chosen last year to take the Honor Flight, which flies veterans to tour war memorials in Washington D.C. During this special trip, James looked for the name of his brother, Larry, who was killed during the Battle of the Bulge. As a member of the 88th Infantry Division, James fought in North Africa and Italy during WWII. He was injured when a building he was in was shelled and he was assisting others. Pieces of shrapnel remain in his right arm from the incident. After the war, he worked at Sealright in Fulton. He later worked briefly at Nestle and General Electric before retiring at Carrier.



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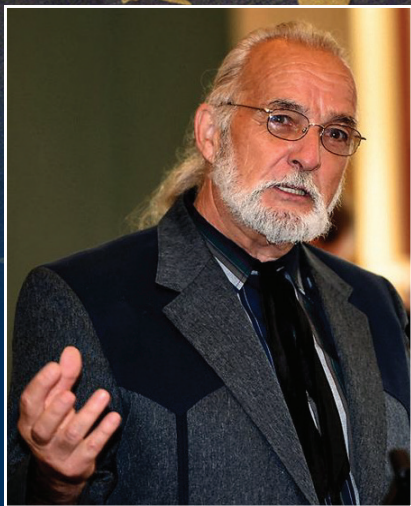
Richard Heffron

Richard “Dick” Heffron has dedicated his life to helping veterans in and out of prison. Until his retirement in April, he worked as an offender rehabilitation coordinator at the Gouverneur Correctional Facility for 28 years. In this role, he started the combat veterans’ support group and was in charge of the veterans’ rehabilitation program and a member of the crisis intervention unit. Richard served as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division from 1973 to 1977 and received several awards, including expert parachute wings and British Airborne wings.



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Daniel M. Hunnicutt

During the Vietnam War, Daniel M. Hunnicutt of Oswego was awarded the Purple Heart and other medals for his bravery, but unfortunately, they were stolen. Daniel thought they were lost forever until the Purple Heart was found in a pile of dirt and returned to him after a lengthy search. Daniel was shot several times during a battle in which he courageously exposed himself to enemy gunfire helping his fellow soldiers to advance. As he ran across open ground, he fired back at the enemy positions allowing his battalion to overrun the rest.



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Dr. Robert Kasulke

Dr. Robert Kasulke joined the Army in 1980 and retired as commanding general of the Army Reserve Medical Command in 2012. The command equips and trains citizen soldiers to meet medical requirements in all four branches of military service. Dr. Kasulke of Watertown is a board-certified general and vascular surgeon with his own practice. He is the deputy medical examiner and the medical director of the Hospice of Jefferson County.



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Thomas F. LaClair

Thomas F. LaClair spent his career in the Air Force from 1984 to 2012 earning many awards and medals for his service in conflicts around the world. He also earned his baccalaureate degree at the same time as he raised his children and volunteered for many community service projects, including the Air National Guard. In his retirement, he lives in Clayton and continues his volunteer service through his American Legion membership.



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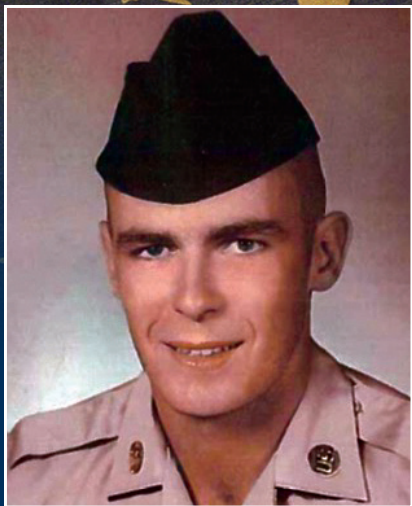
Nicholas J. Mansfield

Nicholas J. Mansfield, formerly of Volney, served as a radio operator in the Army Air Corps during WWII and was stationed in the Azores, which was an important place for America as a refueling stop for planes. He often helped ferry supplies and soldiers on planes to Europe. On one flight, he had just taken off and was climbing when the engine stalled, and the plane crashed. Nicholas was unconscious for two days. He was the only survivor because all the soldiers seated on both sides of the plane had fallen on him and cushioned him.



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John McCullough

For 36 years, John McCullough of Ogdensburg served in active and reserve service in the Army while practicing the mantra “take care of your soldiers and their families.” When he retired in 2006, he was recognized for his dedication to mentoring and developing junior non-commissioned officers. He has belonged to the American Legion for 49 years serving in a variety of leadership roles. His mantra has changed slightly to “take care of veterans and their families.”



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Shon Lynn Montgomery

Shon Lynn Montgomery served in the Army from 1999 to 2010 when he was medically retired. He was stationed at Fort Polk prior to relocating to Fort Drum. Shon was a part of the initial push into Iraq post 9/11 and he spent several years deployed to Africa and Afghanistan. During his first deployment in Afghanistan, he lost many friends. His second deployment in Afghanistan was cut short due to illness. Shon spent many months recovering prior to his transfer back to New York and retirement. Since then, Shon and his wife Kathy adopted four children through foster care. Shon has become an active leader and mentor with the Boy Scouts of America program in Jefferson, Oswego and Onondaga Counties.



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Joseph H. Morisette

Joseph H. Morisette was an aircraft maintenance specialist assigned to a secretive operation called the Blind Bat Mission, which was to find, illuminate and direct air strikes against North Vietnamese truck convoys along the Ho Chi Minh trail in Vietnam and Laos. Blind Bat aircraft were integral in supporting ground operations and rescue missions. After his service to his country in the Air Force, he worked for 33 years for Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., and retired from Brookfield Energy as a chief maintenance mechanic. He is a member of the Clayton American Legion.



