Veterans Among Us 2014

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Veterans Among Us
2014

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Produced on behalf of the Brockport Veteran Affairs Advisory/Veterans Day Committee
From the time of the Civil War, many from the Brockport College community have served their country.

Co. A, 140th NY Infantry was raised in Brockport and included students and alumni of the college. Many served in other units as well.

The 140th played an important role at Gettysburg and many other battles.

Reenactors of the 140th NY Infantry.
Spanish American War, 1898

The “Rough Riders” at San Juan Hill.
After Brockport she went on to study nursing at the Bellevue Nursing School in New York City. When the Spanish American War began she joined the Red Cross nursing service and went to Cuba with the army.

She returned home at one point to recover from malaria and "nerve exhaustion" and then returned to serve as a nurse in the Philippines.

Pictured is a group of nurses on a ship off of Cuba.
A militia company from Brockport went into service during the war, one of whose members was Harry Burlingame, son of a popular professor at the college, Herman Burlingame, a mathematics professor, pictured at right.
“Doughboys” training with a machine gun.
These trees stood along Utica St. and the north side of Hartwell Hall up until the 1960s.

In the 1932 yearbook, Principal Alfred Thompson wrote:

"Beautiful thoughts are inspired by nature's trees. The Lombardy Poplars around the campus that lift their heads so gracefully to the sky are living memorials to the one hundred one members of our school who answered our country's call in the World War. Some of our poplars did not survive and some of our boys did not return. Beautiful thoughts these trees inspire."
An ambulance driver in WWI, he recalled his experiences in an article in the February 1919 edition of the Stylus, including the war’s ending:

“We celebrated November 11..., everyone was everyone else’s friend and booze enough flowed to float the Maine. ...who can say that there was not just the slightest feeling of regret? It meant the end of a big adventure..."
Peter D. Ricci
Grandfather of Mark Ricci, University Police Department

Age approximately 19 years old. Immigrated to the U.S. through Ellis Island in New York City.
Marvin Croom

Grandfather of Charlie Cowling,
Drake Memorial Library
World War II, 1939-1945

An American soldier on Guadalcanal.
Many from Brockport served, and after the war the returning veterans helped the school expand to unprecedented dimensions.
Before coming to Brockport as a history professor, Frank Manno was a Navy lieutenant and served as a beachmaster during the D-Day invasion, where he was one of the first officers to go ashore.
Floyd Harris
Father of Kim Myers,
Drake Memorial Library
Frank Willitts
Uncle of Bill Jolly,
Facilities and Planning Department

At Pearl Harbor.
Daniel Wierzbowski,
U.S. Navy
Grandfather of
Kenneth Wierzbowski,
Drake Memorial Library
Albert Casey
Grandfather of Erin Rickman,
Office of Student Retention
Ted Giermek

Grandfather of Amanda Giermek (Nursing Student) and cousin of R. Orzech (Mother of Mary Jo Orzech, Library Director)
Robert H. Carlson,
U.S. Navy
Father of Holley Laudico, Drake Memorial Library

Served as a Seabee stationed in the Philippines
Charles T. Laudico,
U.S. Marines

Father-in-law of Holley Laudico,
Drake Memorial Library

Fought in the Battle of Okinawa
Glenn Quetschenbach,
U.S. Navy
Father of Gail Thiel,
Parking & Transportation Services
Cecil N. King,
U.S. Army Air Forces
Father-in-law of Richard Black,
Design and Production

Served in the Army Air Force during WWII with the 509th Composite Group stationed on Tinian Island in the Pacific. He was part of the ground crew that maintained the Enola Gay, the B-29 Superfortress that ultimately deployed the world’s first atomic bomb.

Joseph Cardina,  
U.S. Army Air Forces  
Father of Catherina Cardina,  
Professor, Health Science

Mr. Cardina began his military career as a Marine during WWII. Because he wanted to be a pilot, he transferred to the Army. When the Air Force was formed he was transferred, again. Following WWII he remained active in the Reserves as a pilot and was called to active duty during the Berlin Crisis of 1961.
Charles B. Black,
U.S. Army
Father of Richard Black,
Design and Production

Marksman and B.A.R. gunner in the 98th Infantry Division (Iroquois). He served in the Pacific Theatre, and later as part of the U.S. occupying force in Osaka, Japan, after the atomic bombs were dropped.
Donald J. Mondy
US Army Air Corps, 2\textsuperscript{nd} Lieutenant

Father of Richard Mondy (Alumnus), Robert Mondy (Alumnus) and William Mondy (NYU Alumnus)
Mark Gryskas
Grandfather of Heather Gallant, Technology Support Technician, LITS

Company Photographer stationed in Paris. All photos taken when Paris was liberated.
Korean War, 1950-1953

Soldier resting on a Chinese Communist bunker.
Bill Oakes, seated, served in the Navy and was present at the atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll.