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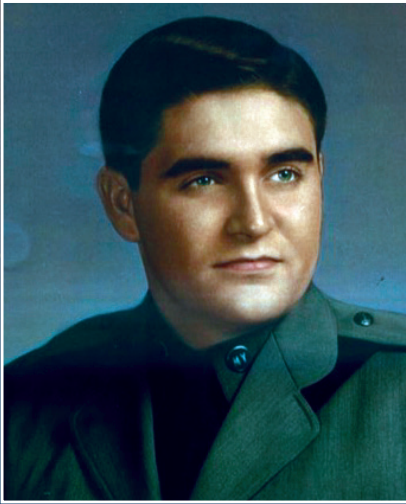
David M. Pearson

For 18 years, David M. Pearson was in the Army where he earned many awards and medals. After his service, he was a St. Lawrence County sheriff's deputy for 20 years. He gives back to his community in a variety of ways. He is currently the commander of the Canton VFW and a life member of the Ogdensburg Amvets. David serves on the Lisbon Town Planning Board and on the board of directors for the Canton Chamber of Commerce. He devotes much of his time to the St. Lawrence County Hospice as the veterans advocate which includes visiting critically ill veterans and recognizing their service.



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Tracy Lee Sheesley

Tracy Lee Sheesley served two tours of duty in Vietnam including during the “Tet Offensive” in 1968. After he left the Army in 1968, he joined the New York State Police as a trooper until his retirement in 1992. Then he went to work for the federal government. In 2000, he became part of the security at the St. Lawrence County Courthouse and works as a New York State Court Officer. He and his wife, Carol live in Canton and operate Cowbell Acres, a registered Jersey dairy farm, and have bred and shown numerous All American and All Canadian animals.



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Robert Shelato

Robert Shelato, formerly of Massena, received many awards from the Army and governments of France, Belgium and Luxembourg for his service during WWII. He was also an honored guest of the White House at the 70th anniversary of the D-Day celebration. During the war, he captured 13 German soldiers, saved the life of a US soldier by rescuing him from burning truck loaded with explosives and met General George Patton on the battlefield three times. Robert also participated in breaking the Siege of Bastogne and rescuing the 101st Airborne Division at the Battle of the Bulge and participated in the Rhine River Invasion.



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Robert C. “Neil” Sheridan

Robert “Neil” Sheridan was in the Army during the Korean Conflict. Neil and his wife Noreen raised two sons, and he was a long-time employee of the U.S. Postal Service, where he worked for many years until his retirement. As a lifelong member of the Canton VFW, Neil has provided military honors for over 142 military men and women. Neil, a member of the Knights of Columbus, has for many years assisted with events and dinners and enjoys calling Bingo each week for his friends and family in the Canton community. He has a strong desire to see that military service and sacrifice is remembered and participates in school events such as Flag Day and Veterans Day at the local parochial school.



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William Swafford

William Swafford served in the Navy for 30 years and was stationed in many places including Vietnam, Virginia, Maine and Connecticut, where he retired from his duty at the submarine base in New London. He served as Colton town council member and then town supervisor for a total of 10 years. He is a 40-year member of the Potsdam Elks and a member of several veterans' organizations. He coached youth hockey in Connecticut and Virginia and now cares for his 98-year-old mother and his wife Carolyn.



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W. Barton Van Slyke

A native of Gouverneur, Dr. W. Barton Van Slyke has spent his life helping others. Dr. Van Slyke entered the Army in August 1943, with a majority of his time in the service spent in Europe. Serving in the 343rd Division, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, the last major German offensive on the Western front during WWII. After WWII was over, Dr. Van Slyke was shipped to the Pacific, and then spent a short amount of time in the Philippines. He was discharged in 1946 and received a number of accolades, including a Good Conduct Ribbon and two stars on his European Theater ribbon. After leaving the service, Dr. Van Slyke entered a career in medicine, a field in which he had a lengthy and successful career as a radiologist.



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David W. Waite

During the Vietnam War, David W. Waite was in a mobile riverine force in the Army that worked closely with the Marines and Naval river assault teams in the Mekong Delta. His unit also built the Dong Tam Base Camp in the region. After his service, he worked in construction before starting his own business, from which he retired last year. He is a helping hand to the elderly in the area fixing and repairing their homes so they don't have to move.



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Howard A. Waite

Howard A. Waite was a truck driver in the Army delivering fuel through the central highlands of Vietnam during the war from 1966 to 1968. His older brother David served the previous year and was home only for a few hours before Howard was deployed to Vietnam. After Howard's service, he cared for the third generation Waite Farm in Champion. He is a lifetime member of the American Legion of Albany, Lowville VFW and Disabled American Veterans.



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Robert K. Wilson

In WWII, Robert K. Wilson served on the USS Bingham and the USS George Clymar at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific. After his wartime service, he remained in the Naval Reserve for 10 more years. He held several jobs including working with his brother Harold on a local farm and as a night watchman and mail carrier for Clarkson University before retiring after 27 years of service. He is a life member of the Canton VFW and visits with other veterans. He and his wife Catherine have two children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



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Alan J. "Doc" Winney

Alan J. "Doc" Winney earned a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during one tour in the Vietnam War. He was technically in the Navy, but also served as a corpsman in the Marines. After his four years of service, he worked for 40 years at Lisbon's low-cost medical clinic. He also worked at emergency rooms in both Ogdensburg and Gouverneur and was a volunteer with the Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department. He is a member of the Lisbon American Legion.



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