Sam Platania, standing, served in the Army in Guadalcanal and other island campaigns.
Stanley Dukat

Grandfather of Kenneth Wierzbowski, Drake Memorial Library
Morris H. Belle, Sr.
Army, Pvt. First Class
Musician
Father of
Sharon Belle Render,
Counseling Center
John Del Vecchio
Army
Father of Johnna Frosini,
Parking & Transportation Services
Dr. Joseph P. Winnick

c. 1955

Distinguished Service Professor, Kinesiology, Sport Studies and Physical Education
Veterans Club, 1955 Saga
In the 1950s the Veterans Club did a variety show that toured area VA hospitals; here are the “Brockettes” at the VA in Bath in 1954.
Vietnam War, 1965-1973
From the 1967 Saga

VET'S CLUB

...Higgins...Wednesday nights...beer blasts...Homecoming float...Ernie Davis Leukemia Fund...trophies...
1973 Saga Yearbook; there is a new Veterans Association today.
In the village of Hiệp Đức as an Army advisor in Vietnam
Gary C. Cross,
U.S. Army
Father of Laura Dumuhosky,
Drake Memorial Library
Mark Ricci
University Police Department

U.S. Army – August 1973 – August 1976
Military Police – Stationed at Fort Riley, KS
Rank SP4/Acting Sergeant

Basic Training
Entry station – Fort Dix, NJ
August, 1973
Laura Buckner, DP3
Lead Programmer/Analyst, Library, Information and Technology Services

Served from 1972-1975
Byron Highland,
Gunnery Sergeant, USMC
Father of Julie Pruss,
Office of the President

KIA Feb. 1967 Vietnam
Served in the US Air Force for 8 years.

Photos taken while stationed in Korea in 1968.
Father of Melissa Furness,
Office of Alumni Relations & Development
Chris O’Connor
University Police Department

Gulf War
Charles Maxwell, 
CDR, USN
Husband of Pat Maxwell, 
Drake Memorial Library

At far right.
Gary Lehman,
Cpl., U.S. Marines
Cousin of Lisa Burch,
Financial Aid Office

At an orphanage in Korea where the soldiers passed out lollipops to the children there.
Julie Pruss,
Gunnery Sergeant, USMC (Ret.)
Office of the President

With Master Sergeant John Pruss, USMC (Ret.),
HQMC, 2000
Rod Brinkman
Department of Military Science

In Korea, 1993.
War on Terror, 2001-date
Brandon Downey
Army, Cavalry Scout, 87th Engineer Company
Son of Laurie Downey, Department of Education and Human Development

Capt. McHugh presenting Spc. Downey with his Combat Action Badge, October 10, 2013
Ryan Kelly
Iraq, Army, 10th Mtn. Division
Class of ’06 and Husband of Sara Kelly, Residential Education
Paul Pratt,
Col., Marines

Brother of Pam O’Sullivan,
Drake Memorial Library

At right, receiving Purple Heart.
Brandon Nunnery,
Cpl. USMC
Student,
The College at Brockport

Fallujah, Iraq

With Senator John McCain (R-AZ)
Jason Daniels, 
L.Cpl., USMC

Son of Tracy Daniels, 
Secretary to the College Senate President

Jason Daniels with his mother Tracy Daniels and sisters Nicole Daniels (Sophomore at the College at Brockport) and Megan Daniels (Freshman at Hornell Senior High School) Missing from photo: Steven Daniels (father) Deployment March 2011

Homecoming with sister Nicole Daniels, sophomore at the College at Brockport; mother, Tracy Daniels; sister, Megan Daniels; father, Steven Daniels
Daniel Kruppenbacher,
US Navy, Petty Officer First Class (E-6, CTR1)

Relation of Amy McNulty,
Office of Community Development
Children of Beau Willis,
Vice President for Administration,
Administration and Finance
Jon McHugh,
AFC

Grandson of Mariangela Ardino,
Division of Academic Affairs